

winning John Deere "Gold Star" full line residential and commercial grounds equipment dealership. The company is a tale of entrepreneurial success, as the business started with 15 employees and increased to 85 employees today.

Fresno Equipment Co. has been actively involved with the Nisei Farmers League in promoting improved air quality in the Valley. Additionally, the company has participated in various roles in the Big Fresno Fair, Fresno State football, Grizzlies baseball, Ag Boosters BBQ, Children's Hospital of Central California, California Agriculture Leadership, Fresno Chamber of Commerce, St. Jude Church, Armenian Congregational Church, California Grape and Tree Fruit League and the livestock sale at the Fresno Fair.

Fresno Equipment Co. is a recognized agricultural business-leader in our community and its prominence and reputation will contribute to the Valley economy for years to come. Madam Speaker, please join me in commending Steve and Marsha as well as their predecessors for a job well done.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE AVALON ACADEMY

#### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2010*

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize the 5th anniversary of the Avalon Academy in Burlingame, California. This very special school was founded by Annie Noonan and Lynette Mullens, parents of children with cerebral palsy, and Kinga Czegeni, a special education teacher. The trio had a vision for a school that would teach academics and motor—skill development to children with movement disorders such as cerebral palsy. It should be noted that the students often have multiple disabilities, including cognitive impairment.

Avalon prides itself on its innovative intervention program inspired by the Anat Baniel Method, a cutting edge scientific approach to safely enhance movement and muscle coordination and to create new possibilities for children with cerebral palsy. This humanizing approach has created a non-competitive, vibrant and nurturing environment that benefits not only the students, but also their families and the staff at Avalon.

I would be remiss if I didn't praise Annie, Lynette, and Kinga for devoting their full energies to enhancing the lives of children with cerebral palsy. We can make donations, smile and understand, but it takes tireless effort to create a learning place that make a special life even better.

Madam Speaker, I can't take you inside Avalon today, but if I could, you would see a very special love that exists among the students and staff and a level of caring that has changed lives. So, I ask the Members to join me in celebrating a dream that thankfully has become a reality for dozens of children and families with special needs.

#### HONORING ST. VINCENT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

#### HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2010*

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize St. Vincent Catholic High School in Perryville, MO, which was recently named to the list of the best 50 Catholic secondary schools in America. The list is compiled by the Catholic High School Honor Roll, an independent project of the Grand Rapids, Michigan-based Acton Institute, a research and education organization. Around one-half of all U.S. Catholic high schools go through the application process for the Honor Roll list, a group of approximately 1,300 schools. These schools are recognized based on their academic excellence, civic education and Catholic identity. Schools provide extensive data on standardized testing and other academic measures, and administrators answer surveys on academics, Catholic teaching and social studies.

St. Vincent High School is a part of the history of Perryville. The parish was first established in the 19th century. The Daughters of Charity began the school in 1907. Over more than a century the school has maintained its commitment to educating their students in a faith based way that helps them spiritually and to prepare for the future. The students, faculty, and families involved in St. Vincent High School provide a wonderful example to schools all across Southeast Missouri and the nation. This recognition encourages their hard work and continued excellence in Catholic education.

This is an outstanding achievement in which the St. Vincent High School and all of the surrounding community should take pride. One of the best Catholic schools in the nation is St. Vincent High School. Congratulations again to the St. Vincent High School community. We are all very proud of you!

#### IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF NEIL ZURCHER

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of award-winning journalist, Neil Zurcher, one of the most beloved and recognizable media personalities in northeast Ohio, upon the joyous occasion of his 75th birthday.

For more than fifty years, Mr. Zurcher's entertaining accounts of unique and out-of-the-way destinations across Ohio have been found on radio and television and travel sections of magazines and newspapers, including his regular column in the Cleveland Plain Dealer. He was the original host of the immensely popular travel segment: "One Tank Trips," which was broadcast for 25 years on FOX 8 TV in Cleveland.

