

sponsors and managers of housing and services for older adults, persons with disabilities, and low-income families.

RHF was formed in 1961 by three visionaries: two California United Church of Christ clergymen and one layman. The organization, which began with a \$7,000 grant, today operates 161 communities in 25 states throughout the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. While these communities are comprised of mostly apartments, RHF also provides senior housing with assisted living units and skilled nursing beds.

A total of four RHF communities are located within the 34th District. The Rio Vista Village for low-income families is located in Boyle Heights. RHF operates three communities for low-income seniors: Colonia Jess Lopez in Boyle Heights, which is named after a strong community activist and outspoken advocate of older Americans whom I was proud to call a friend; Sangnok Villa in Westlake; and Angelus Plaza in Downtown Los Angeles.

During my years in Congress, I have had the privilege of working closely with RHF as a member of the Advisory Council for Angelus Plaza—the nation's largest affordable housing community for seniors in the country. Angelus Plaza is the only facility of its kind in the country. Covering two city blocks and two postal zip codes, it has nearly 1,100 apartments. Angelus Plaza is home to 1,300 independent seniors whose average age is 82.

RHF prides itself on its culturally diverse programs and services offered to Angelus Plaza's residents who speak more than 10 different languages. Angelus Plaza's six-story senior center offers more than 100 monthly classes and activities for seniors throughout the Greater Los Angeles Area. The complex also houses the Tom Bradley Senior Health Center (operated by Good Samaritan Hospital) as well as a continuation high school operated by the L.A. Unified School District and office space for more than 10 non-profit organizations and senior groups.

In addition, RHF continues to partner with local organizations and government agencies to secure support and funding for affordable housing throughout the country. RHF preserves properties within the HUD inventory by acquiring those properties in danger of becoming market rate.

RHF also reinvests in its own properties to ensure that they remain viable affordable communities for decades to come. In the last five years, RHF invested more than \$95.9 million to rehabilitate and update existing communities.

RHF takes its role as an affordable housing advocate seriously. As a respected national voice in this area, Dr. Laverne Joseph, RHF's President and CEO, has testified before various Congressional Committees about a variety of affordable housing-related issues.

Mr. Speaker, as the organization prepares to mark its 50-year milestone at a special February 18 anniversary celebration at their annual conference in Downtown Long Beach, I ask my colleagues to please join the Los Angeles County community and me in recognizing the Retirement Housing Foundation for its steadfast commitment to providing quality, safe and affordable housing and services for America's seniors, low-income families and persons with disabilities.

I also commend RHF's Board Chair, Don King, its National Board of Directors, its Presi-

dent & CEO, Dr. Joseph and the 2,600 dedicated staff throughout the country who make this organization the safety net that it is today for thousands of America's most vulnerable residents and I wish them many more years of continued success.

MR. AND MRS. LEO MILLS 58TH
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY REC-
OGNITION

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 58th Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Mills.

Esther Mills, born Esther Jean House, is the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Raymond House of Towanda, Pennsylvania. Silas Leo Mills is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Mills also of Towanda. Prior to their union in marriage, Esther attended Troy High School and Leo attended New Albany High School. Leo entered the United States Army during the Korean War and in September 1952, he was honorably discharged after serving our country for three years.

The couple was then joined in marriage at 2:00 p.m. on February 1, 1953 at the Monroeton Methodist Church. Reverend Glenn Stewart performed the union and Mrs. Fay Arnold provided the music for the ceremony, "I Love You Truly" and the "Bridal March." The sister of the bride, Mrs. Kenneth Bouse, served as the matron of honor, and Mr. Kenneth Bouse served as the best man. The groom's brother, Stanley Mills, and the groom's cousin, Vern Perry Jr., served as ushers for the ceremony. The Church was decorated with white gladiolas and ferns and the reception was held right there in the basement of the Church.

Following their union, the couple spent their first year of marriage living in Buffalo, New York while Leo worked at Western Electric. The couple then moved back to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and built their home on a farm in Sheshequin Township where they raised their six children: Marsha, Connie, Colleen, Lewis, Silas, and Marlene.

Leo and Esther worked together to maintain the farm and the couple raised veal calves as well as dairy cows. In addition to maintaining the farm, Leo worked for many years at Ingersoll Rand in Athens. Esther worked for a number of years at JV Discount in Wysox and later, at Dupont in Towanda.

