

the CCD was a breakthrough in electronic image sensing that led to today's digital cameras and other recording devices. CCDs are now integral components of modern laboratory instruments and medical sensors. The field of astronomy, in particular, benefitted from the invention of the CCD: the Hubble space telescope, the Kepler satellite, and other major astronomical instruments rely on CCDs for their spectacular images. Myself, I have used CCD detectors in physics research. I am deeply pleased that the Nobel Committee chose to reward these researchers' transformative contribution.

It is worth noting that Drs. Boyle and Smith set out to create a new tool for electronic memory, not a new imaging device. The dramatic success of their design is a reminder that research and development is a non-linear process. New products often spring from unexpected discoveries or develop from innovations that were originally intended for a different purpose. That is why our future economic success is inextricably linked to a robust, sustained federal investment in basic scientific research and a true commitment to a healthy national innovation infrastructure.

The creativity and inventiveness of Willard Boyle and George Smith were nurtured in the Bell Labs of the 1960s. That environment was responsible, in large part, for the seven Nobel Prizes that have been awarded for work carried out at Bell Labs over the years. The freedom to pursue science to unpredictable ends was a pillar of our research and development system for decades. Yet this opportunity is far too rare in today's public and private research institutions, and American competitiveness is not a given. A recent study by the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation ranked the United States last among forty nations and regions in terms of national improvement in international competitiveness and innovation capacity over the last decade.

With that in mind, we should remember that a Nobel Prize is a lagging indicator of success. It can take decades for the importance of a scientific discovery to be fully understood. As we applaud Willard Boyle and George Smith, we should not forget that the work for which the Nobel Committee honored them in 2009 was completed 40 years earlier—in 1969. Perhaps the best tribute to their legacy—and the best way to ensure our collective success—is to make certain that the scientists and researchers working today in our universities and laboratories have the resources they need today to bring home the Nobel Prizes of 2050.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 12, 2010

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 103—H. Res. 1031; Article 2, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

IN HONOR OF GIRL SCOUT WEEK AND THE 98TH ANNIVERSARY OF GIRL SCOUTING

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 12, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate this week, March 7 through March 13, as Girl Scout Week and the 98th anniversary of Girl Scouting. In the state of Connecticut, we have approximately 44,000 Girl Scouts. I am pleased to see Girl Scouts' strong commitment to enriching the lives of young females, and contributing to our nation's communities, evolve over the past 98 years.

Juliette Gordon Low founded Girl Scouts in 1912. Since then, the organization's membership has grown from 18 members in Savannah, Georgia to 3.4 million members throughout the United States, including U.S. territories, and more than 90 countries through USA Girl Scouts Overseas. Today, there are over 2.4 million girl members, including my daughter, and 928,000 adult members working primarily as volunteers. Throughout history, more than 50 million American women enjoyed Girl Scouting during their childhood. That number continues to grow as Girl Scouts of the USA continues to inspire, challenge, and empower girls everywhere.

The Girls Scouts' mission includes building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make our country and the world a better place. The organization motivates these young women to have fun, create meaningful friendships, and discover the power of young women working together. Through enriching experiences such as extraordinary field trips, skill-building clinics, community service projects, cultural exchanges, and environmental stewardships, girls grow courageous and strong. Girl Scouting encourages girls to develop to their full individual potential; to relate to others with increasing understanding, skill, and respect; to develop values to guide their actions and provide the foundation for sound decision-making; and to contribute to the improvement of society through their abilities, leadership skills, and cooperation with others.

I know that Connecticut's young women will continue to benefit from the Girl Scouts program for generations to come. That is why we are thankful for the outstanding work they have done in eastern Connecticut communities. Girl Scouts' commitment to community and empowering women and girls is certain to continue to enrich our communities for many more years. I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in recognizing and celebrating Girl Scout Week and the 98th anniversary of Girl Scouting.

COMMEMORATING THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLOODY SUNDAY

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to the 45th anniversary of the

"Bloody Sunday" massacre, the first of three attempted nonviolent marches from Selma to the State Capitol Building of Alabama. It played a tremendous role in shedding light on the evils of segregation and prejudice that pervaded the United States. I was there, marching from Selma to Montgomery, on March 7, 1965. Among 600 fellow protesters, we famously marched in support of an audacious dream—a march broken up by armed state troopers who brutally assaulted participants, including my dear friend and colleague Representative JOHN LEWIS, who was beaten unconscious and nearly left for dead.

The peaceful demonstrators intended to raise awareness of the brutal murder of Jimmie Lee Jackson by an Alabama State Trooper during a nonviolent demonstration supporting the Voting Rights Act. It only took six blocks into the march before protesters encountered a wall of state troopers. As the protesters attempted to pass, they were nefariously and unnecessarily attacked by nightsticks, fired at with tear gas, and charged at by troopers on horseback. Because of the vicious violence that ensued against the nonviolent protesters attempting to exercise their First Amendment right to freedom of speech, the event became known as "Bloody Sunday."

Images of the vicious massacre were broadcasted throughout the world, including that of the recently widowed Amelia Boynton, a Selma-native who played an integral role in the planning of the marches. "Bloody Sunday" served as veritable evidence of the terrorism against Blacks ingrained in the segregationist movement of the South. The succeeding events played a paramount role in the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and raising awareness of the saddening state of racism in this nation.

COMMENDING ROYAL CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL FOR THEIR RELIEF EFFORTS IN HAITI

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 12, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary relief efforts of Royal Caribbean International following the earthquake that devastated Haiti this past January.

