

Each of these landmark events represented a new point of maturation for our nation's Air Commandos. Their exploits over the years have solidified their place in our national security apparatus, and their sacrifices are remembered with solemn respect.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the Air Commando Association and the Air Force Special Operations Community for their service in defense of our freedom.

COMMEMORATING SHUTTLE
COMMANDER CHRIS FERGUSON

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, today the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia and the NASTAR Foundation will kick off World Space Week by welcoming Shuttle Commander Chris Ferguson, who led the final U.S. shuttle mission to the International Space Station. When the shuttle returned on July 20th, it marked the end of a 30-year NASA program. Ferguson's mission, the 33rd flight of *Atlantis*, was the 37th shuttle mission to the space station, and the 135th and final mission of NASA's Space Shuttle Program.

Commander Ferguson was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and his mother Mary Ann and stepfather Norman now reside in Langhorne, Bucks County. Ferguson graduated from Archbishop Ryan High School in Philadelphia, and received his Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Drexel University. Ferguson also received a master of science in aeronautical engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School in 1991.

In 1986, Ferguson earned his Navy Wings and was ordered to the F-14 Tomcat training squadron in Virginia Beach, VA. Later, he joined the "Red Rippers" of VF-11, deploying to the North Atlantic, Mediterranean and Indian oceans onboard the USS *Forrestal*. In 1995, he joined the "Checkmates" of VF-211, completing a deployment to the Western Pacific and Persian Gulf in defense of the Iraqi no-fly zone on board the USS *Nimitz*. Throughout his military career, Ferguson has earned many commendations, including the Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, and Navy Strike-Flight Air Medal.

In 1998, Ferguson reported to the Johnson Space Center. He served as spacecraft communicator for the STS-118, 120, 128 and 129 missions. Ferguson was also the pilot of STS-115, and commanded STS-126 and 135. In September 2010, he began training with a crew of four for a rescue mission that evolved into STS-135, a station cargo delivery flight that carried the Multi-Purpose Logistics Module "Raffaello." Being the final flight of Space Shuttle *Atlantis*, Commander Chris Ferguson requested that a stainless steel star cut from an original panel of the Fels Planetarium dome at the Franklin Institute be flown into space aboard the STS-135. Today, the star returns with Commander Ferguson, and will be placed on display at the Franklin Institute, for all to see.

Commander Ferguson is a decorated military officer, and a distinguished son of Penn-

sylvania. The 8th District of Pennsylvania and I are proud to honor him this week.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 30TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF MAXIMUM AC-
CESSIBLE HOUSING OF OHIO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 30th anniversary of Maximum Accessible Housing of Ohio, a non-profit organization that is committed to developing/facilitating options in housing for persons with physical disabilities.

Maximum Independent Living (MIL) was created in 1981 by Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry and Services to address the needs of people with physical disabilities for accessible and affordable housing. During the organization's first seventeen years it focused on its Vistas Apartment Communities in Cleveland, Mentor-on-the-Lake, Avon Lake, Parma and Sheffield Township. Each of the communities is fully accessible and houses more than 150 residents.

After establishing their five living communities, MIL turned its attention to advocacy and education on accessible housing. In 1998, it launched the Accessible Housing Research Center initiative, which provides information and referrals on accessibility and housing, provides educational programs, and advocates with government and community groups to increase accessibility in housing. MIL also played a key role in creating housingcleveland.org, a searchable online database for affordable housing.

Maximum Independent Living changed its name to Maximum Accessible Housing of Ohio (MAHO) in 2007 to draw attention to its work on accessibility and housing. More recently, after securing federal funding, MAHO set its plan of building a new Vistas Apartment Community in Cleveland's University Circle neighborhood in motion. The new Circle Vistas will replace the current Vista community on Euclid Avenue.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Maximum Accessible Housing of Ohio as they celebrate 30 years of dedicated service to the Cleveland area's disabled community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JUDY
McLAUGHLIN OF ST. PAUL, MIN-
NESOTA

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to the life and memory of Ms. Judy McLaughlin, a civic and political leader in St. Paul, Minnesota who passed away on September 5, 2011 at the age of sixty-six. Throughout her adult life Judy was an active and influential leader in the Minnesota Democratic Farmer Labor Party (DFL) and a force in the civic life of St. Paul. She and her late husband, Mike McLaughlin, were the owners of Summit Manor on Summit Avenue in St. Paul.