Driving more than a million miles in 25 years as a travel reporter for FOX 8, Mr. Zurcher uncovered hidden treasures, oddities and beautiful get-away destinations along the

urban highways and country roads of Ohio. His accounts and insights into the diverse people, customs, culture and history of Ohio are recorded in the five books he's written, including "Tales from the Road," "Ohio Road Trips," and "Ohio Oddities." A kind, generous and down-to-earth man, Mr. Zurcher never sought accolades; yet he has been honored several times for his excellence in journalism and broadcasting. He is the recipient of an Emmy award, was honored with the Award for Excellence in Broadcasting from the Cleveland Assoc. of Broadcasters, and has been inducted into the Cleveland Press Club Hall of Fame.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honor of Neil Zurcher—family man, journalist, TV reporter and author—upon the joyous occasion of this 75th birthday. His chronicles of his travels across Ohio inspire, entertain and educate, creating a sense of wonder, unity and community. We look forward to learning about his travels for the next million miles.

#### HONORING ALLAN W. PURDY

#### HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2010*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Allan W. Purdy, the founding president of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA). On October 13, 2010, this strong advocate for higher education passed away at 96. He dedicated his life to removing financial barriers to education and helping students access awards, scholarships, and financial aid.

Purdy's life experiences strongly influenced his passion for financial aid and serving students. He graduated from high school in the middle of the Great Depression and worked his way through college with the help of the National Youth Administration, a newly created national work program for students. He earned a mere \$15 a month, which paid for his graduate degree from the College of Agriculture at the University of Missouri.

After graduation, Purdy served his country in the U.S. Navy as a PT boat captain during World War II. After the war, he returned to the University of Missouri to work as an extension horticulturist. In this position, he toured the state helping farmers resolve problems with their crops. Here, he saw firsthand the number of qualified students who lacked the financial resources to attend college and vowed to advocate on their behalf for more grants and work aid. The University of Missouri's president promoted him to assistant to the dean of the College of Agriculture, which led to his role in creating a department in the president's office to coordinate scholarships, jobs, and loans for all the students on campus.

Under the direction of the University of Missouri's president, Purdy began meeting with other aid administrators in the Midwest and helped form the Midwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators in 1962. During this time, Congress was working on student aid issues and looked to the six regional, financial associations for suggestions. In hope of creating a more unified voice, Purdy strongly advocated for a national structure. In 1966, the regional representatives created the National Student Financial Aid Council, and Allan

Purdy served as its chair for three years. It became NASFAA in 1969 and has always stressed the importance and needs of students.

A large part of the organization's success is attributed to Purdy's tireless efforts and ability to build strong relationships with key policy-makers and higher education advocates. He developed a reputation for being an excellent witness at congressional hearings and established NASFAA as a trusted resource for financial aid information.

In 1975, Purdy received the first Lifetime Membership Award, the highest award that NASFAA can bestow. He retired in 1979 and was appointed to the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority's (MOHELA's) Board of Directors in 1981.

We have lost an irreplaceable advocate for college access and success. I believe educating our youth is one of the most important aspects in equipping our children with the necessary tools to succeed. Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in acknowledging Allan Purdy and his efforts to reduce barriers to higher education.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEAR 2011

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2010*

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5264, "The Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011." I would like to thank the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Rep. JOHN CONYERS for introducing this legislation, as it is important to embrace the Justice Department and its various offices and components.

As a senior member of the Judiciary Committee, I have had the privilege to work closely with the Department of Justice and become familiarized with many of their programs and initiatives. Over the past year, they have been extremely cooperative and have worked vigorously to implement new laws and set new standards to ensure the safety, protection, and equal treatment of all Americans.

The DOJ has made the civil rights of all Americans, no matter their race, religion, or socio-economic status, a priority. They have worked to implement the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which created a general felony prohibition against crimes of violence based on prejudice against gender, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity. They are also enforcing the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 which clarifies that discriminatory compensation decisions and other such practices are unlawful according to the Civil Rights Act, Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Rehabilitation Act.

Furthermore, the DOJ has begun implementation of the Fair Sentencing Act, which takes steps to reduce the disparity between sentences involving crack cocaine versus those involving powder cocaine—a disparity which had a disproportionately negative effect on poor and minority communities for years.

I am so proud to see the continued funding to the Office of Violence Against Women.

