

has since grown to being a steward of more than \$75 million of charitable assets. In pursuing its mission of strengthening communities and supporting the citizens of North Louisiana, the Foundation has awarded more than 4,000 grants totaling nearly \$40 million. In addition to its vital stewardship of charitable investments, The Community Foundation has exhibited leadership by working with other non-profits to promote philanthropy and service in the community. Through managing innovative projects, responding in times of disaster, investing in critical research, and convening leaders to discuss issues facing the area, the Foundation's activities have served as a catalyst for positive change.

Today, I am pleased to express my support and gratitude to The Community Foundation of North Louisiana as it celebrates this important milestone. With great honor and enthusiasm, I wish it continued success over its next 50 years of service.

IN HONOR OF LANCE CORPORAL
ROBERT "BOBBY" THRAILKILL,
USMC

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a real American hero, Lance Corporal Robert "Bobby" Thrailkill of Pentwater, Michigan.

While out on foot patrol in Sagen, Afghanistan, on October 26, 2010, Bobby found a roadside bomb. After motioning for his fellow Marines to step back, the bomb exploded, causing traumatic injuries to Bobby, including the loss of his legs. Bobby faced months of rehabilitation at Walter Reed with courage and has come far in his recovery.

Today, June 16th, Bobby will marry his fiancé Karra Barr. I want to congratulate Bobby on this day and wish him a life of happiness, as well as thank him for his service to our country. In honor of Bobby, the following poem was written by Albert Caswell.

THE KILL ZONE

On battlefields of honor bright. . . .
There are but all of those who but bring
their light. . . .
All in the darkness of these days. . . . these
nights. . . .
Are but all of those heroes who but carry
that fight, all In The Kill Zone. . . .
Brave Hearts, men of courage
and might. . . .
Whose blind faith but wins that battle, that
fight. . . .
Who into darken buildings will walk. . . .
Knowing full well what death before them so
lies, all in that dark. . . .
All in that Kill Zone. . . .
As they but lead with their fine hearts. . . .
The ones who so kick in all those doors, who
are thou art. . . .
Envoys from God, our Lord's heart!
United States Marines, men like Lcpl
Thrailkill who so do their part. . . .
Who all in his most magnificent shades of
green, is one darn fine United States
Marine. . . .
As ever up ahead, out on point as he was so
courageously seen!
And on that day Robert when you so faced
death; lying there with but not much
left. . . .

As defeat you would not except. . . .
As Robert your fine heart would so
crest. . . .
With two legs gone as on the morning as you
awoke, with not much left to hold on
to. . . .
As deep down inside of you, your fine heart
so spoke. . . .
As you wiped all of those tears from your
eyes, and Marine you so told yourself .
. . . .
that you had new mountains to so climb. . . .
Yea, Michigan Marines are just that
kind. . . .
Who all in shades of green, the word courage
so define. . . .
For you have miles to go before you
sleep. . . .
Hills to climb, all in your heart of courage so
very deep. . . .
As Robert, there is nothing from your new
mission that will you so keep!
All on your road to recovery . . . , as to all
souls you so speak!
For once you walked upon those killing
fields. . . .
All for your God and Country Tis of Thee,
this man of steel. . . .
As now your new war to be won. . . .
As for all of your lost Brothers In Arms
these ones,
you will feel upon you face the new day's
sun!
Because, Strength In Honor . . . , is but from
where you come. . . .
The kind of man that every father, so wished
he had as a son. . . .
As You So Teach Us Robert, As You So Be-
seech Us Robert. . . .
Oh look Marine, from where you've come, so
far, so fast, shining like the morning
sun!
As out on point, up ahead your new life has
just begun. . . .
As with your strong heart we now so see you
run. . . .
One of Michigan's greatest of all son's. . . .
And on this day, get down on your
knees. . . .
And but thank all of these!
All of these fine sons, sons like Robert who
into the Kill Zone must venture to do
what must be done!
Could you in your life, so find the strength
. . . to walk into such that valley of
death?
Could you but find the courage and faith,
to rebuild your life when you've so lost your
strong legs as left?
Oh yes Robert how you have so shown us all
the way!
As one of the finest Americans, who never
took . . . but gave!

