

I've seen our enemies brought to their knees  
Including the Germans and Japanese.

I watched Ronald Reagan as he stood tall  
and said, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this  
wall!"

I've sailed the seven seas with the boys in  
Navy blue,

Made the journey to the North and South  
poles too.

I've basked in the sun on many a tropic isle;  
I've marched city streets in grandiose style.  
Today you can find me in the Middle East  
Helping to suppress the Terrorist Beast  
That hates and despises our way of life and  
Continually causes much worldly strife.

Now that you've heard my story true  
I have a request to make of you;  
Promise that evermore I shall wave  
Over the land of the free and home of the  
brave.

I am Old Glory, the Stars and Stripes—for-  
ever!

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY MARCH 16,  
2010

### HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, March 16, 2010*

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the success of Chapman University and their commitment to Holocaust education. The Rodgers Center for Holocaust Education, The Stern Chair in Holocaust Education, and the Sala and Aron Samuelli Holocaust Memorial Library were founded on the mission of educating, remembering, and inspiring.

These centers not only provide academic resources on this important topic, but also motivate students to stand up against racism, prejudice, and bias-related violence.

It will be my pleasure to join with Chapman as they host Nobel Peace Prize laureate Elie Wiesel on April 25th, 2010 to honor Professor Marilyn Harran for her exemplary dedication to Holocaust education, remembrance and witness. Chapman's Holocaust Art and Writing Contest, the Holocaust studies minor and the Sala and Aron Holocaust Memorial Library are just a few of the meaningful programs under her leadership.

I want to specifically recognize the leaders of these institutions and the event: Chapman University President James Doti; Dr. Marilyn Harran; Elie Wiesel; and Co-Chairs Nancy and Irving Chase, Rosemary and William Elperin, and Shelia and Mike Lefkowitz. Their commitment enlightens and empowers not only Chapman students but all who wish to bear witness to the tragedy of the Holocaust.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Dr. Marilyn Harran and look forward to celebrating her achievements with the Chapman community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF  
SPECIALIST LAKESHIA M. BAILEY

### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, March 16, 2010*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention

today to recognize the life of a proud American hero, Specialist Lakeshia M. Bailey.

Specialist Bailey, of Columbus, Georgia, died in Iraq on March 8, 2010, in service to our nation. She is survived by her husband and parents.

Like all those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in this conflict, words cannot express the sense of sadness we have for her family, and the gratitude our country feels for her service. Specialist Bailey died serving the United States and the entire cause of liberty, on a mission to bring stability to a troubled region and liberty to a formerly oppressed people. She was a true patriot for serving our nation, and she will be missed.

We will forever hold her closely in our hearts, and remember her sacrifice and that of her family as a remembrance of her bravery and willingness to serve. Thank you, Madam Speaker, for the House's remembrance on this mournful day.

HONORING MRS. SYLVIA YVONNE  
DRAKEFORD

### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, March 16, 2010*

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of the life of Mrs. Sylvia Yvonne Drakeford. Mrs. Drakeford, a resident of Englewood, New Jersey, passed away on March 6, 2010 after decades of public service with the Englewood City Department of Education and Department of Recreation.

During the past 30 years, Mrs. Drakeford served as the playground supervisor for the Department of Recreation. As supervisor, she was instrumental in restructuring the city's camping trip program to include affordable, package deals for the city's children. Prior to her time at the Department of Recreation, Mrs. Drakeford served as a teacher's aide at Cleveland and Quarles Schools in the city of Englewood for 27 years. For 15 of these years, she spent the first half of the day educating school children, and the second half entertaining them as the coordinator of the schools' after-school program. Mrs. Drakeford's contributions to the city touched generations of Englewood residents.

Mrs. Drakeford leaves behind a loving and adoring family. Her son Teddy Drakeford, who I have known for nearly two decades, was a valued staffer in my office from 1996 until last year. He recently left my office to continue his mother's proud legacy of working with children.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Mrs. Drakeford for her lifetime of dedicated support to the children and residents of Englewood.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE WERNETH,  
VETERAN MOBILE PRESS-REG-  
ISTER REPORTER

### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, March 16, 2010*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, on Sunday, January 24, 2010, George Werneth, a veteran

reporter for the Mobile Press-Register in my congressional district passed away at that age of 65.

