

that we reflect on the many accomplishments of Local 537 members and with appreciation that we commend the organization for its unparalleled service to our great state.

The history of Local 537 is a lesson in perseverance. The Pipefitters have seen decades of prosperity followed by years of declining job opportunities. In response, Local 537 members have become more versatile. They have borne witness not only to the advancements in the technology and materials on which their trade is dependent, but also to the evolution of workers' rights and labor unions. When hard times have fallen, the Pipefitters found work across the continent at the Trans-Alaskan pipeline, across borders to the oil fields of Canada and across state lines to construction jobs in New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Rhode Island—always to return when new opportunities arose at home.

With a membership of over 2,600, the jurisdiction of Local 537 covers Essex, Middlesex, Norfolk, and Suffolk counties and extends into Plymouth and Worcester counties. From Boston to Lowell and Salem to Quincy, the work of Local 537 is visible within the interiors of the very landmarks that make our state and cities unique and recognizable. They have left their mark on the resident halls and academic facilities of Harvard University, Boston College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Boston University; the piping systems in the Deer Island Water Treatment Plant and Weymouth Power Plant; and beneath the bleachers of the stadiums and arenas that house New England's proud sports teams.

Today, Local 537 retains the competitive edge and adaptive spirit of the original plumbers, gas fitters and steam fitters who first organized themselves over a century ago. The Pipefitters are a true Massachusetts institution and we thank the organization for its numerous contributions to the Commonwealth.

CONGRATULATING JULIE YOUNG, RECIPIENT OF THE 2011 HAROLD W. McGRAW, JR. PRIZE IN EDUCATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to recognize Ms. Julie Young upon receiving the 2011 Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education. Ms. Young is highly regarded for her hard work and dedication to improving education in this country and for helping to create a smarter, better educated world.

Ms. Young is President and CEO of the nation's largest and most influential virtual program: Florida Virtual School. Her journey began with a love for teaching and a dedication to learning that dates back to childhood. Today, she is passionate about the positive impact that Florida Virtual School has on thousands of families. I have been fortunate to work with Ms. Young as the Florida Virtual School has grown from 77 students in 1997 to its current enrollment of over 130,000 K-12 students.

Ms. Young's interest in combining technology and learning began when she served

as a teacher trainer for a partnership between her school district and IBM. That experience also ignited her with the vision to apply proven business principles to education. She interacts regularly with business, education, and policy leaders across the nation to shape the future of learning, and she sees Florida Virtual School playing a significant role.

Ms. Young is also excited about the opportunities online education and blended learning models have provided for the profession. These innovations help to retain great teachers who might have otherwise left the field. She takes particular pleasure in identifying and growing leaders.

In addition to directing the work of 1,500 employees, Ms. Young is a frequent national speaker. She serves on the Board of the United States Distance Learning Association, International Association for K-12 Online Learning, Florida Learning Alliance, Florida TaxWatch Center for Educational Performance and Accountability, Florida Sterling Council Board of Directors, K-12 Blackboard Advisory Council Member, and Microsoft K-12 Advisory Council Member Assistant. She was also recognized by Technology & Learning Magazine as one of the Top 30 influencers in Ed Tech, along with Bill Gates and Steve Jobs. In 2003, she was inducted into the United States Distance Learning Association "Hall of Fame."

On behalf of the citizens of Florida's 8th Congressional District, I congratulate and applaud Ms. Young for her work. She is most deserving of the 2011 Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education as she inspires others to follow in her footsteps.

HONORING ALICE FINCH LEE ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join with all Alabamians in sending warm personal congratulations to a beloved member of our community, Miss Alice Finch Lee, who celebrates her 100th birthday on Sunday, September 11, 2011. "Miss Alice's" compassion for others is matched only by her determination for justice. Her life-long dedication to civility and fairness is a credit to our state.

Monroeville, Alabama not only wears the crown of literary capital of our state with its ties to such giants of letters as Truman Capote and Nelle Harper Lee, among others, but it is also home to a one-of-a-kind legal lion.

Miss Alice grew up in a tight-knit family accustomed to making a difference. Her father, the late A.C. Lee, was a respected businessman and attorney. He owned the local newspaper, The Monroe Journal, while also practicing law. His inscrutable reputation for fairness is believed to have inspired Miss Alice's younger sister, Nelle, in crafting the character Atticus Finch in her world famous novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Miss Alice was a quick study, joining her father at the age of 18 in running the newspaper. It wasn't long before she also acquired an interest in law. Her decision to attend law

school, a move strongly supported by her father, was a bold one considering women were not often seen in the legal profession during the 1930's and 40's. Undeterred, she graduated from the Birmingham School of Law and passed Alabama Bar in 1943.

