

which I was pleased to co-sponsor. At a time of record federal deficits, this proposal will raise a significant amount of money to save some of the most beloved and endangered iconic wildlife species on this planet without spending a single dime of taxpayer money. In addition, while the 111th Congress will be remembered for its highly partisan environment, this bill was co-sponsored by 86 Democrats and 68 Republicans. Even more remarkable, it has been endorsed by more than 40 different organizations including the Humane Society of the United States and Safari Club International, two groups that do not agree on many issues.

Under this simple but innovative approach, the American people will be given the opportunity to voluntarily purchase U.S. postal stamps and certain proceeds from their sale will assist in saving African and Asian elephants, rhinoceros, tigers, Great Apes and marine turtles for future generations. This legislation is a tribute to Congressman BROWN's perseverance and leadership.

During his distinguished career in public service, the hard work of Congressman HENRY BROWN has not gone unnoticed. In fact, among the awards he has received are the College of Charleston's Founders Medal in 2005, the National Republican Legislator of the Year Award, the South Carolina Association of Realtors Legislator of the Year, the South Carolina Taxpayers Watchdog Award and the Order of the Palmetto in 2000. This award is the highest honor a civilian can receive from the State of South Carolina.

Madam Speaker, at the end of this year, this outstanding representative of the people of the 1st Congressional District will return to his beloved farm in Berkeley County, South Carolina. I wish him and his entire family the very best in the future.

HONORING JUAN ANTONIO "CHI CHI" RODRIGUEZ

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 30, 2010*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Juan Antonio "Chi Chi" Rodriguez for the remarkable work he has done to improve the lives of so many at-risk youth. The same dedication and determination he displayed on the golf course is now readily apparent in his community service through youth programs.

While visiting a juvenile detention center in Florida, Mr. Rodriguez realized a better way to help at risk children succeed. Through discipline and responsibility on the golf course, instructors work with youth to build self-esteem, character, work ethic, social adjustment, and academic performance.

To realize his goals of helping to advance children both intellectually and morally, Mr. Rodriguez has been instrumental in raising over \$4 million for his youth foundation, which supports his Academy. I am honored that that Chi Chi Rodriguez Academy is in my Congressional District.

In addition to the 600 children that benefit annually from the inspiration of his programs on the golf course, Mr. Rodriguez has been able to provide more than 430 scholarships over

the past three years to help Latino youth attend institutions of higher education.

Mr. Rodriguez's dedication to improving the lives of children is truly inspirational. He has expanded his personal successes into youth programs based in love and respect and has laid a foundation in which pupils build confidence, learn discipline, and gain positive educational experiences.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to speak of the contributions stemming from Mr. Rodriguez's vision not just in my community, but throughout the nation, and I strongly encourage passage of H. Res. 1430.

TRIBUTE TO WILBUR PILLMAN, JR.

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 30, 2010*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the memory of a beloved citizen of Mobile, Alabama and denizen of the arts who passed away October 15, 2010.

Wilbur Pillman was a graduate of McGill Institute and served with the U.S. Navy, Pacific Theatre, during World War II. He was a talented artist, dancer and director, appearing in many musical productions of the Mobile Catholic Theatre Guild later the Mobile Theatre Guild. He was president of the First Theatre of the Deep South in Prichard, took part in Mobile Optimist Club's annual minstrel, and served in many church, civic and social organizations as performer and director.

Wilbur formed and directed the Phi Gamma Chi High School Sorority annual "Follies" for many years, and directed and performed in the Alpha Delta Kappa Sorority's annual "Minstrel". He directed and performed in the American Business Women's yearly "Riverboat Follies" as well as the Insurance Women's annual show for "Boss Wright". He co-directed and performed in the annual Epsilon Chapter, and the Phi Delta Kappa Business Men's Fraternity show for the March of Dimes.

Wilbur also served as guest artist, director and performer for many local conventions, the Convent of Mercy's annual "Soiree", as well as the Shriner's annual charity benefit shows. Mr. Pillman had the lead in three local productions of "The Music Man" as well as starring as "George M".

He also lent his talents to many of Mobile's Mardi Gras Mystic Societies where he designed costumes, wrote tableaux, narrated the balls, choreographed the skits, and often performed to open some of the balls. Through the University of South Alabama he spoke for many years to the visiting "Snowbirds" on the history and background of Mardi Gras and its activities, often appearing in a colorful costume. He was a regular volunteer at the Mobile Carnival Museum as a docent from its beginning.

As a member of his beloved Mystic Strippers Society since 1955, he was knighted into the Royal Order of Strippers in 2000, being the third recipient of this honor. In 2008, upon the celebration of his 50th year as the society's official Court Jester, Wilbur was honored by the Strippers when the theme of their annual parade and ball was based around the Court Jester, and he also served as Grand Marshall

for two of Mobile's women's Mystic Organizations parades.