George Werneth was an institution in Mobile journalism, covering maritime operations and military news for approximately four decades before his retirement.

George had a reputation for sound reporting and fact checking as noted in the Press-Register's own story about his passing.

He was absolutely devoted to rooting out the truth and took great pains to verify all details. It was said that the newspaper never had to run a correction for any of his news stories: he was that reliable.

George was well known and respected by Mobile area veterans for his devotion to military news coverage, which was his beat for approximately half of his reporting career.

He loved the military and shared a bond with those who donned the uniform of our country.

In honor of his efforts, George was made an honorary member of the Marine Corps League at the American Legion Post 88 in Mobile. His departure from local reporting was keenly felt when he put down his pen and pad for retirement in November 2008.

George Werneth's absence in the lives of his family, friends, former colleagues—the community he loved—will be even more profoundly felt.

I offer my condolences and prayers to his family, including his son Joseph Carey Werneth, his brother Carey Werneth and his two grandsons, Skylar Carey Werneth and Dylan Mesean Werneth.

MARCH IS RED CROSS MONTH

### HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, March 16, 2010*

Ms. CLARKE. Madam Speaker, the American Red Cross has provided assistance and comfort to communities stricken by disasters large and small since it was founded in 1881 by Clara Barton. President Woodrow Wilson was the first to proclaim "Red Cross Week" in 1918, as a time for our citizens "to give generously to the continuation of the important work of relieving distress." For over 100 years, the American Red Cross has continued to help ensure our communities are more ready and resilient in the face of future disasters. This March, I urge all Americans to not only recognize the depth and breadth of services offered by the American Red Cross, but to also join the effort and increase awareness of humanitarian work.

From rebuilding former adversaries after World War II, to combating HIV/AIDS in Africa, to saving lives after the tragic earthquake in Haiti, the American people have an unmatched tradition of responding to challenges at home and abroad with compassion and generosity. The American Red Cross has had an ongoing presence in Haiti since 2004 supporting local disaster preparedness, HIV education, malaria prevention and measles immunization initiatives. In just over one month since the earthquake, the Red Cross has provided assistance to more than 1.3 million people and will continue to aid hundreds of thousands more in the months ahead.

At home and abroad, one in five Americans is touched by the Red Cross every single year. The American Red Cross was instrumental in providing immediate response to the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti in January of this year. Currently, more than 100 people are representing the American Red Cross in Haiti. This includes 30 specialists providing relief distribution and telecommunications support and 14 employees, who were permanently based in Haiti prior to the earthquake and are helping to guide the response, in addition to over 50 Creole-speaking interpreters on the USNS *Comfort*. The American Red Cross is also responding to the 8.8 magnitude earthquake that struck Chile on February 27, making an initial \$50,000 pledge from its International Response Fund for relief operations. In addition, the American Red Cross will continue to monitor the potential impacts of Saturday's tsunami and is prepared to help the people of Hawaii and the U.S. territories in the Pacific, if there is a need.

In addition to deploying relief workers and other disaster management specialists, the American Red Cross is providing relief supplies for 130,000 Haitians including blankets, kitchen sets, hygiene kits, water containers and mosquito nets. The Red Cross has also provided three million pre-packaged meals to the United Nations World Food Programme in Haiti as well as funding to help feed an additional 1 million people for a month. The organization has also partnered with Population Services International to provide more than 1 million water-purification sachets, to ensure that Haitian families have access to clean drinking water. The Red Cross has also provided nearly 750 units of blood for Haiti earthquake survivors. As of early February, the American Red Cross has received over \$225 million for the Haiti relief and recovery effort, and 91 cents of every dollar is going directly to critical humanitarian services and programs. That is why I partnered with the Red Cross of Greater New York to help with Haiti response efforts.