It was Monroeville's good fortune that Miss Alice came back home and partnered with her father in practicing law in her hometown. Joining what is now considered to be one of the oldest law firms in Alabama, Barnett, Bugg, Lee & Carter, Miss Alice made a name for herself as a calm but reliable voice for equality and an advocate for the disadvantaged. Never seeking attention or accolade, she is best known for her uncommon generosity. A recent newspaper profile accordingly dubbed Miss Alice as "Atticus Finch in a skirt."

At the tender young age of 100, Miss Alice still works in her Monroeville law office attending to her clients' needs on a daily basis and giving each the full measure of her attention. When I personally looked in on her last week she was busy reviewing a contract and graciously gave me a few minutes to wish her a happy birthday.

She has been called a trailblazer, a role model and an advocate for what is right. In South Alabama, we are also proud to call her our friend. Miss Alice, on your 100th birthday, we wish you much joy and happiness, with a heartfelt prayer for many more to come.

IN CELEBRATION OF CONSTITUTION WEEK

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Constitution Week.

Founded in 1890, the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is a volunteer women's service organization devoted to promoting patriotism, preserving history, and educating future generations. In 1955, DAR petitioned Congress to devote the week of September 17th–23rd for the observance of Constitution Week and to commemorate the signing of the Constitution on September 17, 1787. President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed this resolution into law the following year. This year marks the 224th anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution.

The Constitution is much more than a historic document; it serves as a guide for our country and represents our commitment to the principles of freedom, liberty, and the unalienable rights of every American. It is woven into the very fabric of our great Nation—elected officials take oaths to support and defend it; citizens are free because of it; and our government design and functions exist because of it. Constitution Week provides us with a moment to pause and reflect upon our country's founding and renew our duty to protect and defend the Constitution.

I am thankful for DAR's efforts to promoting Constitution Week and raising awareness about the importance of our Constitution and our Nation's rich history. Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me celebrating Constitution Week.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is \$14,685,550,385,913.19.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$4,047,124,639,619.39 since then. This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

EULOGY AT THE MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO JAMES T. MOLLOY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD a eulogy I delivered for the memorial tribute and ceremony of James T. Molloy, who served as the Doorkeeper of the House of Representatives.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO JAMES T. MOLLOY

Roseann, Amy, members of the Molloy, Straub and Hayden families. Honorable Members of Congress, past and present, distinguished guests and friends of Jim Molloy. To Congressman Jim Stanton, thank you for many years' of friendship to Jim Molloy and organizing this celebration of his life.

Jim Molloy served as Doorkeeper of the House of Representatives for more than two decades. He served under four House Speakers, five U.S. Presidents and thousands of Members of Congress. He introduced and hosted Heads of State, foreign dignitaries and organized more than 71 joint sessions of Congress.

In this, the nation's capitol, a city that Jim Molloy loved and called his second home for more than 40 years, not a more decent, giving and gentle man lived or could be found. He was referred to in many ways here: The Honorable Doorkeeper, James T. Molloy, J.T. Molloy and, as his great friend Speaker Tip O'Neill was often heard saying in a slightly agitated voice, "Molloy get in here!"

There was the time that the Dalai Lama came to Congress to have a personal audience with Speaker O'Neill. The Speaker was delayed and Jim was dispatched to entertain His Holiness until the Speaker arrived. Jim nervously tried to make conversation but the Dalai Lama sat silently, smiling. After a couple of minutes of awkward silence, the Dalai Lama pointed to Jim's wrist and commented on the beautiful watch Jim was wearing. Jim removed the watch and tried to give it to the him. The Dalai Lama humbly declined. Jim persevered insisting that he take the watch as a gift. Holding the watch closer to the Dalai Lama, Jim said it was a cheap credit union watch that only cost \$14, please take it. At that moment, the Speaker walked in the room and said to an aide, "I leave Molloy with the Dalai Lama for 5 minutes and he's begging the man to buy his watch."

While it is his love of the institution and that bellowing voice from the back of the House Chamber to announce the arrival of the President of the United States that we

remember. It is his larger than life personality, generous spirit, self-deprecating humor and loyalty to his beloved South Buffalo that we will miss.

Jim Molloy was a favorite son of South Buffalo. He was the middle child of Matthew and Catherine Molloy. And along with them and his two sisters, Kathy and Janet, grew up at Bloomfield Avenue in Holy Family Parish. Jim was a Buffalo city school teacher, he worked as a grain scooper along the waterfront, was a second generation Buffalo firefighter and served as 2nd Zone democratic chairman at the age of 27, the youngest zone chairman in New York State.

