

Newington-Cropsey Foundation, has created these historic markers, and I encourage those that visit our region to view them, as well as the striking landscape and sweeping natural beauty of our Hudson River.

Mr. Speaker, it has been said that the Hudson River School of Painting led not only to the establishment of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, but also to the creation of the National Parks Systems begun under the late President Theodore Roosevelt. I salute the Hudson River School painters, who celebrated the ideals of American democracy, individuality, and illustrated themes such as nature, education, family, and chivalry. I urge my colleagues to take the time to review the influences of this American art movement and to have all Americans understand its impact on our culture. There are two paintings by Albert Bierstadt, a prominent member of the Hudson River School of Painting, that were recently placed on public view in the Capitol Visitors Center of the U.S. Congress. These works, "Discovery of the Hudson River" and "Entrance into Monterey," were purchased by Congress after the Civil War and are beautiful examples of this movement.

**HONORING MICHAEL ANTHONY  
MASON**

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael Anthony Mason. Michael is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Michael has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Michael has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Michael Anthony Mason for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. STEVE KING**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on November 16, on rollcall No. 843, I mistakenly cast a "yes" vote in favor of the Woodall amendment to H.R. 822. I am submitting this statement for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to clarify that I am opposed to the Woodall amendment and had intended to vote "no."

I was delayed in reaching the House floor because of a meeting in my office and, as a result, I arrived on the floor just before the

vote was closed. Owing to this, I cast my vote in haste, which led to the resultant errant vote.

**HONORING UNION COUNTY KENTUCKY ON THEIR 200TH ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. ED WHITFIELD**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Union County in the First Congressional District of Kentucky on their 200th Anniversary. This momentous occasion not only celebrates the rich history of Union County, but the many thousands of residents who over the years have made it a vibrant and thriving community.

Union County was formed on January 15, 1811 and was likely named for the unanimous agreement of Henderson and Webster citizens to create a new county. Union County is rich in soil and farming is one of the industries that thrive in this part of Kentucky. Coal mining is also a large industry that continues to provide good jobs.

During World War II, Camp Breckinridge Training Center was established near Morganfield and between 1942 and 1946 more than 30,000 infantry recruits were trained there. In 1965 the Earle C. Clements Job Corps Center, which teaches vocational courses, was established on eight hundred acres of the original camp land. The Job Corps Center provided a labor pool for Union County industries and is the second largest Job Corps center in the nation.

Today, Union County attracts many tourists through U.S. 60, railroads, and a nine-foot navigation channel on the Ohio River. The county also hosts the annual Corn Festival and the Union County Fair. There are almost 16,000 people who are proud to call Union County their home.

To commemorate the county's 200th anniversary, community leaders and residents of Union County have planned over 16 different events to educate Kentuckians about the history of Union County and celebrate its residents and culture. It is my privilege to represent Union County in the U.S. House of Representatives and I hope my colleagues in Congress will join me in celebrating this community and its residents.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unable to attend votes on Thursday, November 17, 2011 as I was accompanying Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta on a visit to the Electric Boat shipyard in Groton, Connecticut. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Nay" on rollcall vote No. 854 (ordering the previous question on H. Res. 466, the rule providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules);

"Nay" on rollcall vote No. 855 (on passage of H. Res. 466, the rule providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules);

"Nay" on rollcall vote No. 856 (on passage of H. Res. 467, the rule providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2112, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes);

"Yea" on rollcall vote No. 857 (on agreeing to the Conference Report for H.R. 2112, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes).

**THE WORLD DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD TRAFFIC VICTIMS**

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims, which will be observed on Sunday, November 20, 2011. I offer my thoughts and prayers to all those who have lost loved ones to road crashes. All over the world, in every country and locality, traffic accidents remain an ongoing peril and a source of preventable tragedy. As we embark on the Decade of Action for Road Safety, we should pause to remember who it is that we are fighting for.

Road traffic crashes kill nearly 1.3 million people every year and injure or disable as many as 50 million more. The leading cause of death throughout the world for people ages 10 to 29 is not disease or war, but road crashes. Even today, we can expect that 1,000 people under the age of 25 will die on the world's roads.

These numbers are dramatically increasing and place particular strain on developing nations, where crash rates are highest. In developing countries, road crashes have a dramatic impact on their fragile economies, costing an estimated \$100 billion and often exceeding the total amount received by these countries in development assistance. Furthermore, road crashes affect first responder services, health care services, and health insurance services, as many victims require extensive, and expensive, critical care, as well as follow-up care and rehabilitation.

In October 2005, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution which calls for governments to mark the third Sunday in November each year as World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims. The day was created as a means to give recognition both to victims of road traffic crashes and to the plight of their relatives who must cope with the emotional and practical consequences of these tragic events.

This Day of Remembrance also calls attention to the necessary policies needed to improve transportation management, infrastructure, vehicle safety, education, and post-crash care and rehabilitation. Here in the United States it is of the utmost importance that we continue to support public policies designed to reduce key risk factors like speeding, drunk driving, distracted driving, and the failure of

many Americans to use seat belts, child restraints, and other safety devices.

