

and busiest burn center in the country. New York Presbyterian is also the first hospital to establish special centers and programs for women's health.

The most important reason for the success of New York Presbyterian Hospital's blood drive is the strong support of senior officials at the hospital. From the lowest clerk to Dr. Pardes himself, blood donation is part of the culture at New York Presbyterian Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the New York Blood Center, New York Presbyterian Hospital, Dr. Herbert Pardes and Dr. Christopher Hillyer for their enormous contributions to New York's health care system. Their collaboration has saved innumerable lives. New York Presbyterian Hospital and the New York Blood Center serve as an example of our nation's health care system at its best.

#### FALL RIVER FIRE CHIEF FORD DOCUMENTS IMPORTANCE OF FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

#### HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 6, 2011*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, one of the most important things this Congress should be doing in 2011 is to continue the assistance we have provided to local communities, hard hit by a recession that they had no part in bringing about, so that they can maintain the essential public services necessary for the safety of their citizens.

Earlier this week, I received a letter from the Fire Chief of the City of Fall River, Paul Ford, which explains exactly how important this is. I ask that Chief Ford's eloquent, persuasive letter, noting the lifesaving role played by the SAFER grant, be inserted here, and I hope that our colleagues will be instructed by it.

FIRE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS,  
OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF,  
Fall River, MA, December 23, 2010.  
Congressman BARNEY FRANK,  
558 Pleasant Street #309, New Bedford, MA

DEAR CONGRESSMAN FRANK: As you are aware, the Fall River Fire Department has received a SAFER award which has allowed us to rehire laid-off firefighters and hire 46 new firefighters, bringing our compliment up to 2008 levels. This return of staffing levels has allowed us to reopen Engine 6, Engine 9, and Heavy Rescue 1.

The previously laid-off firefighters were assigned to fire companies on September 26, 2010, the start of the SAFER grant performance period. The new firefighters graduated from our training academy on December 17, 2010 and were assigned to individual fire companies on December 19, 2010.

Let me take this opportunity to share with you the following story to illustrate how the SAFER grant has had an immediate impact on protecting property and saving lives as a result of adequate fire staffing:

On the morning of December 21, 2010, a fire was reported in one of the city's congested south-end residential neighborhoods. Upon arrival, Acting District Chief David Levesque was confronted with a six family, brick and wood structure, with fire showing in one first floor apartment. The fire had exited out into the interior stairway and was

traveling upwards toward the second floor. Initial reports indicated that a person was trapped on the third floor.

Taking command of the fire scene, A/DC Levesque initiated a coordinated, combined fire attack and rescue operation. Engine companies were ordered to attack the fire on the first floor and check for extension and protect the second floor. Heavy Rescue 1 was immediately sent to the third floor for rescue operations.

Rescue 1, which had previously been out of service due to reduced staffing, had a crew of three firefighters. This included Acting Lieutenant Matt Camara and Firefighter Mark Medeiros, both of whom were laid-off and returned through the SAFER grant. The third Medeiros, both of whom were laid-off and returned through the SAFER grant. The third member was Probationary Firefighter Glen Edington, also a SAFER awardee, serving his first tour of duty with the Fall River Fire Department.

Upon entering the structure and making their way to the third floor, all three members began a primary search of that floor. PFF Edington, utilizing a thermal imaging camera, located the victim lying on the floor. He and FE Medeiros followed their training, quickly removed the victim from the apartment, and descended down two flights of stairs to awaiting medical rescue crews. At the time of this writing, while in critical condition, the victim is alive.

If this fire had taken place prior to the funding of the SAFER grant, neither they nor any Heavy Rescue crew would have been on scene that morning. The outcome for that victim and her family could have been much different.

Furthermore, the additional staffing afforded to this department allowed us to continue to protect the rest of the city's citizens without calling in emergency overtime firefighters or utilizing the increased mutual aid responses we had come to rely on. This mutual aid, while appreciated, was further reducing the firefighting forces in those communities due to our decreased staffing levels.

This situation is a clear example of why adequate staffing is so vital to the mission of the fire service in general, and specifically to this city and department.

I thank you, on behalf of the citizens of this city and the members of this fire department, for your support with this much needed grant opportunity.

Sincerely,

PAUL D. FORD,  
*Fire Chief.*

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE LATE DR. MARY MARANGOS

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 6, 2011*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the late Dr. Mary Marangos, a longtime activist in the Hellenic American community and dedicated congressional staff member who passed away last month after a valiant struggle with breast cancer. A career educator and public servant, Mary Marangos touched the hearts and bettered the lives of countless individuals from all walks of life.

