

York, Representative ENGEL and Representative HINCHEY, in honoring America's first and most prestigious school of painting. Known as the Hudson River School of Painting, this 19th century school popularized the American landscape.

I, too, have a connection to the Hudson River School. One of the school's most popular and prolific artists, Thomas Moran, grew up in my district in Philadelphia. He later worked at a local engraving firm, which sparked his interest in painting. Moran soon garnered attention for his paintings and was hired to paint scenes of the wilderness of the American West. These paintings, for which Moran is best known, are primarily from the area that is today Yellowstone National Park.

Moran's massive landscapes, and works by other Hudson River School painters, inspired Congress to dedicate Yellowstone, as well Yosemite and Acadia National Parks. Eventually, these paintings were used by environmental conservationists to encourage Congress to form the National Park Service in 1916.

Another result of the School was the creation of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City in 1870. Many painters from the Hudson River School helped guide the Met's formation, meeting with the President, donating funds, and serving as a trustee or member of the executive committee. Fittingly, today, many works by the School's painters can be found there.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my distinguished colleagues to join me in my appreciation for the works of painter Thomas Moran, and for the lasting legacy of the first indigenous American school of painting, the Hudson River School.

A TRIBUTE TO IAN LIFSHUTZ

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor Ian R. Lifshutz for his extensive work representing physicians and other health care providers in New York.

Mr. Lifshutz is a graduate of St. Johns School of Law admitted to practice law in New York, New Jersey, Florida and Connecticut. He has experience in Health Care Law, representing physicians and other health care providers and institutions in all matters of health care transactions.

Mr. Lifshutz is responsible for assisting providers in matters relating to Fraud and Abuse and Medicaid/Medicare compliance plans and audits, the purchase and sale of health care practices, HIPAA and state based patient privacy, management, MSO, and billing companies, shareholder agreements, formation, dissolution and operation of corporations and other professional partnerships, asset protection as a means to limit physicians' exposure to malpractice claims and other civil liability, and leases and real estate transactions for healthcare facilities and medical practices. Among the many issues he handles, Mr. Lifshutz is most versed in Anti-Kickback and "STARK", state and federal prohibition against self-referral law as well as professional misconduct and "Fee Splitting" issues, and Medicare and Medicaid insurance policy.

Mr. Lifshutz has structured many health care facilities in New York, New Jersey and Florida, including proper pension structuring in order to maximize pension benefits. He has negotiated complex transactions for surgery centers and Article 28 facilities, and structured complex Asset Protection for physicians and others in the field of health care.

He has lectured at the Bronx County Medical Society and N.Y. Chiropractic College, as well as hospitals, regarding HIPAA compliance, asset protection, risk management and professional misconduct, fraud and abuse and regulatory issues surrounding health care professionals.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. Ian Lifshutz for his contributions to the Brooklyn legal and healthcare communities.

JO-ANN YANNUZZI

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jo-Ann Yannuzzi for a career filled with professionalism and passion. Mrs. Yannuzzi has displayed a spectacular work ethic in both business and the community. Throughout her career, she has been known as a proprietor, entrepreneur, and philanthropist. For those reasons, and for her service to the community, she is being recognized as the Humanitarian of the Year by the Mountain City Lions Club in Hazleton, Pennsylvania.

A Hazleton native, Mrs. Yannuzzi was one of the first four women inducted into the Hazleton Rotary Club in 1992. She also spent many years with the YWCA, serving as its president as well as on its Board of Directors. In 1999, she received the YWCA Pearl Award for Business and Industry. In 1994, Mrs. Yannuzzi received the Athena Award from the Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce for her outstanding professional achievement as an area businesswoman.

Mrs. Yannuzzi knows what it takes to run a successful business. With her husband, she has owned and operated Job Johnny, and she was an associate in Yannuzzi Inc. and Amity Oil. From 1991 to 1995, she was the sole proprietor of Hazleton Floral Design, where her responsibilities included making financial transactions and decisions.

