

Ann Lindeen served as secretary of the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce before the city incorporated. Her many community activities include volunteering at local schools and serving as PTA president; serving in leadership positions for the Santa Susana and Tapo 4-H Clubs for about 20 years; serving on the Ventura County Grand Jury in 1987–1988; hosting people from around the world as part of the Greater Los Angeles Chapter of People to People International, which she also served as treasurer, secretary and president; and contributing more than 5,000 hours of service in several capacities at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library.

Sue Martinez found her niche in community involvement through her children. She is a founding member of Santa Susana High School's Santa Susana Performing Arts Boosters and the Performing Arts Center Team, for which she is also the president. With the dream of building a performing arts theater at the school for use by generations of students, Sue was a driving force behind the C-4 Bond and walked the precincts to see that it passed. The theater opened in March. She has worked at Simi Valley Hospital for 19 years and is committee chair for the Leadership Class of 2012.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join Mayor Bob Huber and me in congratulating this year's honorees and in thanking Fred Bauermeister, Jill Haney, Ann Lindeen, and Sue Martinez for making our community a better place for all to live and thrive.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE AND IN HONOR OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE BRAILLE AND TALKING BOOK LIBRARY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of The National Library Service, as they celebrate their 80th anniversary, and in honor of the California State Braille and Talking Book Library. As staff, patrons and supporters gather to celebrate this milestone, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their leadership and dedication to the blind and physically handicapped.

When the National Library Service was formed in 1931, the "Blind Books" program found a welcome home at the California State Braille and Talking Book Library. To this day, the National Library Service and the California State Braille and Talking Library continue to provide books in Braille, audio books, digital talking book machines and digital talking books to over 12,000 individual patrons and 542 institutions across Northern California.

This year has been proclaimed as "Talking Book Awareness Year" as new digital talking book machines and digital talking books hit the market. The services that the National Library Service and the California State Braille and Talking Book Library provide are vital to those who are not able to read by conventional methods. The book collection at the library contains thousands of fiction and nonfiction titles, as well as a collection of books by

California authors and about California's history on cassette.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the National Library Service, and the California State Braille and Talking Book Library. The past 80 years have been tremendously successful and I am confident that they will continue to enjoy success in the future. While the National Library Service and California State Braille and Talking Book Library staff, volunteers, patrons and supporters gather together to celebrate the 80th anniversary, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their outstanding work in providing the community with necessary services for the blind and the physically handicapped.

IN HONOR OF MARY FAWKES

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the many life achievements and dedication to community service of a constituent of mine, Mrs. Mary Fawkes, of Croydon, Pennsylvania.

Mary has had a major impact in the lives of many people throughout Bucks County. She has three children, five grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. She has been happily married for sixty-four years with the love of her life, Mr. Harry Fawkes. Mary's work was also instrumental in the success of her husband's refuse business.

She has been active in the local political community for fifty-two years and is known by some as the First Lady of Bucks County. Mary has served on the board of trustees for the Bucks County Community College and is currently a director emeritus of this important institution of learning in Bucks County. She is also lifetime member of the Bucks County Rescue Squad which provides high quality care and emergency transportation. She was also active with the Lower Bucks Hospital Auxiliary. Mrs. Fawkes has consistently given back to the community supporting many organizations throughout the County; she always makes time to serve those in need.

A Bristol High School alumnus, Mary was, among other things, active as an actress in school plays, a Girl Scout patrol leader, and captain of the cheerleaders. Her close friends describe her as being intelligent, a great listener, excellent at providing advice and being supportive in times of need. In her free time, Mary enjoys reading, crochet, and going to lunch with friends.

Serving her community of Bucks County, Pennsylvania has been most notably felt through her dedication, patience and appreciation for the work of her husband Chairman Harry Fawkes in his unprecedented, skillful, benevolent and successful leadership of the Bucks County Republican Committee. The soft, silent but strong presence that Mary has gifted to Harry's leadership and the time she has permitted him to selflessly serve his community and his country is a lasting legacy to the community and county where she has lived life, raised family and served others.

Mrs. Fawkes' work has positively impacted the lives of many of the residents of our great community. She provides an excellent exam-

ple on how to balance work, friends, family, and service. I am honored to call her a neighbor and a friend. I congratulate her for a life of many achievements.

