

A March 2010 report by the United Nations states that there is a "massive human rights deficit" in Afghanistan, with 36 percent of the population living in absolute poverty and another 37 percent living just above the poverty line. Only 23 percent of the country has access to clean water. This, despite the billions of dollars in reconstruction and development aid we have funneled into the country.

So where is our money going? We know that President Karzai and his cronies are living large, while the rest of the country falters. It is time to bring our troops home.

HONORING ZACH ILDZA

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Zach Ildza. Zach is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 214, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Zach has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Zach has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Zach has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Zach Ildza for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

MR. SCOTT MAHER

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2011

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the National Franchise Association, NFA, which serves the Burger King community in its advocacy, training, and service-related functions and which is located in Georgia's 11th Congressional District, I am honored to recognize Mr. Scott Maher, a 25-year employee of the Coca-Cola Company.

This year, Mr. Maher celebrates a landmark anniversary as an employee of the Coca-Cola Company. In his 25 years, he has dedicated himself to providing excellent service, honoring his commitments as a businessman and serving as a friendly face to the Coca-Cola name. In relation to the NFA, Mr. Maher actively advocates on behalf of small business owners around the country by supporting—both financially and personally—NFA's Government Relations Summit every year. Every September, you can count on Mr. Maher to schedule a meeting with my office through NFA to discuss the effects of anti-business legislation on NFA members and, consequently, the Coca-Cola Company.

The NFA is eternally grateful for Mr. Maher's support of the franchising industry and of Burger King franchisees in particular.

Congratulations on 25 years of service with the Coca-Cola Company and I wish you many more to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2011

Mr. SIRE. Mr. Speaker, on January 24, 2011, I missed rollcall vote Nos. 17 and 18. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall 17 and "no" on rollcall 18.

STATEMENT OF CONCERN REGARDING THE TAKEOVER OF LEBANON'S INSTITUTIONS BY THE TERRORIST GROUP HEZBOLLAH

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2011

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, more than a week ago, a coalition led by the terrorist organization Hezbollah caused the crumbling of the Lebanese Government. Hezbollah is now seeking to form a new cabinet where the organization and its allies would control many crucial Lebanese ministries—including defense, interior, foreign affairs, and the finances of the country.

This is an unprecedented power grab by a terrorist organization, which has a global reach in the Middle East, Africa, Europe, Latin America, and even on our southern border and perhaps inside the United States itself. Hezbollah is the proxy army of Iran, and Iran has made it into the most well-trained and well-funded terrorist group in the world. The situation in Lebanon, and the growing global power of Hezbollah, should be a great cause of concern to Americans.

The people of Lebanon, particularly the Lebanese youth, have been demonstrating in the streets of Beirut, Tripoli and other areas, sending America a clear message about their rejection of Hezbollah. For some time now, Lebanon has been under the threat of Hezbollah's powerful militia, which has thousands of rockets and missiles, and whose members—according to media reports—are likely to be indicted in the 2005 terror assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafic Hariri. Hezbollah is using this militia to threaten and bully Lebanon so that it can create a new government that would become a puppet of the Iranian regime, much like the Syrian regime. We must not let Iran gain further influence in the Middle East.

I ask Congress and the President to declare its solidarity with the Lebanese people and to reject any recognition of a Hezbollah government. I also call on the President to ask the United Nations to implement UNSCR 1559, which calls for disarming of militias in Lebanon, which are a threat to all of its peace-loving people. I also ask my colleagues in Congress to issue strong statements of support for the Cedars Revolution and to the people of Lebanon as they face the takeover of their country by terrorist organization Hezbollah.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FREEDOM ACT OF 2011

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to reintroduce the International Women's Freedom Act with my colleagues, Representatives CHAKA FATTAH, JIM MORAN, JERRY MCNERNEY, LYNN WOOLSEY, and TIM RYAN. This bill is a comprehensive piece of legislation which will increase awareness of human rights violations against women, as well as provide a set of mechanisms for the U.S. to address the violations of women's human rights abroad.

The bill is modeled after the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, IRFA. IRFA created the U.S. Commission on Religious Freedom which has been successful in identifying violations of religious freedom abroad and recommending actions to Congress, the Secretary of State, and the President.

It has been clear for many years that expanding opportunities for women not only improves their position in society, but also has a positive impact on economic growth and burgeoning democracies. As Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton has stated publicly regarding American foreign policy, "there has to be special attention paid to the needs of women and girls. It's in America's national security interests to do so." And yet around the world, many countries relegate women to second-class status, denying them the right to vote, restricting their travel, and limiting their access to education and health care.

The International Women's Freedom Act would ensure we have the tools to empower women on a global level. Modeled after the successful International Religious Freedom Act, the bill would establish a Commission on International Women's Rights and would expand the duties of the existing Office of International Women's Issues in the State Department and rename it, the Office on International Women's Rights. Both the Commission and the Office on International Women's Rights would be granted the responsibilities of issuing a report on the status of women's rights abroad and advising the President and Secretary of State regarding matters affecting these issues.

We need to work harder to ensure women's full participation in society. This legislation would move us closer to achieving this foreign policy imperative.

HONORING MAHLON KRUSE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Mahlon Kruse. Mahlon is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Civil Air Patrol and earning the most prestigious General Billy Mitchell Award.

Mahlon has been very active with his patrol, participating in many activities. Over the many

years Mahlon has been involved with the patrol, he has not only earned numerous decorations, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Mahlon has earned the rank of Second Lieutenant in the Platte Valley Squadron and further distinguished his record at Hawk Mountain Ranger School and at the National Glider Flight Academy. Mahlon has also maintained an impressive 3.97 GPA and is also planning on serving his country by attending the Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Mahlon Kruse for his accomplishments with the Civil Air Patrol and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Mitchell Award.