As the Member of Congress representing Astoria, New York, home to the largest population of persons of Hellenic descent anywhere

in the United States, I have depended on Mary Marangos to serve as my eyes and ears in that thriving, bustling community for the last seventeen years. In addition, Dr. Marangos represented me at an international conference held in Cyprus and Greece in 2002, which was fitting, as she had been active in the Cyprus Liberation Movement since the island's illegal occupation in 1974.

Mary Marangos was a whirlwind of activity in the Hellenic-American community of our Nation's greatest city, leading me to bestow upon her the nickname "the Greek Cannonball." She was active in and helped organize events for countless organizations such as the Panpaphian Association and the Women's Issues Network of the Pancyprrian Association. She worked closely with local organizations such as the Greek-American Homeowners Association, the Cretan Association, and the Federation of Hellenic Societies on important activities such as citizenship and voter registration drives. She proudly accompanied me as we marched each year in the Greek Independence parade on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan, and was deeply involved in every aspect of the life of the Hellenic-American community, from being a booster of Greek-American soccer clubs to supporting arts and the humanities to increasing awareness and appreciation of the splendors of Greek civilization, past and present.

Mary Marangos' dedication to public service and helping others started much earlier than her tenure as a congressional staff member. She was an educator, administrator and coordinator at the vocational/alternative high school level in the New York City public school system, serving as a coordinator of the GED program at the Vocational Training Center at LaGuardia Airport. She coordinated the AIDS Prevention Program on the high school level, training teachers on how to teach HIV prevention and holding conferences on the epidemic. Dr. Marangos also fostered staff development initiatives for elementary school teachers and administrators.

A graduate of New York City public schools, Mary Marangos earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the New York State Education Department, a Master's Degree in high school administration and supervision from Fordham University, and a doctorate in International-Intercultural Developmental Education from Florida State University under a full fellowship from the U.S. Department of Education.

Mary Marangos was the loving and devoted daughter of Pantelis Marangos from Kalavassos, Cyprus and Despina Kyriacou from Lesvos, Greece and Cyprus. She was devoted to them and steadfast in her care of both in their later years.

Dr. Marangos has been an important leader of the Hellenic American community. Her assertiveness, intelligence, willingness to help are only a few of the characteristics that make her such a special person. Time and time again she has gone out of her way to help members of our community in need. She truly epitomizes the spirit of the Hellenic American woman—strength of character, activism, intelligence and compassion.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my esteemed colleagues join me in paying tribute to the late Dr. Mary Marangos for her extraordinary contributions to the civic life of our Nation.

HONORING CLARK COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY SUZANNE WAUGHTEL HOPPER

### HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, while we can never fully express the depth of our appreciation for those who give their lives to protect us, I rise today on behalf of the constituents of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District to recognize and honor the life of Clark County Sheriff's Deputy Suzanne Waughtel Hopper.

Hopper, 40, was killed in the line of duty on New Year's Day while responding to shots fired in a local community. Even in her last moments, Deputy Hopper showed her courage and bravery as she was the first to respond to the scene. Because of her decisive action, lives were saved.

Deputy Hopper joined the Clark County Sheriff's Office in 1999 and protected residents for 12 years. She received numerous commendations, citations and awards. Hopper was an outstanding deputy and a strong leader. She was often described as having a "motherly" demeanor, full of encouragement and compassion.

Beyond her dedication to service, Hopper was a loving and devoted wife and mother. In her spare time she continued to serve others by working with local charities and service organizations. She had a passion to serve, a kind spirit and always cared about others.

Suzanne Waughtel Hopper is survived by her husband, two children, two step-children and her parents. Her life was taken suddenly while she unselfishly protected the community to which she dedicated her life's work. The impact she had on the community, and in the lives of her family and friends will never be forgotten.

Thus, today I ask my colleagues to join me and the constituents of the Ohio's Seventh Congressional District in honoring the life and memory of Deputy Suzanne Waughtel Hopper, a true hero.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF RABBI JOSEPH STAMM

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary contributions of Joseph Stamm, who is celebrating his 25th anniversary at the helm of the New York County Health Services Review Organization (NYCHSRO). Mr. Stamm has been largely responsible for the unparalleled growth and success of NYCHSRO and its subsidiary, MedReview Inc. (MedReview).

NYCHSRO was among the first organizations registered as a certified Utilization Review agent in New York. NYCHSRO has conducted over 2 million peer reviews to evaluate clinical decisions and services rendered by medical practitioners at all levels of the health care continuum. Its clients include state and local governmental organizations, managed

care organizations, health insurers and third party payors.

