

CONGRATULATING MR. AND MRS. HERBERT FISHER, SR. ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 86TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2010

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate New Bern, North Carolina residents Zelmyra and Herbert Fisher, Sr. on 86 years of marriage—the longest marriage of a living couple in the world.

Mrs. Zelmyra Fisher, born on December 10, 1907, and Mr. Herbert Fisher, Sr., born on June 10, 1905, have been married since 1924. In that year, Calvin Coolidge was President; New York taxis cost 10 cents per half-mile; the Teapot Dome Scandal broke; the Ford Model T was the most popular automobile; and a postage stamp cost 2 cents while bread cost 9 cents a loaf.

In 1942, Mr. Fisher built what would become the family's home in the James City neighborhood. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher would raise five children in that home, and continue to live there today. The couple met in elementary school and married when he was 19 years old and she was 18 years old, and they have shared 86 blissful years.

On Valentine's Day this year, Mr. and Mrs. Fisher gave free marriage advice on Twitter. When asked to share the best marriage advice they've received, they advised couples to "respect, support and communicate with each other. Be faithful, honest and true. Love each other with all of your heart."

Mr. Fisher, a retired worker from the Coca-Cola Bottling Company, has a great passion for baseball, especially for his two favorite teams, the New York Yankees and the Atlanta Braves. Mrs. Fisher, a retired caretaker, greatly enjoys reading the Bible.

Mr. and Mrs. Fisher have contributed a lifetime of service to the fabric of their community through various community organizations and their respective churches, Jones Chapel A.M.E. Zion and Pilgrim Chapel Missionary Baptist.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Zelmyra and Herbert Fisher, Sr. on the blessing of 86 years of marriage. They serve as a wonderful and enduring inspiration of love, family and sacrifice.

92ND ANNIVERSARY OF
AZERBAIJAN REPUBLIC DAY

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2010

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 92nd anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan, celebrated on May 28th.

Located in a highly political, dynamic and sensitive region between Russia and Iran, Azerbaijan is a proud ally of the United States. An emerging democracy, Azerbaijan has taken the world stage as a member of the Council of Europe, the United Nations, and the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe.

A strategic partner of the United States, Azerbaijan works with the U.S. on major economic and security matters. Most profoundly, Azerbaijan has been an ally for the United States in terms of sending troops to Iraq and Afghanistan. They work with area nations to secure borders and deny illegal trafficking, and are an important component of NATO's Partnership for Peace program.

Their robust oil market provides western nations the means to power our economies.

I thank the nation of Azerbaijan for their continued journey towards democracy, and for their enduring strategic partnership in the region and around the world.

The United States congratulates all Azerbaijani citizens, and Azerbaijanis around the world, on the occasion of the 92nd anniversary of Azerbaijan Republic Day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2010

Ms. TSONGAS. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to cast a vote on rollcall 260. I would like the record to reflect that I would have voted "aye" in support of H.R. 5014, a bill that clarifies that health care provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs meets minimum essential coverage requirements for individual health insurance under the newly enacted health care reform law. Our Nation's veterans and their families have sacrificed so much and it is our obligation to ensure they receive the benefits and health care they so rightly deserve.

HONORING THE CITIZENS OF NEW YORK FOR THE ATTEMPTED TERRORIST ATTACK IN TIMES SQUARE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution honoring and expressing support for the vigilance and prompt response of the citizens and law enforcement agencies in New York and Connecticut, as well as Federal authorities, to the attempted terrorist attack in Times Square on May 1, 2010, their exceptional professionalism and investigative work following the attempted attack, and their consistent commitment to preparedness for and collective response to terrorism.

Just less than 54 hours is what it took for Federal law enforcement agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security, to identify, find, and apprehend Mr. Faisal Shahzad, the prime suspect for this attempted act of terror.

During the 54 hours, the New York Police Department, working with Federal and State law enforcement agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and others identified and began unraveling the tangled web that eventually led to Mr. Shahzad's arrest. This arrest could not have been made without the help of several people and organizations.

