

served on a number of boards, including the Pesticide Action Network and, currently, the Point Reyes National Seashore Association.

In all of his many vocations, Mr. Bunce has been praised for his strategic brilliance, strong leadership, tenacity and thoughtfulness. His work has created innumerable opportunities for organizations and communities to continue the work of building a better, safer future for generations to come.

On behalf of the residents of California's 9th Congressional District, Mr. Dick Bunce, I salute you. I congratulate you on your many achievements, and I wish you and your family all the best in this next chapter of your life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. NADLER of New York. Madam Speaker, due to official business, I missed a vote on March 10, 2010. Had I been able to, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 100, expressing condolences to the families of the victims of the February 27, 2010, earthquake in Chile, as well as solidarity with and support for the people of Chile as they plan for recovery and reconstruction.

HONORING ANDREA IVORY

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Andrea Ivory of Miami Lakes, the Founder and Executive Director of the Florida Breast Health Initiative and a breast cancer survivor.

In late 2006, Mrs. Ivory, along with her husband Willie Ivory, started the organization, which is dedicated to educating women about the importance of breast health and provides them with the resources to battle the disease. The group works to reach out to uninsured women in low-income areas who cannot afford mammograms. Staff and volunteers have knocked on more than 20,000 doors in neighborhoods throughout Miami including Miami Gardens, Opa-locka, Hialeah and Northwest Miami-Dade and have offered women the opportunity to be screened in mobile mammogram units and receive other low-cost services. To date, they have facilitated over 600 free or low-cost mammograms, and as a result, discovered four cases of cancer.

Today, Andrea has been cancer free for five years and her work and dedication to serving others in the community has been recognized by several news outlets and organizations. In 2009, she was selected as one of CNN's Top 10 Heroes of 2009 and was also featured in our home town newspaper, the Miami Herald.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask you to join me in thanking Andrea Ivory for her commitment to creating awareness about breast cancer and ensuring that other women have access to care. I also congratulate her on her personal strength and willingness to overcome breast cancer.

GEORGE GREEOTT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of George Greeott, who in his 100th year in Sonoma County, California, has made innumerable contributions to his community and has unquestionably left his mark on the history of this part of my district.

He has earned many titles, Sonoma County's Renaissance Man—farmer, inventor, artist, blacksmith, school board member, collector of Native American artifacts, horseshoe champion, loving husband and devoted father—and the Duke of (the Town of) Windsor in 2007 among them.

Mr. Greeott was born in Santa Rosa, the county seat of Sonoma County, on April 30, 1910, the son of Italian immigrants. He began ranching with his father in the Chalk Hill Valley in 1928 and raised prunes, apples and grapes, as well as sheep and horses over the following 70 years. He met and married his wife Isabel Sicco, the daughter of a local chicken farmer, in the 1930s and together they had four children.

Mr. Greeott owned several patents that made ranching life easier for his family and his neighbors. His "Fence-Tight" helped crimp and tighten wire fencing and was a big seller in the Thorson Tool Company catalogue. One of his non-farming inventions, the "Greeott Grabber," helped him win numerous horseshoe tournaments before he retired from competition at the age of 93, while he was still on top.

His unique metal sculptures and woodcarvings are permanently housed in the Windsor Museum, for which he established the Windsor Historical Society Endowment Fund. His collections of Pomo Indian artifacts and vintage tools and bottles used in the early days of the wine industry have been donated to other museums throughout Sonoma County.

Madam Speaker, George Greeott is loved and respected by his community, who will help him celebrate his 100th birthday. It is appropriate that we send our best wishes to this truly remarkable man.

HONORING MARIA CRISTINA ANDREU REGUEIRO

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Maria Cristina Andreu Regueiro, Co-Founder and President of Florida National College in Hialeah.

Maria Cristina Andreu Regueiro was born in Havana, Cuba. After living in New York for 10 years, she moved to Palm Springs North in 1973. She attended the University of Miami, and after graduating, joined her late husband Jose in carrying out his dream of providing educational opportunities to the growing Hispanic community in South Florida. In 1986,

they opened Florida National College in Hialeah. Today, the College serves more than 3,000 students, has more than 20,000 graduates, and is spread across Miami-Dade County with three locations and a distance learning program online.

