

during World War II when we passed H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. I also applaud my colleagues for the recent passage of the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which enables the Department of Justice to assist the efforts of Federal, State, and local law enforcement in investigating and prosecuting hate crimes based on race, ethnic background, and religion, and extends protections to more Americans.

From the construction of the trans-continental railroads to the heroic contributions in World War II and beyond, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made lasting contributions in every facet of American society. We must continue to acknowledge the great achievements this vast and diverse community has provided this nation and I urge my colleagues to support to this resolution.

HONORING DOTTIE McLAUGHLIN

HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dottie McLaughlin of United Space Alliance. On June 1, 2010, United Space Alliance will host a Retirement Dinner in Houston, Texas, honoring Dottie's exemplary career supporting America's Space Program.

Dottie began her career supporting human space flight on May 1, 1984 at the NASA Johnson Space Center as a secretary, in the Mission Operations Training Division. She rapidly progressed in the Rockwell Space Operations Company to the position of executive assistant to the president and general manager. In April 1996, all Space Shuttle contracts were transferred to United Space Alliance. Dottie was instrumental in supporting a smooth transition to the new company and the merger of a 10,000-person workforce from 30 different contracts over the next 14 years. Dottie has served as executive assistant to all seven of United Space Alliance's chief executive officers, from Kent Black to Virginia A. Barnes, and has earned the respect of all she has encountered in this journey. Dottie represents the heart and soul of United Space Alliance. With her passion for human space flight, she has poured her energy into the successes that the Space Shuttle program has enjoyed. Through the success of the Space Station construction missions, the two Returns to Flight shuttle missions and early phases of Constellation, Dottie's strength of character fortifies those around her. To many, she represents the very best of the human space flight workforce, and she exemplifies the dedication and commitment to excellence of all those who support our Nation's space program.

Dottie McLaughlin is committed to her country, her family and the welfare of the workers at United Space Alliance. Her passion for human space flight has earned her the deep respect of her colleagues in industry, NASA and the Congress. To quote Dottie, "the most rewarding part of this job has always been the people. Helping the people, be they astronauts, technicians, politicians or fellow administrators, has fulfilled me in ways I could have

never imagined. I am grateful for the role I have played in the Nation's space shuttle program over the years."

I join Dottie McLaughlin's colleagues and friends in honoring her contribution and service to the Nation's space program.

RECOGNIZING THE MERRIAM AVENUE SCHOOL

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, today, the Newton Police Department will hold its D.A.R.E. graduation ceremony with the fifth graders of the Merriam Avenue School. The young people participating in this important program have made a commitment to say no to drugs, underage drinking, and gang violence. They have done this with the support of Detective Lieutenant Michael S. Richards and D.A.R.E. officer, Det. Tom Tosti.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education, or D.A.R.E., began as a small program in Los Angeles in 1983. Today, it is implemented in more than 75 percent of our nation's school districts and in more than 43 other nations. This program allows children to defeat negative cultural influences by opening the lines of communication between law enforcement and youth, empowering students with confidence and courage to say no to drugs. I am proud of the young men and women who participated in this program in Newton, and I would like to recognize them all for taking this step toward positive citizenship:

Miguel Carlitos Camacho, Robert Caton, Anoushka Chatterjee, Cinthia Diaz-Moreno, Cheyenne Fletcher, Jason Gabbard, Nicholas Giracello, Seth Gormley, Brian Hoskins, Summer Muscher-Malone, Jadea Nobles, Zachary Norman, Logan Owens, Mia Randazzo, Isaiah Reese, Melissa Robinson, Charles Sherwood, Nicole Strus, David Zambrano, Joselyne Acosta Barradas, Mason Allen, Isabela Bryant, Mark Capparelli, April Ciccio, Faith D'angelo, Alexander Duckworth, John Foran, Andrew Ghaleb, Skylar Hildebrand, Mackenzie Kimble, Destany Masino, Zoie Meininger, Amber Pierce, Lisa Qarmout, Jose Rodriguez, Liam Shernce, Chandler Spencer, Brandon Turner, Luis Arrazola, Paula Barth, Blade Boyer, Marcus Coward, Holly Donovan, Gift Ingabire, Brooke Ingram, Austin Kalaydjian, Julie Ann Leatham, Lindsay Luchetti, Charles Maker, Gregory Rinehart, Abel Sanchez, Hannah Squires, Kathryn Szatkiewicz, Sean Tracy, Kathryn Van Orden, Melanie Villacis-Mora, Kenneth Whitehead, Jasmine Aguilar, Olivia Castimore, Andre Chavarria, Robert Day, Casie Dolan, Gina Donatelli, Timothy Fitzpatrick, Hunter Grave de peralta, Collin Kelly, Willie Little, Rhiannon Lubas, Alecia Marmora, Francis Militano, Natalia Quintero, Adeline Shickel, Tevin Spencer, Taylor Thieme, Matthew Unorski.

