

Richard's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming cadet Class of 2014. Attending one of our Nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Richard brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2014. While attending Napoleon High School in Napoleon, Ohio, Richard attained a 4.0 grade point average that placed him first in his graduating class. Richard was inducted into the National Honor Society and attained the A.P. Scholar Award.

Throughout high school, Richard was a member of the cross country and track teams and active in intramural basketball and volleyball. Richard received the Greater Buckeye Conference's All Academic Award. Richard served as senior class president at Napoleon High School and has been an active member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Napoleon, Ohio. He was selected to attend Buckeye Boys State, was a Student Council representative and a member of Peers Achieving Win-Win Situations, P.A.W.S. I am confident that Richard will carry the lessons of his student leadership to West Point.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Richard Snyder on the acceptance of his appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Richard will excel during his career at West Point and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL: A LEGACY OF SERVICE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 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:

I interviewed John Sadler. Mr. Sadler served in the Navy branch of the armed forces for five years. Mr. Sadler served on submarines for four years of his service and is now a very successful medical physicist. He has lived a very fulfilling and respectable life and is a great role model. Through interviewing Mr. Sadler I have really come to realize the honor that should be given to veterans in our society. They risk their lives for us, fighting to preserve our freedoms, but we so often neglect to even thank them or consider this. There are many people that we know have served in the armed forces and we aren't even aware of this. This is sad as these people should be respected and honored in today's society. These veterans should be given a special place in the society that they have risked their lives to protect, leaving behind loved ones and everything they once knew to preserve this great nation. Without the service of these veterans America would not be the free land that it is today. We should remember each day what these veterans have done for us and thank them for it. These veterans' stories should be preserved as they are a huge part of American history and how this country got to where it is today. I think that this interview has given me a new perspective on veterans and their service.—Troy Pickens

HONORING VICTIMS INFORMATION BUREAU OF SUFFOLK FOR THEIR EXTRAORDINARY WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a nonprofit organization that serves my district, Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk.

VIBS has demonstrated an overwhelming amount of commitment to serving the Long Island community. My constituents rely on our nonprofits for the vital services they offer. VIBS' constant selfless efforts are admirable.

I am proud to honor Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk for their extraordinary work in the community.

HONORING THE FIRST LADY OF ALBANIA, DR. LIRI BERISHA

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the First Lady of the Republic of Albania, Dr. Liri Berisha, and to welcome her once again to the United States.

Dr. Liri Berisha, a devoted mother and a diligent pediatrician, became the very first First Lady in the history of democratic Albania in 1992 when her husband, Sali Berisha, was elected President of the Republic. Throughout her husband's 5 years in office and since his election in 2005 as Prime Minister, Dr. Berisha has been distinguished for her involvement in public life and commitment to people in need.

Among her many endeavors, I strongly commend the First Lady for her dedication to the women and children of Albania. Dr. Berisha is Honorary President of the UNICEF office in Albania. She actively promotes efforts to expand education and healthcare to marginalized women and children and is an outspoken voice against human trafficking. In 2009, the Women's Information Network named Dr. Berisha "Woman of the Year" for "her commitment to make the world a better place for women and all citizens".

In 2008, Dr. Berisha founded the Mother Teresa Cultural Foundation which commemorates its namesake as a symbol of hope and human dignity. This week, the First Lady joins us on Capitol Hill to honor the 100th anniversary of the birth of Mother Teresa with a reception and special exhibition. As the Chair of the Congressional Albanian Issues Caucus, I look forward to participating in this celebration and again welcoming the distinguished First Lady of Albania to the United States.

MEDIA SHOW BIAS ON ARIZONA IMMIGRATION LAW

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, the national media have given mostly negative coverage to Arizona's new immigration enforcement law, which Arizonans support overwhelmingly.

A CBS report gave the perspective of opponents of the law, one of whom called it "mean-spirited" and compared it to Nazi repression. The report featured video of signs that read, "Veto Racism" and "Stop the Hate."

NBC asked an Arizona sheriff, "Are you worried that it affects the image of your state?" and questioned whether the new policy will "distract law enforcement" and "take valuable resources away from cracking down on more serious crimes."

An MSNBC headline curiously read, "Law Makes it a Crime to be Illegal Immigrant."

The national media should tell Americans the truth: Arizona's new law mirrors what is already federal law. Then Americans can decide for themselves what to think.

MISTAKEN ADDITION AS
COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2499

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, my name was mistakenly added as a cosponsor of H.R. 2499. Let the RECORD reflect that I would remove my name as a cosponsor of this bill if I were able.

IN HONOR OF THE ANNUAL JAMES MONROE DAY PROGRAM IN WESTMORELAND COUNTY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I am privileged to rise today to honor the James Monroe Memorial Foundation and the annual James Monroe Day Program.