First, I commend the alertness and awareness of Mr. Lance Orton and Mr. Duane Jackson for "seeing something" and "saying something" to law enforcement. If it were not for these citizens, many others could have been hurt and Mr. Shahzad might not have been apprehended. This is the kind of vigilance is vital to our homeland security efforts.

Second, I want to thank the citizens of New York for helping and cooperating with law enforcement during the precautionary evacuations in the vicinity of Times Square. I also want to acknowledge New Yorkers and their resilient nature and ability to return to life as normal.

Third, I want to express my deep appreciation for the professionalism and collective response of the following law enforcement agencies: New York City Police Department, in particular Police Officer Wayne Rhatigan of Mounted Unit Troop B, the Fire Department of New York, the New York Police Department Bomb Squad, led by Lieutenant Mark Torre and other first responders, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Customs and Border Protection, the Transportation Security Administration, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, the New York Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Bridgeport Police Department, Detective Bureau, Patrol Division, and other law enforcement agencies in Connecticut.

Finally, I want to say that without these citizens and the collaborative effort of law enforcement, we would not have the mountain of evidence we have now, including two additional unnamed suspects in custody. It is also more likely true that according to the Attorney General, the Pakistani Taliban was likely involved in planning this attempted attack. As such, we must remain vigilant against terrorism and our enemies.

Madam Speaker, while I know others may say that we just got lucky this time, I say that they are missing the point. Our post-9/11 efforts to foster greater vigilance among our citizens and a culture of preparedness and collaboration among first responders and law enforcement paid off. Further, we stayed true to our cherished constitutional principals as we initiated this wide-scale collective response to terrorism. As evidenced by what we saw on May 2, 2010, the citizens of New York and this great country are and remain committed to living their lives in the pursuit of the cherished tradition we have celebrated since our country's start and that is the pursuit of freedom.

HONORING THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2010

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the Boy Scouts of America on their 100th anniversary and to pay tribute to the impact scouting has had on the lives of countless young men over the past century. As members of the Hiawathaland Council in Michigan's Upper Peninsula gather this weekend to celebrate the Boy Scouts' centennial, I

ask that the U.S. House of Representatives join me in commemorating 100 years of scouting.

The Boy Scouts of America was created on February 8, 1910 with a purpose of teaching young men patriotism, courage, self-reliance and kindred values. By 1912, Boy Scouts were in every state, and in 1916 Congress granted the Boy Scouts of America a federal charter.

Across the country, every Boy Scouts council commits each scout to perform 12 hours of community service a year, totaling 30 million hours of community service annually. In addition to the commitment young men show to scouting, more than 1 million adult scout leaders are selflessly serving young people in their communities through organizations chartered by the Boy Scouts of America.

As an Eagle Scout myself, I have a special appreciation for the rich history and tradition of scouting that has touched so many lives over the past 100 years. The lessons young men learn as scouts help guide them throughout their lives.

In scouting, you learn to do a good deed everyday. The world would be a better place if we all lived by this simple creed. In scouting, you learn to leave your campsite in better shape than you found it. Many scouts grow up to be leaders in their communities or here in the United States Congress and strive to leave things better than they found them.

For a century now, scouting has helped to instill in young men the values of good conduct, respect for others and honesty. Scouting has taught young men skills that will last a lifetime, including basic outdoors skills, first aid, citizenship, leadership, and how to get along with others. Scouting teaches the values and knowledge to become leaders in our communities and our country.

Madam Speaker, the lives of millions of young men, including many members of this chamber, have benefited from their experiences in scouting. Too often, the valuable contribution of scouting to our communities and to the development of future leaders goes unrecognized. As the Hiawathaland Council gathers in Marquette, Michigan this weekend to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America, I ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating the Boy Scouts of America on 100 years of scouting.

HOME STAR ENERGY RETROFIT ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5019) to provide for the establishment of the Home Star Retrofit Rebate Program, and for other purposes:

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Chair, I rise in support of the Home Star Energy Retrofit Act, an important, commonsense bill that will help promote energy efficiency, conserve our resources, spur job creation and the green economy, and save Americans money.

