

libraries, museums, memorials and the public as a permanent reminder of a time when people came together to face common challenges as a united country. Many of the memories can also be forwarded to the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress.

The 2010 Spirit of '45 activities will officially kick off at a reunion of World War II veterans on the USS *Midway* in San Diego, on Monday January 18, 2010. Invited to participate are World War II legends Ernest Borgnine, Tony Curtis, Kirk Douglas, and Hugh O'Brien. Also invited is Edith Shain, the nurse who was photographed being kissed by a joyous sailor in Times Square on August 14, 1945. A presentation will be made to the family of Bob Hope in honor of his legacy of support of our men and women in uniform.

The next major event of the Spirit of '45 will be right here in Washington, D.C. when hundreds of people will gather at the National World War II Memorial and lead the Memorial Day Parade down Constitution Avenue. Moving toward the weekend of August 14–15, public events are to be held across the country to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the end of World War II, including a major event already being planned in New York City's Times Square. Later events are being discussed for October, the 65th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, and on Veterans Day in November.

The events will focus on how to assure that our "latest generation" of veterans receives the kind of welcome home as did their forefathers of the World War II generation, through education and training under the newly-passed "Post 9/11 G.I. Bill," employment opportunities, and many other ways of helping in their efforts to reconnect with their communities. I urge my colleagues to join in support of these remembrances of the ending of World War II by co-sponsoring H. Con. Res. 226.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN JOSEPH A. IANNITTI—SCOTTSDALE HEALTHCARE'S "SALUTE TO MILITARY" HONOREE

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a member of the Armed Forces from my home state of Arizona. Each month, Scottsdale Healthcare recognizes service members who perform diligent service to this country. Scottsdale Healthcare has recognized Captain Joseph A. Iannitti for the month of January.

I commend Scottsdale Healthcare for paying tribute to such an exceptional service member for his bravery and service to our country.

Captain Joseph A. Iannitti has served in the Army for nine years and is currently the Executive Officer for the 286th Signal Company, 11th Air Defense Artillery Brigade at Fort Bliss, Texas. Next month, he will deploy to Kuwait as a communications officer.

During his service Joseph has received numerous awards. He was awarded two commendation medals, an achievement medal, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Reserve Mobilization Medal and a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing this courageous service member for his outstanding contributions while serving our country.

A TRIBUTE TO AARON AND
ASHLEY REDING

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Aaron and Ashley Reding of Howardstown, Kentucky as the recipients of the 2010 American Farm Bureau Federation's Young Farmers and Ranchers Achievement Award.

On January 11, 2010, the couple was announced as the winners of the Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) Achievement Award at the American Farm Bureau Federation's 91st annual meeting in Seattle, Washington. The Redings had gone on to win this national title after being named the Kentucky Farm Bureau's Outstanding Young Farm Family in December of 2009.

The award recognizes young farmers and ranchers that have excelled with their respective operations and that have demonstrated a sense of commitment to promoting the agriculture industry. This honor is a well-deserved recognition of the rapid growth and financial progress of the Reding family's farm as well as a testament to years of hard work and dedication.

The Reding family operates a large-scale row crop operation and this year they grew 1,500 acres of both corn and soybeans in addition to 450 acres of wheat. Aaron bought two farms in the early 2000s and was later granted ownership of his family's farm in 2003. Ashley has also dedicated her life to agriculture, retiring from teaching to stay home and tend to the human resource and technological aspects of the farm, as well as to raise their three children.

The Redings have assumed a leadership role within their community, promoting not just their farm but the agriculture industry as a whole. They regularly host school tours and county leadership groups and often work with chemical and seed companies in conducting research. Aaron and Ashley have even combined forces with their local press to draft an informative story about GPS and farming.

Among other organizations, both Aaron and Ashley are members of the American Soybean Association. Aaron is president of the Kentucky Soybean Association, a member of the county extension council and is a regional officer for the State Young Farmer Association. He is also currently the vice president and chairman of the policy development committee while Ashley is an active member on the women's committee.

