

the education for the children, this recognition was long overdue. After receiving this award and many other honors, Ms. White knows that she is not doing the work alone. God is on her side. Beyond her teaching duties, Ms. White proudly serves her community by tutoring and mentoring inner-city youth.

In addition to caring for children in the community, it should also be noted that Ms. White lives for her own children as well. She is a proud mother of two daughters: Whitney and Whynter. Whitney is a senior at Loyola University in Baltimore, Maryland, and Whynter is a sophomore at Nazareth Regional High School in Brooklyn, New York.

Ms. White owes all of her success to two women: Her mother, Patricia Robinson, and her deceased grandmother, Evelyn Jenkins. Ms. White's mother is not just a parental figure, but a best friend; her grandmother always provided guidance, telling her that, "little becomes much when you place it in the Master's hand." Both women offered constant support, encouragement and taught her how to bring out the best in others. Ms. White stands on the shoulders of these two valiant women and her life is a testament to their love.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Ms. Donna Evelyn Anderson White.

COMMENDING THE MARSHALL CENTER

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 528, which commends the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies for its valuable contributions to international peace and security throughout Post-Soviet Europe and Asia. This important measure honors the Marshall Center for promoting regional stability through a new generation of military and civilian leaders; commends its Director, Dr. John P. Rose; and strengthens the bonds between America and its allies as we work to ensure global peace and prosperity.

I thank Chairman BERMAN for his leadership in bringing this resolution to the floor and for his dedication to promoting effective foreign policy that meets the challenges of an ever-changing world.

I also applaud Congressman TANNER for sponsoring this legislation. This resolution is emblematic of his commitment to transatlantic security cooperation, a cause he has championed both as a Member of Congress and as President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, the Marshall Center, was established in 1993. It is an institute dedicated to security and defense studies tailored to advancing post-Cold War democracies in Europe and Central Asia.

As a joint partnership of the United States and German governments, the Marshall Center stands as a testament to the power of international collaboration. Alumni of the Marshall Center serve as military officers, ambassadors, government ministers, and elected of-

ficials in over 100 countries. Carried by the spirit of the Marshall Plan, which rebuilt Europe following World War II, the Marshall Center has created a new generation of leaders fully prepared to tackle the most important security issues facing Europe, Asia, and North America.

Mr. Speaker, since World War II, the security of the United States has been intimately connected to the stability of Europe and Eurasia. Many of my constituents fought bravely overseas to protect and promote this stability. We owe it to our veterans and to future generations to continue working for global security; the Marshall Center is a crucial part of this effort.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 528.

HONORING THE OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE OF KATHY BECKER

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to tell you about a dear friend of mine who has served the House of Representatives longer than you, me and the vast majority of our colleagues.

Kathy Becker's distinguished career on Capitol Hill spans more than 40 years, during which she has made important contributions not only to the districts she has served but to our country and our international alliances.

Kathy grew up near here in Federalsburg, Maryland, on the Eastern Shore and attended the University of Maryland and George Washington University before coming to Capitol Hill in May 1971. She worked almost four years for Congressman Frank Denholm of South Dakota and then—fortunately, for us—came to the Tennessee delegation, where she has served much longer than any of us elected to represent Tennessee in this chamber. She worked for 3rd District Congresswoman Marilyn Lloyd for more than 4 years and then joined the 8th District team working for my predecessor, Congressman Ed Jones.

When Betty Ann and I took office in 1989, we were very grateful that Kathy agreed to stay on the team as executive assistant, and she has been a loyal, dedicated staff member to us and an exceptional public servant to the people of west and middle Tennessee.

Kathy has been on Capitol Hill for some of history's biggest moments. She has seen eight presidential administrations, including one president who was impeached and another who resigned to avoid the same. Kathy was here when the Vietnam War ended, the Berlin Wall came down and fundamental extremists attacked our country on September 11, 2001.

One of the great honors I have had is representing the House of Representatives on the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, serving 6 years as chairman of the U.S. delegation to that body and 2 years as President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. This opportunity has allowed us to help strengthen diplomatic ties with parliamentarians from our closest allies, relationships that had been strained in recent years.

Our efforts there would not have been possible without Kathy's work staffing the U.S.

delegation here and abroad. She has helped us stay in communication with our allies and the NATO Parliamentary Assembly team in Brussels; organized important sessions to help us get to know our fellow parliamentarians more closely; and ensured we are able to best represent our country and the House of Representatives on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. Her commitment and hard work have helped our country continue rebuilding its reputation with our NATO allies, which is especially important to the men and women in uniform who are serving our nation around the world.

