

## NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY

**HON. ROBERT T. SCHILLING**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. SCHILLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Adoption Day and to celebrate the many families who graciously open their homes and their lives to the most vulnerable and often forgotten children in our communities. As the father of 10 children I understand the importance of family. I also understand the many sacrifices parents make to provide the best opportunities for their kids. This is why I deeply respect adoptive and foster parents; they so readily take on additional expenses and sacrifices to provide a safe home for a child.

I recently joined the Congressional Caucus on Foster Care which is dedicated to protecting and promoting the welfare of the more than 424,000 children who are part of the foster care system in the U.S. The Caucus provides a forum where Members can come together to discuss ways we can improve the system and help these children make a successful transition out of care and into society.

Tomorrow, National Adoption Day will be celebrated across the country. There are more than 400 events planned to highlight the need for more families to open their hearts to children in need and to show gratitude to those who have taken that step. I want to thank each and every foster parent and adoptive parent for opening your safe and loving home to a child. Thank you for taking the time to enrich the lives of those children who need it the most.

## ON THE OCCASION OF MARY LOUISE PETERS-HUGHES' 100th BIRTHDAY

**HON. GARY C. PETERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the most special purpose and privilege of honoring the life of Mary Louise Peters-Hughes on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Mary Louise Peters-Hughes is a most remarkable woman, having lived through 100 years of the most changeable times in human history; she is also my aunt, big sister to my late father Herb, and the matriarch of our family.

Born on September 20, 1911, Mary came of age amidst the burgeoning era of women's rights. Her achievements embodied the kind of progress and leadership envisioned by that movement; throughout her life, Mary has held herself to a high standard of achievement and leadership.

In 1929, she graduated valedictorian from Rochester High School, after serving in the National Honor Society and as president of her senior class. Mary matriculated at Alma College, during a time when only 10% of young people sought higher education. Mary studied English and Latin and continued to be

a leader among her peers by serving as President of the Wright Ladies Hall and member of the Philamathion Ladies Social Society. Within four years, she graduated with a near-perfect grade point average. Finally, before embarking upon a career in teaching, Aunt Mary obtained her Master's Degree from the University of Michigan.

Aunt Mary was a devoted teacher, always encouraging her students to fulfill their best potentials. She did the same with family, too. Ever the supportive big sister, she sent my father money every week as he worked to get his own degree from her alma mater, Alma College. My father often talked of his deep gratitude for her vital support of him during those lean depression. After marrying my uncle, Halley Hughes, Mary took a leave from her career and devoted herself full time to family and raising her three sons: Bob, Dick, and Jim.

Later in life, Aunt Mary returned to her beloved career and for another 21 years. And as a passionate educator, Aunt Mary joined both the National Education Association and Delta Kappa Gamma to enhance the status and fight for the rights of her fellow teachers across Michigan and the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, though she is my beloved aunt, by any objective measure Mary Louise Peters-Hughes has lived an exceptional life, marked by academic excellence, an admirable professional career and a most compassionate and strong family life. Her story and path is truly one we can all look to as an example for our own lives. I, my wife and children and Mary's three children, six grandchildren and nine great grandchildren are grateful for the 100 years she has lived and the lessons and love she has shared with each of us. We wish for many more lived in health and happiness.

## CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2112, CONSOLIDATED AND FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2011*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Fiscal Year 2012 Conference report for the Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science, and Transportation-HUD appropriations bill.

However, I regret the process that brought this bill to the floor. A full one third of this bill, the Transportation-HUD appropriations, has never been considered by the House before. This bill was not written in an open process and members were not allowed to offer amendments to improve the bill.

I am pleased that this bill included the funding I fought for to help our local residents recover and rebuild from the flooding which caused so much destruction in New Jersey. This bill provides \$2.3 billion in needed disaster assistance to ensure Central New Jersey's businesses and home owners have the resources they need to mitigate the damage and put in place preventive measures in advance of future disasters.

Further, this bill rejects the dangerous attempt by House Republicans to end the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and provides the program with almost \$200 million to help local police departments keep our communities safe despite the local budget constraints. While this represents a steep cut in funding from last year, these funds will help some local departments who are having to make tough decisions about firing police officers for a lack of resources. Going forward, we must do far more to get more cops back on the beat.

