

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.

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

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**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.

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**HONORING KEVIN RIDLEY**

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**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 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 freshman 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.

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

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**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.

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**TRIBUTE TO AUSTAL USA CEO BOB BROWNING**

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**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

Browning. During his tenure, Mr. Browning helped to transform the face of Mobile's industrial waterfront and secure the long-term return of Navy shipbuilding to Alabama's port city.

On November 16, Bob Browning officially stepped down as CEO for Austal USA shipbuilding in Mobile to pursue a new business opportunity. He has held Austal USA's top position for the last 2 years after joining the company in 2007.

Bob arrived at Austal as it was establishing itself as a force to be reckoned with in building quality, high-speed ships. For the last decade Austal has been expanding its footprint along the Mobile River and Bob played a significant role in making Mobile home to the largest aluminum shipyard in the world.

Bob guided the growth of Austal's high-speed military shipbuilding program by preparing it to successfully compete in major military contracts. In 2008, Austal secured a coveted \$1.6 billion contract to build joint high-speed vessels, JHSV, for the U.S. Army and Navy. The program is continuing with Austal on track to build the fourth and fifth vessels.

Bob has also well positioned Austal to successfully compete for a \$5 billion U.S. Navy contract to produce ten littoral combat ships. Austal and partner General Dynamics were awarded a contract in 2005 to construct their first LCS, the *USS Independence*, which was commissioned in January 2010.

Under Bob's leadership, Austal has since become the leader in the contract to build the full 10-ship Navy LCS fleet. The Navy is expected to make a decision by the end of the year. The award would mean a doubling of Austal's local workforce of 1,800 employees.

As Bob and his family transition to new challenges, I wish to convey the appreciation of Alabama's coastal community for a job well done. His leadership and his dedication to our local workforce have made our region stronger.

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#### HONORING DANIEL JOHNSON

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#### HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and sacrifice of Senior Airman Daniel Johnson. Daniel was killed by an improvised explosive device last month in Kandahar, Afghanistan. He was just 23 years old.

Daniel spent much of his childhood in Minnesota and Wisconsin before moving to Schiller Park, Illinois to live with his grandmother. Family members remember fondly Daniel's lifelong dream to fight for his country and the pride he felt when he put on his uniform. In Afghanistan he disarmed dangerous bombs, continuously risking his life to protect others.

His commitment to service extended beyond the battlefield. Daniel attended Triton College with the admirable goal of one day working as an emergency medical technician. Today, I offer my deepest condolences to all of those who had the privilege to know such a selfless and giving young man.

I join with them in mourning the loss of this brave airman and exemplary American. On behalf of the United States Congress and the 5th district of Illinois I thank him for his cour-

age. To his family, friends, and loved ones: Daniel's country will never forget his service.

HONORING ELAINE ROTH FOR HER 42 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

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#### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Elaine Roth, former District Manager of the Social Security Administration field office in Melville, NY, who will be retiring later this year. Her 42-year career with Social Security is a testament to Ms. Roth's dedication to public service.

Ms. Roth's career with Social Security began in 1968 when she was hired as a Claims Representative in Brooklyn, NY. Between then and 1980 she was promoted multiple times and served as Branch Manager of the field offices in Kings Plaza (Brooklyn), Riverhead (Long Island), and Flushing (Queens). She was then promoted to District Manager of the field office in Melville in 1998, a position she held until 2004 when she was asked to join Social Security's National Medicare Planning Task Force.

Throughout her four decades with Social Security, Ms. Roth's many accomplishments have been recognized with various awards. Most notably, she received a Deputy Commissioner's Citation (August 2007 and October 2005), a Component Head's Citation (August 2006), and the Commissioner's Citation—Social Security's highest honor—in September 2005 and three times previously.

Ms. Roth and her husband are long-time residents of Long Island and she will be entering her well-earned retirement as a loving mother of two and a devoted grandmother of one. I thank her for her service to the Second District of New York and wish her all the best in the future.

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#### HONORING ETHAN J. SMITH

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#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ethan J. Smith. Ethan 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 332, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ethan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ethan 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, Ethan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Ethan painted and renovated the Pink Hill Park playground prior to that park hosting the Wall That Heals traveling Vietnam War Memorial exhibit.

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

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#### IN HONOR OF THE HEALTHCARE CHAPLAINCY

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#### 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 HealthCare Chaplaincy, a nonprofit multi-faith healthcare organization that is devoted to serving the spiritual needs of patients seeking palliative care and their families. This month, the Chaplaincy hosts its annual "Wholeness of Life" Awards Dinner in Manhattan.

Founded in 1961 by a syndicate of churches, the HealthCare Chaplaincy has served nearly 5 million people, relieving medical suffering and improving the quality of life of countless grateful clients and their families. Over the course of those five decades, the HealthCare Chaplaincy has sought tirelessly to expand palliative care by improving its accessibility, affordability, and quality, and by training qualified chaplains for hospital ministry. As the largest clinical pastoral education and research center of its kind in the United States, the HealthCare Chaplaincy has become an integral part of the medical community, caring for both residential and non-residential patients with serious progressive illnesses and helping to reduce the severity of disease symptoms.

The HealthCare Chaplaincy is hosting its 23rd Wholeness of Life Awards Dinner this month to celebrate its 50th Anniversary. I also wish to congratulate this year's most worthy honorees: the Chairmen of the Board of Trustees, as well as doctors and nurses who excelled at patient care in the palliative medical field.

The HealthCare Chaplaincy's remarkable achievements would not be possible without its President and Chief Executive Officer, the Reverend Dr. Walter J. Smith, and Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Claire Haaga-Altman. A specialist in end-of-life palliative care, the Rev. Dr. Walter Smith has served at the HealthCare Chaplaincy for nearly two decades. Ms. Haaga-Altman has served in the non-profit sector for more than 30 years, helping to develop New York City's Access-a-Ride program and fostering and facilitating the growth of the multi-faith palliative medical field. At the Chaplaincy, she is overseeing an innovative and critically needed assisted living program.

Madam Speaker, I salute the work of HealthCare Chaplaincy and I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the outstanding work of the HealthCare Chaplaincy and its 2010 honorees for their many contributions to the civic and spiritual life of our Nation.