Their commitment to St. Paul helped transform Ramsey Hill from a historic neighborhood plagued with crime and at risk of decay into a national model for historic preservation.

Along with Mike, Judy was active in Fourth Congressional District and St. Paul DFL politics throughout her life. She knew all the players, all the issues, and had an informed opinion about where her city, state and Nation should be going. She was known to every DFL political leader for four decades, and Summit Manor was a well known venue for political gatherings.

When I got started in politics I knew Mike McLaughlin as a powerful political leader and Judy was most definitely his equal. She worked in the Minnesota State Legislature for the DFL Speaker of the House. She helped work on and guide campaigns for city council, mayor, the state legislature, Congress, and the U.S. Senate.

On a gray, rainy day in October 2002 Minnesota suffered the heartbreaking deaths of Senator Paul Wellstone and his wife, Sheila, along with their daughter and five campaign aides. Judy's son, Will, was one of those staff members who died that tragic morning. While all of Minnesota felt a loss, including many of us who lost dear friends that day, Judy's loss was profound.

Yet, the following day Judy attended a rally for peace on the steps of the Cathedral of St. Paul which was supposed to be attended by Senator Wellstone and her son, who traveled everywhere with the senator. Mayor Chris Coleman of St. Paul described the events of that day as he eulogized Judy saying, "She knew that no cause worth fighting for could die with the death of a few. She had to be there in spite of the immense agony she felt."

I knew Judy as a DFL leader, a local businesswoman, and as a neighbor who I would run into at the local coffee shop or out on a morning walk. She was an anchor in the community and a respected voice. Her passing is a loss for St. Paul and for all the friends and loved ones whom she shared her very full life with.

It was an honor to know Judy. I wish to extend my condolences to her four daughters and two sons. Judy McLaughlin gave so much of herself to family, community, and country. She was true to her beliefs and for that she will always be remembered with fondness, respect and deep appreciation.

CELEBRATING THE SERVICE OF
JUDGE OLIVER W. WANGER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the outstanding service and dedication of the Honorable Oliver W. Wanger on the occasion of his retirement from the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California. For the past 20 years, Judge Wanger has served the people of California admirably—maintaining a commitment to justice, fairness, and the law. Moreover, he has been fair-minded and knowledgeable when hearing cases related to the San Joaquin Valley's water and environmental issues.

Judge Wanger received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Southern California

in 1963 and his law degree from the University of California, Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law in 1966. Upon graduation, he served our great nation in the United States Marine Corps from 1960 to 1967. Judge Wanger established his roots in Fresno, California in 1967, where he served as deputy district attorney until 1969. For the next two decades, Judge Wanger worked as a first-rate attorney and always maintained a keen passion for justice.

He exhibited foresight and leadership when he joined Mr. John Loomis and Mr. Dan Eymann in founding San Joaquin College of Law (SJCL) in 1969. SJCL is a community treasure—it has given capable individuals in the Valley access to a quality legal education. He served as an adjunct professor at SJCL from 1970 until 1991 and as Dean from 1980 until 1983. His tenacity and enthusiasm have made him a mentor and leader in the Fresno legal community. For years, he has been admired for his steadfast adherence to the rule of law and indisputable commitment to our community.

Judge Wanger has not only been recognized as a scholar of the law, but he has also been revered as a man of principle and integrity. In 1991, President George H.W. Bush nominated him to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California. He was unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate. The Eastern District of California extends from the Oregon border to the Tehachapi Mountains. Many of the cases Judge Wanger has presided over have involved the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and his most notable rulings have been deeply relevant to the San Joaquin Valley's water and environmental issues.

Judge Wanger and his wife Lorrie Anthony-Wanger have five sons and seven grandchildren. Following his retirement, Judge Wanger will return to private practice as partner in the new firm of Wanger, Jones & Helsley PC.

It is a great honor to commend my friend, Oliver W. Wanger, for his years of service to the people of California. We have been lucky to have a hard-working legal scholar serve our great state for the past two decades.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the service and career of the Honorable Oliver W. Wanger. His passion for the justice and fervent adherence to the law has not only made him a fair and effective judge, but also a vibrant asset for our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF CLEVELAND'S INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION CENTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 25th anniversary of Cleveland's International Exposition Center (I-X Center). The I-X Center hosts 1.5 million visitors annually at various consumer shows and community events.