I want to thank Aaron and Ashley, along with their children, for serving as a role model for all Kentucky families, especially those within the rapidly changing farming industry. I hope their success continues for many years to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE 1270
FIFTH AVENUE RESIDENTS AS
THEIR COOPERATIVE MARKS ITS
50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, this year marks the 50th Anniversary of the 1270 Fifth Avenue Cooperative in my Congressional District. 1270 has the distinction of being the first middle-income co-op in my and surrounding Congressional Districts and the only residential co-op in Manhattan that is a cooperative nonprofit corporation.

Incorporated on August 8, 1957, under the New York State Cooperative Corporations Law, the building was constructed with a stream of funding from Section 213 of Title II of the National Housing Act. The \$4.5 million dollar mortgage held by the Federal Housing Administration has since matured in November of 1999.

Despite the neighborhood's initial negative reaction to 1270's construction, there was a tremendous demand for the apartments. At a time when segregated housing in Manhattan was still the norm, 1270, which was unrestricted regardless of race, gender, or creed, and priced for middle-income residents, was seen by minorities and liberal-minded folks as a desirable place to live. By November 1959 when the building first opened for occupancy, 194 of the 201 available units had been sold. The remaining seven apartments were sold and occupied by July 1961.

Making history for 1270 had its difficult moments. A board of directors was quickly elected in order to tackle problems as they surfaced. Throughout the years of struggle to establish and maintain a viable middle-income cooperative in East Harlem, the families and individuals at 1270 held together through a tremendous sense of home and community. Men and women who arrived as young adults lived and raised their children, and grew old here. Neighbors became lifelong friends and took care of each other.

There is no better measure of 1270's success than the fact that people who move there, stay there. Of the 201 shareholders, 69 percent have been there for more than 10 years; 44 percent for more than 20 years; 35 percent for more than 30 years; and 17 percent for more than 40 years. The average length of residency is 21.6 years.

1270 was and continues to be called home by multiple celebrities and other notables, including: Odetta, internationally celebrated folk singer; James Dumpson, former commissioner of the New York City Department of Health and Welfare; Elaine Jones, former executive director of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund; Verne Oliver, former headmaster of New Lincoln School; Debbie Allen, television and stage actress; Phylicia Rashad, television and stage actress; Charles Henry Alston, internationally acclaimed artist; Ruth Slenczynska, internationally acclaimed concert pianist; Gus Trowbridge, founder of Manhattan Country School; Lois Small, founder of senior dance group, "The Steppers"; the family of Ralph Bunche, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate; the family of Harry Belafonte, singer; and the family of Johnny Mathis, singer.

1270 has not only survived, but it has thrived through the years. Current neighborhood beautification projects have magnificently transformed the setting of the building's home. 1270 faces the Harlem Meer section of New York City's Central Park and the Conservatory Gardens, which have been restored and maintained with an endowment. The on-site Museum of African Art adds a part of the building to New York's Museum Mile. Sightseeing buses now regularly stop in the neighborhood for tours.

Madam Speaker, on the occasion of 1270's 50th anniversary, as we look back on the successes of the National Housing Act, we can all feel a sense of pride. For many long-time residents, the soul of this section 213 building can never be separated from its historic roots.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

SPEECH OF

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 19, 2010

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1008, to honor the contributions of Catholic schools and recognize Catholic Schools Week 2010.

Catholic schools have played an important role in the American education system. Catholic schools across our country have an excellent reputation for providing a strong academic and moral education, as well as teaching social responsibility, to the more than 2 million American students currently enrolled in Catholic schools.

The Catholic schools in my district work hard to create an environment where academic excellence and value driven pride can be fostered and embraced.

Catholic schools produce students strongly dedicated to their faith, values, families, and communities by providing an intellectually stimulating environment rich in spiritual, character and moral development.

My wife, Laurie, and I as well as our two sons, Ken and B.J., attended Northern Michigan's Catholic schools and realize the benefits of the Catholic education system.