APPLAUDING THE EFFORTS OF THE FLORIDA HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN TO ADDRESS CHILDHOOD OBESITY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, childhood obesity is on the rise. In 2010, 17% of children and adolescents, ages 2 to 19, were obese, and 32% were overweight. Not only has obesity been linked to an increased risk of developing diabetes, asthma, and heart disease, it may also cause our children to lead shorter lives. Apart from the serious individual health concerns associated with obesity, there are long-term consequences that affect society as a whole, including increased medical and disability costs and decreased work-force participation.

To address these concerns, children's hospitals around the nation are working to educate families about nutrition and fitness. In Orlando, Florida, the Florida Hospital for Children has implemented a program called "Healthy 100 Kids" at the Walt Disney Pavilion. This program seeks to help children live to a healthy 100 years old by providing families with medical care, nutrition, and fitness education. There are currently 300 families in the program, many of whom are underprivileged. In the first year of the program, 60 percent of patients reduced their body mass index and lowered their cholesterol by eating more fruits and vegetables and lowering their sugar intake. I commend the efforts of the Florida Hospital for Children and children's hospitals across the nation, and the investment they are making in the health and wellbeing of our children, who are the future of America.

RECOGNIZING THE 55TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF DR. REVEREND JAMES L. NETTERS, SR.

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Dr. Reverend James L. Netters, Sr., Senior Pastor of Mount Vernon Baptist Church-Westwood in Memphis, for his upcoming 55th pastoral anniversary. Reverend Netters has served his congregation at Mount Vernon Baptist Church and the larger community of Memphis with honor and grace and is a distinguished representative of his parishioners and our great city.

Reverend Netters continues to be a guiding figure for good with Memphis-area pastors and their congregations and outreach programs. His leadership demonstrates what is possible when congregations plant seeds of hope in their surrounding communities. Programs involving prison outreach and projects for the reformation of blighted areas show a commitment to lifting up those who have fallen behind

and helping them back to the fold. From working with young adults and raising money for college scholarships to comforting and sharing the wisdom of the elderly members of his congregation, Reverend Netters and his church are actively engaged in building a better Memphis.

The Mount Vernon Baptist Church-Westwood was founded in 1902, and Reverend Netters has been their pastor for the past 55 years, earning the distinction of being the longest serving pastor of a single church in Memphis. I wish Dr. Reverend James L. Netters, Sr. many more prosperous years with Mount Vernon Baptist Church, so that he can continue working tirelessly to lift up his congregation and our great city of Memphis.

OPPOSITION TO H.R. 3078, H.R. 3079,
AND H.R. 3080

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to all three trade agreements under consideration in the House this week. I believe these agreements will only exacerbate our unemployment crisis, undermine America's manufacturing sector, and allow the continued hemorrhage of our jobs to foreign countries.

I am a proponent of trade, but any agreement that reduces barriers and removes avenues to redress unfair practices should preserve American jobs, ensure a level playing field, respect the rights of worker's and our environment, and provide significant economic benefits. These proposed agreements, individually and collectively, do not live up to those standards.

Since 1977, the real median hourly wage has decreased \$.53 for workers in this country. In manufacturing, it has decreased \$1.40. In the same timeframe, the U.S. has lost approximately 7 million manufacturing jobs, over 250,000 in the state of Indiana alone. These are middle class jobs, and each lost job means lost wages, lost health care, and lost retirement benefits for a family. It is getting harder and harder for America's working class to make it, and that is a shame. With the unemployment rate at 9.1%, we must do everything possible to create new jobs, and protect every single American job that exists. Congress should have a singular focus of promoting American workers and creating American jobs.

Instead, Congress is going to pass three trade agreements that will cause a loss of jobs; necessitating the passage of a TAA package to train those whose jobs are being outsourced. What a terrible and wrongheaded policy. Further, the TAA package that Congress is considering would pare back the eligibility requirements and funding levels for displaced workers that were established in 2009. Are American workers less vulnerable to trade than in 2009? I find it ludicrous that we would choose to reduce this assistance when long term unemployment continues to plague millions of American families.

All three of these agreements are similar to NAFTA, and we know, all too well, the effects of NAFTA. In 1993, before the enactment of NAFTA, we had a small trade surplus of about

\$1.6 billion with Mexico. NAFTA was enacted in 1994 and by 1995 that surplus had turned into a deficit of almost \$16 billion. By 2007, this deficit had grown to a staggering \$75 billion. These policies have displaced millions of jobs, and we cannot afford to aggravate the problem with more misguided trade agreements. Further, the jobs that aren't displaced are diminished through depressed wages and benefits.