In these difficult times, this bill also denies an attempt to reduce funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Women, Infants and Children (WIC). SNAP and WIC help our fellow Americans during their most difficult times with some food assistance to help make ends meet. As millions of our fellow Americans are struggling in this difficult economy, this bill provides \$105 billion for domestic food assistance programs, an 18 percent increase from last year, to make sure they are at least able to keep some food on the table.

As a research scientist, I have long supported the important role of federal investment in basic research. I am glad this bill increases funding for the National Science Foundation (NSF) to \$7 billion, an increase of \$173 million. It also provides the necessary funding to continue the development of the James Webb Space Telescope that will allow researchers to find the first galaxies and help create jobs now. Further, this bill provides the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office a 29 percent increase in funding to ensure that our Nation's inventors are able to get their ideas to market and help grow our economy.

I am also pleased that this bill makes needed changes to ensure that the maximum loan limits for the Federal Housing Administration are maintained at a level necessary for areas with high cost housing like we have in New Jersey. With the housing market still weak, this will help provide some necessary stability and support for prospective home owners.

It is unfortunate that this bill freezes funding for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission which is tasked with implementing many of the commonsense Wall Street reforms we approved last year. Without additional funding the CFTC will struggle to prevent future financial crises, and not have the resources needed to fight oil speculation which is increasing the cost of gas at the pump.

Finally, I regret that this bill contains a number of funding restrictions that will limit our Nation's law enforcement officers from combating gun trafficking and prevent sensible regulations from being established to prevent guns from falling into the hands of criminals. Yet again the NRA has been given an early Christmas present with the inclusion of these special giveaways tucked into this bill without a vote or any debate on them.

This is not a perfect bill but it prevents a looming government shutdown. Further, it provides funding increases for a number of critical programs and rejects many of the dangerous cuts contained in the funding bills that the House previously approved. I support passage of this bill despite its pessimistic view of what America can achieve through ambitious funding of the programs covered under the bill.

HONORING 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
MESSIAS TEMPLE CHURCH AND  
THE PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY  
OF SUFFRAGAN BISHOP HARRY  
S. GRAYSON

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the honorable Suffragan Bishop Harry S. Grayson, who is celebrating his 60th birthday and 20th year of service as the pastor of The Messiah Temple Church, as well as the 70th Anniversary of the Church in the community of Ypsilanti, Michigan. As friends and family and community members gathered last Saturday on November 12, 2011 to honor both anniversaries, my wife Deborah and I joined the service to honor the church and Pastor Grayson's service and care to the Ypsilanti community.

Time tends to show us what is really important in life. Since the founding of the Messiah Temple on November 10, 1940, four pastors have dedicated their lives to spreading the Gospel and ministering to the well-being of the congregation and the community. As the church family grew in size, so did the church's community outreach and it was the spirit and leadership of these ministers, including Pastor Grayson, that have made the difference.

Over the past 20 years, many programs that promote the joy of giving have been initiated under the fine leadership of Pastor Grayson. They include the sharing of hot meals, holiday food giveaways, and vital prison, shelter, and re-entry ministries. I also applaud his commitment to promoting education in Ypsilanti through tutoring, financial assistance programs, and educational children activities. Pastor Grayson and his lovely wife Mary have raised their three children in the same place where he came of age and found his call for the ministry. His compassion, tireless efforts, and loving care for the Ypsilanti community is extraordinary and I am not alone in celebrating the amazing positive impact the church and Pastor Grayson have had in my district.

**NATIONAL COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATIONS WEEK**

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, this week we recognize millions of Americans who have voluntarily joined together to meet important needs in their communities. National Community Foundations Week celebrates the generosity and shared efforts to common goals that mark the American character.

Community foundations make substantial contributions to our nation's well-being in areas such as health care and social services, education and the arts, economic development, and environmental protection. In 2010, community foundations gave an estimated \$4 billion to a variety of nonprofit activities.

Directed by volunteers, community foundations provide effective leadership in communities throughout the United States, often

supplementing or assisting in the coordination of public programs and other private services. They are one of the fastest-growing forms of philanthropy in the United States.

The Oregon Community Foundation exemplifies these virtues. For instance, its "Access to Higher Education" initiative includes a one-on-one mentoring program fostering post-high school education and a scholarship program directing millions of dollars each year to help Oregonians pursue advanced education. The Oregon Community Foundation also addresses needs like literacy on the North Coast, children's dental health in South Willamette Valley and community school programs in Central Oregon.

