

COMMEMORATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE WORLD'S FIRST AIRMAIL DELIVERY

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 10, 2011*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the world's first official airmail delivery, completed by Fred Wiseman on February 17–18, 1911. The private airman's pioneering voyage took him from Petaluma to Santa Rosa, California, a distance of only 14 miles, but a momentous step forward in the history of aviation and the United States Postal Service.

Wiseman was born on a ranch in rural Sonoma County on November 10, 1875, and he grew up fascinated by the mechanics of transportation—bicycles, racecars, and of course airplanes. In the spring of 1910, less than seven years after the Wright Brothers built the world's first successful airplane, one of Wiseman's own projects was already taking to the air. The Wiseman-Peters, as his final pusher biplane design was eventually known, was a local collaboration between Wiseman and a group of fellow aviation aficionados, as well as one of the first planes built in California to fly.

Throughout 1910 and early 1911, Wiseman practiced his flying, even taking part in an early 1911 air race in San Francisco. Then, on February 17, 1911, Wiseman loaded his plane with three letters, 50 copies of the Santa Rosa Press Democrat, and a bag of groceries, and he set out on his flight across Sonoma County. Total flight time was less than 20 minutes, but the journey included two forced landings and ultimately spanned two days. Wiseman's plane flew roughly 100 feet off the ground, reportedly at speeds of up to 70 mph.

Although Wiseman did not continue making airmail deliveries, he did go on to fly in several other air shows in 1911, and his Wiseman-Peters would be redesigned for use in future exhibition flights. In September 1911, the U.S. Postal Service would eventually hire its first official airmail pilot in New York.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebrating the centennial of the world's first airmail delivery. Fred Wiseman's independent spirit and passion for adventure live on in Sonoma County, and we are proud to mark this milestone in our history.

HONORING PASTOR MICHAEL A. SHINN

**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, Pastor Michael A. Shinn is celebrating nineteen (19) years in Pastoral leadership this year at New World Harvest Church and has provided stellar leadership to the church on an international level; and

Whereas, Pastor Michael A. Shinn under the guidance of God has pioneered and sus-

tained New World Harvest Church as an instrument in our community that uplifts the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the hungry and is a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Pastor Shinn is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared not only with his Church, but with our District and the world his 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 Pastor Michael A. Shinn as he celebrates nineteen years on his Pastoral Anniversary;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim September 26, 2010, as Pastor Michael A. Shinn Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, This 26th day of September, 2010.

HONORING PRESIDENT RONALD WILSON REAGAN

SPEECH OF

**HON. JON RUNYAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 9, 2011*

Mr. RUNYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to pay tribute to an American hero. I was only eight years old when Ronald Reagan became our Nation's 40th President. I clearly remember the optimism and patriotism he inspired in me and an entire generation of Americans who grew up during the Reagan era. His Presidency was guided by a commitment to conservative principles. He won the Cold War without firing a single shot and presided over the greatest period of economic growth and prosperity in American history. President Reagan would have had his 100th birthday this week. I urge my colleagues and all Americans to use this occasion to reflect on his life and legacy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 10, 2011*

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for votes in the House chamber on February 8, 2011. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 26.

CONGRATULATING GIANT FOODS ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 10, 2011*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me

in congratulating Giant Foods on its 75th anniversary of service to the residents of the District of Columbia and the national capital region.

Throughout its 75 years, Giant, as it is commonly known, has been known for its high-quality food and customer service. Beginning in 1936, when the first Giant opened in the District of Columbia, our city has embraced its convenient neighborhood locations, bargain prices, and quality customer service.

We appreciate Giant's long presence in the District and its continuing service to our city throughout population growth and transportation and infrastructure development here. We are particularly grateful that Giant has always adapted to the ever changing needs of the community, offering pharmacies, BonusCard programs, which come with special product discounts, Peapod, a home-delivery grocery service, and Super Giant, a department store that offers bulk items at reasonable prices.

Giant has become such a focal point and meeting place for residents that my office frequents Giants in the District for my Government-to-Go program, which offers casework services in the community to assist District residents with federal concerns, saving them from having to visit my offices.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the 75th anniversary of Giant Foods.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALEX SOLA

**HON. JERRY MCNERNEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 10, 2011*

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Alex Sola.

Alex was born on January 18, 1930 in Daly City, California. Alex served in the U.S. Air Force for four years, serving as a crew chief at Tyndall Air Force base in Florida. This posting allowed Alex to proudly serve his country while also pursuing his passion for working on the P-51 Mustang aircraft. After his career in the military, Alex remained involved in the aviation field working as an air traffic controller.

In addition to his love for all things aviation, Alex enjoyed film. He earned a role in the 1987 film "Six Against the Rock," playing a prison guard, and he also made appearances in various TV programs.

Alex passed away January 19, 2011, at the age of 81. He is survived by his daughter Debra, her husband Don, and their two children, Theresa and Sarah. Alex lived a long and eventful life, and I am grateful for his service to America.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Alex Sola and in sending our thoughts and prayers to his beloved family and friends.

HONORING PASTOR JASPER  
WILLIAMS, JR.

