

strong and independent judiciary. We are both nations that were created by pioneers seeking religious freedom. We are both pluralistic nations in which what you know and what you create is more important than who you are and where you came from. And, the United States must stand with Israel and must work to ensure that Israel endures as a Jewish State.

In the 62 years that followed its establishment, Israel has survived and flourished despite the repeated efforts to destroy her. Israel is a vigorous democracy, our strongest ally in the Middle East. Her economy is thriving, in large part as a result of her agricultural, technological and medical innovations. With a free and active press, freedom of religion, free elections and a free and independent judiciary, Israelis of all religions and nationalities enjoy rights and opportunities unimaginable elsewhere in the Middle East.

Israel constitutes a fraction of 1% of the land mass and only 2% of the population of the Middle East. Nonetheless, Israel far outshines much of the world in terms of academic, scientific and technological achievement. Israel has the highest ratio of university degrees per capita in the world and produces more scientific papers and more books per capita than any other nation in the world. It is the only nation in the world that has had a net increase in the number of trees. Israel has transformed itself from an impoverished backwater to a gleaming modern nation, ranking among the very highly developed countries of the world.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Israel for its 62 years of independence, innovation and enterprise.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA VETERANS ON THE SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 2010 HONOR FLIGHT

#### HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 22, 2010*

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the nearly 100 World War II veterans from Southwest Florida traveling to Washington, DC on the Honor Flight on Saturday, April 24, 2010.

Since its inception in 2005, Honor Flight has flown tens of thousands of World War II veterans to our nation's capital to view the World War II Memorial. Thanks to the generosity of thousands of volunteers and businesses around the country, these heroes have an opportunity to visit the Memorial that was built to honor their service to our great nation.

I would like to recognize the following men and women from Southwest Florida who are taking the Honor Flight to Washington, DC: Kurt Boenker, Fred Warner, Vincent Marinera, Carl Price, Joseph Harrington, James Jarvis, Norman Jarvis, David Smith, Lawrence Phelan, Thomas Withrow, Robert Bricker, Henry Chiminello, Robert Voegel, Robert Schugg, Jack Anderson, James Cusick, Jr., Jack Blachley, Robert Hall, William Wardle, Ralph Cook, Leonard Nallman, Donald Lester, Thomas Mac Kimmie, Robert Stilson, John Drake, James Hausler, Alfred Pagles, Stanley Parks, Eugene Roaf, Edward Coombs, Ber-

nard Brehm, Aubrey Smith, Ronald Birchler, Elwood Grube, Ira Weisblum, George Brown, John Nemeth, Kenneth Sayers, Edward Sturm, Eugene Poslaiko, Emmett Yoder, Jr., Charles Brandenburg, Eleanor Purser, Dorothy Kurtz, Louis Spencer, Joseph Beauchamp, David McKalip, Kenneth Ferris, Robert Partington, George Mann, Donald Bunner, Frank Parker, Michael Ursitti, Elias Ursitti, Charles Rogers, Forrest Yeager, Paul Groves, La Moine Heimstead, Edward Texley, Robert Demmink, Curtiss Sarff, Ervin Loche, Paul Wilcox, Dominic Franciose, George Doucette, John Heck, Frank Barletta, Frank Oden, Jr., Wesley Bates, Eugene Andrews, Jorgen Brinch, Frank Mazzarisi, Edwin Ratcliffe, Lewis Riggles, Charles Briner, Carl Loiocano, Carlton Carson, Lew Hall and Frank Burns.

Throughout our nation's history, men and women have answered the call of duty in times of peace and in times of conflict. These veterans and their sacrifices have helped to preserve liberty and freedom around the world.

I would like to thank these veterans for their commitment to our country. I am honored to have these brave men and women visit Washington, DC. Madam Speaker, it is a true honor to represent these heroes in Congress.

#### COMMEMORATING DR. BARBARA-JAYNE LEWTHWAITE AS 12TH PRESIDENT OF CENTENARY COLLEGE

#### HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 22, 2010*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Dr. Barbara-Jayne Lewthwaite upon being inaugurated as the 12th President of Centenary College in Hackettstown, New Jersey.

Dr. Lewthwaite is only the second woman and second former faculty member to hold the position since Centenary's founding in 1867. Part of the Centenary College community for more than 20 years, she brings to the post sound academic credentials, strong educational leadership skills and valuable business acumen.