Long before this latest tragedy brought the world's attention to Haiti, Royal Caribbean had been committed to bringing economic development and opportunities to the impoverished nation. Royal Caribbean has been partnering with Haiti's tourism industry for almost 30 years, employing a large number of Haitians and maintaining a resort at Labadee, a port off the northern coast of Haiti. Therefore, when the earthquake shook the country, they personally felt the effects of the tragedy before them and were compelled to find a way to assist the people of Haiti.

Royal Caribbean immediately set out to provide the people of Haiti with emergency relief. Using their cruise ships for delivery, Royal Caribbean has brought over 120 pallets of materials to Haiti. Additionally, they have provided monetary support to emergency assistance organizations, such as the Pan American Development Foundation, which also provide emergency supplies to the island.

I commend Royal Caribbean for their rapid response to this tragedy and the much-needed assistance and aid they have provided. Furthermore, I would like to express my support for their dedication to long-term rebuilding of Haiti.

Although many found it controversial, I believe that Royal Caribbean's decision to continue to dock at Labadee was the right decision. If the cruise line had bypassed Haiti, it would have worsened an already devastating situation. By continuing to bring guests to Labadee, Royal Caribbean kept Haitians working and brought tourist dollars to the country at a time when Haiti's already struggling economy was at a complete stand-still. This commitment to keeping the Haitian economy going is truly admirable.

I thank Royal Caribbean for their exemplary service to the people of Haiti, not simply in providing emergency aid in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, but in their 30 years of work in Haiti and in their commitment to ensuring a sustainable recovery.

HONORING CHARLTON BOYD

HON. JOHN FLEMING

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 12, 2010

Mr. FLEMING. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate and honor a young student from my district who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in his community. Charlton Boyd of Shreveport is today being named one of the top two youth volunteers in Louisiana for 2010, in the 15th annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. This is an extraordinary honor; more than 21,000 young people across the country were considered for state-level recognition in this year's program.

Mr. Charlton Boyd of Shreveport is being recognized for being one of the top two youth volunteers for 2010 by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, a nationwide program honoring young people for outstanding acts of volunteerism. The awards program, now in its 15th year, is conducted by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, NASSP.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it's vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contribution this young citizen has made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Mr. Charlton Boyd are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

The program that brought this young role model to our attention—The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards—was created by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions will inspire other young people to follow their example. Over the past 15 years, the program has become the nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, and has honored nearly 100,000 young volunteers at the local, state and national level.

Mr. Charlton Boyd should be extremely proud to have been singled out from the thousands of dedicated volunteers who participated in this year's program. I heartily applaud Mr. Charlton Boyd for his initiative in seeking to make his community a better place to live, and for the positive impact he has had on the lives of others. He has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. His actions show that young Americans can—and do—play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

PERSONAL STATEMENT ON REMOVAL AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2499

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 12, 2010

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I would like the RECORD to reflect my desire to be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 2499, the Puerto Rico Democracy Act of 2009. Due to H.R. 2499's placement on the Union Calendar, I am unable to officially remove myself from this legislation according to the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING THE 189TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE

SPEECH OF

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, as a member of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Affairs, I am proud to congratulate the nation of Greece on its upcoming celebration of the 189th anniversary of independence. It's been one hundred and eighty-nine years since Greece obtained freedom from the oppressive Ottoman Empire.

On March 25, 1821, the Greek people rose up against Ottoman oppression and declared their independence. The Greeks had been under occupied rule by the Ottoman Turks for over 400 years. After years of war and negotiations, Greece was finally recognized as an independent nation in 1832.

As the birthplace of democracy, Greece has shared numerous self-government efforts across the world, including here in the United States. America's Founding Fathers were inspired by the political experiences and philosophies of ancient Greece in writing our Constitution and founding our representative democracy. Today, Greece is again a thriving democracy and an example of self-determination for other nations.

Greece has long been one of the United States' closest allies. Greece fought alongside America in every war of the 20th Century and continues to offer strong support in the current war on terrorism.

I am honored to cosponsor H. Res. 1107 which recognizes the 189th anniversary of the independence of Greece and am pleased that

this bill is being considered by the House of Representatives today.

I would again like to congratulate Greece for celebrating such a momentous occasion. This anniversary is a time to remember the sacrifices of the past, to take pride in your nation, and to look ahead to a future of promise.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES ON WILD ANIMALS AT THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES OF THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 12, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the policy of the United States on wild animals at the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

CITES was created in 1973 to regulate international trade in endangered species to ensure that it does not threaten their survival. Launched with a few signatory nations, CITES has now 175 parties that have an international obligation and responsibility to protect our planet's endangered animals and plants. Adherence to these protective measures has proven to have benefited the conservation of animals and plants worldwide.

Unfortunately, more and more species are at risk of extinction and international trade, both legal and illegal, has exacerbated the dangers. International wildlife trade is estimated to be worth billions of dollars a year and to include hundreds of millions of live plants and animals and derived products such as food, leather, fur, ivory, and timber. Such high levels of exploitation of and trade in wild animals and plants, together with other factors such as habitat loss, are capable of bringing some species close to extinction.

Between 1979 and 1989 more than 600,000 African elephants were killed for their ivory, cutting the continent's population in half. Nevertheless, poaching has continued with an estimated 38,000 elephants killed annually and 23.2 tons of poached ivory seized since 2007. As sea ice declines, polar bears will not be able to adapt to a terrestrial-based life resulting in increased mortality, reduced reproduction, increased human-bear conflicts, and overall drastic decline of populations. Bobcats keep being poached for their skins. Several sharks are being severely depleted with declines as high as 99 percent in some areas as a result of the high demand for their fins and meat. Overfishing, increased consumer demand and inadequate enforcement of infractions have led to historically low populations of bluefin tuna.

This month, CITES' signatory nations will meet for the 15th Conference of the Parties to review the status of species in danger of extinction and establish trade restrictions. The