URGING INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, this week is National Hurricane Preparedness Week and I encourage all Americans to ensure they are prepared in the event of a hurricane or other natural disaster.

Officials at all levels of government are working to ensure they are prepared to respond to any disaster that may impact their areas. However, disaster preparedness is not only a government responsibility. Individuals and families have an important role to play as well.

Individuals should make a disaster preparedness kit with items like water, nonperishable food, a first aid kit, flashlights, medications, and copies of important documents. The Florida Division of Emergency Management in my home State has a website, www.floridadisaster.org, which is a great resource for disaster planning. Other States provide these resources as well. Individuals can also visit Ready.gov and Hurricanes.gov for additional information.

Madam Speaker, the time to prepare is now. I urge all Americans to take these simple steps to get prepared to weather the storm.

COMMEMORATING JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. ALBIO SIRES

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. SIRES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Jewish American Heritage Month. This May marks the fifth Jewish American Heritage Month, a month that highlights the many contributions of the Jewish American community. In 2006, we celebrated the first Jewish American Heritage Month after the diligent work of Congresswoman DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ led to the passage of the Jewish American Heritage Month Resolution in 2005.

While the Jewish American community contributes to our country each and every day, this month is a special time to recognize and teach about the achievements of Jewish Americans. For over 350 years, the Jewish Community has contributed to our rich, diverse, and shared culture in this country. Despite the long history of Jews in the United States, Judaism as a culture is not widely understood by all Americans and instances of anti-Jewish prejudices unfortunately do occur.

This month, events are happening all over the Nation to celebrate Jewish American Heritage Month by promoting awareness of Jewish Americans' traditions and impacts. Jewish American Heritage Month provides all of us with an opportunity to learn more about the Jewish people and dispel misconceptions.

Last winter, the Daniel Pearl Education Center sponsored a trip for 70 teenagers from Middlesex County in New Jersey to visit the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. The students, from all different backgrounds, had the

opportunity to visit the museum and hear from a holocaust survivor. I also offered remarks at this event to echo the life and death importance of tolerance and understanding.

The United States is a country of millions of people from countless distinct backgrounds. It is because of the values and freedoms inherent in our society, that so many diverse cultures are able to find success here. I am pleased to join my colleague in the House of Representatives tonight in honoring the many successes of Jewish Americans.

IN HONOR OF AND RECOGNITION
OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE CROATIAN AMERICAN ASSO-
CIATION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker and Colleagues, I rise today in honor and recognition of the 20th anniversary of the Croatian American Association, which was celebrated on Saturday, May 15th in Chicago, Illinois.

For twenty years, the Croatian American Association, a non-partisan organization, has sought to bring the interests and concerns of Croatian Americans to the attention of Congress and the Administration. The Croatian American community is vibrant and strong in Cleveland, Chicago and throughout our nation. Croatian Americans have made significant contributions to all levels of culture and society and have made our nation a better place.

The Croatian American Association is focused on rallying members of Congress to support the process of democratic development in Croatia, and providing education to the American people on the significance of supporting democracy in Croatia. For twenty years, members and leaders within the Association have created vital partnerships with Congressional and Senate leaders, with members of the press, and with leaders of numerous cultural and political organizations throughout the country.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honor and recognition of all Americans of Croatian heritage, and the members of the Croatian American Association, as they celebrate 20 years of advancing democracy in Croatia. As United States citizens whose origins span the globe, we must work to preserve and foster bonds of friendship, support, and peace here at home and in the nations of our origin.