Maria Christina has been instrumental in assisting minority students achieve their educational goals. What began as her husband's dream, has become a reality and an opportunity for thousands. She currently serves on the Mayor's Educational Advisory Board for the city of Hialeah and is a member of the Board of the South Florida Workforce. She has also been a member of the State of Florida Community Hospital Education Council, a commissioner for the Commission for Independent Education of the Florida Department of Education, and various other community organizations that promote education.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask you to join me in thanking Maria Cristina Regueiro for her commitment to serving others, and her determination and hard work, which have allowed her to achieve her dreams. I also ask that you join me in remembering her late husband, Jose Regueiro, who also made a commitment to our community and dedicated his life to making education and opportunity a reality for many.

SMALL BUSINESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE JOBS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4849, the Small Business and Infrastructure Jobs Act, which is another step forward in helping Rhode Island's small businesses and creating jobs.

This measure would exclude 100 percent of small business capital gains, increase the tax deduction for start-up expenditures from \$5,000 to \$20,000, and provide small business penalty relief. These provisions will encourage the formation of new businesses and allow small businesses to grow and hire more workers.

H.R. 4849 also extends the Build America Bonds program, which was part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and has been successful in helping our state and local governments finance the rebuilding of schools, sewers, hospitals and transit projects.

Finally, today's bill extends the TANF Emergency Fund, which has helped states fund a jobs program that subsidizes employers, including small businesses, who hire unemployed workers. This program has put over 160,000 Americans back to work, and a program in Rhode Island should go into effect shortly.

Congress is committed to more action on creating jobs and helping our small businesses, which are the backbone of our nation's economy, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

RECOGNIZING AMY DAVIS AS THE HURLBURT AFA CHAPTER 398 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Amy Davis upon receiving the Hurlburt Air Force Association Chapter 398's Elementary School Teacher of the Year Award for 2010. Ms. Davis' students have truly benefited from her inventive lessons and the passion she exudes for her profession. I am honored to acknowledge her contributions today.

Amy teaches third grade at Kenwood Elementary School in Okaloosa County, Florida. In her six years of teaching she has enthusiastically pursued opportunities to develop lessons that motivate student learning. For instance, Amy was inspired to introduce aviation sciences into her classroom after attending a Teacher Workshop hosted by the Hurlburt Air Force Association. Amy thoughtfully incorporated flight charts into her lessons in order to teach her students how to measure distances and angles. Likewise, Amy enhances her lessons with space-related material inspired by a Space Camp for Teachers she attended in Huntsville, Alabama. Her method of combining tangible materials and advanced concepts in every lesson has greatly promoted student success. Amy has recently received her certification as a Gifted Instructor and is working toward her National Board Certification, with which I wish her the best of luck.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I proudly recognize Amy Davis as the Hurlburt AFA Chapter 398 Elementary School Teacher of the Year. Her passion for learning truly makes her a great asset to her students and colleagues. Vicki and I wish Amy and her family all the best for the future.

ENERGY JOBS FOR VETERANS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 22, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of our brave men and women in the Armed Forces who are returning to our nation in increased numbers to find that their prospects are limited because they have chosen to fight for our security and safety. I would also like to commend the Honorable BOB FILNER in the House Veterans' Affairs Committee for his commitment to recognizing the importance of our veterans' military sacrifices and patriotism.

It is our duty as a nation and government to protect those who have so valiantly fought for our freedoms. Our objectives should be to ensure that they are included in the process of growing our economy in the most vital way possible: procuring employment. Not only should we fight for their inclusion but also provide them tools they need to compete in the job market, whether it be psychological counseling for the traumas they experience while in

combat or job training to bolster the unique skill sets they have acquired during their time in the service.

