

historic snow storm in Connecticut and so I missed rollcall vote No. 817 regarding S. 1280, the "Kate Puzey Peace Corps Volunteer Protection Act of 2011." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. WAYNE
DIBOFSKY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2011

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding efforts of Mr. Wayne Dibofsky, Associate Director of Government Relations at the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA). On November 13, 2011, members of the NJEA will honor Mr. Dibofsky at his retirement ceremony in Princeton, New Jersey. His commitment to serve the members of the community is truly worthy of this body's recognition.

Mr. Dibofsky has made a significant impact on the quality of education in New Jersey public schools and has continued to advocate for members rights and labor initiatives for employees in the New Jersey public school system. Mr. Dibofsky joined NJEA in 1982 as a lobbyist. During his tenure he has assisted in drafting many legislative initiatives relating to increased school safety, health care, labor rights, school funding, higher education funding and various regulatory measures. He remained a key advocate in the drafting and passage of over 1,000 pieces of legislation. Most recently he has been a catalyst in the passage of legislation protecting confidentiality of employees who seek support through various employee assistance programs. Mr. Dibofsky was also a key political operative in the passage of school budgets and school bond referendums in Old Bridge, Teaneck, Edison and East Brunswick, New Jersey. Today he continues to ensure that both Federal and State legislation protect NJEA members and assure that public school employees continue to retain their rights and benefits. His impeccable quality of work is continuously reflected in his high success record and flawless ability to inspire and motivate others.

In conjunction with his professional responsibilities, Mr. Dibofsky serves on countless boards and foundations. His generous actions continue to impress and serve the members of the community. Mr. Dibofsky is an alumnus of Monmouth University and has also completed a Masters program at Rutgers University. He currently resides in Franklin Park, New Jersey with his wife Ricky.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in thanking Mr. Wayne Dibofsky for his numerous years of service to the New Jersey Education Association. His outstanding efforts and dedication continue to resonate with the constituents throughout Monmouth County and New Jersey.

HONORING THE U.S. ARMY CORPS
OF ENGINEERS BALTIMORE DISTRICT

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2011

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, on the successful completion of a record military construction and Base Realignment and Closure mission. The Baltimore District worked on this complex mission for six years in the State of Maryland and throughout the mid-Atlantic region.

In 2005, the U.S. Department of Defense was given the difficult task to reorganize itself to more efficiently and effectively support our forces, increase operational readiness and facilitate new ways of doing business. The Baltimore District was tasked with managing more than \$4.2 billion in construction projects—more than any other in the Nation.

Their work has provided our service members, their families and our civilian workforce with cutting-edge facilities that will allow the Department of Defense to continue its mission of protecting our Nation for years to come. These include the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground and the Defense Information Systems Agency Headquarters at Fort Meade, among others. I am proud to welcome these distinguished agencies to the State of Maryland.

The Baltimore District's work extends beyond Maryland's boundaries. In Pennsylvania, the Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Letterkenny Army Depot and Tobyhanna Army Depot are now better prepared to meet the needs of our service members. Fort Belvoir in Virginia has expanded exponentially and is now home to the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, the U.S. Army Legal Services Agency and the Northern Regional Medical Command. Their new proximity to Washington, D.C. is critical for the continued security of our Nation.

The Baltimore District also contributed significantly to the economic stability of the region when we needed it most. The mission was executed with the help of many small businesses, including some owned by veterans, and created thousands of new jobs.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Defense set high expectations and aggressive schedules for this round of BRAC and expected them to be met. I applaud the Baltimore District, the North Atlantic Division and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for their hard work, dedication, and persistence. I ask that you join me in thanking them for their excellent construction, design and engineering services.

COMMEMORATING WORLD STROKE
DAY

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2011

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate World Stroke Day and to help increase awareness of stroke, stroke preven-

tion and the challenges faced by stroke survivors and their families. Although I was unable to mark this day when it occurred last month, it is an important cause that is worth recognizing.

