

was the founding of the Denton County African American Museum. Through her astute leadership and cooperative fundraising efforts, she enabled the restoration of the county's museums and saved taxpayers thousands of dollars. In addition to her work with the museums, she has also helped complete a series of historical photography books that commemorate Denton County, and she hopes these achievements will encourage others to remember the county's origins and history.

Mrs. Caraway has left a lasting legacy in Denton County through her work. I thank Mrs. Caraway for her service and am proud to represent her in Congress.

HONORING MS. JEANNE KUCEY

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jeanne Kucey on her recent election to the Board of Directors at the National Association of Federal Credit Unions, NAFCU.

Ms. Kucey has served as President and CEO of JetStream Federal Credit Union since 2009. Responsible for operations in both Miami Dade County and Puerto Rico, her extensive experience in the financial services arena, including her time with credit unions in Atlanta, Georgia and San Diego, California, will be a tremendous asset to the NAFCU board.

Not only does Ms. Kucey bring a wealth of financial management knowledge to the table, she exemplifies the community based nature of credit unions through her work with the "Marlene Erica Empowering Workshops" which provides life skills and mentoring to local disadvantaged women. Ms. Kucey is also an active member of the Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Kucey is a welcomed addition to the NAFCU board and will have the opportunity to make an immediate impact in her new role as recent regulatory reforms have created a particularly challenging time in the credit union community.

It is because of the hard work and dedication of Jeanne and others like her that the credit union community has been able to continue to serve its members during the tough economic times our country continues to experience.

I wish Ms. Kucey the best of luck in her new role as a member of the NAFCU Board of Directors. I look forward to working with her in this capacity and ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating Jeanne on this achievement.

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. 497 on July 6, 2011, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

BELARUS DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 6, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 515, the Belarus Democracy Reauthorization Act of 2011, which will support human rights in Belarus by encouraging the free expression of ideas among pro-democracy activists.

I would like to commend Mr. SMITH, the gentleman from New Jersey, for sponsoring this legislation and the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN and Mr. BERMAN, for their efforts in bringing this legislation to the floor.

Madam Speaker, Belarusians have the same right to self-government and free speech as their neighbors and through the reauthorization of assistance to their civil society, H.R. 515 will help them regain rights which have been repressed by the ruling regime.

Since he was elected as his country's first president in 1994, Aleksandr Lukashenko has steadily consolidated his power, reversing promising reforms put in place following the dissolution of the Soviet Union. The CIA World Factbook describes Belarus as "a republic in name, although in fact a dictatorship." Former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice called it "the last true remaining dictatorship in the heart of Europe."

Belarus has been criticized for its dismal human rights record by the U.N. Security Council, the U.S. State Department, the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, the Council of Europe, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the European Council, the European Parliament, the European Commission, and the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.

As a result of its human rights violations and a steady record of state-sponsored political repression, Belarus is subject to numerous sanctions from both the United States and the European Union. In 2004, Congress unanimously passed the Belarus Democracy Act, which authorizes assistance for political parties, non-governmental organizations, and independent media toward democratic and humanitarian reforms.

This legislation affirms that it remains in the interest of our country that Belarus returns to its rightful place among its fellow European democracies. Unfortunately, recent events validate its current designation as a rogue state. The White House released the following statement regarding its last Presidential election which saw widespread violence and voting irregularities:

The flawed December 2010 Presidential election in Belarus and its aftermath—the harsh violence against peaceful demonstrators; the continuing detention, prosecution, and imprisonment of opposition Presidential candidates and others; and the continuing repression of independent media and civil society activists—all show that the Government of Belams has taken steps backward in the development of democratic governance and respect for human rights.

Madam Speaker, the focus of H.R. 515 is on the Government of Belarus, not its people.

Many of my constituents and their families came to this country fleeing repression from totalitarian regimes. Hearing their stories, I am constantly reminded that a government which respects human rights, free speech, independent courts, and transparent elections is essential to personal liberty. As we pursue sanctions against the government of Belarus, we must provide support to the pro-democracy movement.

