

as a link to the past, and is still in operation today. This historic, water-powered grist mill with its original, 130 year-old, French-quarried buhr stones is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a popular tourist attraction.

Despite nearly doubling in size over the last decade, modern day Eagle Point continues to be a great place to live and raise children because of its small town rural charm, excellent schools and beautiful surroundings. Along with its rich history and rural setting, Eagle Point boasts a world-class Robert Trent Jones II-designed 18-hole golf course, which has attracted golfers and new residents alike.

Many notable celebrities have called Eagle Point home including Ginger Rogers, Patrick Duffy, and Kim Novak.

Mr. Speaker, on February 12, 2011, Eagle Point kicks off its Centennial Celebration. I invite my colleagues to join with me in wishing "Happy Birthday" to a growing, thriving city which serves as the "Gateway to the Lakes" and a window into southern Oregon's rich history.

TRIBUTE TO LA GRAN PARADA
DOMINICANA DEL BRONX, INC.

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2011

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, during the month of February our nation celebrates Dominican Heritage Month. I rise today to pay tribute to La Gran Parada Dominicana del Bronx, Inc., a valued institution in New York that promotes and celebrates Dominican life and culture.

The Bronx is home to one of the fastest growing Dominican populations in the country, and organizations like La Gran Parada Dominicana del Bronx help us to keep pace with this cultural enlargement. They articulate the Dominican experience here in the U.S., as well as the many ways in which Dominican Americans activate our national endeavor and strength.

Mr. Speaker, Dominican Heritage Month commemorates the anniversary of Dominican independence. It represents, as well, a moment when we pause to consider the growing influence Dominican Americans are having in this country.

Most Dominicans in the U.S. migrated here after 1960; the first generations put down strong roots in the Northeastern states of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and also Florida. Migration increased steadily in the 1970s and more so during the 1980s. Today the Dominican American community is primarily an immigrant community, with all the struggles and triumphs that accompany this experience. It is also a relatively new immigrant community, which means, among other things, that we—as a nation—have the joy of being able to witness history unfold before us, as newness gives way to establishment, and first steps lead to progress and ultimately to Dominican power. Already, we idolize Dominican Americans in our national culture and sport, and see an ever-growing number in public offices throughout the land, serving their constituents with honor.

La Gran Parada Dominicana del Bronx, Inc., was founded in May 1989 by Felipe Febles and Rosa Ayala. Its founders, friends, and allies had the foresight to recognize the value the Bronx would hold for Dominican Americans in years to come. They believed the Bronx would one day serve as a launch pad for Dominican aspirations across the U.S., and that the borough deserved an institutional partner worthy of the people who reside here. This belief has proven correct and in La Gran Parada Dominicana del Bronx, Dominicans from the Bronx have support to match their considerable talents.

Mr. Speaker, this is a bridge-building organization, one that understands honoring cultural achievement in America is at its best a shared experience. For this reason, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Dominican Heritage Month 2011, and to an organization helping to bring it to life in New York City, La Gran Parada Dominicana del Bronx.

HONORING BRIGADIER GENERAL
CAROL ANN FAUSONE

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2011

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Brigadier General Carol Ann Fausone upon her retirement from the Michigan National Guard after 34 years of dedicated and meritorious service.

In 1971, Carol Ann Fausone graduated from Cardinal Mooney High School in Youngstown, Ohio. After earning a bachelor of science in nursing from the University of Michigan in 1975, Carol Ann received her commission as a medical officer in the United States Air Force in 1977. She went on to earn the first of two master of science degrees from Madonna University, the first in administration in 1985 and the second in nursing in 1995. Brigadier General Fausone completed numerous compliments to her vast education in the interim and also attended Capstone National Defense University in 2003.

Brigadier General Fausone has been the recipient of numerous military awards and commendations including the Air Force Legion of Merit, Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with one oak leaf cluster, the National Defense Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster and the Air Force Achievement Medal. She has also been decorated with the U.S. Air Force Senior Nurse and Chief Nurse Badges. In addition, Brigadier General Fausone was honored as the Air National Guard's Medical Readiness Officer of the Year in 1988. In 1994, she received the Nightingale Excellence in Nursing Administration Award from Oakland University and the 191st Airlift Group Commander's Trophy. The Brigadier General earned the highest award given by the National Guard Association of Michigan in 1995, the Major General John A. Johnston Award for Excellence.