In my home State, excellent efficiency programs like the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund have helped to reduce energy demand, improve air quality, and deliver savings of \$3 to \$4 to customers for every \$1 invested. That is why they enjoy the support of business, in-

dustrial, commercial, low-income, consumer, and environmental advocates alike.

By taking the idea national, and offering rebates for energy-saving home retrofits like insulation and duct sealing, the bill will create over 168,000 jobs across the country for electrical workers.

I want to thank Mr. WELCH and Chairmen WAXMAN and MARKEY for working with Congresswoman CHELLIE PINGREE and I to include language requiring Home Star implementers to coordinate with existing State efforts like the CEEF. This will help ensure that leading States like Connecticut can maximize their impact, using both State and Federal resources, when it comes to energy efficiency.

This is a great bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT ON ITS 25TH ANNI- VERSARY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it was recently brought to my attention that Patricia's Mexican Restaurant in Sedalia, Missouri, is celebrating its 25th year in business. Let me take this opportunity to congratulate the owners of Patricia's, Patricia Ives and Gary Farr, for operating such a thriving business for so many years.

Pat Ives, who is originally from Creighton, Missouri, first started a business in Sedalia as the owner of a Mexican restaurant franchise known as El Sambre, which was located in Liberty Plaza. In 1993, she bought the rights to the restaurant and changed its name to Patricia's Mexican Restaurant. In 1990, Pat's son, Gary Farr, joined his mother in running the restaurant, which moved from Liberty Plaza to a new, architecturally unique building in 1998.

Pat and Gary have run their successful restaurant with a great deal of common sense and a compassion for their employees and for their community.

They care genuinely about the people who help them operate their restaurant. This kindness has generated deep loyalty among their workforce and among those who have worked at Patricia's Mexican Restaurant through the years. By encouraging hard work and the development of good people skills, Pat and Gary have helped transform many young Missourians, the restaurant's first-time workers, into responsible citizens. Many of these folks are now contributing within their own communities and to our country.

Pat and Gary are good employers, which is why it is no surprise that they have been in business for 25 years. I know my fellow colleagues in the House of Representatives will join me in paying tribute to Patricia's Mexican Restaurant on its important milestone and in honoring all who have worked for Pat Ives and Gary Farr through the years.

HONORING THEODORE KAPLAN ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2010

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Theodore Kaplan on his 100th

birthday. Mr. Kaplan is an active constituent in my district who still walks, drives, and plays bridge. We should all be so lucky to live such a fruitful life! Congratulations to Theodore on this joyous occasion.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,923,161,977,864.28.

On January 6, 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 \$2,284,736,231,570.48 so far this Congress.

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

RECOGNITION OF E. CHARLES CON- NOR'S ELEVATION TO JURISDIC- TIONAL BISHOP

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2010

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor E. Charles Connor's elevation to Jurisdictional Bishop within the Church of God in Christ.

Bishop Connor is a graduate of the University of San Francisco and has also completed the Hospital Administrator's Course at the U.S. Air Force School of Applied Health Science at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

E. Charles Connor has spent much of his life in public service. Governor George Deukmejian appointed Connor to serve on the Board of Vocational Nurses, Psychiatric Technician Examiners from 1989 to 1992, and was re-appointed by Governor Pete Wilson to serve from 1992 to 1996 where he rose to the level of Vice President of the Board. Connor also serves in the U.S. Air Force Reserve as a Hospital Administrator in the grade of Major, after having served in the U.S. Air Force for 26 years—participating in the Viet Nam War and the Persian Gulf War.

Within the church, Bishop Charles Connor has spent 18 years working overseas with various ministries in Korea, Jamaica, Japan, and the Philippines.

Connor is the Bishop of the St. Lucia Eastern Caribbean Jurisdiction, and while his main responsibilities are ecclesiastical, Bishop Connor's goal is to respond to the needs of all people; spiritual, natural and emotional.

I am pleased to recognize and congratulate Bishop E. Charles Connor for his dedication to the Church of God in Christ, his elevation to Jurisdictional Bishop, and his contributions to our community at large.