With H.R. 515, we will send a message that governing through fear, censorship, and the threat of violence has no place in a legitimate republic. As we mark the 235th birthday of the United States and the rights we enjoy, let us encourage those who wish to apply our principles to their own governments.

With this legislation, we support the political activists, the independent journalists, and the civil society leaders who risk so much for the good of Belarus.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 515.

CONGRATULATING CORPORAL BURT RICHARDS

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Corporal Burt Richards for being awarded the American Red Cross Community Courage Award for his work in educating the youth of today about the service of veterans.

Corporal Richards and the local chapter of the Jewish War Veterans spearheaded the campaign to close Palm Beach County schools in remembrance of Veteran's Day. While they were not successful in their efforts to close schools, they were successful in creating a new lecture series called "The Veteran Speaks," which has ensured that students in Palm Beach County are educated about our American war veterans.

I would like to congratulate Corporal Richards and the American Red Cross for the Palm Beach-Treasure Coast region for their great work on behalf of veterans and for the award. It is an honor having Corporal Richards as a constituent, and I look forward to a continued partnership in educating south Florida's youth about our veterans.

HONORING EULESS CITY SECRETARY SUSAN CRIM FOR MORE THAN 21 YEARS AS A DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it my distinct pleasure to rise today to recognize Mrs. Susan Crim, a dedicated public servant who is retiring after serving more than 21 years as City Secretary for the City of Euless, TX.

Mrs. Crim was born in Woodward, OK, and is a graduate of Northwestern State University in Alva, OK, where she obtained an associates degree in applied science. She is also a graduate of the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification program, where she attained her Texas

Registered Municipal Clerks Certification in January 1991. In 1996 and 2001, she served as a trustee for the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program. Mrs. Crim is also a member of the North Texas Municipal Clerks Association, where she served as president from 1996–1997.

Mrs. Crim has a distinguished work history within the public and private sectors. In 1979, Susan was part owner and operator of Circle C Drilling Company. Following her time at Circle C, she took a position as executive assistant at Dresser Atlas. Mrs. Crim then served as office manager at Pecan Grove Baptist Church and School from 1983–1987. In June 1987, Mrs. Crim began her career as City Secretary with the city of Rosenberg, TX, where she served from 1987–1990.

In 1990, Mrs. Crim was hired as City Secretary of Euless. As City Secretary, Mrs. Crim recorded and maintained the minutes at city council meetings, managed the official Euless City public records, organized local elections and held the responsibility as keeper of the "Seal of the City." As a fundamental part of the Euless city government, Mrs. Crim has tirelessly served multiple mayors, council members and various city departments in Euless.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mrs. Crim for her service to the city of Euless. Her experience and expertise will be sorely missed. I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Susan Crim on a tremendous career as well as wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

CHICKASAW WARRIOR STATUE DEDICATION

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an important milestone for a prestigious institution of higher learning in eastern Oklahoma. Bacone College, the oldest college or university in Oklahoma, recently dedicated the statue "Chickasaw Warrior" at its Founders' Day ceremony. This statue is a gift from its artist, Enoch Kelly Haney, and the Chickasaw Nation. Its dedication is a very special moment for this institution. Standing proudly at the center of campus, this tall, imposing statue depicts a battle-ready Native American man clenching arrows gazing into the distance.

In the six months this statue has been on campus, it has become symbolic of the common spirit found everywhere at Bacone. Founded in 1880 by Professor Almon C. Bacone in Muskogee, Oklahoma, Bacone College has been educating students of all backgrounds for the past 131 years. With more than two dozen Native American tribes represented in Bacone College's diverse student body, Bacone is known for preparing its students for success and preserving their cultural heritage. This statue aptly represents Bacone's long-standing relationship with the Native American community.