**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, Pastor Jasper Williams, Jr., is celebrating sixty (60) years in preaching the gospel this year and has provided stellar leadership to his church on an international level; and

Whereas, Pastor Jasper Williams, under the guidance and calling of God began preaching and singing the word of God as a child and has transformed over the years as a "Son of Thunder" through his style of preaching and teachings; and

Whereas, from Memphis, Tennessee, to Atlanta, Georgia, he has pioneered and sustained Salem Bible Church, as an instrument in our community which uplifts the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the hungry and is a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Pastor Williams is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared not only with his Church, but with our District and the world his 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 Pastor Jasper Williams, Jr., as he celebrates sixty years (60) in preaching the gospel;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim August 8, 2010 as Pastor Jasper Williams, Jr., Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 8th day of August, 2010.

RECOGNIZING THE VISION OF REPRESENTATIVE JOHN W. WEEKS AND HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THE CONSERVATION MOVEMENT

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 10, 2011*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I am on the floor today to introduce a resolution acknowledging the 100th year anniversary of the passage of the Weeks Act. This little-known act marks a significant conservation achievement in the annals of this nation's conservation movement. John W. Weeks, a Republican Congressman from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, was relentless in his efforts to pass this legislation, which authorized the federal purchase of cutover and denuded forestlands in the headwaters of navigable streams for the purpose of conserving the flow of streams and rivers and to restore lands for future timber production. It took close to two years of fierce battle with his colleagues before he succeeded as the Weeks Act cleared Congress on March 1, 1911.

Few of my colleagues may be aware, but at the turn of the 19th century, vast amounts of

private forested land in the eastern United States had been ravaged by clear cut logging. In the absence of trees, vast areas of the East were prone to flooding and soil erosion, as well as destructive forest fires. No longer productive, these lands were often abandoned and came into state and local ownership for nonpayment of taxes. To bring these lands back from the ecological brink, Rep. John Weeks introduced legislation directing the federal government to offer states and localities the opportunity to relieve themselves of these nonproductive lands and at federal expense restore them to their former condition.

Today 26 eastern states are home to 52 National Forests encompassing almost 25 million acres. These forests provide significant economic benefits. Not only are the forests recreational sanctuaries, they are also a major contributor in keeping America's drinking water clean. Many eastern municipal water supplies depend on National Forest watersheds and currently \$450 billion in food and fiber, manufactured goods, and tourism depends on clean water and healthy watersheds. In addition, the timber supply managed by the Forest Service provides a significant monetary benefit. The timber resource was almost nonexistent when the federal government purchased the land, but today these lands host an estimated 42 billion cubic feet of growing stock and about 210 billion board feet of saw timber.

With this resolution we recognize and commemorate the vision of John W. Weeks and his contribution to the conservation movement. Both Republicans and Democrats recognized the importance of federal government in conserving the forests and the water supply for long-term environmental goals. Today I encourage both Congress and the Forest Service to begin a centennial celebration commemorating this major bipartisan accomplishment. Our 52 National Forests in 26 eastern states would not exist today were it not for passage of the Weeks Act of 1911.

I encourage my colleagues to support this resolution.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 10, 2011*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is \$14,098,789,113,781.32

On January 6th, 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 \$3,460,363,367,487.50 since then.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

DEFEND AMERICANS FROM DRUG MANUFACTURERS

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 10, 2011*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I recently introduced H.R. 542, the Consumer Protection Act.

This bill will repeal the Learned Intermediary Doctrine and allow the American consumer to sue a drug manufacturer directly.

Medications are meant to heal us, but sometimes, something goes horribly wrong, and the medicine that was supposed to make us better, only makes us sicker. When this happens, Americans should be able to hold the drug manufacturers responsible.

However, because of a court precedent called the Learned Intermediary Doctrine, Americans are not able to sue the manufacturers of the drug that harmed them. According to the Learned Intermediary Doctrine, a patient cannot sue the drug manufacturer on the grounds that their doctor (the Learned Intermediary) should be able to warn them about the possible negative side effects.

However, in this day of direct to consumer advertising, so often Americans get their information about medication from the manufacturer's advertising, or off the internet. H.R. 542, the Consumer Protection Act, will repeal the Learned Intermediary Doctrine, allowing the consumer to sue the drug manufacturer directly. If drug manufacturers are able to advertise directly to the consumer, then they must be held responsible when something goes wrong.

HONORING WILLIE AND  
JOSEPHINE WILDER

**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, Willie and Josephine Wilder are celebrating fifty years (50) in marriage today in Decatur, Georgia; and

Whereas, on December 23, 1960, because of their union then, our community today has been blessed with a family that has enhanced our district. Mr. Wilder was captain of the football team and Mrs. Wilder was a cheerleader when they married and now, they both are instruments in our community that uplift the spiritual, physical, economic and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God and this phenomenal and virtuous Proverbs 31 woman have given hope to the hopeless, fed the hungry and are beacons of light to those in need, they both have been blessed with two wonderful children, three wonderful grandchildren and three great grandchildren; and

Whereas, Willie and Josephine Wilder are distinguished citizens of our district, they are spiritual warriors, persons of compassion, fearless leaders and servants to all, but most of all visionaries who have shared not only with their family, but with our District their passion to improve the lives of others; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Willie and Josephine Wilder as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary, fifty (50) years in marital bliss;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim December 11, 2010, and December 23, 2010, as Willie and Josephine Wilder Day in the 4th Congressional District.