

which is celebrating its 95th anniversary on November 3, 2011.

The Call & Post was established in 1928 when the Cleveland Call and the Cleveland Post merged. The Cleveland Call and Cleveland Post were newspapers that had been independently serving Cleveland's African American community since 1920. The Call & Post was a struggling publication the first several years it was in circulation. However, in 1932, when Baltimore's William Otis Walker came to manage the paper, the Call & Post began to grow and prosper. The Call & Post increased from four pages to twelve and its circulation more than tripled. Mr. Walker partnered with P-W Publishing Co. and ran the paper until the early 1980s. Under Mr. Walker's leadership, the Call & Post became one of the best African American newspapers in the country. In 1959, the Call & Post extended its circulation and began running editions for the cities of Columbus and Cincinnati as well as a state-wide edition.

Don King bought the Call & Post in 1998 and remains the paper's owner and publisher. The publication still runs a statewide edition. The weekly edition of the Call & Post features local news in Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati and includes the Call & Post 2nd edition, an arts and entertainment tabloid. The paper has received recognition from the National Newspaper Publishers Association and the Press Club of Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the 95th anniversary of one of the nation's most prominent African American newspapers, the Call & Post.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is \$14,939,232,547,985.08.

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 \$4,300,806,801,691.28 since then. This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

#### IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF MR. JOHN KILEY

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of Mr. John Kiley, the co-director of the Freedom House, which was the precursor to Cleveland's Ed Keating Center.

John was dedicated to serving the country and the public starting at a young age. He served with the U.S. Air Force for twenty years, including three tours in Vietnam, before retiring. He was a member of the 1041st Security Police Squadron at Hawaii's Schofield Barracks. Later, John worked as a counselor

at Cleveland's Stella Marris and the Ed Keating Center. He was also the co-director of Cleveland's Freedom House.

The Ed Keating Center was founded in 1998 by Jack Mulhall and Phyllis Eisele-Curran, who had previously founded Freedom House in 1991. It is a non-profit organization and sober living facility for those addicted to drugs and alcohol that serves adults regardless of their financial well-being. The Ed Keating Center offers a six month in-house rehab program, a three-quarter house program and a work release program for its patients.

I offer my condolences to John's wife Susan; daughters Kerry, Shannon (deceased), Angela and Merry; siblings, Susan and Terry; and all of his nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Mr. John Kiley. His legacy will live on through the work of Cleveland's Ed Keating Center.

#### LEO P. VERGNETTI

#### HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Leo P. Vergnetti, the 2011 honoree at the American Cancer Society Ball of Hope in Scranton, Pennsylvania, on October 28, 2011. Mr. Vergnetti has been a dedicated supporter of the American Cancer Society for decades. This is a charity that has been very close to his heart since his beloved wife, Carol, passed away due to cancer in 1984. Mr. Vergnetti turned this tragic event in his life into a reason to champion cancer research. His efforts have raised significant funds to support cancer services in his home region of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Vergnetti's work with children has enabled many suffering with cancer to attend Camp Can-Do. This is a camp for children who are receiving cancer treatment. The ability to attend this camp and interact with other children going through the same trials and tribulations is empowering. Mr. Vergnetti has raised money to give several children this life-affirming experience and escape the stress of the disease that they are fighting.

Not only is Mr. Vergnetti a former chairman of the American Cancer Society's Board of Ambassadors, but he is also the founder. At a time when 1.4 million new cancer cases are expected in this country during the next year, having a group of community leaders gathering ideas for advancing the ACS's mission is pivotal.

As a philanthropist, Mr. Vergnetti has been a pivotal part of securing funding for many other charities including the Wyoming Children's Association, the Scranton Relay for Life Committee, and the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that the American Cancer Society honors a man who has donated so much of his time and effort to such a worthy cause. I am certain that his hard work and dedication will not end here. Fighting for those enduring cancer and furthering research to help find a cure are close to Leo Vergnetti's heart, and it is my pleasure to acknowledge all of his efforts here today.

160TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the 160th anniversary of the University of the District of Columbia, the only public institution of higher education in our nation's capital.