Dr. Lewthwaite was appointed Acting President of the College on January 1, 2009. Since that time, she has used her academic background to enhance the College's mission: providing a student-centered liberal arts education with a career focus and a special emphasis on community service.

Before assuming the Presidency, Dr. Lewthwaite served Centenary in several leadership positions, including Chief Academic Officer and Acting Chief Operating Officer. As a member of Centenary's Executive Staff since 2003, she spearheaded significant accomplishments at the college: supporting the development of a faculty of talented teachers and scholars; upgrading academic expectations that are grounded in the adoption of standards such as the Centenary Greater Expectation Learning Outcomes; leading the academic assessment movement that resulted in the College being the first in New Jersey to receive pre-accreditation from the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC); achieving extensive articulation agreements with local

and global partners; and undertaking a major revision of the curriculum which included movement from a three-credit to a four-credit course curriculum, and numerous faculty-generated enhancements that have focused on experiential learning, service learning, global initiatives, and substantive new online offerings in the adult and traditional student programs on the graduate and undergraduate level.

Madam Speaker, we are fortunate to have Dr. Lewthwaite at the helm of Centenary College in northwestern New Jersey. With her leadership I am confident that Centenary will continue to provide high-quality education to its students, preparing them for the 21st Century.

#### THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL: A LEGACY OF SERVICE

#### HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 22, 2010*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2009–2010 Congressional Youth Advisory Council. This year 45 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 9 through 12 made their voices heard and made a difference in their communities, their country and their Congress. These students volunteered their time, effort, and talent to inform me about the important issues facing their generation. As young leaders within their communities and their schools, these students boldly represent the promise and the hope we all have for their very bright future.

President Ronald Reagan said, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

To ensure that the blessing of freedom is passed from one generation to the next, the members of the CYAC spent time interviewing a veteran and documenting the experience for the "Preserving History Project." Today I'm proud to submit the brief summaries provided so the patriotic service of our dedicated veterans and the thoughtful work of the CYAC may be preserved for antiquity in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. A copy of each submitted student summary follows.

To each member of the Congressional Youth Advisory Council, thank you for making this year and this group a success. It is not a coincidence that this congressional tribute celebrates two generations of service. Each of you is trusted with the precious gift of freedom.

You are the voices of the future and I salute you. God bless you and God bless America.

The summary follows:

Major Scott Edward Barnett, has accomplished so much in his life. After talking to him, I understand that being in the military is a very rewarding life experience. I have learned so much after interviewing him.

After speaking with someone who has seen so many traumatic experiences, the war really does become real to me. I also can really feel the pain of having to be so far away from your loved ones for so long. I can't even imagine having to be newly married, then deployed to a foreign country in danger, away from your new spouse, not being able to contact them every day. Or even having children and not being able to see them grow up. This would be extremely hard to do, and it really takes a special type of person to do that. This assignment has given me a new appreciation of everything that our soldiers do for us. When you are just living your normal daily life, there are soldiers out in danger, fighting to let you keep that freedom that you just take advantage of. I believe that more people should get to know about the war veterans, so that they can appreciate everything soldiers do for us.—Abby Callison

#### A TRIBUTE TO EARTH DAY AND NORTHWEST HALIFAX HIGH SCHOOL

#### HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to mark Earth Day's 40th anniversary. The brainchild of Senator Gaylord Nelson, Earth Day has done more than simply raise awareness of environmental issues; it has helped shape policy to build a more sustainable country.

This occasion should remind everyone of the opportunity to swiftly take steps toward addressing our most dire environmental threat—global climate change. Last June, the House approved the American Clean Energy and Security Act, which would establish a process to curb greenhouse gas emissions. If signed into law, our children will celebrate the 80th annual Earth Day in 2050 with 83 percent less domestic greenhouse gas emissions.

It is critical that the U.S. Senate take immediate steps to provide meaningful, science-based legislation to limit greenhouse gas emissions. We must do our part to leave a legacy of conservation and sustainability for future generations. And, as Congress slowly labors to provide direction, millions of Americans are taking their own steps to live greener and more sustainable lives.

Northwest Halifax High School, located in Littleton, North Carolina in the First Congressional District, has installed a 2.0k/W solar panel system that will use a third less energy and reduce carbon emissions by 117,840 pounds over the lifespan of the system. On average, the school will save enough money to hire two full time teachers.

Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Earth Day, I urge Congress to meet the mandate of the American people and pass meaningful legislation to confront climate change. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Earth Day, and commending Northwest Halifax High School on setting an example for all Americans.

#### EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES FOR VICTIMS OF TESORO REFINERY FIRE IN ANACORTES, WASH- INGTON

SPEECH OF

#### HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 1262, which honors the victims of the fire at the Tesoro Refinery in Anacortes, Washington and expresses condolences to their families, friends, and loved ones in the wake of this tragic incident.

On April 2, 2010, as a team of seven employees worked in the refinery's naphtha hydro-treater, a devastating fire broke out. While the fire was quickly brought under control by Tesoro's fire control team and local first responders, three of the employees died immediately in the fire, three more died of their injuries, and another remains in intensive care after suffering severe burns.

I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to the community of Anacortes and the entire state of Washington, including to Representative RICK LARSEN who represents the affected community. Our district has five refineries that employ many of our constituents and we share in their unfortunate loss.

As we continue to deal with the devastating consequences of this episode, we must also direct our attention to preventing losses of life like this in the future. Ensuring the safety of our refineries must be a top priority to protect the security and wellbeing of our workers, their families, and communities.

Again, I would like to express my condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of those killed in the fire and also offer my support and hope for a full recovery to the Anacortes community.

#### HONORING ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE DAY

SPEECH OF

#### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the 62nd anniversary of one of our country's most steadfast and supportive allies: Israel.

Since Israel's declaration of independence in 1948, Jews from all over the world have moved there to put down roots, flourish, and participate in a Jewish state and society. Israel has grown from a country that provided a refuge for Jews who survived unprecedented horrors and anti-Semitic persecution to a nation with a strong and enduring tradition of democracy and liberal governance.

Israel was born out of war and conflict, and has weathered constant threats from beyond its borders since its creation. The history of Israel is one of a nation small in size but large in its dedication to the enduring principles of democratic governance, liberal democracy, and national unity. It is a testament to the character and inner strength of the Israeli peo-

ple that their country continues to develop and flourish even as it is surrounded by so many who unjustly wish to see it dissolved and destroyed.

The nation of Israel is a friend of the poor and dispossessed around the world. It has sent humanitarian aid and emergency medical supplies to war zones in Rwanda; disaster areas in Turkey, the Indian Ocean, and along the Gulf Coast; and to fire-scorched areas in Greece. Most recently, Israel supplied much-needed support and relief to the people of Haiti, including deploying the Israel Defense Forces on aid missions and contributing millions of dollars to help the Haitian people rebuild their country.

It is clear that Israel's national mission is a higher calling than mere survival or self-perpetuation. It is an example to the world of the power of a determined national spirit, a citizenry dedicated to justice, and a set of founding principles that cannot be corrupted.

From the moment the United States recognized the State of Israel 11 minutes after its creation in 1948, Israel has proven to be a loyal partner with which the United States enjoys a mutually beneficial alliance. The advances made by our two countries in educational, scientific, and technological fields help to make the world a better place, and augment our intelligence and security partnerships in a crucial region of the world.

I join with many of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives in highlighting my admiration for what the nation of Israel has accomplished in the last sixty-two years. It is my hope that the people of Israel use this anniversary as an opportunity to set a path forward that will help bring peace and prosperity to themselves and to their region for the next several years.

#### CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAINT PAUL HOTEL

#### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the staff and owners of The Saint Paul Hotel on the occasion of its Centennial Anniversary, which will be celebrated this weekend on April 17th.

Since its grand opening on April 18th, 1910, The Saint Paul Hotel has served as a geographic and cultural landmark for Minnesota's capital city, as well as a gathering place for Saint Paul's many visitors and residents.

In 1908 local businessman Lucius P. Ordway recognized the need for a major hotel in the growing commercial hub of Saint Paul. Mr. Ordway partnered with the city's Business League to purchase a parcel of land near downtown Saint Paul's Rice Park and finance the hotel's construction. Less than two years later, the Saint Paul Hotel was opened for business. It immediately was recognized as the premier hotel in the region, and less than one month after its grand opening celebration the hotel was named "Best in the West" by the National Hotelman's Association.

After falling into disrepair in the 1950s, civic and business leaders undertook an extensive renovation to return the hotel to its original