Both Leo and Esther are proud members of the Towanda American Legion and its Auxiliary and the Northeast Memorial VFW Post 6824 and its Auxiliary. They remain very active in the community and participate in the annual Veterans Appreciation Day Picnic.

Leo and Esther are much beloved by their family that has grown now to include their six adult children as well as eleven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Leo and Esther Mills are now married 58 years. I am proud to rise today in their honor and salute their commitment to one another, their growing family, their community, and our nation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "END BIG OIL TAX SUBSIDIES ACT"

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, as Congress prepares to consider a draconian continuing resolution next week that will include painful cuts to important programs, I'm pleased to announce legislation that will save American taxpayers almost \$40 billion over the next 5 years.

Right now, Americans are subsidizing some of the largest and most profitable oil companies in the world with their tax dollars.

This bill, the "End Big Oil Tax Subsidies Act," would end 10 of the most egregious tax loopholes enjoyed by the oil industry—tax loopholes that have helped BP, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil and Shell make a combined profit of nearly \$1 trillion over the past decade.

In the tax code, we currently subsidize oil injection, extraction, exploration, drilling, manufacturing, pricing, and inventory valuing, by creating price floors, offsetting foreign taxes, providing generous credits and deductions, offering tax shelters, and allowing the valuation of inventories at deeply discounted prices.

The well-established and extremely profitable oil industry no longer needs the help of American taxpayers. Their profit margins are enough incentive for them to keep doing what they're doing. As former President George W. Bush said in 2005, "I will tell you with \$55 oil we don't need incentives to the oil and gas companies to explore. There are plenty of incentives."

There are many better ways to spend \$40 billion. It could be used to deficit or stave off some of the most painful cuts proposed by my Republican friends—such as LIHEAP funds, which help low-income Americans pay their utility bills so they can keep their heat on in the winter.

We could also redirect the subsidies in the tax code to level the playing field for emerging technologies like wind and solar. This is where the jobs are: A University of Massachusetts study found that investment in clean energy creates anywhere from two to four times more direct and indirect jobs compared to the same investment in oil and gas production.

I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this important legislation.

HONORING WILLIAM FARMER WILSON

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

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

Whereas, one hundred years ago a tenacious man of God was born in Ringold, Virginia, on November 25, 1910; and

Whereas, Mr. William Farmer Wilson graduated from North Carolina State University with a B.S. in Agricultural Education; and served as a Teacher, and Principal; and

Whereas, he served our country in World War II in the Air Force, Retiring as a Lt. Colonel, and received recognition and medals for

his heroics in the War, blessing our nation with his outstanding service; and

Whereas, Mr. Wilson has shared his time and talents as a Teacher, Solider and Community Leader, giving the citizens of Georgia a person of great worth, a fearless servant advancing the lives of others; and

Whereas, Mr. Wilson along with his family and friends are celebrating this day, his 100th Birthday, we pause to acknowledge a man who is a cornerstone in our community in Conyers, Georgia, with his wife Ruth, his daughters and grandchildren; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mr. Wilson on his birthday and to wish him well and recognize his outstanding service to the District and the Nation;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim November 25, 2010, as Mr. William Farmer Wilson Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 25th day of November, 2010.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY ESTABLISHMENT ACT OF 2011

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the sixth in our series of bills, "Free and Equal D.C.," to give District of Columbia residents the self-government and democracy enjoyed by other American citizens. The bill, the District of Columbia District Attorney Establishment Act of 2011, would establish the Office of the District Attorney for the District of Columbia, headed by a district attorney elected by D.C. residents, to prosecute the local criminal laws of the District, now handled by the U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, a federal official. The bill effectuates a 2002 advisory referendum, approved by 82 percent of D.C. voters, on the creation of an office of the district attorney, headed by a locally elected district attorney.

There is no law enforcement issue of greater importance to D.C. residents, or on which they have less say here, than the prosecution of local crimes. A U.S. attorney has no business prosecuting the local criminal laws of a jurisdiction, an anomaly from the past that is out of place in 21st century home-rule D.C. The goal of the legislation is to put the District of Columbia on par with every other local jurisdiction in attention to its local criminal laws. Under the bill, the locally elected district attorney would become the city's chief legal officer. The U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia would continue to handle federal matters, like the other U.S. attorneys in our country. As presently constituted, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia is the largest in the country, only because it serves as the local city prosecutor. The U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia needs to be freed up to handle national security and other vital federal cases, particularly in the post-9/11 nation's capital.

