

party will be held in her honor in Burton Michigan to celebrate the occasion.

Born in 1905 at Mandate Ohio, Mrs. Roman relocated to Flint Michigan and worked at the Fisher Body Plant for 35 years retiring in 1961. She has been an active member of Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church, joining the congregation in 1928. She has worked with the Missionary Society, the Ada Barry Bible Class, and the Mother's Board. She still attends church services every Sunday. She is also an avid golfer, bowler, reader and likes to solve crossword puzzles.

Mrs. Roman has one son, a daughter-in-law, two grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, many nieces, nephews and numerous friends.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Beulah B. Roman as she celebrates her 105th birthday. I wish her the best for the day and the coming year.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 15, 2010*

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I regrettably missed rollcall votes on December 14. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: Rollcall No. 628: "yea"; Rollcall No. 629: "yea"; and Rollcall No. 630: "yea."

#### IN HONOR OF PHILIP MARK CONIGLIO, SR.

#### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 15, 2010*

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Philip Mark Coniglio, Sr. who recently passed away at the age of 85. I am honored that I have this opportunity to recognize this great man as a prominent community businessman and a wonderful friend.

Philip was born and raised in Monterey, California. He attended Monterey High School and Hartnell College. After serving in the Army from 1943 to 1945, Philip worked with his uncles growing grapes. This led Philip to take an interest in grapes and thus, the wine industry. He owned and operated Mediterranean Market for 41 years which was known as a landmark for gourmet food and wines.

Philip was heavily involved in the community; he was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Italian Catholic Federation, Paisano, Sierra Club, and the Compare Club. He also maintained a long-standing tradition of entertaining and cooking dinner for family and friends on Sundays.

I will always remember Philip as a traveler. He had been around the world several times and frequently visited the big island of Hawaii.

Philip is survived by his wife of 59 years, Carla Lepori-Pacini Coniglio; his daughter Cara Mia Coniglio and granddaughter, Tiana Marie Lagemann; daughter, Lisa Paula Kaufmann and son-in-law, Mark Kaufmann and grandsons, Michael Colin and Patrick Joseph Kaufmann; son, Philip Coniglio Jr., and daugh-

ter-in-law Star Bullock Coniglio and granddaughter Margaux Isabella Coniglio; and his brother, Peter Coniglio.

Madam Speaker, Philip Mark Coniglio, Sr. touched the lives of many people in the community. He will be missed and I know I speak for the whole House in honoring the life of this dedicated and loving man.

#### SENIORS PROTECTION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 14, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5987, the Seniors Protection Act of 2010.

Earlier this year, the Social Security Administration announced that for the second year in a row, Social Security beneficiaries would not be receiving a Cost of Living Adjustment, COLA, increase for the second year in a row. This legislation provides seniors with an additional \$250 payment, equivalent to about a 2 percent COLA, to Social Security beneficiaries next year.

A COLA increase is imperative for seniors who rely on their benefits to support themselves and their families. According to the Economic Policy Institute, 3.5 million seniors are below the poverty level. The Department of Labor estimates that almost half of the 2 million workers over the age of 55 have been unemployed for 6 months or longer. Yet as more seniors experience poverty as a result of the economic downturn, the calls for privatizing and cutting Social Security in the name of fiscal responsibility have grown louder. Privatizing Social Security will hurt the most vulnerable Americans such as women, minority communities and children—those Americans that are currently experiencing disproportionately the effects of the recession. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that the program is fiscally sound for another 40 plus years.

It is our responsibility to guarantee seniors an adequate income after a lifetime of paying into Social Security. We must shift the focus from cutting vital programs such as Social Security to reviving our domestic manufacturing sector as a means to put Americans back to work.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

#### HONORING "BUDDY" FRANK DIPAULO, JR.

#### HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 15, 2010*

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today for the purpose of recognizing "Buddy" Frank DiPaolo, Jr. Earlier this year, Buddy Frank retired at the age of 103 from his position as the doorkeeper at the Rhode Island House of Representatives, where he served for the past 32 years.