Wilbur was an icon of the Mobile area performing arts and especially Mardi Gras, and his absence will be deeply felt across our community.

On behalf of the people of Mobile, I offer my condolences to his sister, Miss Alilee Pillman; his grandchildren, Elizabeth, Michael, Joseph, Mary Grace, Sarah and Emma Rose Kennedy, Christina, Jennifer, and Theresa Cranford, Claire, Sophie, and Dane Arden, and Aubrey River Gewehr and his many many friends. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. MURRAY ITZKOWITZ

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 30, 2010*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, it is my great privilege to pay tribute to Dr. Murray Itzkowitz, who is receiving the 2010 Adaptive Design Association Lifetime Achievement Award. His leadership, advocacy and contributions to children with disabilities and his work on behalf of the mental health rehabilitation community have enhanced the lives of countless individuals throughout my district and the greater New York City area.

Dr. Itzkowitz joined the board of directors of the Adaptive Design Association (ADA) in 2005. The ADA's mission is to "engage families, schools, and communities in the process of designing and building responsible, child-specific, adaptive equipment."

As a board member, Dr. Itzkowitz played a pivotal role in the relocation of the ADA's workshop and training center to a more appropriate space in Midtown Manhattan. Dr. Itzkowitz recognized that the organization's small space on Riverside Drive was limiting its ability to fulfill its mission and urged the organization to move to a larger and more central location. His passion for the organization is contagious and has led to the recruitment of new board members and relationships that continue to allow the organization to grow. In April 2010 Dr. Itzkowitz was recognized for his exceptional drive and dedication by being elected Vice Chair of the Board.

Dr. Itzkowitz has been a tireless advocate and visionary for vulnerable populations. In 1954 he was one of the founding members of The Bridge Inc. (The Bridge) a non-profit organization at the forefront of mental health and rehabilitative services. He became the first full time Executive Director of The Bridge in 1969 and retired in 2000. Under Dr. Itzkowitz's direction, The Bridge has matured from a small, self-help group to an award-winning and nationally recognized organization that annually serves more than 1,500 adults.

During his tenure as Executive Director, Dr. Itzkowitz nurtured The Bridge's comprehensive and pioneering approach to treatment. With his support and guidance The Bridge developed programs that could meet the growing needs of its clients. In the 1970s, Dr. Itzkowitz identified the need for supervised residences and expanded The Bridge's services to include housing. Under his leadership, The Bridge developed properties throughout New York City and today houses 902 adults, many

of whom suffer from not only mental health issues but also homelessness, substance abuse disorders, and HIV/AIDS—a notable increase from the first residency they established in 1979 which housed only 20 clients.

Dr. Itzkowitz was also instrumental in creating The Bridge's Vocational and Job Training Services, a key element of rehabilitation that had long been neglected. Building on Dr. Itzkowitz's responsive approach to treatment; today, The Bridge offers mental health and substance abuse treatment, housing, vocational training, and job placement, healthcare, education and creative arts therapies. All of these afford countless clients help, hope, and opportunities to enjoy healthier and more fulfilling lives.

In addition to his long history of commitment to and achievement within the social services field, Dr. Itzkowitz has been a devoted husband to his wife, Phyllis, and father to his sons, David and Jake. Jake continues his father's legacy of service as Chief of Staff for New York City Councilwoman Margaret Chin.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Dr. Murray Itzkowitz on his much deserved 2010 Adaptive Design Association Lifetime Achievement Award.

#### NATIONAL EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH—GET SEIZURE SMART!

**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 30, 2010*

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today and join the Epilepsy Foundation in calling for Americans to Get Seizure Smart! this November as part of National Epilepsy Awareness Month. More than three million American families are affected by epilepsy—over 60,000 Missourians have been diagnosed with epilepsy or reoccurring seizures.

Epilepsy Foundation staff and volunteers are distributing the Get Seizure Smart! Quiz across the country this month to raise awareness. By taking the online quiz at [www.GetSeizureSmart.org](http://www.GetSeizureSmart.org), Americans can learn about the condition and how to treat it.

Epilepsy awareness is critically important for public servants. Because first responders are often called when someone is having a seizure, it's critical they have good information on which to act.

I commend the Epilepsy Foundation for their 40-year campaign to raise awareness and reduce the stigma associated with this condition. I encourage my colleagues to learn more about epilepsy and to connect with the Epilepsy Foundation in their community.

#### HONORING KEVIN RIDLEY

**HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 30, 2010*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kevin Ridley on the occasion of his retirement after more than 40 years of service to our Nation and his community.