In January, Kathy will retire from Federal service, and she can do so proudly, knowing that in a career that spanned more than 4 decades, she has been a part of history and has served our district and her country honorably. Madam Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join Betty Ann, our family and me in congratulating and thanking Kathy Becker for her unparalleled commitment to public service.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BERNIE AND REEVA NOWITZ

HON. PAUL TONKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I would like to call the attention of the House to the remarkable accomplishments of Reeva and Bernie Nowitz as The Israel Center, a program of Jewish Educational Resources of New York, JERNY, prepares to honor them later this week.

Bernie Nowitz is a retired pharmacist. As the former president of Burns Pharmaceuticals in Rensselaer, New York, Bernie served my constituents faithfully for 24 years. After his retirement, he worked as a pharmacy consultant and then as a volunteer for the Schenectady Free Clinic. He has served as a board member of Jewish Family Services, and is a past president of Temple Beth El in Troy, where he currently serves on the Religious Committee.

As part of a fact-finding mission, Bernie traveled to the former Soviet Union and Austria to understand the plight of Jewish refugees. He has also traveled to Israel with the Volunteers for Israel project on two separate occasions. Bernie and his wife, Reeva, have been strong supporters of Israel since their first trip 35 years ago. They have been long-time supporters of JERNY and Hadassah as well.

Reeva Nowitz, who is also being honored by JERNY, was Vice President of Burns Pharmaceuticals, working alongside her husband. Since her retirement she has been involved with the Jewish Federation, serving as president of the Women's Division and has been on the boards of the Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York and the Daughters of Sarah Foundation. She is the current president of Temple Beth El in Troy and helped in the formation of the Albany Area Jewish Cemetery Association of Northeastern New York.

Reeva and Bernie are shining examples of Americans who actively demonstrate their commitment to their family, their community and their faith. Bernie often assists Reeva with her duties at Temple Beth El of Troy where

she has served as president for several years. Together with the other families that make up this small but active congregation, Temple Beth El has come to be known in the community as a place where friends and family gather each week for informal services. There, spiritual leader Alan Bell works with the members to develop weekly educational and religious activities for members and non-members alike. The services are inclusive and accessible, bringing children and grandchildren into active participation during worship.

The Nowitzs have lived the dream of seeing their love survive many decades, as their children grow to be fine adults and their family blossoms to include grandchildren. They have been members of Temple Beth El for more than 50 years and attended Hebrew School there. Reeva was born in nearby Cohoes. Bernie was born in the Bronx and moved upstate to Troy at age three.

Reeva and Bernie have been married for more than 46 happy years and have been part of the Temple Beth El and Troy community for that entire time. They have been blessed with two daughters, Cheryl and Nicole, Cheryl and Nicole. Cheryl is married to Anthony Klein and they live in Palto Alto, California with their children Alex and Daniel. Nicole works in real estate in New York City.

I ask my colleagues to pause to congratulate Reeva and Bernie for being among the honorees at the Israel Heroes Dinner on Thursday, December 2, 2010.

HONORING STEVEN HURD

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Steven Hurd on the occasion of his retirement after 38 years of dedicated service in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Throughout his career, Steve has fought tenaciously to improve the quality of life of veterans and their caregivers. Steve began his VA career in 1972 and served in a variety of Recreation Therapy positions. From 1983 to 1987, he served as the Assistant Chief of Voluntary Service at the Brockton, Massachusetts VA Medical Center. For the past 23 years, Steve has served as the Chief of Voluntary Service at the Togus, Maine VA Medical Center.

Under his leadership, a number of new programs have been established at Togus, including the 'Caught Ya' program to recognize staff members that go above and beyond their duties in caring for veterans, the Service Recovery Program, and new volunteer assignments to provide mealtime companions and other quality of care initiatives for hospitalized veterans. These programs have greatly enhanced and expanded the use of volunteers and staff in improving veterans' healthcare experiences at Togus.

Steve is also an active leader in other sectors of Veterans Affairs. He serves as the VISN 1 Voluntary Service Liaison Chief, is an active member and past president of the Maine Society of Directors of Healthcare Volunteer Services and is current president of the New England Association of Directors of

Healthcare Volunteer Services. In his capacity as VISN Liaison Chief, Steve has also mentored incoming Voluntary Service Chiefs in other Medical Centers in VISN 1. In 2008, Steve served as the president of the Association of Healthcare Volunteer Resource Professionals, becoming the first VA Voluntary Service staff member to be elected to this position.