Since 1995, the Office of Violence Against Women has made significant progress in reducing violence against immigrant women, however, there are still many women and children whose lives are in danger today. Made possible through the Violence Against Women Act of 2005, importantly, this act continues to implement VAWA's original intent by stopping the deportation of immigrant victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and trafficking who qualify for VAWA immigration benefits. The trafficking provisions in the bill are of particular importance to me and I am very pleased that additional protections for trafficking victims and tools to help prosecute traffickers have been included in the bill, thus I am overjoyed to see the appropriations made to this office especially.

I strongly support the appropriations made to the Office of Justice Programs that provide strong and revolutionary leadership base to federal, state, local, and tribal justice systems, by circulating state-of-the-art knowledge and practices across America, and providing grants for the implementation of crime fighting strategies.

As Chairwoman of the Congressional Children's Caucus and very strong advocate for children and children's rights, I am thrilled to see that the funds made to the OJP will also funnel to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, which contributes to the reduction of youth crime and violence. The OJJDP upholds prevention and early intervention programs that truly make a difference in the lives of young people around America. Our continued support of the numerous programs provided by the OJP that help our youth and better their lives is critical to America's future. Providing support for and believing in America's youth is the best way to ensure a successful future for them and our Nation.

Furthermore, I am happy to see the funding that supports the Antitrust Division's hard work to promote and instill economic freedom and opportunity within our great Nation. In the economic climate we face today, it is evermore important that competition in the marketplace remains free and fair for all. With the many proposed mergers and acquisition taking place, the guidance and resources provided by the Antitrust laws and principles are desperately needed to ensure fair business and jobs for all.

I am also delighted to see the appropriations made to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Sadly, our country still lies under the microscope of those who wish our Nation harm and by appropriating money to the Bureau, we are shoring up our defenses against issues such as terrorist attacks, foreign intelligence operations, espionage, and public corruption at all levels. The FBI is a far-reaching organization with operations around the world and its continued funding is vital for the safety of all Americans.

I stand today with Rep. CONYERS and other members of Congress in reaffirming our support for justice in our Nation. By enacting these types of economic incentives to the offices that protect our Nation, Americans, women, and children will be safer; our country will be more efficient in bringing all to justice and communities and economy will grow in strength.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues for their support of H.R. 5264, as well as for their continued support of all that is done by the De-

partment of Justice in order to protect our great Nation. By increasing our support for these types of appropriations, we will ensure that our country remains a leader in security, justice, and freedom.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5264.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LOIS CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2010*

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I was not able to be present for the following rollcall votes on November 15, 2010 and would like the RECORD to reflect that I would have voted as follows: rollcall No. 566, "yes"; rollcall No. 567, "yes"; rollcall No. 568, "yes."

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN AND MARCIA GOLDMAN

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2010*

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor John and Marcia Goldman of San Francisco. They are civic volunteers of epic proportions who have long been active in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Since 1989, they have been ardent supporters of the American Foundation for AIDS Research (amFAR) which has invested over \$9.5 million in more than 180 research projects in the Bay Area. They have generously supported many of San Francisco's other leading organizations in the fight against HIV/AIDS, including The Shanti Project, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, National AIDS Memorial in Golden Gate Park, and FACE AIDS, which develops leadership skills for college students while supporting people with AIDS in Africa.

Additionally, through their foundation they have championed programs to help underprivileged children. Their caring knows no boundaries.

John has been president of the San Francisco Symphony since 2001 and is on the advisory boards for the Wildlife Conservation Society and the Trust for Public Land. He is also president of the Walter and Elise Haas Fund, which support arts, public education and Jewish organizations. He serves on the board of FACE AIDS as well as Building Future Now, which enables underprivileged children in East Palo Alto and East Menlo Park, California, to pursue a college education. His current commitments are dwarfed by prior service to such institutions as Swathmore College and various non-profit groups, including the Institute on Aging of Mt. Zion Health Systems.

Marcia co-founded the Learning Place Preschool in San Mateo which integrates special needs children with typical preschoolers. She also founded New Beginnings Family Workshop in San Carlos, a therapeutic-based program for autistic children and their families. She joined the Pacific Autism Center for Education as school director in 2002 and served as education director until June 2010. She