The University of the District of Columbia, then known as the Colored Girls School, was founded by Myrtilla Miner on December 4, 1851. Over the next 160 years, the single-room schoolhouse flourished into an exceptional institution offering academic programs to generations of students. The University, as we know it today, was formally established by a 1974 Act of Congress, and became a land-grant institution in 1862. Today, it is the only completely urban land-grant institution in the country.

The University serves over 5,300 students and offers more than eighty undergraduate and graduate programs across six colleges. The University's new community college, established under the leadership of University President Dr. Allen Sessoms, is thriving and provides its students with associate, certificate, and workforce development programs in high-demand fields.

Continuing its legacy of excellence in teacher education, which began with the Miner and Wilson Normal Schools more than a hundred years ago, the University recently founded the National Center for Urban Education, which will prepare teachers for the unique demands of our nation's urban schools.

Fulfilling its land-grant mission, the University is pursuing an aggressive research agenda in dozens of areas, including renewable energy, urban sustainability, cancer biology, applied statistics, and computer science.

The David A. Clarke School of Law, which joined the University in 1996, is the second most diverse law school in the country. Its unique emphasis on clinical education led Attorney General Eric Holder to declare its clinical programs a model for other law schools. This year, law students will provide over 85,000 hours of pro bono legal assistance to our community.

To support its recent growth, the University is undergoing a massive physical transformation, with three major satellite campuses and a community college that opened in the past two years, upgrades to the main Van Ness campus, and a new state-of-the-art student center, which we will soon break ground on.

Although the University was born out of the humble beginnings of a one-room school house, it has been dedicated to excellence in education and opportunities for all of its 160-year history. I am proud of the University and ask the House to join me in commending the University community on its accomplishments over the last 160 years.

## HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. MONICA'S CHURCH

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to St. Monica's Catholic Church in San Francisco's Richmond District on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary. The Anniversary Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Robert McElroy and Fr. John Greene, pastor of St. Monica's Church and chaplain to the San Francisco Fire Department.

The Richmond District of San Francisco had expanded after the 1906 earthquake and its Catholic residents needed a congregation. St. Monica's Parish was founded in January 1911 and the church was built in 1918 funded by donations of the parishioners. From its humble beginnings, when the Richmond District was made up of mostly Irish-American and Italian-American residents, the parish has become a spiritual home to an ethnically and culturally diverse population.

St. Monica's School was founded in 1919 by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. It is a co-ed Catholic elementary school that welcomes students from all faiths and cultural backgrounds and well represents the cultural diversity of its neighborhood.

It was my privilege to attend the June 2011 funeral Mass for fallen firefighters Anthony Valerio and Vincent Perez officiated by Fr. John Greene. Each year a Mass is held to commemorate the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center. Many of these masses are held at St. Monica's because it is a favorite church of San Francisco firefighters for weddings as well as funerals.

All San Franciscans are grateful for Fr. Greene's leadership and his dedication to our first responders. The individuals and families in Fr. Greene's parish have been blessed with a Pastor who has strengthened their church and school, built community and inspired their love for service and their love of God.

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE EMPOWERING AND STRENGTHENING OHIO'S PEOPLE

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Empowering and Strengthening Ohio's People (ESOP), an organization dedicated to providing assistance to homeowners who are facing foreclosure, or struggling to make their monthly mortgage payments due to a predatory lending or hardship situation.

The East Side Organizing Project was founded by Inez Killingsworth in 1993 as a means to address the unsafe conditions of her Union-Miles neighborhood. During the early 1990s, ESOP, under Ms. Killingsworth's leadership, began to rally against the lack of credit available to African Americans in the community. When predatory lending in the area increased and more and more community members were facing mortgage payments they could no longer afford, ESOP turned its focus

to addressing this growing problem. ESOP became a statewide venture in 2008, when it opened 10 offices throughout the state of Ohio. The organization was then renamed Empowering and Strengthening Ohio's People. ESOP acts as a foreclosure counseling agency. Through tactics varying from protesting banks to negotiating agreements between lenders and borrowers to taking financial executives on tours of the collapsing neighborhoods that are in peril due to predatory lending, ESOP has helped thousands of families in Ohio avoid losing their homes. In 2010, ESOP helped save more than 3,200 homes from foreclosure.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Empowering and Strengthening Ohio's People and its advocacy work on behalf of Ohio homeowners.