HONORING FAIRFIELD BAPTIST
CHURCH

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Fairfield Baptist Church has been and continues to be a beacon of light to our county for the past 125 years; and

Whereas, Pastor Micheal Benton and the members of the Fairfield Baptist Church family today continue to uplift and inspire those in our county; and

Whereas, the Fairfield Baptist Church family has been and continues to be a place where citizens are touched spiritually, mentally and physically through outreach ministries and community partnership to aid in building up our district; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious Church of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the needy and empowered our community for the past 125 years by preaching the gospel, singing the gospel and living the gospel; and

Whereas, Fairfield has produced many spiritual warriors, people of compassion, people of great courage, fearless leaders and servants to all, but most of all visionaries who have shared not only with their Church, but with DeKalb County and the world their passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Fairfield Baptist Church family on their 125th Anniversary and for their leadership and service to our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR., do hereby proclaim May 16, 2010, as Fairfield Baptist Church Day in the Fourth Congressional District.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN GLESS, 2010
FATHER OF THE YEAR RECIPIENT

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate an individual from my Congressional District who will be presented with the 2010 Father of the Year Award next week in Riverside, California.

The purpose of the Father of the Year Awards is to honor fathers who have remained a positive role model for their children while also making a positive difference in their community.

John Gless is one of those fathers. He has been married to his wife Janet for 52 years, and has four children and 11 grandchildren. As owner and founder of Gless Ranch, John has been an active member of the California farming community and avid supporter of numerous charitable organizations.

I am proud to call John a fellow community member and American. And today, I add my voice to the many who will be congratulating him on this well-deserved recognition.

CONGRATULATING ISRAEL ON
OECD MEMBERSHIP

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. McMAHON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 2010

Mr. McMAHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate our close ally and partner, Israel, for her accession to membership in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. I also want to thank the Congresswoman ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN for introducing this Resolution, of which I am honored to be an original co-sponsor.

Israel first sought membership in OECD 10 years ago, and since then, Israel has been the most active nonmember country. Her aggressive pursuit of far-reaching economic reforms has led to her placement among the top business-friendly countries. Today, Israel is a world leader in providing access to credit markets, investor protections, and financial market sophistication. Her quality of life index also ranks among the top in life expectancy, judicial independence and legal rights.

The two pillars of the OECD are a commitment to democratic government and a free-market based economy. Its recognition of Israel's advanced economy, however, has been too long in coming and this delay has subjected Israel to too many politicized attacks from unfriendly nations and multilateral institutions.

Now, Israel's membership will strengthen the OECD's strategic economic importance in the world and benefit all members by providing access to Israel's advanced labor market and innovations in science and technology. Their membership also signifies another step forward in the cause to end religious intolerance and anti-Semitic economic and cultural policies.

Israel's commitment to our shared values of democracy, human rights, and freedom make her one the most important strategic allies of the United States. We will continue to support Israel in every way possible and work with her to defend herself against the aggressions of all enemies. I call on all responsible nations to do the same and congratulate OECD and Israel for this momentous partnership.

HONORING THE DECEASED MA-
RINE CORPORAL JEFFREY JOHN-
SON OF TOMBALL

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Marine Corporal Jeffrey Johnson of Tomball, TX, part of the 3rd Battalion 1st Marines, 1st Marine Division, who was killed on May 11, 2010, while on foot patrol by an improvised explosive device south of Marjah in the Garmsir District of Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He was 21 years old.

In 2007, after graduating from Waller High School, Corporal Johnson accepted the call to become one of the few and the proud as a Marine. In doing so, he joined a family legacy of service to America, with grandfathers having served in the Navy and Air Force and four of his uncles in the National Guard.

His family, friends, and fellow Marines recall Corporal Johnson as a smart, humorous, loving, and hard working person. His father, Jerry, said that his son loved being a Marine and believed strongly in America's fight for freedom and against terrorists overseas.

Corporal Johnson leaves behind a wife, Katy, his parents, grandparents, three siblings, and many other family members. He also leaves behind a very proud community. The people of Tomball and Magnolia, Texas, lined the streets of town to welcome this man home, and stand today behind his family and support them in their grief.