Please join me in recognizing National Community Foundation Week, and in gratefully acknowledging the nation's charitable organizations as well as the concerned individuals who donate their time, talent, and resources.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO CANTON  
HIGH SCHOOL STATE CHAMPION  
BOY'S SOCCER TEAM**

**HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the Division 1 State Champion Boys' Soccer Team from Canton High School. On November 5, 2011, the Canton Chiefs eked out a 1-0 victory over Grand Haven, marking their 1st State Championship since 1994 when Head Coach George Tomasso was the Canton goalkeeper.

After having amassed a division record of 9-0-1 and winning the Kensington Lake Athletic Association's South Division, the Kensington Conference and the KLAA overall title, the Chiefs headed in to district play with overall regular season tally of 14-1-2. Canton leveled Ann Arbor Skyline 2-1 before taming the Northville Mustangs 3-0 in the district semifinal. The Chiefs caged the Novi Wildcats, winning 3-1 in double overtime to take the District 5 crown.

Moving on to regional match-ups, Canton stormed past Dearborn by a score of 3-0. The Chiefs blazed by Ann Arbor Pioneer 4-1 to claim the Region 2 crown. Canton's defense would prove impenetrable against top ranked Warren DeLasalle in the semi-final round as the Red and White grounded the Pilots 1-0, setting the stage for the championship showdown.

Facing Grand Haven in the final match of the season, a pair of sophomore midfielders gave the Canton Chiefs the only goal they would need. At 3:32 in the second half, a perfectly threaded pass led to an unstoppable low shot ripping past the Buccaneers' goalie into the middle of the net. Canton's defense stymied the Bucs, giving the Chiefs the right to hoist the Michigan High School Athletic Association Division 1 Championship trophy.

Mr. Speaker, with a season record of 24-1-2 and having allowed only three goals during their entire playoff run, the 2011 Canton Chiefs deserve to be recognized for their determination, achievement, spirit and effort. I ask colleagues to join me in congratulating the Chiefs for obtaining this spectacular title and in honoring their devotion to our community and country.

**IN COMMEMORATION OF WORLD  
REMEMBRANCE DAY**

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, as a co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Global Road Safety, a caucus dedicated to supporting safe road travel worldwide, I rise to commemorate World Remembrance Day.

World Remembrance Day was established to honor the memory of those who have been injured or killed in traffic crashes around the world. The day was set aside as a sign of the world's commitment to preventing road traffic deaths, to educating drivers and pedestrians about the hazards of road travel and to improving the safety of our roads.

Road crashes are the leading cause of death globally for people between the ages of 5 and 29 years old. According to the 2009 Global Status Report on Road Safety, nearly 1,300,000 people globally die in road crashes each year. Unless action is taken, it is predicted that road traffic injuries could double by 2030, killing an estimated 2,400,000 people per year.

The hazards of road travel are a persistent problem regardless of a country's wealth. According to a report by the Governors Highway Safety Association, a body representing the safety departments from around the U.S., the overall number of pedestrian fatalities in this country is increasing.

Statistics such as these are the rallying call of a growing number of public safety groups like the Association for Safe International Road Travel. Due to ASIRT's determined advocacy, there is now an increased emphasis being placed by American officials on providing our citizens with the tools they need to travel safely while abroad. ASIRT's encouragement influenced the Department of State's decision to post road safety information on its website and to offer safe driver training at its missions around the world.

I am proud of my association with ASIRT. Its commitment to raising awareness about the hazards of road travel is helping to make the world a safer place. On this World Remembrance Day, may we all take a moment to reflect on the importance of road safety.

**IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE  
AND THEATRICAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF  
SHAUNEILLE PERRY**

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2011*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with great cultural pride to join Byron Lewis, CEO of Uniworld Group, Woodie King, Jr., Founder and Executive Artistic Director of New Federal Theatre and Voza Rivers, Co-Founder and Executive Producer of New Heritage Theatre to celebrate the life and theatrical achievements of renowned actor, author, director and educator, Shauneille Perry.

On November 13, 2011, at Harlem's landmarked Riverside Church, the Uniworld Group, New Federal Theatre and New Heritage Theatre will join hundreds of actors, playwrights, designers, technicians, and students