The Decade of Action for Road Safety has not been declared to merely raise awareness, but also to take action. We all use roads, cars, buses, and bicycles every day. It is easy to take our safety for granted. But too many tragedies remind us that road fatalities and injuries have an enormous impact on our lives. As Americans travel the world more and more and as our global society grows ever more close-knit, the pressing importance of our observance of the World Day of Remembrance only grows as well.

Mr. Speaker, no one should die because of entirely preventable traffic accidents. We must do everything we can to raise awareness and address the underlying causes. On this year's Day of Remembrance, let us pay extra attention to ways we can make the world a safer place.

CELEBRATING THE SERVICE OF  
JON MARTHEDAL

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Jon Marthedal, a third generation farmer from Fresno, California. Jon has been named Agriculturalist of the Year by the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce. Jon has been instrumental in enhancing the San Joaquin Valley by advocating for business opportunities and encouraging innovation in our community. A distinguished farmer and leader, Jon is certainly deserving of recognition by the Chamber.

Marthedal Farms has been a family operation since its inception in 1903. Upon immigrating to the United States from Denmark, Harold Marthedal, Sr. purchased 20 acres of property. Years later, his son Harold Jr. took over and worked to expand the size of the farm. Today, Marthedal Farms is operated by Jon and his son Eric. They manage about 700 acres of raisin grapes, table grapes, and blueberries.

Jon has been an important part of the agricultural community for many years. Upon earning his degree in Agricultural Business from California State University, Fresno, he began his career at Sun-Maid Growers in 1978. In ten years, he became Director, and then served as Vice Chairman before becoming Chairman in 1999. Through his progressive and innovative work, Jon has become a respected voice in matters pertaining to California agriculture.

Jon's passion and commitment to agriculture has been demonstrated by his enthusiastic membership and leadership within a number of agriculture-based organizations. He serves as Secretary of the Raisin Administrative Committee, Vice Chairman of the Agricultural Council of California, Chairman of the California Blueberry Commission, and is a member of the Board Restructuring Committee for CoBank—a lender to cooperatives. For over 100 years, Marthedal Farms has been an integral part of maintaining the San Joaquin Valley's status as the breadbasket of the world.

Jon and his wife Sandy have three children. Whether he is spending time with his family

and friends, or serving our community, Jon has always been known to be a man of principle and integrity.

I applaud Jon for his many years of work and congratulate him on his well-deserved recognition from the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in applauding and expressing appreciation for Jon's work.

NATIONAL NURSE PRACTITIONER  
WEEK

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of National Nurse Practitioner Week.

This honorary week, November 13th through the 19th, celebrates the vital service that over 148,000 nurse practitioners provide to patients around the country. At a time when there is a shortage of primary care physicians, more and more Americans are turning to nurse practitioners to help with their medical problems.

Nurse practitioners are highly educated, licensed clinicians that provide a broad range of patient-focused care. Besides treating medical needs, nurse practitioners also focus on health promotion and disease prevention as well as health education that helps guide patients and assist them in making healthy choices in their day-to-day lives. Nurse practitioners improve the lives of Americans and help reduce health care costs. We should celebrate nurse practitioners as a crucial part of our healthcare system and a solution to many of the problems it faces.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in recognizing the important work of nurse practitioners across the nation.

HONORING MICHAEL DUANE  
CURTIS

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael Duane Curtis. Michael is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Michael has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Michael has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Michael Duane Curtis for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

MIKE WHITT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
MINGO COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I want to call to my colleagues' attention, during these times of budgetary debate, the significant savings realized by the taxpayers of our country by the vision and work of one of my constituents, Mr. Mike Whitt, the Executive Director of the Mingo County Redevelopment Authority.

In pursuit of sound, forward-thinking economic development initiatives, Mike was light-years ahead of other jurisdictions when he began forging public-private partnerships to save taxpayer dollars, leveraging public funding and above all creating good paying sustainable jobs for families. No slick financing schemes; no hocus pocus accounting tricks here. Mike did his homework and did it well. He still does. Anyone, who has ever had the good fortune to participate in one of his project presentations, knows they have to be on their toes to answer detailed questions about what they can bring to the table.

Mike has travelled the country sharing his valuable time with agencies and associations to spread the word about how some old-fashioned hard work in planning economic development ventures upfront can save millions in the end. He has given freely of his experience and expertise so others can adopt his sensible and thoughtful approach to investing public funds to address citizen's needs for a darn good return on the taxpayer's dime.

As we debate ways to improve our budget in the coming weeks, I hope my colleagues will look to the results sound public investment can yield when that investment is married with private investment and properly managed. I am certain the Mingo County Redevelopment Authority will be happy to share their accomplishments.

In a larger sense, Mike Whitt serves as a bright beacon to all who strive to serve the public, administer public programs, and manage public funds. Our country owes Mike a debt of great gratitude for his work and his years of sacrifice away from family and friends to serve the public good.

Recently, Mike has been battling some health issues. Mike is a man of great faith, a strong fighter, who has the courage of his convictions. We know though he appreciates the power of partnership, so we welcome your thoughts and prayers for Mike and his family as he tackles this personal challenge.

TAIWAN AIRPOWER

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, China should not dictate what America can or cannot do. But, when it comes to our Taiwan policy, it seems we kowtow to the wannabe empire of the East. China has over 1,400 missiles pointed at Taiwan, and military experts agree that Taiwan is losing its ability to even slow China