

The first week in March has traditionally been set aside to honor the history and accomplishments of the Peace Corps. This year's festivities took place March 1, 2010 through March 7, 2010 and commemorated the 49th anniversary of the Peace Corps.

Madam Speaker, the Peace Corps is perhaps our country's most important public diplo-

macy programs. The sight of ordinary Americans volunteering to serve the world's most disadvantaged populations has never failed to elevate good will toward our country. I ask unanimous consent to include in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of the 21 Hoosiers from my District who are currently serving their tours with the Peace Corps in

countries ranging from Ukraine and Moldova in Europe, to Botswana, Tanzania, and Zambia in Africa, to Guatemala and Costa Rica in Central America. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring these outstanding young men and women and in wishing them well in their endeavors.

SWORN-IN VOLUNTEERS IN THE DISTRICT OF IN-05

[Representative: Dan Burton]

Volunteer name	Country of service	Start of svc date	Projected cos date
Adenrele, Adeyemi O	Cape Verde	20-Sep-2008	25-Sep-2010
Bagley, Zachary P	Uganda	15-Oct-2009	14-Oct-2011
Brooks, Meredith L	Swaziland	27-Aug-2009	26-Aug-2011
Caio, Laura M	Botswana	18-Jun-2009	17-Jun-2011
Carpenter, Stacy M	Kazakhstan	31-Oct-2009	30-Oct-2011
Coe, David M	Armenia	13-Aug-2009	13-Aug-2011
Elliott, Joel C	South Africa	03-Apr-2008	27-Mar-2010
Garvey, Jack E	Armenia	14-Aug-2008	14-Aug-2010
Houghton, Travis S	Guatemala	17-Jul-2009	16-Jul-2011
Jefferson, Matthew P	Botswana	18-Jun-2009	17-Jun-2011
Lutz, Isaac D	Moldova	18-Aug-2009	18-Aug-2011
Miller, Christopher J	Guyana	23-Apr-2009	24-Apr-2011
Myers, Emilia A	Tanzania	20-Aug-2008	19-Aug-2010
Ready, Lauren E	Albania	28-May-2009	27-May-2011
Roberts, Sarah R	Dominican Republic	28-Oct-2009	28-Oct-2011
Rosensteele, Matthew J	Costa Rica	16-May-2008	21-May-2010
Rulon, Jennifer A	Mali	10-Sep-2009	11-Sep-2011
Sather, Made R	Zambia	25-Sep-2009	05-Feb-2011
Sather, Robert O	Zambia	25-Sep-2009	05-Feb-2011
Theibert, Julie E	Namibia	16-Oct-2009	14-Oct-2011
Umstead, Andrew D	Ukraine	09-Dec-2008	09-Dec-2010
Total Volunteers: 21.			

HONORING THE RESCUE EFFORTS AT THE HOTEL MONTANA

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, when the catastrophic earthquake devastated the island nation of Haiti in January, Americans from coast to coast rallied together in the spirit of compassion and generosity to help those in need. Several emergency organizations including Virginia's Fairfax County Urban Search and Rescue teams and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers responded to the crisis. They took on the daunting task of searching for survivors and recovering the remains of our fellow Americans from the Hotel Montana, a bustling hotel where many U.S. citizens were staying at the time of the deadly quake.

The heroic efforts of these patriots went far above the call of duty. For more than a month, Fairfax County Urban Search and Rescue teams braved extremely dangerous conditions, retrieving victims from the hotel ruins. The Army Corps of Engineers used heavy equipment to move mountains of rubble while the search and rescue teams simultaneously looked for survivors. They selflessly returned to the site each day facing the imminent threat of aftershocks and deadly structural collapse.

Together, these men and women, led by U.S. Army COL Norberto Cintron, worked tirelessly from dawn to dusk in suffocating humidity and in temperatures that soared above 90 degrees to bring our missing fellow Americans home.

Colonel Cintron is a man of exceptional honor and dignity who answered the emergency call to duty without hesitation. He provided an invaluable service to the families of the missing Americans, speaking with them at length on daily conference calls to explain the status of recovery efforts and answer all of their questions.

Colonel Cintron broke from bureaucratic rhetoric to give family members straight-

forward, compassionate updates on their missing loved ones. He conveyed a sense of urgency and strong determination to find both the living and the dead trapped beneath the rubble of the Hotel Montana. With two daughters deployed to the Middle East, Colonel Cintron treated all of the missing persons as if they were a part of his own family. His heartfelt empathy and willingness to go the extra mile for those awaiting news back home brought humanity and hope to families suffering unimaginable loss.