Truly a pioneer of service women, Carol Ann Fausone was the first to be Michigan medical officer to achieve the rank of a general officer and on March 1, 2002 became the first woman in the Michigan National Guard to

be promoted to the rank of Brigadier General. After having spent the last 8 years of her illustrious career as Assistant Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs for the State of Michigan, Brigadier General Fausone was pinned with the Distinguished Service Medal and praised for her dedication and service upon her retirement.

Mr. Speaker, as Brigadier General Carol Ann Fausone begins a new chapter in her life with her beloved husband Jim, there is no doubt that she will continue to advocate for the rights of our nation's veterans. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Brigadier General Carol Ann Fausone and in recognizing her years of loyal service to our community and country.

HONORING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL
OF CLAY COUNTY IN
NORTH CAROLINA

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2011

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the sesquicentennial of Clay County in North Carolina. Clay, the smallest county in North Carolina with an area of only 221 square miles, has developed a flourishing community and embodies all that is Appalachia.

In 1860, George Hayes ran for a seat in the North Carolina House of Commons on a platform of creating a new county and county seat in the area of southern Cherokee County. In February of 1861, after his successful election, Representative Hayes introduced a bill to establish Clay County, was named in honor of Henry Clay, U.S. Secretary of State and Senator from Kentucky. Rep. Hayes later received recognition for helping form the new County when the County seat, Hayesville, was named in his honor.

Now, Clay is a thriving community of 10,000 residents. Clay County's education system received national recognition through the prestigious Communities in Schools Organization Accreditation. This award shows the commitment the entire County has to educating the youth in the community and preparing them for successful and productive futures.

Clay County is home to the beautiful Nantahala National Forest which is being developed as a forest, game, and trout preserve. The county also boasts one of the best trout streams in Western North Carolina at the Fires Creek Wilde Life Management. From the spectacular views of sapphire-blue waters in Chatuge Lake to the picturesque beauty of Nantahala National Forest, Clay County encompasses some of the best of Western North Carolina's natural treasures.

On February 21, 2011, Clay County will hold a very special public gathering in celebration of the 150th anniversary of its formation by the North Carolina Assembly. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Clay's sesquicentennial and its contributions to the United States and the great state of North Carolina.

NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2011

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of National Marriage Week, which occurs annually during the week of February 7th. National Marriage Week was established to help couples strengthen their commitment to each other by hosting special events, marriage classes, and home support groups. While it is important for couples to focus on their marriage every day, National Marriage Week is an excellent opportunity for Americans to rededicate themselves to their spouse and to their family.

Marriage was ordained and instituted by God. It is the glue that binds the American family, and the safest harbor in which to raise children. Studies indicate that men and women who have a strong marriage tend to live longer, have better health, and experience more personal joy. Strong marriages also create the safest harbor for children to flourish and experience the complete spiritual, moral, emotional, educational, and financial benefits of both parents.

I have been a long-time advocate of traditional marriage, and have been pleased to support numerous pieces of legislation to protect this sacred institution. The family structure is the cornerstone of our society, and we should emphasize its importance. I encourage all Americans to use this opportunity to renew their commitment and devotion to their spouse, and to personally take the steps they can to preserve this important institution.

COMMEMORATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2011

Mr. SIRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Black History Month and commemorate the heroes of the African-American community, the accomplishments they have achieved for their communities and the freedoms they bravely championed for all Americans.

This year, the theme of Black History Month "African Americans and the Civil War" allows us to reflect on just one of the many moments in history where African Americans played a significant role in the fight for freedom.

Roughly 179,000 African-American men served as soldiers in the U.S. Army and another 19,000 in the Navy. 2,900 of these men were from the State of New Jersey. African American women, while not formally permitted to join the army, nonetheless served as nurses for the wounded.

Their valiant efforts and the extraordinary sacrifices helped unite a divided country and free millions from slavery.

During Black History Month we must also commemorate the accomplishments of the civil rights activist, both known and unknown, who helped imbed equality in the fabric of our great nation.

The impact of African American's service to this country since its founding has been im-

measurable, and there is no doubt that they will continue to shape the future success of our country.