A stroke is a brain attack. It occurs when a blood clot blocks an artery, or a blood vessel breaks, interrupting blood flow to an area of the brain. While most strokes occur in older adults, it's a myth that strokes only occur in this population—anyone can have a stroke. Risk factors include high blood pressure, irregular heartbeat, smoking, high cholesterol, diabetes, lack of regular exercise and poor diet. Family history of stroke is also a risk factor.

The state of North Carolina is part of the "Stroke Belt" where death rates due to stroke are consistently more than 10 percent higher than in other parts of the country. The higher mortality rate may be linked to a higher than average population of African Americans and elderly residents, who are more likely to have a stroke than other ethnicities and age groups, as well as dietary factors.

In the United States, about 795,000 people will have a stroke this year, averaging one every 40 seconds. While stroke kills 137,000 people and is the fourth leading cause of death, there are seven million adult stroke survivors in the United States. Stroke is also a leading cause of serious, long-term disability. Although between 50 and 70 percent of stroke survivors regain functional independence, many survivors require the support of a caregiver or have difficulties returning to work.

The estimated direct and indirect cost of stroke was \$73.7 billion in 2010. While these statistics by themselves are startling, the impact of stroke goes beyond my district/State or even our Nation. Stroke is a global health crisis that kills one person worldwide every six seconds—that's six million people annually. If nothing is done, the predicted number of people who will die from stroke will increase to almost seven million each year by 2015.

The goal of World Stroke Day is to bring attention to the risk factors and warning signs of stroke as well as to honor those living with the impacts of stroke around the world. I urge my colleagues and constituents to know their stroke risk and learn the warning signs. Stand with me today in support of the seven million stroke survivors, their caregivers and families and the rest of the stroke community around the globe to do our part to reduce the impact of stroke in the future.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR JEFFREY
SLAVIN, 2011 COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
FOR MONTGOMERY
COUNTY'S PHILANTHROPIST OF
THE YEAR

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2011

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mayor Jeffrey Slavin on being named the Community Foundation for Montgomery County's Philanthropist of the Year.

Mayor Slavin is among the most generous people I have ever met. He donates his time, his money, and his tremendous wisdom to others on a daily basis. Mayor Slavin's persistent dedication to the needs of the underserved in his community, in addition to his invaluable role supporting dozens of non-profit

organizations and service on the boards of many charitable organizations have made him such an incredible asset to Montgomery County, the State of Maryland and the nation as a whole. It is with great honor and privilege that I congratulate Mayor Jeffrey Slavin for his work as a public servant and philanthropist.

SUPPORT FOR STROKE SURVIVORS AND CAREGIVERS

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2011

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support for stroke survivors and caregivers. Although World Stroke Day has passed, support for stroke victims and caregivers must never end. As a long-time nurse, I have seen first-hand the effects of debilitating diseases. I understand the hard work and dedication of many of our caregivers in helping these victims get back to health.

Awareness is integral in reducing the occurrence of a stroke. According to the American Stroke Association, one in every six people worldwide is expected to die from a stroke. This disease is also the number three cause of death in United States. These numbers are alarming, and I believe Congress must do all that it can to raise awareness and provide policies to address the needs of stroke victims.

Last Congress, the Democratic House passed H.R. 1032, the Heart Disease Education, Analysis Research, and Treatment for Women Act, which would have required the Secretary of Health and Human Services to report on the quality of and access to care for women affected by a stroke. In this report, the HHS Secretary would have been required to include guidance on reducing these disparities in improving treatment for women suffering from a stroke. While this legislation did not become law, I hope Congress can continue in its efforts to reduce the occurrence of and effects of a stroke.

I ask my colleagues to join me in support of stroke survivors and their caregivers. Congress must continue to fight for research and quality healthcare, so that all Americans affected by a stroke can live healthy, productive lives.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is \$14,979,610,349,742.69.