The House Veterans' Affairs Committee has embarked on the process of increasing the employment prospects for our veterans through the National Guard Employment Protection Act of 2009 and H.R. 4592, which funds the establishment of a pilot program encouraging veteran employment in energy-related positions. Not only do these pieces of legislation affect veterans but also their families and those that depend on them. The cost of living in this country is on the rise, and important pieces of legislation like the Veterans' Compensation Cost of Living Adjustment Act of 2010 would make sure veterans' compensation keeps apace. Our veterans are men and women who have chosen to give up their lives, jobs and seeing their families for the sake of serving and defending our nation. It is unseemly that when they return they face unemployment.

The fact that unemployment is currently at an all-time high has not been lost to our veterans returning home. Instead of being welcomed with open arms by this country, they are faced with the double fear of not finding employment while worrying about how to keep their homes and pay their mortgages. The Veterans' Affairs Committee has sought to remedy this situation by introducing the Helping Heroes Keep their Homes Act of 2009, which aims to stem the tide of veterans losing their homes, and worse, ending up homeless.

At any given time, our nation is faced with 107,000 homeless veterans. While this number is considerably lower than it was a few years ago, any one homeless veteran is one too many. It is a disservice to our veterans for us not to assist them in acquiring permanent homes. The End Veteran Homelessness Act of 2010 seeks to rectify this important issue by increasing the funding available for helping our homeless veterans. I believe that the passage of this legislation would substantially improve the plight of our homeless veterans and potentially place them on the track to having a place to call home. Our veterans deserve the most from us and I am committed to working with Congress to get the job done.

HONORING LOIS JONES

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable woman who has dedicated her life to public service and political activism, Ms. Lois Jones.

Educated in Kingston, Jamaica, Ms. Jones then made California her home, serving 23 years in the California Legislature. During her tenure, she was a liaison to the African American Community and played an active role in exposing high school and college students to the legislative process through internships. Years later she moved to Florida where she has been involved in a number of issues ranging from small business development to public relations and international trade. She is very active in our community, always engaging with minority groups, religious groups and civic

leaders, and working to help advance their priorities.

For nine years, Ms. Jones served as Jamaican Honorary Consul in California. She was appointed by the Prime Minister of Jamaica and worked on several issues including international trade. Ms. Jones is also a featured writer, frequenting opinion pages in newspapers across the country and expressing her views on community empowerment and public policy issues.

Currently Ms. Jones serves as a member of the City of Homestead Charter Review Committee and is involved in various community organizations including the City of Homestead Education Committee, the City of Homestead Mayor's Youth Council, the State Partnership for School Safety & Security, the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, and the Association of Women Business Owners, to name a few.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask you to join me in congratulating Ms. Lois Jones for her invaluable contributions, dedication to and leadership in our community.

ON THE PASSING OF SAM HAMILTON, 15TH DIRECTOR OF THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sam Hamilton, the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, who we lost on February 20, 2010. Sam's work was that of a champion—the guardians of our environment are the stewards of what we leave to our descendants and they deserve unending praise. I never knew or needed to ask if Sam was a Democrat, Republican, or Independent because he worked with everyone and was a biologist first. If I can try to sum up his character, I will have to quote the man himself when he said:

My greatest challenge is to help bring conservationists, hunters, anglers, landowners, state and federal agencies, and business people together to help us conserve and enhance what makes America great—our treasured wildlife resources.

His work for conservation and collaboration was driven by sound science, and his affection for the environment was unrivaled. Sam Hamilton devoted his career and over 30 years of his life to service within the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. In fact, Sam's first involvement with the agency came when he was 15 years old as a member of the Youth Conservation Corps in Mississippi. Near Starkville, Mississippi, where he grew up, Sam learned the importance of managing a wildlife habitat while banding wood ducks and Canadian geese to build waterfowl pens.

In 1991, Sam became the first Fish and Wildlife Service State Administrator in Austin, Texas. While there, Sam held strong in his commitment to protect the golden-cheeked warbler from further endangerment. Years later, Sam went on to work on the restoration of the coastal wetlands and wildlife habitats along the Gulf Coast after hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Sam was nominated in June 2009