The week of January 31 through February 6, 2010, has been designated as Catholic Schools Week by the Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

This week let us pause, reflect and congratulate administrators, faculty, staff, students and parents as we celebrate the dedicated tradition of promoting education through our Catholic faith.

Catholic schools remain possible because Catholics come together through their parishes and dioceses to make a financial commitment to see this strong tradition continue.

H. Res. 1008 acknowledges the hard work and dedication that Catholic schools have contributed to building our local communities and our nation.

I am proud to co-sponsor H. Res. 1008 and support the many Catholic schools in my district and across our nation.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,319,326,469,724.43.

On January 6th, 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 \$1,680,900,723,430.63 so far this Congress.

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

IN RECOGNITION OF REELTOWN HIGH SCHOOL WINNING THE ALABAMA 2A STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to the Reeltown High School football team in Notasulga, Alabama, which recently won the 2009 Alabama 2A State Football Championship.

On December 4th, the Reeltown Rebels defeated Clay County High School by a score of 16-8 at Bryant-Denny Stadium in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. The Rebels finished the season with a record of 14-1.

The Reeltown Rebels are coached by Jackie O'Neal, and the school's principal is Tom Cochran. I'd like to congratulate the football team, coaches and high school students and staff on this outstanding achievement. All of us across Tallapoosa County and East Alabama are deeply proud of these talented young Alabamians.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed the following recorded votes on the House floor on Tuesday, January 19, 2010.

Had I been present I would have voted "Aye" on Rollcall vote No. 6 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1004), "Aye" on Rollcall vote No. 7 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1015), "Aye" on Rollcall vote No. 8 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 991).

A TRIBUTE TO AN AMERICAN HERO

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Army SPC Bryan C. Florence of Louisville, Kentucky, who nearly lost his life on September 2, 2007 during an IED explosion in Baghdad. Specialist Florence is a true American hero and an exceptional Kentuckian who inspires us all with his strength and sacrifice. I ask that a poem penned by Albert Caswell in honor of Specialist Florence and his family be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as follows:

BRYAN'S SONG

Bryan's Song . . .
Bryan's heart, beating loud! Beating long!
Beating strong!
A hero's heart, which to him now so belongs!
Army Tough! Army Strong!
To him, that heart of a hero which so beats
on . . .
Belongs, to such a fine young man . . .
Kentucky Strong . . . Bryan's Life . . . Bryan's
Song . . .
A Thoroughbred . . .
Finishing first, across that finish line of life
. . . let it now be said!
An Army man, who so proudly wears the uniform . . . who so can!
All for God and Country, and Family, he
went off to war . . .
Into that the darkest face of death, but were
his great burdens bore . . .
Leaving all that he so loved . . .
Ready to die if necessary, is that but not
true love . . . and Heaven is for?
All for us, while into the face of death he
left!
When, on battlefields of honor seen . . .
Dashing there so in uniform, such a heroic
figure convened . . .
As the hand of death would so intervene . . .
Reaching down, beckoning him . . .
With one leg gone, somehow he held on . . .
All for his fine wife, and future child to be
born . . .
As he now must move on, as we so see his
courage full . . . courage strong . . .
Within his heart beating so loud, beating
strong . . .
Listen and learn, from this sonnet . . . his
Bryan's Song . . .
A song of full hope and courage . . . who
would not be discouraged . . .
The words, of a hero . . . all of our souls
words has nourished . . .
As day by day, while all of that pain and
heartache comes his way . . .
As we so glean, what it so takes . . . to be a
fine human being . . .
As against all odds, in life and death's . . . in
all his heartbreak left . . .
In death and war . . . he writes his score . . .
To rebuild . . . to so instill . . . trusting In
God's Will!
As his fine heart will not dismay . . .
As he so shows us all the way still . . .
A Florence of Arabia . . .
Who went off to the Mideast . . .
All on his most valiant crusade, to fight for
peace . . .
What, words in our lives have we so written?
Heard all here in our living!
And, if I ever have a son . . . I but hope and
pray!
What songs have we so sung as to this our
world so given?
He could but be like this one, this day . . .
As Bryan's sung!