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 \$4,341,184,603,448.89 since then. This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL
MELLO AND HIS MANY YEARS
OF SERVICE TO INSIGHT TECH-
NOLOGY

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2011

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, Michael Mello is commended for his years of dedication in the pursuit of excellence, critical information and security that has enhanced our national defense. Michael Mello's combination of intelligence and dedication exemplifies the finest qualities of professionalism and leadership enabling him to make significant contributions over the many years to Insight Technology and the brave service men and women of the United States Military who have fought and served in the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Michael has been instrumental in keeping our soldiers out of harm's way by providing significant technical and security infrastructure, as well as important information vital for the development and production of mission-critical night vision and electro-optical systems. This work has enabled operational success while saving countless American lives.

America is grateful for Michael Mello's dedication and many years of outstanding service to his country.

IN HONOR OF THE 75TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF SOROPTIMIST INTER-
NATIONAL OF MODESTO

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2011

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the members of Soroptimist International of Modesto in celebration of the club's 75th Anniversary. It is my privilege to honor this organization that has for so many years remained committed to a world where women and girls together achieve their individual and collective potential, realize aspirations, and have an equal voice in creating strong, peaceful communities worldwide.

Soroptimist International of Modesto was chartered November 28, 1936 with 120 members. It has since grown to an organization of dedicated members committed to volunteer service. For seventy-five years, SI of Modesto has worked tirelessly to improve the lives and status of women and girls locally and around the world. Its members strive daily to uphold the organization's values of human rights for all, global peace and international goodwill, advancing women's potential, integrity and democratic decision making, and promoting volunteerism, diversity, and friendship. Through regular meetings featuring guest speakers and programs, the members are able to network, collaborate on ideas, and stay informed on the various issues affecting women throughout the world.

Among the organization's top priorities is a devotion to supporting service projects in our community, throughout the Nation, and worldwide in such areas as education, environment, health, human rights and status of women, international goodwill, and social and eco-

nomie development. Over the years, the club has worked collaboratively with other Soroptimist groups on various projects to serve the residents of our community. These projects include the Medical Outreach Mobile, the "Live Your Dream" event for young girls, the Soroptimist Community Christmas Tree, the Youth Literacy Program, Modesto Junior College's Soroptimist Youth Learning Center, and the Salvation Army homeless shelter medical assistance project.

The organization has also provided monetary support, service, and volunteer time to such community organizations as Memorial Hospital, the McHenry Mansion, Interfaith Ministries, Haven Women's Center, Girl Scouts of America, and Foothill Horizon Outdoor Education, and many other important programs. The club also strives to ensure that women have access to equal education by providing cash awards for scholarships and recognition programs; thus, taking important steps to assist women in their professional careers and personal lives.

It is truly an honor to have a local chapter located in California's 18th Congressional District, whose efforts have made a positive impact on the community and in the lives that its services have touched. Its members truly exemplify benevolence and set a high level of excellence for all to admire and follow. It is a pleasure to represent Soroptimist International of Modesto in Congress and to pay tribute to their seventy-five years of service and success.

HONORING ALONZO JAMISON, JR.

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2011

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to remember the life of a remarkable public servant, Alonzo Jamison, Jr. On October 29, 2011, Mr. Jamison passed away, leaving behind a memorable example to be followed. A long time resident of Denton County, Mr. Jamison was in the farming and cattle-raising business for twenty-five years, a faculty member of the University of North Texas and Texas Women's University, and was as a Member of the Texas State House of Representatives from 1955–1969.

Mr. Jamison proudly served his country during World War II as a First Lieutenant. He earned a bronze star while courageously serving in an anti-aircraft unit in Germany, France, Italy, and North Africa and would go onto to retire as a Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve in 1974.

In 1954, Mr. Jamison was elected to represent Denton County in the Texas State Legislature, where he served seven consecutive terms. After retiring from this role he joined the faculty of Texas Women's University. As a government professor and chairman of his department, he would be an inspiration to all students seeking life as a public servant in government.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise to remember the life and legacy of Alonzo Jamison, Jr. My thoughts and prayers are with his friends and family. He was a great Texan, a devoted husband, and we are all thankful for his brave and dedicated community service.