Cleveland's I-X Center is one of the largest trade show and exhibition centers in the country. With more than 1.4 million square feet of

exhibition space, the I-X Center hosts some of the country's largest consumer shows. Some of the most popular events include the Greater Cleveland Auto Show, Fabulous Food Show, International Beer Fest, Great Big Home & Garden Expo, Piston Power Show, Indoor Amusement Park and Trick or Treat Street.

The Greater Cleveland Auto Show is the fifth largest auto show in the country. This fall, the I-X Center will host the second annual Piston Power Show which showcases piston powered cars, aircraft, motorcycles, trucks and trailers. The Fabulous Food Show has become one of the leading food shows in the country and features a number of Food Network chefs including Bobby Flay, Alton Brown and Cleveland's Michael Symon. Another show quickly gaining popularity is the International Beer Fest, which, according to the I-X Center, was the largest showing and competition of world beers in the Midwest. The I-X Center's own Indoor Amusement Park has been running for 22 consecutive years and features the world's largest indoor Ferris Wheel.

Since the I-X Center's first show in 1985, the International Capital Goods Trade Fair, they have been reinvesting in the facility to accommodate future shows and guests. The I-X Center has already invested more than \$75 million into the venue over the past 25 years and plans to invest another \$25 million in the coming years to upgrade visitor amenities, traffic and parking in hopes of doubling their annual attendance.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the 25th anniversary of Cleveland's International Exposition Center (I-X Center).

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2681

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, in 1990, the Clean Air Act Amendments required EPA to complete and issue regulations on hazardous air pollutants by 2000. This week, we are considering two bills that would delay two regulations for at least another six years—with no deadline for EPA to complete regulations, and giving industry no deadline to comply. My amendment will add a finding to H.R. 2681 that the Clean Air Act required these regulations before 2000, and required the mandated emissions reductions to occur by 2003.

ARISTIDES PEREIRA, A PIONEER FOR DEMOCRACY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, sadly, last month, the world lost a great leader in the fight for freedom and democracy. Aristides Pereira was the first President of the Republic of Cape Verde. His work on behalf of the right of all people to self-government began more than sixty years ago, when he

joined in the fight for independence for Cape Verde from Portugal. In 1956, he joined Amílcar Cabral in founding the African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde (PAIGC) and became General Secretary of the party in 1973. In 1975, the efforts of these patriots came to fruition, and after the change in regime in Portugal that ushered in democracy in that country, Cape Verde became independent. In recognition of his great leadership, Aristides Pereira was the first President of the Republic of Cape Verde. He remained President of Cape Verde until 1991, when he was defeated for the office in a multi-party election by Antonio Mascarenhas Monteiro.

At that point, Aristides Pereira performed his third great service for the cause of the right of people to self-governance. His first effort was his leading role in the effort to win independence for his country. Next he served as its first President for sixteen years and helped establish it as an independent nation. Paradoxically, his third great service was when he was defeated for reelection and accepted the result of a democratic process and retired.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, there have been too few examples of well functioning democracy in many of the nations of the world that received independence after World War II, and we have seen recent sad examples in Africa of presidents refusing to accept the electoral results that were unfavorable to them. In many cases, those voted out of office after a long period were the leaders of independence movements, as was President Pereira. So the contrast between him and, for example, Robert Mugabe, is a very strong one. Aristides Pereira set a very important example of acceptance of democracy, even when its particular results were adverse to his own personal standing.

Today, Mr. Speaker, Cape Verde stands as a shining example of democracy and of the way in which democracy and responsible economic development complement each other. While Cape Verde was not endowed with great natural resources, it has been a success story economically as well as politically, refuting those who believe that economic development can only come at the expense of democratic governance. The economic success of Cape Verde within this democratic framework—again the precedent set by Aristides Pereira—has been recognized by both Republican and Democratic administrations in the U.S. Under President Bush, Cape Verde was in the first group of countries to receive funding under the Millennium Challenge Commission, and under the Obama administration its great economic responsibility has been recognized and it has continued to be one of the stars of that program.

Mr. Speaker, the career of Aristides Pereira is an inspiring one. He committed himself early in life to the fight for the right of people to self-government and remained a leader in that fight by his deeds, by his example and by his dignified presence in his country for a period exceeding sixty years.

Mr. Speaker, I join the people of Cape Verde in mourning the passage of a great leader, and in the pride they are entitled to take in his career and in the record of full acceptance of democratic self-government that is part of Aristides Pereira's legacy.