According to the Economic Policy Institute, the South Korea agreement will expand the U.S. trade deficit by \$13.5 billion and eliminate 159,000 jobs within seven years. Proponents of this deal will cite estimates by the International Trade Commission indicating a small positive impact on our trade deficit and negligible domestic employment gains. However, I would point out that the ITC projected a \$1 billion increase in the trade deficit and a negligible effect on employment before China's ascension to the World Trade Organization. The results turned out to be dramatically different. Between 2001 and 2008 our trade deficit with China increased by \$185 billion and we have lost approximately 2.4 million jobs.

The manufacturing supported by the United States' automobile supply chain is the backbone of our economy. The provisions of this agreement allow duty free imports of vehicles with up to sixty-five percent of the content coming from outside South Korea. I fear that countries that have circumvented our trade laws in the past will use this as a new opportunity to increase the presence of unfairly subsidized products in U.S. markets by going through South Korea. The resulting job losses are as inevitable as they are unacceptable.

Finally, South Korea has a history of currency manipulation and erecting significant non-tariff import barriers. Are we foolish enough to believe they won't continue to aggressively protect their domestic industries at the expense of manufacturing jobs here in the U.S.?

Specific to the Colombia agreement, the Economic Policy Institute estimates that this deal would eliminate 55,000 American jobs within seven years, while growing our trade deficit by \$3.3 billion. Additionally, Colombia has a disturbing history of violence against labor unions. Nearly 2,680 unionists have been murdered there and only six percent of these crimes have been prosecuted. That is an appalling fact. The administration's Action Plan is a positive step, but it does not guarantee the basic rights of workers, nor their protection from retaliation. Further, the Action Plan is not part of the FTA, and is therefore subject to the discretion of the Executive Branch. I will not be satisfied until I see sustained long term progress for workers' rights in Colombia.

These trade agreements will come at the expense of the middle class at the worst possible time. They will do away with at least 214,000 American jobs and undermine key industries throughout our economy.

Trade can have positive benefits for the U.S. economy, but it has to be done right, and it has to be done fairly. These agreements do not reflect the lessons we have learned. Again and again, we have seen countries acting aggressively to support and promote their domestic job creating industries while protecting them from competition. Even when our companies have legal recourse, it is almost always too little too late, the damage has been done,

and the jobs are gone. That is why I am concerned about the failure of these agreements to have robust mechanisms to ensure that the provisions are enforced.

We should be using our time to pass legislation to rebuild America's economic infrastructure using American workers and goods and products made in the United States. I encourage my colleagues to oppose all three agreements.

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during National School Lunch Week and National Farm to School Month in support of our National School Lunch Programs and to express my concern regarding some of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's proposed rule changes to the program. As the representative of the fifth district of Oregon, I am committed to improving the contribution of the school meal program to the nutritional needs of school children.

A recent Gallup poll found that 19 percent of American families are food insecure. According to a study by the USDA, nearly 17 million American children struggle with hunger. This same study concluded that 13.7 percent of households in my home state of Oregon suffered from food "insecurity" meaning they lacked consistent access to adequate amounts of nutritious food. That is over 500,000 Oregonians. One of our most important programs that is essential in helping hold the line on hunger and food insecurity is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP. As of August 2011, over 780,000 people in Oregon depended on SNAP to help piece together their food budgets.

Over one-half of our students in Oregon, over 280,000, are eligible for free or reduced priced lunch. A decade ago that percentage was only one-third. For these students, the availability of the National School Lunch, School Breakfast, and Afterschool Meal programs shield them from hunger and increase their family's food security. School meals are important to ensure all low-income students receive proper nutrition. Not only do school meals help reduce hunger, but they also increase the health of children and their ability to learn.

With this increased demand for free or reduced priced meals at school, we need to recognize the added burden this puts on already strained budgets. Changes to the school meal plans must consider the constraints faced by school lunch providers. School lunch providers need to offer nutritious affordable options that children will eat and that will encourage continued high rates of participation. For many children, the school meals are their prime source of nutrition for the day. Changes that discourage participation will reduce the overall health and wellness of American children.

While 2010 Dietary Guidelines recommends higher consumption of fruits and vegetables, the proposal would eliminate some of the most popular and economical vegetables available to schools. Contrary to recommendations made in the Guidelines, USDA would limit