This impressive statue was sculpted by Enoch Kelly Haney. A 1962 graduate of Bacone College, Haney has become an internationally renowned artist and sculptor. His work spans four decades and his statue, The

Guardian, stands proudly atop the Oklahoma State Capitol. In addition to his contributions to the field of art, Haney served in the Oklahoma legislature and in 2005 was elected Principal Chief of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. I would like to honor him for his time and effort in creating this generous gift to Bacone College and for his continuing service to the citizens of the state of Oklahoma.

Finally, I want to commend the Chickasaw Nation for donating this impressive statue to the college. Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby described this occasion perfectly when he said this statue reflects the "unconquerable" nature of the Chickasaw people and their unwavering determination to persevere. Now this statue will stand as a testament to their spirit, and there is no doubt this extraordinary gift will serve as an icon for Bacone College's future.

In these times of limited federal funding for higher education, it is important for the United States Congress to remember the local and regional universities that educate so many of our citizens, thereby empowering them to improve the future of their families and communities. Bacone College is a tremendous asset to eastern Oklahoma, and I recognize the Chickasaw Nation for their contribution to this important institution of higher learning.

H.R. 2112, AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS BILL

HON. KRISTI L. NOEM

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mrs. NOEM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2112, the Agriculture Appropriations bill. While agriculture, along with every other industry must take some reductions to get our spending under control, it should not be in a disproportionate manner. This bill would take a nearly 14 percent cut in discretionary funding compared to last year while other appropriations bills thus far have seen cuts less than 3 percent. I could not vote in favor of this bill because I did not feel that it recognized the importance that agriculture plays in our nation's economy or take into account the impact this would have on farmers. While it is important to reduce the deficit, we should do it in a responsible manner and not disproportionately on the backs of the farmers who are supplying our nation's, and much of the world's, food supply.

There were many provisions in the bill that I supported, but I felt the bill sent the wrong overall message about the importance of agriculture policy. As South Dakota's lone Representative, I could not in good conscience vote for a bill that unfairly singled out South Dakota's number one industry.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF GREG COOPER

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, on May 26, 2011, Greg Cooper lost

his battle with cancer at his home in Tustin, Orange County, California.

Born on June 23, 1945, Greg Cooper proudly served as a United States Marine Corps Sergeant from 1963 to 1967. His commendable service included a tour of duty near the city of DaNang, in the Republic of Vietnam.

Upon his departure with the Marines, Greg worked with the Santa Ana Police Department where he held several high-profile management and tactical unit positions. Among these positions, Greg was the SWAT Commander for 10 years and was active in the original development and transition from traditional to community oriented policing (COP). This COP policing model has been successfully duplicated across the United States for decades.

While serving as a police officer with the Santa Ana Police Department, Greg earned a Police Science Degree from Santa Ana College, a Bachelors degree from California State University-Fullerton and a Masters degree from the University of Southern California.

Leaving the Santa Ana Police Department in 1992, Greg was appointed Chief of Police in Sanger, California. In 1996 he relocated to Washington, DC after accepting a position with the Department of Justice (DOJ) "COPS" Program. At the DOJ, Greg would be the Assistant Director, responsible for monitoring operations for more than 30,000 Federal grants to more than 13,000 State and local law enforcement agencies.

In 2002, Greg joined the newly formed Department of Homeland Security as FEMA's Director of Security/Chief Security Officer. He would later retire from this position in 2008. At FEMA, Greg had oversight for all FEMA facilities, disaster operations, information security, personnel security and all national security clearances.

Since retiring from government service, Greg, a highly regarded and well-known expert in several specialty fields, continued to serve as a consultant to numerous law enforcement agencies across the nation.

A grateful nation mourns the loss of a loyal friend, a respected leader and a dedicated public servant.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote number 496 on July 6, 2011, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, it is time to tell the story of all of the American people. Earlier this week we celebrated of our nation's 235th birthday. Here in Washington hundreds of thousands of people visited the National Mall, watched fireworks, took pictures of the monuments, and toured our national museums. The