SALUTING SERVICE ACADEMY STUDENTS—MICHAEL ROBERTO

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary group of young men and women who have been chosen as future leaders in our armed forces by the prestigious United States service academies. It is a privilege to send such a fine group from the third district of Texas to pursue a world-class education and serve our nation.

As we keep them and their families in our prayers, may we never forget the sacrifices they are preparing to make while defending our freedoms all across the globe. I am so

proud of each one. God bless them and God bless America.

Today I salute Michael Roberto, a United States Military Academy Appointee. Michael is a graduate of Cistercian Preparatory School where he was highly involved in athletics, including being cross country varsity team captain, track team, soccer as a right forward, and football as a receiver and a cornerback. Michael is also the founder and president of his high school debate team, an officer in the Economics club, a writer for his school newspaper, and served on the Third District Congressional Youth Advisory Committee. Michael desired nothing more than to attend a United States Service Academy and become an officer in the military. Michael is not only interested in pursuing the superior education that an Academy will offer him, but he is also seeking the unrivaled development he will experience in becoming one of the best military officers his country deserves.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOP- MENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMIN- ISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2112) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chair, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 2112, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2012. This bill ignores the plight of hundreds of thousands of women and children who struggle to obtain nutritious food in neighborhoods across America. The measure originally put forward by the Republican majority proposed \$833 million in cuts to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, commonly known as WIC. This program provides assistance to new mothers, babies, and children under five who have been identified as nutritionally at risk. In any decent society, this is the most basic obligation we have to our fellow citizens. Yet the funding level proposed by the majority would have left 400,000 to 550,000 women and children without this aid.

I am pleased that the Appropriations Committee adopted an amendment by my colleague, Representative DELAURO, to reinstate \$147 million in WIC funding. Even with this restoration, however, between 200,000 and 350,000 low-income women and children around the country would be dropped from the program next year. In New Jersey, as many as 6,500 citizens could lose this assistance.

I would remind those who claim that we cannot afford the cost of this program that just one week of lost revenue from the Bush tax breaks for millionaires, which were extended over my objection, would more than fill the gap in funding for this program to ensure that every mother and child has access to healthy

meals. On average, nationwide, we are talking about just 57 dollars per month for nearly 10 million mothers and infants who cannot afford nutritious foods. Almost one-half of the children born in our country rely on WIC. Many of these enter the Medicaid program, and experience has shown that the nutritional benefit to pregnant women results in up to \$4.20 in Medicaid savings for each dollar spent through WIC. Restoring full funding for this program is the smart thing to do for our budget, just as it is the right thing to do for our citizens.

Women and infants are not the only vulnerable population put at greater risk of food insecurity by this bill. The 22 percent cut to the Commodity Supplemental Food Program will prevent at least 130,000 low-income seniors from receiving desperately needed food packages. The 23 percent reduction to the Emergency Food Assistance Program will leave empty shelves at our local food banks, pantries, faith-based organizations, soup kitchens, and shelters. With food prices continuing to rise sharply and Americans continuing to struggle to get ahead in a tough economy, now is not the time to remove the critical safety net provided by these food assistance programs. In addition, food aid for 1.1 million people around the world will be unavailable as a result of the \$476 million cut to the Food for Peace international humanitarian program and the McGovern-Dole program, which provides for the donation of U.S. agriculture goods to school feeding initiatives around the world.

Furthermore, the drastic reduction to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission budget will leave the U.S. economy and consumers in peril. The Commission will not have the resources necessary to prevent the big banks from making the kinds of speculative bets that led to the recent financial crisis. And as gas prices continue to strain household and small business budgets, this bill will do nothing to help the Commission go after excessive speculation in oil markets—even though recent data suggest that nearly 90 percent of those trading in the oil markets are speculators, not legitimate users of oil. These speculators are driving up the price of petroleum and gasoline, and without an effective CFTC with adequate funding, consumers and taxpayers are the losers.