Not only has Buddy been an exemplary public servant for the State of Rhode Island,

but I have been fortunate enough to have known him as a friend and mentor throughout my adult life. I first met Buddy Frank over 25 years ago when he owned the Castle Spa restaurant and I was an undergraduate at Providence College. Throughout my career, dating back to when I first sought elected office in the Rhode Island General Assembly in 1988, I have turned to Buddy to be one of my most trusted and reliable advisors. I've been honored to be his "number one buddy," but even more blessed to be treated as his "third son."

I consider Buddy's family to be my own; his wife, Eugenia, his four children, Thomas, Claire, Evelyn, and Richard, his sixteen grandchildren, Susan, Steven, Robert, Kathleen, Cheryl, John, Erin, Robin, Kevin, Paul, Pamela, Mark, Claudia, Kristen, Lynn, and Laura, and eighteen grandchildren, Catherine, Michael, Abigail, Katelyn, Jessica, Bryan, William, Tyler, Zackery, Gillian, Seamus, Campbell, Rory, Damian, Gian, Jacqueline, Nicholas, and Timothy. They are all truly blessed to have a patriarch in the truest sense in Buddy Frank, and I thank them for the opportunity to share him as a positive influence in my life.

Buddy Frank will be turning 104 years old on December 24, 2010, and I wish him a happy birthday. I also wish him all the best in his future endeavors. He will continue to carry my own admiration, and that of all who have had the privilege to work with him.

#### HONORING FRANKLIN COUNTY 4-H

#### HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 15, 2010*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Franklin County 4-H for 75 years of excellence.

The Franklin County 4-H organization originated with 10 members in 1935, and has grown into the largest 4-H organization in the state, with 20 4-H clubs and 700 members. The members are led by over 300 adult and teen volunteer leaders. 4-H engages youth to reach their fullest potential, while advancing the field of youth development in four different areas of focus: head, heart, hands, and health. During the 75 year history, 52 adult volunteers have served for 20 or more years, 9 of whom have served for 30 or more years, a true testament to this important program. In its 75th year, the tradition of 4-H still remains strong throughout Franklin county.

I would like to take this time to commend Franklin County 4-H for all their hard work, and I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing them for a job well done.

#### HONORING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EAST BAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE

#### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 15, 2010*

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the 20th anniversary of The East

Bay Economic Development Alliance, known as East Bay EDA. On December 2, 2010, East Bay EDA recognized their partnerships, collaborations and achievements, and highlighted the organization's future initiatives and endeavors.

East Bay EDA is a public-private partnership serving the San Francisco East Bay. Its mission is to establish the East Bay as a well-recognized location to grow businesses, attract capital and create quality jobs. It serves as a pivotal point for workforce development, and provides regional initiatives for housing and land use, goods movement, and the development of water infrastructure. It promotes collaboration on regulatory policy between local businesses and government agencies. The organization also promotes business retention best practices among East Bay cities, and has coordinated the Bay Area's efforts to prepare an economic recovery plan to increase the competitiveness of the region.

I congratulate East Bay EDA on 20 years of exemplary service as the organization continues to evaluate and modify its work plan to adjust to changes in the workforce, economy, and State and local governments. I send best wishes for many more years of exemplary service.

IN HONOR OF DR. DICK B.  
"COACH" LAWITZKE

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 15, 2010*

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember the life Dr. Dick B. "Coach" Lawitzke, who passed away at the age of 84. I am honored to recognize this great man who lived his life helping others.

Dick graduated from Humboldt State College in 1950. Shortly after, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and married his college sweetheart, Millicent. They soon named the beautiful Monterey Peninsula home. He became Superintendent, Principal, teacher, and bus driver of Carmelo Elementary School from 1956 to 1958. Dick was also a sports enthusiast which is why many remember him simply as "Coach". He was Athletic Director at Carmel High School and coached championship teams in basketball and football.

I believe that every community needs a person like Dick; he was always involved in programs positively influencing kids and adamant about adult education. We were close and remained in close contact until recently.

Dick leaves his wife, Millicent; children Loree Burroughs, Amy Consul, and Milton "Mo" Lawitzke; grandchildren Travis Fluegge, Edward Lee Lawitzke, Cayden and Ian Burroughs, and Margo and Nina Consul.

Madam Speaker, I know that the Carmel area community will continue to benefit from the work that Dick "Coach" Lawitzke did and that he is a shining example to those who were inspired to continue his work.