Amending the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to create a local district attorney

would be an important development toward our goal of achieving true self-government. I urge my colleagues to support this important measure.

THELMA BROTZMAN 90TH BIRTHDAY RECOGNITION

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Thelma Brotzman on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

Born Thelma Aileen Green on her family's farm in Auburn Township in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania on February 3, 1921, Mrs. Brotzman is the daughter of the late Bruce and Edna Green. Mrs. Brotzman began her education in a one-room schoolhouse in Beech Grove and graduated from Laceyville High School in 1938.

On June 25, 1938, she married Mr. Elston S. Brotzman and in 1948, after Mr. Brotzman's service to our nation as a member of the Army Air Corps in World War II, the couple settled in Silvara, Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Brotzman has been an active member of her community. Since 1940 she has been a member of the Silvara Ladies Aid Society and for many years she was a member of the committee for the Oldest House in Laceyville, a wonderfully preserved monument to our region's people and pioneer past that is regarded as the oldest frame house in four counties. Mrs. Brotzman also planned events for the Oldest House and served as a tour guide. Amongst her friends and family Mrs. Brotzman is also known as a skilled gardener and bird watcher and she is well known in her community from her many years of work at Tyler Memorial Hospital in Tunkhannock.

Most importantly, Mrs. Brotzman is a proud parent, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She is the mother of six children; Tina, Stephen, John, Julie, Jeffery, and Lee. Mrs. Brotzman also adores her 13 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to rise today to honor Mrs. Thelma Brotzman on the occasion of her 90th birthday. I am proud to have the opportunity to salute her commitment to her growing family, her community, and our nation.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF ALLEN R. HUGHES

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Allen R. Hughes, who passed to his eternal life on December 6, 2010 at the age of 101. A caring and committed family man, he blessed us with a century of steadfastness and sweetness.

Like the bee colonies Allen kept, the Hughes house was always a hive of activity. Children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, cousins and close friends swarmed around Allen, drawn to his good cheer. Allen was al-

ways on the move as well. "Sitting under a tree was not for him," Allen's beloved son Rich noted. Allen loved the outdoors, and spent his time raising Shelties and bees, bird hunting and gardening. He was a devoted and active Mason, a pillar of the Nineveh Lodge in Olney. He enjoyed painting the world around him, even as he energetically took part in it.

Allen was blessed with wondrous qualities, with which he blessed us in turn. His selflessness and uproarious sense of humor touched all who met him, and his honesty and incredible work ethic strengthened and sustained his family and community. Few people exercise their hands and their hearts like Allen did. No doubt this was what enabled him to lead such a long, loving and healthy life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Allen Hughes' full and vigorous life and extending our sincere condolences to his family. He is survived by his wife, Sue Harness Hughes, and her daughters, Jamie and Joyce; his extraordinarily devoted son Rich and Sandy; his grandchildren, Kate, Steve and Kristina; and his great-grandchildren, Lauren, Olivia and Lea. In a century of unprecedented change, Allen was a constant, always there for his family and friends, and the rock of his community. I'm proud to pay tribute to his extraordinary time in this world.

HONORING PRESIDENT RONALD WILSON REAGAN

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2011

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, last Sunday, February 6, marked the 100th year of Ronald Reagan's birth. I've always admired President Reagan, and as a Member elected in 1980 when his name was at the top of the ticket, my coming to Congress was described by some as "riding Mr. Reagan's coattails."

I have never considered that as a derogatory characterization. Just the opposite. I am grateful that I was serving in Congress during his Presidency and had a close-up view of his incredible influence not only in America, but on the world stage, especially in the area of human rights.

As we reflect on Ronald Reagan's life and Presidency, I want to share a Wall Street Journal column by Peggy Noonan, a Reagan speechwriter who observed that "being a good man helped him become a great one."

[From the Wall Street Journal, Feb. 3, 2011]

RONALD REAGAN AT 100

BEING A GOOD MAN HELPED HIM BECOME A GREAT ONE

(By Peggy Noonan)

Simi Valley, Calif.—At the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, in the foothills of the Santa Susana Mountain Range where old Hollywood directors shot Westerns, they will mark Sunday's centenary of Reagan's birth with events and speeches geared toward Monday's opening of a rethought and renovated museum aimed at making his presidency more accessible to scholars and vividly available to the public. Fifty percent of the artifacts, officials note, have never been shown before—essays and short stories Reagan wrote in high school and college, the