This bill also includes severe funding cuts for the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service and the Food and Drug Administration, FDA, which will undermine food safety in America and weaken efforts to ensure that medical products and new drugs are safe and accessible. It underfunds research programs to improve food production, safety, and quality as well as initiatives designed to advance organic farming and related markets. And it eliminates almost one billion dollars in conservation programs to protect soil and farmland, maintain healthy agriculture in rural America, preserve key resources, and restore wildlife habitat that supports associated recreational and economic opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, the Agriculture Appropriations bill before us today is one more step in the wrong direction for the Nation's budget, our economy, and our people. It leaves vulnerable low-income women, infants, children, and seniors to fend for themselves even though we know that good nutrition improves health and saves money in the long run. It allows Wall Street speculation to continue unchecked, threatening our economy and driving up gas

prices. It says that we should ignore the needs of our faith- and community-based food service organizations as well as those of hungry children and impoverished people around the world. And it leaves us all at greater risk of encountering food-borne illnesses, sets back research programs, and ignores our conservation needs. The American people expect more of their government, and I urge my colleagues to oppose this deeply flawed bill.

HONORING ALISON SCHIEBER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alison Schieber of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Alison is active in the community and she has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Award for Woman in Volunteerism.

As President of the Allied Arts Council, Alison is also serving on the Missouri Citizens for the Arts Board to advocate for the advancement of the arts through education. A Sustainer of the Junior League of St. Joseph, Alison is also a member of the Community Action Committee and a spokesman for the St. Joseph Public Library Modern Library Campaign.

Alison is lauded for her ability to lead by example, understanding the important role the arts play in childhood development. Her advocacy for the arts led to her work with the Missouri Citizen's for the Arts as a lobbyist, working to remove the sunset clause on the Cultural Entertainment tax.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Alison Schieber. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph Community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JARED POLIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for votes on Friday, June 3, 2011. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 411.

RIDE TO WORK DAY

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of the Congressional Motorcycle Safety Caucus I rise to recognize Ride to Work Day.

Each year the third Monday in June is designated as Ride to Work Day and this year, on June 20, more than a million motorcyclists across the Nation will use their motorcycles to commute. In doing so, these riders will make a statement about the utility, fuel economy

and fun of using motorcycles and scooters for transportation.

The Motorcycle Industry Council's most recent information estimates that more than 21.5 million Americans operated a motorcycle in 2009. Many of these riders visited Tennessee, and specifically the 2nd Congressional District, which features some of motorcycle riders' favorite roads in the Country. Two members of my own staff ride motorcycles for both fun and transportation.

As more and more Americans choose scooters and motorcycles as transportation options, or just choose to ride for recreation, it becomes ever more imperative that each of us does all we can to promote motorcycle safety. This means that motorcyclists must ride responsibly, by getting trained and licensed and obeying traffic safety laws. Other road users can do their part by being aware of motorcyclists and sharing the road.

On June 20, I encourage all riders to gear up and ride to work. I also encourage all other road users to take special note of all the riders on the road and remember to always look out for motorcyclists.

HONORING MURIEL REDMOND

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Muriel Redmond of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Muriel is active in the community and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Lifetime Achievement Award: Woman in Volunteerism.

After her marriage, Muriel became active in St. Joseph's Hospital Guild, continuing her interest founded while a student nurse. With her dedicated involvement, she accepted leadership positions, including president. Muriel started the Candy Striper program in 1947, being the first instructor.

Muriel's lifelong interest in the medical field included membership in the Medical Auxiliary. She has been an active member in the Flower Society, Girl and Boy Scouting, and P.E.O. She is a member of Y Women and a supporter of the Abuse Shelter.

As a member of St. Joseph's Cathedral Church and the adjoining school, she supported her children's education with two periods as president in the PTA. She remains active in the Quarter of A Century Nurses and at her present residence, the Living Community of St. Joseph; she was a founder of the Needles and Pins group.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Muriel Redmond. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph Community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

MARKING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISCOVERY OF AIDS

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, this month marks the 30th anniversary of the first AIDS