

NAACP, and a member of the Trade Leader Membership Council. Deeply committed to education, he prepared his three daughters, Dr. Debra Robinson, Attorney Rachel Robinson, and Yvette Robinson, a Social Worker, to work hard and achieve their dreams.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to take a moment of silence to remember the life of C. Frederick Robinson. My condolences go out to his family and friends. I deeply mourn his passing and will miss his enthusiasm, his outspoken passion for justice, and his love of life. May his legacy of compassion for those less fortunate live on after him for many, many years.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 23, 2011*

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 472, final passage of H.R. 2021 "to amend the Clean Air Act regarding air pollution from Outer Continental Shelf activities," I mistakenly voted "nay" when I intended to vote "yea." I have always supported efforts to expand American oil production.

#### ASIAN AMERICAN HOTEL OWNERS ASSOCIATION APPRECIATION

### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 23, 2011*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Asians have a rich tradition of entrepreneurship, self-improvement, and family values. After India's independence in 1947, many of that country's young people immigrated to the United States to pursue their education and "the American Dream." The hospitality industry was a popular career choice because it offered immediate housing and cash flow, as well as the opportunity to assimilate into society despite any cultural differences.

Soon, the name "Patel" became synonymous with the hotel business. In ancient India, rulers appointed a record keeper to keep track of annual crops on each parcel of land, or "pat." That person became known as a "Patel." At first, many of these hoteliers met with resistance, especially from bankers and insurance companies who discriminated against Indians, specifically those with the last name Patel.

To resolve this issue, a group of hoteliers formed a hospitality association in 1985 and grew its membership nationwide. Eventually the Asian American Hotel Owners Association (AAHOA) was born from the merger of similar groups. Last week, AAHOA held its annual national convention at The Sands Expo Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. I was hosted by the 2010–2011 AAHOA Board of Directors made up of Chairman Hemant (Henry) Patel, Vice Chairman Alkesh Patel, Treasurer Mukesh (Mike) Patel, Secretary Pratik (Prat) Patel, Ex-officio Chandrakant (C.K.) Patel, and President Fred Schwartz. I was accompanied by Second Congressional District Communications Director Neal Patel of Nichols, S.C. Rep-

resenting over 40 percent of America's hotels and motels, AAHOA is the voice of owners in the hospitality industry. It is now one of the fastest-growing organizations in the industry, with more than 10,000 members owning more than 20,000 hotels that total \$128 billion in property value. AAHOA is dedicated to promoting and protecting the interests of its members by inspiring excellence through programs and initiatives in advocacy, industry leadership, professional development, member benefits, and community involvement.

I am proud of AAHOA's growth and look forward to its continued success in the future creating jobs for the people of America.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RICK BERG

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 23, 2011*

Mr. BERG. Mr. Speaker, due to emergency flooding in my home state of North Dakota, I will be unavoidably detained for the remainder of the week (Beginning at 4 p.m. on Thursday, June 23). I ask that everyone please join me in keeping these residents who are fighting for their homes and their communities in your thoughts and prayers, and to stand with Minot and other communities up and down the Souris River to ensure a strong recovery.

#### HONORING ROBERT AND ELEANOR HOLMES FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY IN THE ADOPTION AND PARENTING OF THEIR 5 GREAT GRANDSONS.

### HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 23, 2011*

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize Robert and Eleanor Holmes, retired couple in their 70's who adopted and are raising their five great-grandchildren. On September 15, 2006, a Family Court judge declared the boys' home life unsuitable, yet despite their retirement, Robert and Eleanor volunteered to nurture and provide for these children. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes provide their great-grandchildren with an environment that includes love, support, direction and discipline.

Robert formerly worked as a drug educational counselor for the Utica and Syracuse schools systems. Much of his work involved motivational speeches encouraging students to make safe, healthy choices, establish strong self-esteem and model citizenship values—all of which he has now passed on to his great-grandchildren.

Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Holmes, these brothers were able to transition together into a safe and happy family environment. It is truly exceptional for the boys to have two positive role models in their lives. Each of the five boys have become excellent students. They participate in athletics and are well-known for being polite and courteous. A true happy family, Robert and Eleanor can be seen cheering for the boys at almost every one of their sporting events.

Exemplary citizens such as Robert and Eleanor Holmes should be appreciated and acknowledged by our society. It is fitting that the Family Nurturing Center of CNY, Inc. has selected the Holmes as its Family of the Year. There is no greater gift than that of a stable and safe home, which is the gateway to a bright future. Robert and Eleanor Holmes are ideal Americans whose story should be celebrated. Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in honoring Robert and Eleanor Holmes for their exceptional generosity and kindness.