## RECOGNIZING GENE DEWS

**HON. MARTHA ROBY**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exemplary individual—Gene Dews—who has dedicated much of his lifetime to cultivating student athletes in the state of Alabama.

Dews is a Fort Gaines, Georgia, native and a graduate of Clay County High School. He also earned degrees from Georgia Southwestern College and Troy State University.

Dews began his career in coaching as an assistant baseball coach at Troy State University in Troy, Alabama. He held that position for 13 years before becoming the head baseball coach at Wallace Community College in Dothan, Alabama in 1990. The next year Dews also became the athletic director at Wallace, a position he held until his recent retirement.

In 2001, Dews switched from the baseball diamond to the softball field and established one of the top community college softball programs in the nation. During his tenure, Wallace Community College won nine consecutive Southern Division championships, three state championships—which included trips to the Junior College World Series. Under Dews' leadership of Wallace's softball team, there were 15 All-Americans for player performance and nine selected as Academic All-Americans.

In 2008, Coach Dews was inducted into the Wiregrass Sports Hall of Fame—an acknowledgment of his significant and successful career. I applaud Dews for his dedication to student athletes and his involvement with college athletics for 35 years.

I wish Coach Dews the best in his retirement as he spends more time with his wife, Mary Ann, their children and grandchildren—and continued involvement with his church as a Deacon at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Headland, Alabama.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Gene Dews. I am grateful for his service, and proudly recognize his contribution to the betterment of student athletes, and others, in the great state of Alabama.

## HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SHERIFF JIM LOWMAN

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor the life of retired Escambia County Sheriff Jim Lowman. Sheriff Lowman was an esteemed leader in Northwest Florida, and I am proud to honor his lifetime of dedication and service.

Sheriff Lowman was a respected and vital member of the Northwest Florida community. He served as dean at Woodham High School in Pensacola, Florida, before working as a counselor at the Juvenile Center. Although Sheriff Lowman did not have any prior experience serving in public office, he possessed a vast deal of first-hand knowledge of local law enforcement through his work as a juvenile counselor. In 1992, Sheriff Lowman decided to run for Escambia County Sheriff, and his highly successful campaign reflected his ability to work closely with the citizens of Escambia County to improve the local community. He was elected Sheriff and served in that capacity from 1993–2000.

When Sheriff Lowman's term began in January 1993, he undertook a thorough assessment of the department and concluded that the department was understaffed. In order to facilitate the recruitment of new deputies, Sheriff Lowman encouraged the Escambia County Board of County Commissioners to enroll in the Public Hiring Supply Program. The Commission agreed and during Sheriff Lowman's tenure the force was increased by nearly 60 percent.

Under Sheriff Lowman's direction, the Escambia County Sheriff's Department also undertook important measures to tackle alcohol and drug abuse. They forged a close working relationship with the Community Drug and Alcohol Program. Additionally, the Sheriff's Department identified key areas of drug trafficking and worked with the managers of these properties to develop a security plan. Gatekeepers, often off-duty Sheriff's deputies, patrolled the area to ensure that outside drug traffickers could not set up distribution points within housing developments.

Sheriff Lowman also oversaw a \$2 million expansion of the County Jail. This expansion improved county facilities and helped to lessen crowding in the jail. Despite overseeing substantial improvements, Sheriff Lowman was able to run his department in a fiscally responsible manner, and in his final year he returned nearly \$900,000 in unused funds back to the County.

While Sheriff Lowman was an invaluable member of the Northwest Florida community, and many will remember him for his tireless effort combating crime and improving the lives of Escambia County's citizens, he was first and foremost a family man. He was a loving and dedicated husband, father, and grandfather. He is survived by his wife Sue, their four children—Jamie, Jennifer Sue, Lesley, and Scott—and their grandchildren, Gavin and Jay Scott.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize the life and service of Sheriff Jim Lowman. A committed community leader and loving family