REGARDING LEWISBURG, WV AS "COOLEST" SMALL TOWN IN AMERICA

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2011

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, one hundred and thirty nine thousand and sixty eight visitors and residents and still counting have cast votes to designate Lewisburg in my home State of West Virginia, as the coolest small town in America. Whether victory in this contest is ultimately ours or not, we have learned a lot, reminded a whole lot of our friends not to be strangers, and have won new interest from around the country. To all those who competed in this year's effort, we salute you. Of course there are many towns across this great country and in West Virginia that are cool, worthy of recognition, and multiple honors. But to be the coolest, you have to heat up a lot of energies, and fire up plenty of old fashioned grit and hard work, and burn untold candles at both ends, and exhaust a multitude of warm hearts.

And Lewisburg has done just that. Not just in the last year, either. Lewisburg's charm, its endearing hospitality, historically spans the centuries, back to America's earliest beginnings. Nestled in the peacefully lush valley of the Greenbrier River, Lewisburg has hosted Presidents and Generals, Yankees and rebels, patriots and loyalists.

Historic Lewisburg is the county seat of Greenbrier County, and named after Andrew Lewis, a young surveyor, who, in 1751, established a camp near the spring, located behind the present courthouse, and known since that time as the Lewis Spring. In 1782, Lewisburg was formally established by an act of the Virginia General Assembly. The Old Stone Church in Lewisburg, the county seat, was the first Presbyterian Church built west of the Allegheny Mountains and has been in continual use since 1786.

The Greenbrier Valley and mineral-rich springs were fertile grounds for prosperous farming and elegant resort hotels and spas for visitors.

Today, Lewisburg—with its many 18th and 19th century buildings—is home to families, young professionals, and senior citizens and hosts thousands of visitors from all across America and around the world each year. Its vibrant performing arts community offers live performances by artists from around the world, arts in education programming, classes, workshops, fine art exhibits, an independent film series, and more in its own Carnegie Hall—one of only four Carnegie Halls still in continuous use in the world.

But above all its fine attributes, Lewisburg's lasting legacy will be its people, and their close knit neighbors in West Virginia.

INTRODUCING THE JUMPSTARTING OUR BUSINESS SECTOR ACT OF 2011 (JOBS ACT)

HON. PAUL C. BROWN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2011

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced the Jumpstarting Our Business Sector Act of 2011 (JOBS Act). This legislation permanently eliminates capital gains and dividends taxes, as well as the corporate tax rate. Additionally, it allows for 100 percent of business expensing for 2012.

As our Nation's unemployment continues to hover around 10 percent and the federal "stimulus" bill passed last Congress did little to improve our economy, it is time that Congress does what should have been done in the first place: help small businesses create jobs.

Abolishing capital gains and dividend taxes would be a much more effective means of stimulating the economy than more government spending. The elimination of these taxes would not only provide a short-term "stimulus," but they would encourage new long-term investment and growth.

By the end of 2011, the United States will have the highest corporate tax rate of the 34 countries in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Eliminating the corporate tax rate will immediately increase the competitiveness of our economy, attract more investment, and lead to job creation.

In addition, extending 100 percent of business expensing for 2012 will provide an incentive for businesses to invest more money back into the business, setting the stage for expansion and the creation of new jobs.

Small businesses are the engine of our economy and create the vast majority of new jobs in this country. And yet, nothing that the Federal Government has done so far to address our economic crisis has been directed towards helping our business community.

We have seen the effects of unchecked and unwarranted Federal Government spending on our economy and employment. Now is the time to once again put our trust in the small businesses and entrepreneurs and to get the Federal Government off their backs and out of their way. I believe the JOBS Act will be a positive step towards that goal.

ANDEAN TRADE PREFERENCE ACT

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2011

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, while it is my hope that the Andean Trade Preference Act has promoted trade between the Andean countries and the United States and in so doing it has acted to limit drug production, I and many of my colleagues remain deeply concerned over certain recent conduct by the Peruvian government with reference to its treatment of U.S. investment in Peru. I would ask that a letter my colleagues and I recently sent in regard to this matter be made a part of the record. And I would hope our Government would work diligently to protect the interests of our U.S. citizens in this regard. I would