

The town of Great Barrington is also the center of many historical, commercial and cultural resources, including the Mason Library in Great Barrington and Ramsdell Library in Housatonic, the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center, the Captain Truman Wheeler House, the Dwight-Henderson House, and the famed Newsboy Statue. With its scenic natural resources, Great Barrington has become the summer vacation destination of thousands and continues to be a vibrant and charming community.

On the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the town of Great Barrington, Massachusetts, I congratulate its citizens and praise their dedication and perseverance throughout the town's history. I look forward with enthusiastic support as we continue to work together for a prosperous future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 499 on July 6, 2011, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

ON THE OCCASION OF THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL METRO DETROIT YOUTH DAY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise today to recognize the organizers, supporters and participants of the twenty-ninth annual Metro Detroit Youth Day.

While Metro Detroit Youth Day has many leaders, organizers, participants and supporters which make it possible, one man, Mr. Ed Deeb, stands at the foundation of this great youth empowering event. When asked by the Mayor of Detroit to rise to the challenge of overcoming divisions to create a stronger community, Ed answered, rallying the business community to work with Detroit youth to overcome the divide between business and youth. From this work, Youth Day was born as an event which calmed tensions through dialogue between Detroit business owners and the youth. Under Ed's leadership as chairman and coordinator of Youth Day, it has continued to grow and evolve into an event focused on nurturing the great potential of our youth in the City of Detroit.

Part of Youth Days' evolution included expanding its impact on participants, supporters and volunteers. As part of this expansion, Youth Day began to focus on providing youth with guidance, mentoring, substance abuse prevention and motivational activities designed to allow them to channel their creativity and ideas into positive outcomes. As part of this empowerment, Youth Day began awarding participants with scholarships for youth that displayed outstanding citizenship, leadership and service. With over seven hundred scholarships awarded since 1991, Youth Day has un-

doubtedly provided many Metro Detroit young adults with the opportunity to pursue higher education and more fully realize their potential.

The success of Ed's vision speaks for itself, with Youth Day having become a tradition for the Metro Detroit community. Since its inception so many years ago, Youth Day has grown from twelve hundred participants to over thirty-seven thousand annually, with more than seven hundred thousand youth participants throughout its history. Of equal importance are the more than fifteen hundred annual volunteers who come from over six hundred community organizations and businesses who supervise sports clinics, games, contests and many other activities that are a part of this daylong event. For its impact, Youth Day has been awarded numerous accolades including a Point of Light award from President George H.W. Bush and the Michigan Governor's award for Physical Fitness.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the twenty-ninth annual Metro Detroit Youth Day and recognizing the organizers, supporters, volunteers and participants for working together to build a stronger future for Michigan youth in Metro Detroit.

IN HONOR OF ANNE FEENEY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Anne Feeny on the occasion of her 60th birthday. Anne is an exceptional person and a longtime political activist and musician. She has been called a "union maid and hell raiser" and has actively fought for social justice over the past four decades.

Anne was born in Charleroi, Pennsylvania on July 1, 1951. From an early age Anne's two great passions were politics and music. She was greatly influenced by the Vietnam War, the Civil Rights Movement, and her grandfather, William P. Feeny, a miners' organizer and violinist.

Anne graduated from Fontbonne Academy in 1968. She spent the next year saving money until she had enough to purchase a Martin D-28 guitar in 1969. Anne played this guitar for over forty years at political rallies and festivals around the world until she recently retired it from use.

By 1972 Anne had co-founded the Pittsburgh Action Against Rape, which still provides services to rape victims in the Pittsburgh area. She graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1974 and the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 1978. She worked as a trial attorney for twelve years and served as president of the Pittsburgh Musicians' Union from 1997–1998. To date, Anne is the only woman elected to this prestigious position. Her political activism continues to this day. Currently, Anne is a member of the Industrial Workers of the World and the American Federation of Musicians.

Since 1991, Anne has toured around the world playing her music and participating in labor and political rallies. She has released several albums and her music has been covered by the band Peter, Paul, and Mary. Anne is a proud mother of two, a gifted musician, and a renowned political activist.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in extending warm wishes to Anne Feeny on her 60th birthday.

DEPARTMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2219) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, I urge Members to support an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2012 Department of Defense Appropriations Act (H.R. 2219) to restore funding for the Gulf War Illness Research Program (GWIRP) of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP).