I am pleased to recognize and honor the birth and life of our Nation's fifth president, and First District of Virginia native, James Monroe. I appreciate the invitation to share this special occasion with you.

First, I want to recognize the important accomplishments of the James Monroe Foundation. Since 1928, the James Monroe Foundation has worked tirelessly to preserve the former President's great legacy. Your efforts have kept his memory alive and have allowed generations of people to learn about his many significant contributions to our Nation. I would like to thank the foundation for your hard work and for organizing this magnificent celebration.

James Monroe came to the Presidency as one of the most qualified men to ever assume the office. He was the last American President of the "Virginia Dynasty," and one who left such a lasting impression on American history that we gather today to recognize his life and celebrate his birth.

As you know, President Monroe, one of five children to Spence Monroe and Elizabeth Jones, was born here in Westmoreland County on April 28, 1758. Monroe was raised and educated in what is now the First Congressional District of the Commonwealth of Virginia. He worked on the family farm until entering the College of William and Mary at the age of 16. Within a year, the American Revolution began and Monroe soon left college to enlist in the Continental Army. He was one of the men who crossed the Delaware with George Washington.

As a politician, Monroe served in the Virginia Assembly, the Continental Congress, as Governor to the Commonwealth of Virginia, as a U.S. Senator, Secretary of State and Secretary of War to President James Madison. Ultimately, James Monroe became our fifth President of the United States.

His presidency represented a key point in our history. National identity and patriotism were growing and the country's democratic institutions and capitalist economy were taking form.

During Monroe's early years in the White House his administration was known as the "Era of Good Feelings", a time period in

American political history in which partisan bitterness abated. President Monroe went on two long national tours in order to gain the trust and faith of the American people. Monroe expanded the country's borders by purchasing Florida from Spain. Yet, Monroe may be best remembered for his belief that the Americas should be free from future European colonization and interference in sovereign countries' affairs. His strong opinions and principles on foreign policy came to be known as the Monroe Doctrine.

James Monroe was a loyal public servant and an exceptional statesman. He proved to be a visionary leader who helped form our Nation in its infant stages, and later helped to reconcile a deeply divided country in the aftermath of the War of 1812.

President Monroe cherished the very principle of democracy, and championed the cause of a republic empowered not by privilege or birthright, but by the people. He once stated, "In this great Nation there is but one order, that of the people, whose power, by a peculiarly happy improvement of the representative principle, is transferred from them, without impairing in the slightest degree their sovereignty, to bodies of their own creation, and to persons elected by themselves, in the full extent necessary for the purposes of free, enlightened, and efficient government". This eloquent statement contained a very simple message that continues to ring true today.

I recently introduced the James Monroe Commemorative Coin Act (H.R. 4329) to honor James Monroe and the contributions he made to the Commonwealth and our Nation. This legislation would authorize the U.S. Treasury to mint coins to commemorate the bicentennial of the election of President James Monroe.

In addition, the funds collected from the coin will go to the James Monroe Memorial Foundation to reconstruct the birthplace of President Monroe including farm buildings and a visitor and education center in Westmoreland County. Additional proceeds will then be used to support continuing education programs about President Monroe, the Monroe Doctrine, an online library, and collection and preservation of artifacts and historical items related to James Monroe's childhood and presidency.

James Monroe was an outstanding citizen, soldier, and statesman who dedicated his life to our country. He was a good man who inspired a nation at a moment in time that begged for leadership. Jefferson said of his fellow Virginian, "A better man cannot be."

The citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia and especially America's First District express their gratitude to James Monroe, in commemoration of the 252nd anniversary of his birthday.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,880,364,008,405.96

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 \$2,241,938,262,112.10 so far this Congress.

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

HONORING CHARLES "KENNY" HILL

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Charles "Kenny" Hill, one of the hard working employees of the House Wellness Center. Kenny is retiring from duty as a Members' Wellness Center Attendant after 41 years of service to the Architect of the Capitol. He and his wife Carole look forward to enjoying his retirement with their children Lisa, Kenny, and Tony and their grandchildren Christopher, Charlie, Pamela, Tiffany, Elizabeth, Wayne, and Kyle. The Members of the 111th Congress would like to thank you Kenny for all your years of hard work and dedication. You will be missed.

HONORING URBAN LEAGUE OF LONG ISLAND FOR THEIR EX- TRAORDINARY WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a nonprofit organization that serves my district, Urban League of Long Island.

Urban League has demonstrated an overwhelming amount of commitment to serving the Long Island community. My constituents rely on our nonprofits for the vital services they offer. The continuous selfless efforts of those involved with the Urban League of Long Island are admirable.

I am proud to honor Urban League of Long Island for their extraordinary work in the community.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF AN- DERSON SHOWMAN ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO AT- TEND THE UNITED STATES MILI- TARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. LATTI. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Anderson Showman of Willard, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Anderson's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Military Academy