HONORING SERGEANT DENNIS  
OSTERMAN

**HON. ADRIAN SMITH**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 15, 2010*

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Sergeant Dennis Osterman for his forty-five years of dedicated service to the Grand Island Police Department and to the people of Grand Island, Nebraska.

Osterman retired on August 27, 2010, as the longest-serving active police officer in the State of Nebraska. For nearly fifty years Sergeant Osterman has embodied what it means to give back to one's community.

One year after completing his service to the United States Army, Osterman continued to defend and protect his country—only this time in a different uniform. Throughout his incredible tenure, he had held several different roles and accepted various responsibilities without hesitation. The police department and the Grand Island community have changed considerably since that June in 1964 when Osterman joined the force but he has never failed to be an invaluable role model and trusted leader to the incoming generations of police officers and the Grand Island community at large.

I am impressed by Dennis' life-long dedication to the protection of the Grand Island community and I appreciate the sacrifices he has made over the years. I wish him all the best as he starts his retirement and I hope he takes the time to enjoy the community which he spent a lifetime protecting.

HONORING DECEASED AMBASSADOR  
RICHARD HOLBROOKE

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 15, 2010*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ambassador Richard Holbrooke and his diplomatic career which lasted the better part of five decades. Ambassador Holbrooke's decorated career spanned the globe from Asia to Europe with stops at the U.S. State Department, United Nations, and most recently, as Presidential envoy on Afghanistan-Pakistan policy. His service shaped American foreign policy in such troubled areas as the Balkans and most recently in leading the U.S. in Afghanistan. I concur with the sentiments of many of my colleagues in that his stellar service is deeply appreciated and held in the highest esteem. As co-chair of the Afghanistan Caucus, I especially appreciate his promotion of a civil, democratic society for the people of Afghanistan. Ambassador Holbrooke will be deeply missed.

I would like to express my condolences to his wife, Kati, his two sons, and two stepchildren along with the rest of the Holbrooke family. My thoughts and prayers are with his family at this difficult time.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MR. TOM  
HINZ

**HON. STEVE KAGEN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 15, 2010*

Mr. KAGEN. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to Mr. Tom Hinz as our superior Brown County Executive retires. During his time in office, Mr. Hinz has served the people and interests of Brown County to the highest degree, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable individual.

Tom Hinz has dedicated his life to public service. Well before he assumed his role as Brown County Executive, Tom served in the Army for three years followed by a long career in local law enforcement. Viewed as a leader by his peers, Mr. Hinz was encouraged to run for and was elected to be Brown County's Sheriff after more than 30 years with the police force. His service to the public continued as a member of the Brown County Board of Supervisors, where he served for two years before taking on the responsibility of being Brown County's Executive during what would become the most challenging economic environment in decades.

Community leaders, lawmakers and servants of the public across Northeast Wisconsin hold Tom Hinz in no less than the highest regard. A diplomatic problem solver and skilled manager, Tom has been an extraordinary asset to the community surrounding Green Bay and the 8th Congressional District of Wisconsin's largest county.

Among his many accomplishments, Mr. Hinz launched the LEAN initiative in Brown County in 2009. This implemented techniques that have for years produced impressive results in manufacturing environments, and adapted them to county government. As a result county employees are involved in an effective process that improves quality, reduces costs, and strengthens customer service.

Tom was also a key player in the construction of the Brown County Community Treatment Center, the new 911 Communications Center and the ratification of a long-overdue service agreement between Brown County and the Oneida Tribe of Indians.

Madam Speaker, as Mr. Tom Hinz celebrates his retirement, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting this exemplary citizen and his lifetime of service to the nation and the communities of Northeast Wisconsin.

HOUSTON, TEXAS, PROPERTY  
CONVEYANCE

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 14, 2010*

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 6510. First, I would like to thank Ron Kendell, Elliot Doomes, Ward McCarrington, Johanna Hardy, Major Keithen Washington and Shashrina Thomas for their tireless efforts in moving this bill. I would also like to thank the co-sponsors of this bill and my colleagues: Representatives: MARIO DIAZ-BALART, TED POE, ILEANA