The FY2012 Defense Appropriations bill, as passed by the Committee, cut many CDMRP programs by 20%. The amendment offered would restore \$3.6 million to the GWIRP, bringing funding for the program back to FY2008 levels.

This program has made dramatic progress during the past year and deserves additional funding.

In a landmark Gulf War and Health report, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) has recognized that the chronic multi-symptom illness affecting 250,000 Gulf War veterans is a serious disease—not caused by psychiatric illness—that also affects other U.S. military forces, and called for a major national research effort to identify treatments. The scientific community has responded with a dramatic increase in the quality and quantity of proposals submitted to GWIRP. Most encouraging, GWIRP-funded researchers have completed the first successful pilot study of a medication to treat one of the major symptoms of Gulf War illness.

This effective small program demonstrably merits continuation and expansion, even in a time of fiscal austerity. As stated by the Institute of Medicine Chair, Dr. Stephen Hauser, it is "vital to the health and effectiveness of current and future military forces, in addition to Gulf War veterans."

The GWIRP is the only national program studying this issue. It is a competitive peer-reviewed program open to any doctor or scientist on a competitive basis. By contrast, Veterans Affairs (VA) research programs are only open to VA doctors, few of whom have expertise in chronic multi-symptom illness. To effectively address a difficult and specialized problem like this, it is necessary to enlist the entire medical scientific community.

Most importantly, it is working. GWIRP-funded researchers at the University of California, San Diego, will reported in June on the first successful medication treatment study in the history of Gulf War illness research. The study showed that the supplement CoQ10 produced significant improvement in one of the most serious symptoms of Gulf War illness, fatigue with exertion. It is not a cure, and the study needs to be replicated in a larger group, but the result is extremely encouraging.

At long last, the scientific community has recognized the severity and scope of this problem and is engaged in its solution. Congress has created this superb program, which is succeeding where others have failed. Congress must provide the necessary resources to continue this progress.

Additional funding would be used for pilot studies of promising treatments, for clinical trials of treatments shown effective in earlier pilot studies, and for the execution of collaborative research plans developed by consortiums of scientists funded in prior years.

As you know, our nation owes a sacred debt to the men and women who willingly serve and sacrifice while wearing our country's uniform. At this critical time in researching and understanding Gulf War illness, it is vital that bipartisan leadership points out the accomplishments of this small program to our colleagues, to ensure that it survives the current legislative session and its benefits are not lost to veterans of the Gulf War and future wars.

I urge my colleagues to support this important amendment to ensure the continuation of the Gulf War Illness Research Program.

BIRTHDAY OF IRV PICKLER

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the life of Irv Pickler, and wish him the best in his 90th year of life. Irv has demonstrated an exceptional dedication to public service in the community, and has made a lasting effect on all the people he has touched.

After graduating from California State University, Los Angeles, with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Irv joined the United States Army and later transferred to the United States Air Force. In England, he flew 35 missions into France and Germany as a bombardier-navigator. After 4 years of service, he returned to Los Angeles to be with his wife and young children.

Eventually settling in Southern California, Irv opened his own printing company, "Printing Dimensions," in Orange County. Today, nearly 55 years later, Irv works to bring people together to accomplish client objectives with his company, "Pickler and Associates." Irv has demonstrated a firm commitment to community involvement. As a member of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Anaheim, he was twice named "Kiwanian of the Year." In 1993, he was elected as a Distinguished Lieutenant Governor of the club. Irv has also served 25 years on the Cypress College Foundation Board of Directors.

In the 1970s, Irv was appointed to the Cemetery Commission in Anaheim, and to the Orange County Planning Commission, on which he served one term as a chairman. In 1982, Irv was elected to the Anaheim City Council, serving a total of 12 years, including 3 times as Mayor pro-tem. He consolidated half a dozen Orange County transportation agencies into the Orange County Transportation Authority, which produced gains in efficiency, and increased accountability. When California introduced its first cellular solar-powered callbox system, Irv was behind it. He negotiated the

agreement with the California Department of Transportation and the California Private Transportation Corporation to construct the nation's first fully-automated, congestion priced toll road, State Route 91. Irv laid the groundwork for the purchase of right-of-way and widening of Interstate 5, which resulted in the largest public works project in Orange County in over a generation. He also helped pass Measure M, the successful sales tax program that invested in voter-approved transportation projects. It's no question that he demonstrated exceptional leadership during his tenure as Vice President of the Orange County Transportation Authority.