Just one week after the 7.0 earthquake struck Haiti, the NY Red Cross, working in partnership with Local 1199SEIU, NAACP, Haitian Americans United for Progress, Councilman Mathieu Eugene and my office, was able to provide volunteer translators. The Red Cross of Greater New York has since deployed over forty Creole-speaking volunteers, to serve on the US Navy's hospital ship, the USNS *Comfort* anchored off the coast of Haiti. The Greater New York chapter has also helped thousands of Haitian Americans in my district connect with their family members in Haiti. Representing the second largest concentration for first and second generation Haitian immigrants, I applaud the Red Cross' Resorting Family Links programs, which has worked to register over 30,000 people affected by the earthquake. To date, the Red Cross of Greater New York has facilitated nearly 2,000 phone calls between earthquake survivors and their family abroad. Throughout the Greater New York region, the Red Cross provides invaluable services that protect the life and health of all New Yorkers.

The American Red Cross of Greater New York is a key humanitarian partner providing immediate aid to as many as 100,000 New Yorkers affected by local disasters each year. When disaster strikes a densely populated urban area, the emergency-care needs are

huge and immediate. Recently in my district, the Red Cross of Greater New York launched their "March to 200" campaign with the goal of training 200 Red Cross volunteers in shelter leadership roles. It is this dedication to service and preparedness which makes the Greater New York Red Cross a valuable asset to all New Yorkers.

The Red Cross of Greater New York would not be what it is today without the priceless work of CEO Terry Bischoff. Her dedication and compassion have inspired us all, and her leadership has transformed the capacities of this organization. She will most certainly be missed, but the effects of her work will be lasting. Whether it is an earthquake or a single family home fire; a call for blood or a call for help, the American Red Cross is there. I ask all my colleagues join me today in applauding the hard work of the American Red Cross volunteers and celebrating March as American Red Cross Month.

#### THANKING THE PERSHING ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

**HON. ADRIAN SMITH**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 16, 2010*

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a group of Nebraskan students for doing their part to help in the Haiti relief efforts. Pershing Elementary students in Lexington, Nebraska decided to get involved and each class took part in a penny drive in order to provide money to the victims of the earthquake.

While the entire elementary school took part in the fundraiser, it was the third grade class which was the driving force behind raising money for Haiti. The students had seen images of the victims and the horrible destruction which took place on the island and they took it upon themselves to go classroom to classroom, raising \$877. The third graders raised money so the victims could "buy supplies and build hospitals."

I am extremely proud of the elementary students in Lexington. Their efforts to help those in need are inspiring; and I thank them for helping spread Nebraska generosity. I am grateful to have such excellent students in my district.

HONORING GUEST CHAPLAIN,  
JOHN L. BEAVER, NATIONAL  
CHAPLAIN, THE AMERICAN LE-  
GION

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 16, 2010*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to personally welcome to the House, our guest chaplain, John L. Beaver of Mobile, who hails from the First Congressional District of Alabama.

John L. Beaver was appointed National Chaplain of The American Legion on August 17, 2009, during the closing session of the 91st National Convention in Louisville, KY.

A retired U.S. Air Force veteran with more than 20 years military service from the Viet-

nam War era to the time of the Lebanon/Grenada conflicts, Chaplain Beaver has performed religious duties at the local Post, District, State and National levels since joining the American Legion in 1989.

Chaplain Beaver is well known and respected in South Alabama for his humanitarian work with an emphasis on aiding homeless persons.

In the aftermath of the September 2005 crisis following Hurricane Katrina, Chaplain Beaver coordinated regional relief efforts on behalf of The American Legion, a fellow veterans' service organization and church organizations.

He was instrumental in the operation of supply depots and distribution sites to aid storm victims all along the stricken Gulf Coast.

A pastor assistant and Sunday school superintendent, Chaplain Beaver's primary ministry is the visitation of—and care for—shut-ins at area hospitals, assisted living facilities, veteran's homes and homeless shelters through the ministries of the Fowl River and Kingswood United Methodist Churches in the Mobile, Alabama area.

I join my colleagues in welcoming Chaplain Beaver to the U.S. House and in thanking him for his service to our veterans and our community.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 16, 2010*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,636,662,956,140.07.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$1,998,237,209,846.20 so far this Congress. The debt has increased \$60,984,093,238.39 since just yesterday.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MIKE PENCE**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 16, 2010*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House floor during Friday's three rollcall votes and Monday's four rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall numbers 109 and 110, and "yes" on rollcall numbers 111 through 115.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION  
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010 (H.R.  
2701)

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 16, 2010*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in support of H.R.