My thoughts and prayers are with the people of Haiti and all of those who lost loved ones. I am grateful for the tenacity of leaders like Colonel Cintron, the volunteer spirit of the Fairfax County Urban Search and Rescue teams and the tireless work of the Army Corps of Engineers at the Hotel Montana. Their unwavering commitment brought a measure of closure to the families in the midst of this horrific situation.

INTRODUCING THE VIRGINIA ACCESS TO ENERGY ACT (VA ENERGY ACT)

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, for many years the Commonwealth of Virginia has seriously been considering the potential positive impact that Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) development off Virginia's coast would have on the Commonwealth. In 2008, it seemed that the Commonwealth would be able to make OCS development a reality when we in Congress, and then President George Bush, removed hurdles that had previously blocked access to energy resources located on the OCS. However, since that point, Virginia has been confronted with a series of regulatory road blocks. Although a lease sale has been proposed in Virginia's OCS, the first scheduled lease sale for energy development in the At-

lantic, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar has continued to postpone this Virginia lease sale. This delay is happening despite the strong support for the lease sale by the Virginia Congressional Delegation, the Governor of Virginia, the Virginia General Assembly, and the citizens of Virginia. Madam Speaker, the voices of Virginians must be heard.

To allow the Virginia lease sale to proceed we must remove the regulatory road blocks that are impeding development of Virginia's OCS, so I rise today with a bipartisan group of members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation to introduce the "Virginia Access (VA) to Energy Act." This legislation would require that the Department of the Interior, at the request of Virginia's governor, proceed with the Virginia lease sale no later than one year after passage of this legislation. This will remove the regulatory hurdles that have impeded development and create a path for Virginia to become "the Energy Capital of the East Coast."

Passage of this legislation and development of VA's OCS will significantly boost the economy of the Commonwealth of Virginia. In fact, some estimates have shown that development of Virginia's OCS will create 2,578 full-time equivalent positions on an annual basis, induce capital investment of \$7.84 billion, yield \$644 million in direct and indirect payroll, and result in \$271 million in State and local taxes. While exploration activities alone will infuse the Virginia economy with a significant amount of new capital, this legislation will also authorize any qualified revenues generated by the lease sales to be shared between the federal government and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Virginians understand that a major component in lessening energy costs is to produce more energy. I believe that Virginia should have every tool available to access its energy supplies, while at the same time creating thousands of jobs for Virginians and infusing the Commonwealth with new capital growth. I urge

Congress to pass this legislation to allow Virginia to move towards a path of energy independence.

RECOGNIZING SEA SCOUT SHIP
7916

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sea Scout Ship 7916, "Blue Heron," of Occoquan, VA.

Sea Scout Ship 7916 is a young but very active unit in the Boy Scouts of America National Capital Area Council (NCAC). The Ship hosts regular sailing ventures, service projects, training courses, fundraisers and social activities.

Ship 7916 has excelled in obtaining a significant number of awards in a short period, including the NCAC's "Wardroom Award" for achievement only four months after being formed. I would like to extend my personal congratulations to the Sea Scouts who have received awards in the past calendar year.

NCAC Commodore's Award—Shay Seaborne, Skipper—For devotion and enthusiasm given to Sea Scouting and assistance in the furtherance of the Sea Scout program as the initiator and driving force of the Save der PeLiKan Campaign, which aims to raise \$20,000 needed to repair the regional training vessel; NCAC Boatswain of the Year Award—Rebecca Siegal, Boatswain—For outstanding participation in Sea Scouting activities, for conducting training, for enthusiasm, loyalty, team spirit, and leadership given, for a positive attitude, ability to live up to responsibilities, and promoting Sea Scouting in the community; Venturing Advisor Award of Merit—Shay Seaborne, Skipper—For tenure, training, and providing a quality program; NCAC Outstanding Contribution—Karl and Stella Kent—For their generous financial contribution to the Save der PeLiKan fund. NCAC Outstanding Contribution—Skipper's Mate Dr. Rosemary Enright and Don Coulter—For their generous financial contribution to the Save der PeLiKan fund. Catherine A. Mullikan Sea Scout Volunteer of the Year—Rebecca Siegal, Boatswain—For significant service to the community, both inside and outside of Sea Scouting. Sea Scout of the Year Award—Rebecca Siegal, Boatswain—For excellence in advancement, citizenship, leadership and seamanship skills.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sea Scout Ship 7916 and congratulating its highly decorated membership. They are responsible community partners and uphold the well-respected traditions and principles of scouting.