Irv currently serves as a member of the Orange County Water District Board of Directors. He has previously served as Water Issues Committee Chairman and on the Administration/Finance Committee, Investment Committee, External Communications Task Team, and Santa Ana Water Project Authority. During his tenure on the Water District Board of Directors, Irv played a key role in the development of the revolutionary Groundwater Replenishment System, a project that has been recognized with numerous national and international awards.

Irv has served as chairman of the Orange County Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Advisory Committee; president of Orange County Division of the League of California Cities, and member the Anaheim Union High School District Board of Trustees, Anaheim's Parks and Recreation Commission, the Anaheim Public Library Board, the Transportation Corridor Agencies, Southern California Regional Rail Authority, and the Southern California Air Quality Management District Inter-Agency Implementation Company.

Other government agencies with which Irv has worked include the Los Angeles/San Diego Rail Corridor Committee, Orange County Cities Airport Authority, Southern California Association of Governments, Foothill/Eastern Transportation Corridor Agency, and Metrolink Joint Committee, and he also supports Acacia Adult Day Care, Alzheimer's Foundation, the Anaheim Family YMCA, the Anaheim Boys and Girls Clubs, and Anaheim Arts Council.

It is clear that Irv Pickler has maintained a firm devotion to public service throughout his life. As he embarks upon his 90th year, I would like to recognize his achievements and thank him for his dedication.

HONORING MR. J.D. LINDSEY

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring Mr. J.D. Lindsey of Tift County, GA. Mr. Lindsey is a U.S. Marine and a decorated World War II Veteran. He received the Purple Heart for wounds suffered while serving our Nation on active duty. Since his discharge from the Marine Corps, he has worked tirelessly for veterans' causes and issues. He was responsible for obtaining the DAV van that is used to transport veterans to their medical appointments at the VAMC facility in Dublin, GA each week. He uses his personal funds to see that the van continues to run each week without

interruption. When necessary, he has also used his personal vehicle to ensure that every veteran in need makes it to his or her appointments. He has unselfishly given of his time and money to not only serve our Nation while on active duty, but has remained committed to caring for his fellow veterans and their families all over the Tift area. Any number of citizens of Tifton have benefited greatly from his kindness and benevolence.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me today in honoring Mr. J.D. Lindsey for his unwavering commitment and service to our country and our community.

REAFFIRMING COMMITMENT TO NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to express my strong support for H. Res. 268, reaffirming America's support for direct Palestinian-Israeli negotiations as the best means to settle the conflict and the only path to statehood for the Palestinians.

A Palestinian state created in the middle of this conflict would be a state created to make war.

Nothing would be more dangerous or more unworkable than for the Palestinians to gain the status of statehood without at the same time taking on the duties of a responsible state—namely, a commitment to peace with its neighbors and basic rights for all of its citizens.

The United Nations—a body established as a place of peace—should not create a state that is committed to destroying its neighbor. And, until the Palestinians agree to recognize Israel's right to exist and disarm the terrorists, there is no chance that a Palestinian state would be committed to peaceful co-existence with its neighbor.

This resolution is a simple, basic, common-sense restatement of the clear fact that the dispute between the Palestinians and the Israelis cannot be resolved unilaterally; it cannot be resolved by UN fiat; it cannot be resolved by outside forces; it cannot be resolved if the Palestinians refuse to recognize Israel as a Jewish state; it cannot be resolved if Palestinians refuse to forswear terrorism against Israel and take actions to dismantle their terrorist infrastructure; it cannot be resolved if the Palestinians continue to set preconditions for coming to the bargaining table; and, it cannot be resolved unless all members of the Palestinian unity government agree to abide by previous agreements with the United States and Israel.

This conflict can only be resolved by both parties sitting down at a table and hammering out an agreement on the basic issues that divide them.

The Palestinians must understand that they will only have a state once they make peace with Israel.

I hope the United States would make clear its intention to veto any unilateral declaration of statehood at the United Nations and to penalize the Palestinians if they are foolhardy