As Doorkeeper he administered an annual budget of more than \$9 million and supervised more than 400 employees. Jim served as Chairman of the Congressional Federal Credit Union for 36 years. He recruited the best young minds from the nation's most prestigious educational institutions to start their careers right here in the nation's capital, among them: Holy Family and St. Theresa's grammar schools and South Park, Mount Mercy and Bishop Timon High schools. If you came from these schools and your father was a Buffalo Firefighter and had a second front as a grain scooper you received even more special attention and consideration. Someone once said: you know Jim, next to Mercy Hospital on Abbott Road, you might just be the largest employer of South Buffalo people. To which Jim responded, "How many people work at Mercy!"

Jim Molloy's door was never reserved exclusively for the high and mighty, for Kings and Queens. It was a door open to all, through which people of every walk of life could enter the greatest democratic institution, in the greatest nation, in the only world we know. Yes Jim Molloy played gracious host to Presidents and world leaders because he was required to. But he played host to the sons and daughters of union bricklayers and city firemen because he could and wanted to.

I was one of those kids. My Dad was a union bricklayer and local politician. He and Jim grew up on Bloomfield Avenue, my Dad at 74, Jim at 106. They attended Holy Family grammar school together and were steeped in the deep tradition of South Buffalo politics. My dad died of Alzheimer's three years ago. It's a tough disease whose origins are unknown but whose end is certain. But one of the last things my Dad worked for and remembered fully was watching his son sworn in as a Member of the United States Congress. I tell you this because it's really not my story. It's his and his family's and it's the story of my community, and it's Jim Molloy's as well. And the simple idea that one generation makes sacrifices to make way, to open doors, if you will, for the next.

Jim Molloy was with us that day and I was honored to have him celebrating that achievement with my family and friends. Someone there commented that I was the first South Buffalo representative in Congress. I really wasn't though. Jim Molloy will always be the first and greatest Congressional representative Buffalo ever had, and it is through the door that he kept that that opportunity was possible for someone else.

After 34 doorkeepers of the House of Representatives and a tradition dating back to 1789, the new Speaker in 1994 was forced to abolish the position of doorkeeper. I say forced because he knew Jim Molloy could never be replaced.

In a 2005 interview with Tim Russet for NPR's oral history project, Story Corps, Tim and Jim shared recollections of childhood memories in South Buffalo. Tim concluded the interview by saying that the best way to describe Jim was as a good man, who knew everybody, and who was always proud of tak-

ing care of his own. That is Jim Molloy's legacy.

That is how he lived his life and that life, in all its goodness and graciousness, has made all of us better.

That is how Jim's friends in Washington, South Buffalo, and across the nation will remember him: as a good man, who knew everybody, and who was always proud of taking care of his own. So today we express gratitude for many things. I give thanks to you and for the opportunity and Honor to be here this morning.

We give thanks to Jim Molloy for the life that he lived, and friendship that he gave, and only for the people of the country and the community that he loved. And finally we give thanks for a good and generous nation. A good and generous nation that makes Jim Molloy's and all of our stories possible.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 9/11 ATTACKS

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, on this 10th anniversary of the attacks on our country on September 11, 2001, I simply want to pay tribute to the American people, and to our country, and what it stands for: our enduring commitment to the freedoms we cherish, to liberty and democracy, and to our system of government and our way of life.

The attacks on 9/11 against the World Trade Center in New York, the Pentagon here in Washington, and over the skies of Pennsylvania, took nearly 3,000 lives. It was the worst attack against the homeland since Pearl Harbor, and a higher death toll was inflicted on 9/11 than even on that date in 1941 "that will live in infamy," as Franklin Roosevelt memorialized for the nation.

On this 9/11, our sole responsibilities are the simple, sacred acts of remembrance and rededication: remembrance of those whose lives were taken, and rededication to our country and its future.

Those who perished will never be forgotten; their names are called out every year. And if anything, American patriotism is stronger than ever.

The 9/11 attacks were directed at our freedoms, our way of life, and modern civilization itself. It was an assault against American leadership in the world, against the ideals that have guided us since the founding of the Republic, and against the rule of law and any sense of morality.

But the fact is that those responsible for 9/11 could never—and will never—defeat the United States of America. No act of terrorism can overcome the spirit of the American people and our pursuit of our destiny.

Our resolve from that terrible day was clear: to pursue and defeat those who perpetrated this evil, and to make sure they can never again threaten the United States of America and those who live here.

As we commemorate the tenth anniversary of 9/11, we must note that the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq have now lasted longer than the Civil War and World War II combined. We have suffered substantial casualties—over 6,300 dead and 35,000 injured in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2001. The financial cost of the