CONGRATULATING GEORGIA'S
MOCK TRIAL TEAMS

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor two exceptional high

school teams from my district. The Jonesboro High School and Morrow High School Mock Trial teams have had an unprecedented record of success. Collectively, both teams have surpassed expectations and are on their way to another record breaking year for the State of Georgia.

Jonesboro High School will compete for its seventeenth State Bar of Georgia Championship. No other school in the State of Georgia's history has ever reached this level of consummation. In addition to this record breaking endeavor, Jonesboro High School has already accomplished two national championships. This is a testament that hard work and discipline truly yield enormous results.

Morrow High School has also achieved ground breaking success. Morrow High School was the runner up in the State of Georgia region eight competition. The irony of this team's success is that Morrow High lost several team members just days before the competition. Nevertheless, this team expeditiously put together a new team which led to two of the three replacements winning state awards. While this team's cohesive bond was tested, their determination prevailed, which led them to another notable year. In addition to this year's success, it has been nine years since any other school in Clayton County has become the region champion.

With the help of the faculty advisors and community mentors, these two teams have displayed the passion and integrity that we, as members of Congress, continuously encourage. These teams represent the very essence of America as it has displayed its dedication, passion, and integrity throughout the competition in the courtroom and throughout the community.

HONORING MICHAELA MEYERHOFF
FOR WINNING THE LESSONS OF
THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN EXPERIENCE
WRITING CONTEST

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michaela Meyerhoff as a winner of the first annual "Lessons of the African-American Experience" Creative Writing Contest. Michaela is currently in the sixth grade at Preston Plains Middle School, which is located in Preston, Connecticut.

In celebration of Black History Month, I sponsored a creative writing contest for all third through eighth grade students within the Second District. As we know, Black History Month is a time to reflect on the struggles and triumphs of our Nation's past. The lessons learned during this month continue to serve as the stepping stones of our Nation's future. Michaela's poem "What Black History Month Means to Me!" eloquently embraces this belief.

Michaela's poem shows a remarkable enthusiasm for learning that is inspiring to all. She identified the values that she learned during Black History Month and creatively discussed how those values affect her life and the lives of others. For this, her poem was among the four winners selected.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CENSUS
OVERSIGHT EFFICIENCY AND
MANAGEMENT REFORM ACT OF
2010

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing legislation, with my colleagues, Mr. DENT, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. PASCARELL, and with a companion bill being introduced in the Senate by Senators CARPER and COBURN, that would ensure that the Census Bureau has the independence and transparency it needs to carry out its essential, constitutionally-mandated function. This bill would ensure the Bureau is focused on the ten-year process of preparing for the Census despite the four-year cycles of Presidential administrations.

This bill would mandate the Director at Census report directly to the Secretary so there is clear responsibility for supervision of the Census and to submit his or her own opinion in testimony to Congress even if it differs from the administration. It would make the Director of the Census Bureau a Presidential term appointment of five years, with the ten-year decennial cycle split into two, five-year phases—planning and operational, creating continuity across administrations. And it would require that the Director, when submitting the Bureau's budget request to the Secretary, also share that request with Congress increasing transparency and oversight.

The time to start worrying about the 2020 Census is now. Currently, the 2010 Census seems to be on a path to success, but if we are going to stop the repeated operational crises that have plagued each of the last four censuses, we need to change how we administer the census. I am confident the bill we are introducing today will move us toward that goal. And I want to thank my colleagues for joining me in starting the process for 2020 now.

LINKAGE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to a recent blog post on the Jerusalem Post website, written by Abraham Foxman, the National Director of the Anti-Defamation League, ADL. Mr. Foxman challenges the idea that there is "linkage" between the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and other conflicts in the Middle East. It is both unrealistic and dangerous to believe that solving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict will somehow solve our problems in Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Lebanon and everywhere else in the Middle East. Distinct conflicts require distinct solutions and lumping them all together serves no one's interests, least of all our own. I highly recommend this excellent article.

[From the Jerusalem Post, Mar. 21, 2010]

A POINT OF VIEW: LINKAGE AND THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT
(By Abraham Foxman)

No matter how many times it is proven to have no validity, the theme of linking the