She served in various directorships in organizations such as the Committee to Help Handicapped Infants Parents Succeed (CHHIPS) and the FunFest Committee. But Mrs. Yannuzzi is likely best known for her work at the American Cancer Society. She joined the American Cancer Society in 1997, and four years later became the Community Income Development representative for Greater Hazleton. She has coordinated numerous events for the society in Mount Pocono, Wilkes-Barre, and Nanticoke. Since 1985, she has co-chaired Daffodil Days and other fundraisers for the national level of the society in an attempt to create a world with less cancer and more birthdays.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Jo-Ann Yannuzzi for her many years of dedicated service. She has shown great purpose in her career and in her passions, and I hope she continues to make the world a better place.

HONORING SAGUARO NATIONAL PARK FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION WITH THE 2011 BIOBLITZ

HON. RAUL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Saguaro National Park for their participation in the 2011 BioBlitz, sponsored by the National Geographic Society and the National Park Service. Starting in 2007 and leading up to the National Park Service's Centennial in 2016, only one national park from among the park service's 395 units is selected each year to host the nationally recognized event. This year, Saguaro National Park and the community of Tucson have been chosen for this honor. The 2011 Saguaro BioBlitz is the fifth of 10 events, with Tucson joining the communities of Washington DC, Los Angeles, Chicago and Miami as a host.

The 2011 BioBlitz, to be held this October, is an exciting 24-hour race to find, identify and count as many plants and animal species as possible inside Saguaro National Park. Teams of students and the general public will be partnered with scientists and experts in fields of biology, ecology and botany to scour the park and work together to do the counting. For two days surrounding the event, Saguaro National Park will simultaneously host a Biodiversity Festival, where the public can interact with scientists as they come in from the field to identify and catalog species. One thing is clear; the BioBlitz will introduce many to some of the most ecologically valuable lands in the Sonoran Desert: Unique topography, rare desert flora; scenic and recreation opportunities; and prime habitat for a host of desert creatures.

Saguaro National Park is a shining example of the Sonoran Desert's magnificent beauty and biodiversity. First established as a National Monument in 1933 for the purpose of protecting the giant Saguaro Cactus and then designated a National Park by President Bill Clinton in 1994, Saguaro National Park has been part of the Tucson community for over 75 years. Today, the National Park Service works to preserve desert, mountain and riparian habitats in the Tucson and Rincon Mountains. Saguaro National Park covers 91,327 acres and, of that acreage, 78 percent is designated wilderness. This land was not just preserved for its scenic views but also for its ecological wonders that must continue to be explored by the young and old, alike.

As the 2016 Centennial approaches, there is a consensus that this milestone must be viewed as an opportunity to recommit ourselves to protecting and preserving our National Park System. It is events such as this that will create new generations of stewards to safeguard our National Parks for the next 100 years. In direct alignment with the White House's America's Great Outdoors initiative and the National Park Service's Call to Action, the BioBlitz gets kids outside, connecting communities with our public lands.

Saguaro National Park, its staff, and the volunteers are vital players in the protection of America's public lands. As Ranking Member of the House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands and having seen our

community grow to over a million people during my lifetime, I know the importance of protecting our beloved desert. Saguaro National Park is a vital part of not only my community's history, but this Nation's history. I know that the BioBlitz will help teach our youth about the importance of protecting these special places, fostering greater appreciation, enjoyment, and stewardship for the future.

I congratulate Saguaro National Park and its staff for being part of the BioBlitz experience.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM T. LOCKE
ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

HON. BETTY SUTTON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge an individual whose contributions have changed the lives of people in my district and throughout Ohio.

William T. Locke served as the President and CEO of the Lorain County Community Action Agency in Lorain, Ohio for two terms; from 1986 to 1999 and again in 2007 to 2011. Throughout his tenure, William has led the Agency with temperance and humility, and always placed the needs families and seniors first.

William has had an extensive career working in Community Action Agencies, which work to make our country a better place to live. In 1974, William began his career of community service as the Executive Director of the Portage County Community Action Council where he helped people achieve economic security. He was later appointed to lead the Office of Community Services within the Ohio Department of Development by Governor Richard Celeste in 1983. William left the State of Ohio to become the Deputy Executive Director for the Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency before continuing on to the Lorain County Community Action Agency. In addition, William served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and received an Honorable Discharge.