Through his dedication and valued work, Steve has garnered well-deserved appreciation and numerous accolades including the Voluntary Service Award for Excellence, the Governors' Volunteer Service Award for Excellence in Volunteer Administration and most recently, the Award for Excellence from the Association of Volunteer Resource Professionals.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Steven Hurd for his compassion and tireless efforts on behalf of the veterans in Maine.

A TRIBUTE TO ANN-MARIE K. FOSTER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ann-Marie K. Foster.

Ann-Marie Karlene Goddard Foster was born to serve and help others. Born in Brooklyn, New York on June 22, 1969, she is the eldest of three children born to the late Marva Williams. After losing her mother to gun violence at the tender age of eight years old, Ann-Marie's desire to help others in her community began to take root. Ms. Foster was raised by her loving grandmother, Josephine Ellis, and her late grandfather, Clayton Ellis; her grandparents instilled in her that a solid education was the key to endless opportunities, and a mantra such as "what is in your head can't nobody take it away from you." She graduated at the age of 16 with a Regents diploma from Brooklyn Technical High School in 1986. She went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Utica College of Syracuse University in 1990 with intentions of serving in the health care community.

Upon her return to Brooklyn, her first employment opportunity was for the Health Insurance Plan (HIP) of New York working as a Medical Assistant. During her time at HIP serving in the Women's Health Division, she learned early the power of engaging women in caring for their health which ultimately could shape the health outcomes of the entire family. It was also during this time that she saw the necessity to have health care providers who could relate to a vulnerable population—those who often put other priorities ahead of their own health—women. As the HIV epidemic and the spread of STDs began to take its toll on the African American community, being able to communicate without judgment was the key to the center's success.

In 1991, she joined the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation at Metropolitan Hospital Center in New York and began a journey that would span 19 years in increasing administrative capacities. One of her most rewarding times was spent at Woodhull Medical Center in Brooklyn where she met her mentor who would guide her career and allow her to

spread her administrative wings. The seasoning of her experience at Woodhull prepared her for her most challenging opportunity to date. In June 2009, she was recruited to lead the oldest public hospital psychiatric program at Bellevue Hospital Center. Currently, Ms. Foster is the Senior Associate Executive Director of the Psychiatry and Child/Adolescent Psychiatry departments, which includes a 339 bed inpatient unit and multiple mental health ambulatory care services. She is a member of the American College of Health Care Executives and the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Ms. Foster is most proud of being the mother of two beautiful children, Maya, 13 and Myles, 9; both of whom attend independent schools in NYC. Ms. Foster finds time to be a class representative at her daughters' school, serve in the Parents' Association, mentor young women at the Lenox Road Baptist Church, where she is a member, and participate in community service projects. She continues to live in Brooklyn with her husband of fifteen years, Ray Foster, and her children.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Ann-Marie K. Foster.

PROVIDING FOR APPROVAL OF U.S.-AUSTRALIA NUCLEAR ENERGY AGREEMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6411, which would approve the cooperation agreement between the government of the United States and the government of Australia concerning the peaceful use of nuclear energy. This important legislation will renew a long-standing agreement between one of our strongest allies and promote the safe trade of nuclear energy products.

I thank Chairman BERMAN for his leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I also thank the sponsor of this legislation, ILENA ROS-LEHTINEN, for her commitment to the safe, secure trade and peaceful use of nuclear energy products.

Mr. Speaker, the United States has had an ongoing civilian nuclear cooperation agreement with Australia since 1957. Australia sells around 36 percent of its \$1 billion in uranium exports to the United States. This accounts for 13 percent of our uranium supplies. This cooperation agreement also facilitates Australia's sale of uranium to other countries that will use it with technology made in the United States.

The civilian nuclear cooperation agreement with Australia is set to renew automatically upon the 90th day of continuous session since the President's May 5 transmittal of the renewal agreement. However, it is nonetheless appropriate for us to come together to affirm this agreement with Australia, one of our closest and most strategically important allies.

The United States and Australia have a strong relationship rooted in our shared values, historical ties, and strategic outlook. Our militaries conduct joint military exercises and Australian troops are currently in Afghanistan