In 1998, under Mr. Stamm's leadership, NYCHSRO created MedReview, which provides independent medical reviews and medical claims audits to self-insured plan sponsors. With offices in Cleveland, Denver, Orlando, Tampa and Thomasville, GA, today MedReview is one of America's premier medical and claims-related auditing organizations, helping clients manage health care costs more effectively, and avoid overpayment. MedReview boasts that it manages to recover millions of dollars in claims overpayments annually. MedReview's clients include some of America's largest and most respected organizations including Corporate Express, Mack/Volvo Trucks, Nissan, Oregon School Boards, ServiceMaster, UBS Financial and Ingersoll Rand, as well as many non-profit and government organizations.

Mr. Stamm served in various other capacities at NYCHSRO/MedReview, starting out as Director of Ambulatory Care Review and Associate Executive Director for Planning and Development and then as Deputy Executive Director responsible for Hospital Review, Ambulatory Care, Medical Care Evaluation, Data and Home Care Review. Mr. Stamm was instrumental in developing and implementing monitoring programs for Medicaid, Medicare and the private sector at all care levels — inpatient, ambulatory, long-term health care and home care, both in the state and nationally.

Prior to his tenure at NYCHSRO/MedReview, Mr. Stamm spent several years at the New York City Department of Health in various capacities, including Director of Investigation and Enforcement, Director of Program Planning and Development and Assistant Director of Health Evaluation.

Mr. Stamm is a recognized expert in the medical review industry and is on the faculty of Columbia University School of Public Health. He has lectured nationally and internationally and has been published on health care-related topics in scholarly journals such as Mount Sinai Journal of Medicine, the New York Academy of Medicine Journal and the Journal of Community Health. He is also a member of a number of health care associations, as well as a fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine.

Mr. Stamm is a strong supporter of and a frequent visitor to Israel. In 2006, at the request of Assemblyman Dov Hikind, he traveled to war-torn Israel on a fact-finding and humanitarian mission. The mission members met with mayors of northern Israel and the leaders of health care organizations such as Rambam Hospital, the largest hospital in northern Israel. Mr. Stamm has also been very active in the Beitar Foundation and in 2007, he received the HaTov U'Meitiv Man of the Year Award at the Annual Beitar Foundation Dinner. Joseph Stamm received his rabbinical ordination from the Rabbi Jacob Joseph Yeshiva in New York City and earned his MPA from New York University.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the many achievements of Joseph Stamm, a business leader, innovator and strong supporter of Israel and the Jewish community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF A LIGHTING PIONEER

### HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I bring to the attention of the House the loss of a husband, a father, and an industrial pioneer. On January 3, 2011, Zachary S. Gibler passed away from injuries sustained in a biking accident. He was just 44 years old. Gibler is survived by his wife, Mary, and daughter, Rachel.

Zach Gibler was the Chairman and CEO of the nation's largest LED lighting manufacturer, Lighting Science Group (LSG), which is headquartered in Satellite Beach, Florida and employs 400 workers. Specifically, the Lighting Science Group designs, develops, manufactures and markets LED light bulbs that are environmentally friendlier and more energy efficient than traditional lighting products.

Gibler had quickly become a leader in a budding industry that will play a key in our nation's future. His pioneering efforts have grown operations in Florida from 35 employees to more than 400 in less than two years.

Known for his passion for helping those in need, Gibler hired many former NASA workers who had been laid off due to the transitions in our nation's human space flight program and utilized their skills to manufacture American-made LED lights that are highly energy efficient and are very competitive to foreign-made LED competitors. Just walk into Home Depot or any other hardware store and you'll find LED bulbs that are made by the Lighting Science Group—it's an American product built by American workers.

In June of 2009, Zachary Gibler became CEO of Lighting Science Group and was made president just a few months later in September of 2009. Gibler was then named Chairman of the Lighting Science Group in March 2010. He was a lighting industry veteran having previously held a variety of senior roles at Acuity Brands.

Gibler effectively worked to shape Lighting Science Group into the LED lighting manufacturer it is today, which is continuing to create additional, good-paying jobs in my home state of Florida and making a significant contribution to making America more energy efficient.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Zach's family and friends as they cope with this unexpected loss at the beginning of the year.

IN HONOR OF JERRY KUROWYCKYJ, SR.

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to the late Jerry Kurowyckyj, Sr., a dedicated community leader, activist, and local business owner in New York City, who passed away last year. Known as the "Mayor of Ukraine," his extensive commitment to serving others was profoundly appreciated by the Lower Manhattan community he loved. Sadly, New York has lost a neighborhood leader and a food-lovers icon.