#### RECOGNIZING COMMANDER ROB WARREN OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD

### HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 23, 2011*

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Commander Rob Warren of the U.S. Coast Guard for his exemplary service over the past two years as the Coast Guard's Liaison to the House of Representatives.

Commander Warren, a 1992 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy, has personified public service throughout his operationally distinguished nineteen year career. Having served on three Coast Guard Cutters, including a tour as the Commanding Officer of TYBEE, Commander Warren arrived here in Washington in the summer of 2009, having just completed a successful assignment as the Chief of Response Operations in Sector San Juan, Puerto Rico. He quickly learned to navigate the rocky shoals of Capitol Hill and has become a trusted voice on all things pertaining to both the Coast Guard and the maritime domain. His passion, candor, and intellect are second to none and earned him a coveted seat at the Army War College's Senior Service School, where he will spend the next year studying National Security Strategy and the principles of senior command.

I would like to thank him for his service to both the Congress and the nation and wish him and his family fair winds and following seas in their future endeavors.

#### HONORING THE TOWN OF CARMEL, MAINE

### HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 23, 2011*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Town of Carmel, Maine as it celebrates its 200TH Anniversary.

First purchased in 1695 by Martin Kinsley of Hamden, Carmel was later founded by the Rev. Paul Ruggles, his wife Mercy and his brother Abel. The three first settlers named the town for the biblical prophet Elijah's experience on Mt. Carmel.

Located in the heart of Penobscot County, Carmel grew from 387 people at incorporation in 1811 to nearly 1,400 people by 1870. It is a town steeped in the history of Maine, growing from a small farming village into a mill town renowned for its textiles, boots and shoes.

Carmel's residents are still tied to their roots; descendants of the early settlers continue to live throughout the town. Today, Carmel continues to push ahead through new challenges. The town boasts nearly 2,800 residents, a far cry from its founding. While the two dozen school houses that were a fixture of the community have been replaced with homes, businesses and the Simpson Memorial Library, Carmel continues to look toward the future with a sense of possibility.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the town of Carmel, Maine on its 200th birthday.

# RECOGNIZING THE PEOPLE OF HUNGARY

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 23, 2011*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the people of Hungary whose longstanding commitment to freedom is a testament to the world that freedom and democracy are attainable goals for all people. As Americans, we celebrate with the people of Hungary as they unveil a statue of Ronald Reagan to commemorate his centennial birthday. Hungary is one of America's greatest allies and it warms my heart to know that they rejoice with us in the memory of this hero of freedom.

The U.S.-Hungarian friendship is one of our oldest and most enduring. Throughout this relationship, many Hungarians have also stood for the cause of liberty and are worthy of our recognition here in the House of Representatives.

A Hungarian by the name of Michael Kovats de Fabriczy volunteered his services to Benjamin Franklin, then the American Ambassador in Paris, during the Revolutionary War. This Hungarian patriot, who was essential in creating America's first cavalry unit, was killed in battle near Charleston, South Carolina. Soon after Fabriczy's death Americans gained their independence; unfortunately, freedom for Hungary and her people would require a much longer fight.

A bust of Lajos Kossuth, a politician and journalist who fought for freedom in the 1848 Hungarian Revolution, sits in a vestibule just outside of the crypt of this building. Exiled from Hungary, Kossuth came to America and became just the second foreigner to address a joint session of the United States Congress. An inspiring speaker, Kossuth then traveled across the United States to promote the principle of democratic government.

Nearly two hundred years after our own revolution, in 1956, the people of Hungary rose up against communist rule and succeeded in toppling the government before being crushed by Soviet troops. In the face of that defeat, the courageous people of Hungary continued their fight. Victory came in 1989, when Hungary opened its border with the West. Hungary then became the first of the former Soviet bloc countries to transition to a Western-style parliamentary democracy, holding its first free parliamentary elections in 1990.

In the last twenty years Hungarians have embraced their freedom. The country privatized its economy, adopted free-market

principles and joined both the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. In 1999, Hungary acceded to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and formally became a military ally of the United States. In 2004, Hungary acceded to the European Union and for the first six months of this year Hungary held the rotating presidency of the EU Council.

In the past three decades, the United States, home to more than 1.5 million Hungarian-Americans, offered Hungary assistance and expertise as the country established a constitutional, democratic political system, and a free market economy. The United States Government provided expert and financial assistance for the development of modern western institutions in Hungary, including those responsible for national security, law enforcement, free media, environmental regulations, education, and health care.