HONORING MR. BOB SHRYOCK, RESPECTED JOURNALIST AND ADMIRER MEMBER OF THE SOUTH JERSEY COMMUNITY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2011

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bob Shryock for his contributions to South Jersey through his journalism and civic involvement.

Mr. Shryock began his long and successful writing career at the age of 11 as a daily golf columnist. Since this precocious start, Mr. Shryock has worked for 62 years in the newspaper industry and written over 10,000 columns. He began his South Jersey career as sports editor for the Gloucester County Times in 1964. During this time, Mr. Shryock hired me for my first job. It was my responsibility to call Mr. Shryock and report on Bellmawr Little League scores. It was a duty I took very seriously and I remain grateful for that opportunity to this day. Between 1969 and 1980, Mr. Shryock was managing editor for both the Gloucester County Times and the Camden Courier Post. His columns are still a highlight for me in the Gloucester County Times.

Mr. Shryock is a very active member of the South Jersey sports community and has been a high school football announcer for over 30 years. In 1967, Mr. Shryock co-founded the Touchdown Club of South Jersey to honor high school football players. The club has expanded over the years to honor athletes for both their athletic achievements and their academic successes.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have benefitted from Mr. Shryock's sage words for many years. I look forward to reading many more columns from Bob and I hope that he will continue to announce at football games for many years to come.

FORT LEWIS COLLEGE TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the founding of Fort Lewis College, of Durango, Colorado, on January 25, 1911. Fort Lewis

College has continually provided a world-class liberal arts education for students of 47 States and is consistently recognized as a top university in the United States.

On January 25, 1911, Governor John Shafroth signed a bill creating an agricultural high school open to all students and offering a free education to Native Americans. The school received \$60,000 in funding for its first year from the State of Colorado. Since then, Fort Lewis College has proven itself able to adapt to the educational needs of its time. The school has progressed from agricultural high school to a junior college in 1927 and eventually a four year liberal arts college. The school has survived numerous attempts to shut it down, and in 1948 became an independent educational institution under the Colorado State Board of Agriculture. In 1956, Fort Lewis College, then Fort Lewis A&M, officially moved to its present location in Durango, Colorado.

Fort Lewis College offers a demanding, stimulating college experience, fostering a culture of learning that values community outreach and a strong liberal arts education. Fort Lewis College boasts an impressive list of accomplishments, including five Colorado Professor of the Year awards—only the U.S. Air Force Academy has a higher number of professors with the same distinction in Colorado. Of four year institutions, Fort Lewis College awards the highest number of bachelor's degrees to Native Americans. Eleven NCAA Division II varsity teams compete in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and the college offers ninety unique academic programs and seventy student organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Fort Lewis College, my alma mater, for turning 100, and wish the institution another 100 years of academic success.

RECOGNIZING THE AWARD OF EAGLE SCOUT EARNED BY TYLER BARRY

HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2011

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Tyler Barry of Marathon, NY. Tyler is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Tyler has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. At the age of 6, Tyler began Scouting and over the years, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Tyler has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Tyler designed and constructed a handicap ramp for St. Stephen's Church, of which he is an active member.

Tyler plays three sports at Marathon High School, has a part-time job and also plays in band with some of his peers.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Tyler Barry for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF GEORGE HENRY WHITE DAY

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2011

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of George Henry White Day being held in Tarboro, North Carolina on Saturday, January 29, 2011. That day will mark the 110th anniversary of Congressman George Henry White's famous farewell speech Floor of the United States House of Representatives.

Born on December 18, 1853, George Henry White was the only African American in Congress when he was elected in 1896 and re-elected in 1898. He was the last African American elected to Congress from the post-Civil War era.

George Henry White left Congress in 1901, and it would be almost 30 years before another African American would be elected to Congress. And, as we know, no blacks were elected to Congress from the South until 1972; well after the passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965.

George Henry White was a strong and gifted speaker, who often condemned the harsh and brutal treatment of blacks in the South and introduced the first anti-lynching legislation in Congress.

In 2002, the Tarboro Town Council approved a resolution declaring January 29 as the annual George Henry White Day in Tarboro. In 2003, the Edgecombe County Board of Commissioners approved a similar resolution declaring January 29 as the annual George Henry White Day in Edgecombe County.

On June 25, 2004, the Tarboro Post Office was officially named the George Henry White Post Office Building after the President signed a legislation I introduced into Congress.

On George Henry White Day, January 29, 2005, the Phoenix Historical Society unveiled a commissioned portrait of George Henry White in the Superior Court Room of the Edgecombe County Court House following approval by the Edgecombe County Board of Commissioners.

In 2007, I introduced legislation urging the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee to consider honoring George Henry White with a commemorative postage stamp. I reintroduced the legislation in 2009, and I will again reintroduce this legislation during the 112th Congress.

Last year, the North Carolina Historical Commission approved recommendations of the Capitol Monument Study Committee to lift a moratorium of new monuments on the state capitol square to include among others a monument to commemorate the achievements and public statements of U.S. Representative George Henry White.

Mr. Speaker, George Henry White fearlessly and consistently stirred the conscience of America to embrace racial justice and equality for all people. It was a life worthy of remembering. Please join me in recognizing George Henry White, and in sending our best wishes to the Phoenix Historical Society, which organized the George Henry White Day.