While I have no doubt Kevin has many new exciting chapters left to write in his life, I take this moment to commemorate his achievements of the last 4 decades.

Kevin Ridley is the son of an Air Force colonel and learned early in life the meaning of commitment to country and family. Following in his father's footsteps, Kevin enlisted in the Air Force in late 1968, after graduating high school in Tokyo, Japan.

Trained as a weapons loader for A-7 and F-100 jet fighters, Kevin was stationed at Luke Air Force Base in Arizona for 2 years before doing a tour of duty during the Vietnam War. While in Vietnam during 1971 and into 1972, he saw time in both Saigon and Da Nang.

Following his honorable discharge from the Air Force later in 1972, Kevin continued to serve our Nation as a member of the National Guard, compiling a remarkable 26 years of military service. In the National Guard, he served as a full-time civilian weapons technician and was stationed for 17 years at Otis Air Force Base in Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

I know that while Kevin Ridley possesses a fierce determination to excel, he is also a humble man, much like many of our Nation's military personnel. He would never seek to tout his own accomplishments. However, I am proud to tell you that Kevin consistently stood out during his military service, accumulating 15 decorations and awards during the Vietnam War and in his time with the Air Force Reserve and National Guard.

Beginning in 1989, and continuing through his retirement in December of this year, Kevin has worked for the Department of Defense's Defense Contract Administration Services as a plant representative with Raytheon Corporation in Massachusetts. In that capacity, he has continued his service to military defense efforts and his deep commitment to the security of the United States. While with the Defense Contract Administration Services, he has contributed his expertise to over 30 defense programs. He also worked on a program near and dear to the State of Florida—NASA's Space Station modules program.

Most importantly, Kevin is a dedicated family man. He is a loving spouse to Andrea Ridley and father of two wonderful children. Andrea is an 8th grade math teacher at Franklin Middle School, his daughter Alexandra is currently a freshmen at Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida, and his son Phillip is a sophomore in high school in Medfield, Massachusetts.

I'm sure that his friends and family would agree that his record of excellence, bravery, and dedication is a living testament to a life well lived, and proof that the American dream is alive and well.

I offer my deepest gratitude to Kevin Ridley for his contributions to the fabric of this nation and wish him all the best in his future endeavors. Congratulations, Kevin.

#### IN HONOR OF THE EAST RIVER DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 30, 2010*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to the East River Develop-

ment Alliance, a not-for-profit organization that has made extraordinary contributions to the economic and civic life of the residents of underserved communities in western Queens. This month, the East River Development Alliance (ERDA) is celebrating its Sixth Anniversary Fundraiser and Celebration at the Ace Hotel in Manhattan.

Under the able stewardship of the Bishop Mitchell Taylor, the East River Development Alliance helps residents of New York City Housing Authority complexes and other New Yorkers with limited income achieve economic security and self-empowerment through employment, financial counseling and education, college access and community revitalization initiatives. ERDA has developed a range of programs to help the more than 20,000 residents of public housing in its catchment area to achieve economic stability and mobility, and ensure that these neighborhoods have access to critical goods and services.

In the last year alone, the Alliance opened the ERDA Federal Credit Union—the first new credit union chartered in New York City in a decade; helped more than 150 low-income New Yorkers find good jobs. As New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg noted in his State of the City Address earlier this year, a big impact can be achieved by “credit unions serving public housing residents, like the one Bishop Taylor is opening in Long Island City this spring,” going on to praise him as “one banker who truly is doing God's work.” ERDA has also helped more than 500 individuals build savings and reduce debt, is sending a cohort of high school seniors to college—nearly all of whom are the first in their families to obtain a higher education.

At its Sixth Anniversary Event, the East River Development Alliance is honoring three noteworthy community leaders: Matthew Bishop, American Business Editor and New York Bureau Chief of The Economist magazine and the author of Philanthrocapitalism; John Rhea, Chairman of the New York City Housing Authority; and Diana Taylor, Managing Director of the Wolfensohn & Company, LLC and former New York State Superintendent of Banking in the administration of Governor George Pataki. All are being honored for their outstanding efforts to improve the lives of their fellow New Yorkers and the economic vitality of our communities.

Congratulations to Bishop Taylor and the East River Development Alliance on another successful year in pursuing its vital mission of ensuring public housing communities are neighborhoods of great opportunities. Madam Speaker, I salute the work of the East River Development Alliance and I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the outstanding work of ERDA and its 2010 honorees for their many contributions to the civic and spiritual life of our Nation.

#### TRIBUTE TO AUSTAL USA CEO BOB BROWNING

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 30, 2010*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the outstanding record of outgoing Austal USA Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Bob