With the Iron Curtain lifted, the Support for East European Democracy Act provided more than \$136 Million for economic restructuring while the Hungarian-American Enterprise Fund offered loans, equity capital, and technical assistance to promote private-sector development. Most importantly, direct investment from the United States has had a positive impact on the Hungarian economy.

The progress of freedom within Hungary has also allowed Hungary to support freedom around the globe. Hungary played a critical role in implementing the Dayton Peace Accords in the Balkans by allowing its airbase at Tászár to be used by coalition forces transiting the region. This support has continued, in 2008, the Hungarian military took command of a joint battalion in the Balkans that operates in support of NATO missions in the region.

In 2003, Hungary helped the coalition in Iraq by deploying a 300-strong battalion as part of the Multi-National Force, and by allowing the Tászár airbase again to be used in training the Free Iraqi Forces. In Afghanistan, Hungary leads a Provincial Reconstruction Team and has deployed an Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team, which works in partnership with the Ohio National Guard and other United States military personnel. Perhaps most importantly, Hungary's Pápa Airbase is the home to the C-17 operations of the Multinational Strategic Airlift Consortium which supports the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan, as well as various U.S., EU and NATO peacekeeping and humanitarian operations around the world.

The Hungarian people's longstanding commitment to freedom has allowed Hungary to become a key American ally and an important strategic partner in Europe. Our common commitment to freedom is based on our common belief in the values of democracy, rule of law, diversity, tolerance, and social mobility. I call on all Hungarians and Americans to continue to uphold these values as our countries continue to work closely to advance freedom across the globe.

HONORING REAR ADMIRAL  
KENNETH J. BRAITHWAITE, II

**HON. PATRICK MEEHAN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 23, 2011*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, On behalf of myself and my colleagues in the Pennsylvania

delegation (Mrs. SCHWARTZ, Mr. KELLY, Mr. BRADY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. MARINO, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. PITTS, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. CRITZ, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. DENT, Mr. PLATTS), I would like the following statement submitted for the record. I rise today to honor Rear Admiral Kenneth J. Braithwaite, II.

On June 3, 2011, at the United States Naval Academy, the U.S. Navy celebrated the retirement of a long standing flag officer, Rear Admiral Kenneth J. Braithwaite, II. Rear Admiral Braithwaite served his country for over 25 years. Prior to his retirement, the Navy's Vice Chief of Information served as the principal Navy Reserve liaison and advisor to the Chief of Information having responsibility for formulating strategic communications counsel to the leadership of the Department of the Navy. Concurrently, he served as the head of the Navy Reserve (NR) Public Affairs program and as an adjunct advisor to the Commander, Navy Reserve Force.

A 1984 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Braithwaite was designated a naval aviator in April 1986. His first operational assignment was to Patrol Squadron 17, NAS Barbers Point, Hawaii. He flew anti-submarine missions tracking adversary submarines throughout the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean regions.

In April 1988, Braithwaite was selected for redesignation as a public affairs officer (PAO) with his initial tour aboard the aircraft carrier *USS America* (CV-66). He had additional duty as a PAO to Commander Carrier Group 2 and Commander, Striking Force 6th Fleet. He made both a North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Force deployment to the North Atlantic operating above the Arctic Circle and a Mediterranean/Indian Ocean cruise where the battle group responded to tensions in the Persian Gulf. In 1990, he was assigned to the staff of the Commander, Naval Base Philadelphia as chief of Public Affairs.

Braithwaite left active duty in 1993 and immediately resumed naval service in the reserve where he served with numerous commands from Boston to Norfolk. Additionally during this time he earned a master's degree in Government Administration in April 1995 with honors from the University of Pennsylvania.

In October 2001, Braithwaite assumed command of NR Fleet Combat Camera Atlantic at Naval Air Station, Willow Grove, Pa. During this tour the command was tasked with providing support to the Joint Task Force (JTF) Commander, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. In March 2003 Braithwaite deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom with a portion of his command in support of naval operations to capture the port of Umm Qasr. Following this tour he served as commanding officer of Navy Office of Information New York 102.

Most recently Braithwaite served as Commander, Joint Public Affairs Support Element-Reserve (JPASE-R) from October of 2004 to October 2007. In this role he commanded a 50-person joint public affairs expeditionary unit that was forward deployed to support Joint Combatant Commanders in time of conflict. While in command and following the devastating earthquake in Pakistan in 2005, Braithwaite was deployed to Pakistan as part