William Locke has made a difference in our community, and it is an honor to have worked with him to give children, families, and our seniors a better way of life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments and dedicated service of Mr. William T. Locke as he retires from the Lorain County Community Action Agency.

RECOGNIZING NORTH COLLIN
COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize before the United States House of Representatives an outstanding charitable organization—North Collin County Habitat for Humanity, (NCC-Habitat)—on the occasion of the Grand Opening of its new facility in McKinney, Texas.

Incorporated in 1992, NCC-Habitat's mission is to "work in partnership with God and His people to develop communities by enabling families to achieve the dream of homeownership with dignity." Over its nearly twenty years of service to the communities of northern Collin County, this organization has built 64 homes for families in need.

Many of the resources required to complete these projects are donated to or funded by the McKinney ReStore. Habitat for Humanity operates over 900 ReStores throughout the United States and Canada. These facilities are retail outlets, open to the public, which sell new and gently used building materials, furniture, and other home decor items.

The McKinney ReStore operated by NCC-Habitat has been so successful that it needed to expand. Today marks the first day of business at the ReStore's new 40,000 square foot facility. The building also houses NCC-Habitat's office space.

On behalf of the people of the Third Congressional District of Texas, I want to thank the great folks of NCC-Habitat for helping to build our community.

Congratulations on your new facility. God bless you, and I salute you!

UNITED STATES-COLOMBIA TRADE
PROMOTION AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 3078, the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act.

This trade agreement continues in the NAFTA tradition of trampling on human and economic rights.

Colombia is the world's most dangerous place to be a unionist. More trade unionists were killed last year in Colombia than in the rest of the world combined. The Labor Action plan signed by Colombia in April of this year has not done enough to address these significant human rights abuses. Sixteen trade unionists have been killed since it was signed. Now we're going to pass a trade agreement that will further weaken the rights of workers whose lives are at stake?

Workers in the U.S. will be hurt by this trade agreement too. The Economic Policy Institute estimates that the Colombia FTA will result in the loss or displacement of 55,000 U.S. jobs. We have heard the promises of economic prosperity from free trade advocates before. Those promises have consistently failed to materialize.

Workers in the U.S. and Colombia cannot afford a NAFTA-style trade agreement that significantly weakens their economic security and fundamental labor rights.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

HONORING OAKHURST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, Oakhurst Presbyterian Church has been and continues to be a beacon of light to our county for the past ninety years; and

Whereas, Pastors Gibson "Nibs" Stroupe and Pastor Caroline Leach and the members of the Oakhurst Presbyterian Church family today continues to uplift and inspire those in our county; and

Whereas, the Oakhurst Presbyterian Church family has been and continues to be a place where citizens are touched spiritually, mentally and physically through outreach ministries and community partnership to aid in building up our District; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious Church of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the needy and empowered our community for the ninety (90) years by preaching the gospel and living the gospel; and

Whereas, Oakhurst has produced many spiritual warriors, people of compassion, people of great courage, fearless leaders and servants to all, but most of all visionaries who have shared not only with their Church, but with DeKalb County and the world their passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Oakhurst Presbyterian Church family on their 90th Anniversary and for their leadership and service to our District;

Now therefore, I, Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr. do hereby proclaim September 25, 2011 as Oakhurst Presbyterian Church Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 25th day of September, 2011.

HONORING THE SISTERS OF
CHARITY OF ST. HYACINTHE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sisters of Charity of St. Hyacinthe on over a century of committed service to the city of Lewiston.

From the moment of their arrival in 1878, the Sisters of Charity of St. Hyacinthe made themselves an integral part of the Lewiston community. Immediately looking for ways to give back to the town, they established a school for the community's French speaking children within their first year. A decade later, they established the first Catholic hospital in Maine. As the years progressed, the Sisters would go on to establish an orphanage for the children of mill workers, as well as long-term care facilities for the elderly.

The tremendous impact that the Sisters have had on Lewiston continues to be felt by the city's residents today. Perhaps the most