

improvements in care and research for patients with blood disorders like DBA, while also leading to advanced research initiatives that are yielding clues to other, more widespread disease populations.

The 2011 Outstanding Service Award will be presented to Mrs. Arturi during the 53rd American Society of Hematology Annual Meeting in San Diego, California, on December 11, 2011.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Mrs. Marie Clarke Arturi and her family for their outstanding public service to rare disease communities and those living with Diamond Blackfan Anemia in honor of Daniella Maria Arturi.

RECOGNIZING MR. DENNIS ROBERTS, RECIPIENT OF THE DYNCORP INTERNATIONAL CHAIRMAN'S PURPLE STAR AWARD

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2011*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Dennis Roberts for being the recipient of the DynCorp International Chairman's Purple Star Award. This award recognizes Mr. Roberts' courage and sacrifice while working as a security coordinator in Afghanistan.

The Chairman's Purple Star Award is the highest honor given by DynCorp to its employees. It recognizes individuals who have been killed or wounded while supporting a customer's mission for their exceptional sacrifice.

In February of 2010, Mr. Roberts was supporting our Armed Forces at Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan. During a sudden rocket attack that was launched upon the installation, Mr. Roberts was struck and severely injured by the motor that separated from the rocket. It penetrated a nearby vehicle before striking Mr. Roberts, who suffered severe injuries to his chest, hand, and shoulder.

In the time since the attack, Mr. Roberts has overcome great hardship, undergoing numerous surgeries and completing extensive physical rehabilitation to recover from his injuries. He is also working towards his bachelor's degree and upon his expected graduation next year, hopes to use his education and experience to continue working to support America's security.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Dennis Roberts for receiving this award and I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives please join me in congratulating him.

COMMEMORATING WORLD WIDE Sires 40TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. DEVIN NUNES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2011*

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to World Wide Sires as they celebrate their 40th anniversary.

World Wide Sires was established in 1971 in Hanford, California, a small town in the San

Joaquin Valley. From his home farm, founder Bill Clark recognized the benefits of genetic potential and its role in producing the most efficient and highest quality livestock. Today, World Wide Sires is the world's leading cattle genetics marketing organization with active markets in over 70 countries.

In 2001, World Wide Sires Inc. was purchased by Accelerated Genetics and Select Sires and became World Wide Sires Ltd. Still operating as a stand-alone company, World Wide Sires has continued to use the San Joaquin Valley as the hub for their growing international sales, maintaining headquarters in Visalia, California. During its 40 years, World Wide Sires has sold products in 108 countries, all from only a few miles away from founder Bill Clark's original home farm.

A leading exporter of US bovine genetic material, World Wide Sires remains committed to providing dairy and beef producers throughout the world with the highest quality genetics and services available. I applaud World Wide Sires for their hard work and dedication to the agricultural community, and I congratulate them on their 40th anniversary.

**BURMA**

**HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2011*

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned about the international community's recent trust in assurances that Burma is opening up to the world and becoming a true democracy in which the rights of all people in Burma are protected. There have been some positive steps taken recently by the dictators, however, until we see permanency in these changes, we would all do well to remain deeply cautious.

One important issue the Secretary of State addressed during her visit this week to Burma regarded the attacks by the dictatorship's troops against the ethnic minorities. It is vital, and I cannot emphasize this enough, that leaders of the various ethnic groups be included in any and all discussions, dialogue and decision about the future of Burma. I would call your attention to the call by the U.N. for a tri-partite dialogue—all three parties, the dictatorship, the democracy groups and the ethnic groups, must be included fully in all negotiations and agreements in order for true change to come to Burma. This is even more important when, during this visit and the recent ASEAN meetings, the dictatorship was violently attacking one or more ethnic groups.

A few years ago, I submitted a Statement for this Record describing the Advanced Light Helicopters that India sold to Burma. The dictators of Burma used these, plus other military hardware sold to them by a variety of nations against the ethnic minority civilian populations. The brutality of Burma's Generals against the ethnic minorities has not stopped, even during this time when they are allegedly making democratic reforms. Therefore, we as a democratic, free nation must be extremely careful of what the Generals are really up to—they haven't proven themselves trustworthy in the past.

I would like to submit for the RECORD, a short letter to the Secretary from Ms. Zipporah

Sein, Secretary General of the Karen National Union.

I urge the Secretary of State, when engaging in further dialogues with the Burmese government, to proceed with the utmost caution.

OFFICE OF THE SUPREME HEAD-  
QUARTERS, KAREN NATIONAL  
UNION, KAWTHOOLEI,

*November 25, 2011.*

Hon. HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON,  
*Secretary of State,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR MADAM SECRETARY: Thank you for your constant support and encouragement for the people of Burma.

The leaders of the Karen National Union (KNU), welcome your engagement with the government of Burma and your leadership alongside Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to bring to the forefront the need to see an end to the ongoing conflicts in the ethnic states and an end to the oppression of all people inside Burma.

We the KNU would like to ask you to take the lead to recognize the desires of all the ethnic groups, both armed and unarmed, to be treated as equals in the effort to establish a genuine federal union: A union that recognizes the rule of law and recognizes the equality of all.

We invite you to meet with ethnic leaders from all of the ethnic organizations both armed and unarmed as we move forward to work toward a peaceful and stable nation where our citizens can truly be free from governmental oppression. We need your help and your engagement with all of us.

Sincerely,

ZIPPORAH SEIN,  
*General Secretary, Karen National Union.*

CONGRATULATING THE ROCK BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL BRUINS BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2011*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Rock Bridge High School Bruins Boys Cross Country team for winning the Class 4 Missouri State Championship.

The young men and their coaches should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the regular season and bringing home the state title to their school and community. At the State Cross Country Championships in Jefferson City, the Bruins won the state title with a score of 61, 28 points better than second place. They have made history for the school, as it is the Rock Bridge boys' first state title.

I ask that you join me in recognizing the Rock Bridge Bruins for a job well done!

HONORING LARENCE C. "LARRY" MAXWELL

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2011*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Veterans of Foreign Wars Chowchilla Post 9896 Life Member Larence C. "Larry"

Maxwell who served his country honorably from a very young age.

Larence C. "Larry" Maxwell entered the United States Army shortly after completing high school and began a journey that would see him serve in multiple wars and conflicts for thirty-two years throughout the world culminating with promotion to Command Sergeant Major, the highest enlisted rank in the Army.

The son of Andrew and Addie Maxwell of Chowchilla, Larry was born in Madera on December 21, 1946. He was raised in Chowchilla, where he attended elementary school and attended Le Grand High School. In 1965, he entered the Job Corps. In 1966, he was drafted at age nineteen and subsequently enlisted in the Army. He completed basic training at Fort Ord, California and then Advanced Individual Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, where he was selected for training as an Army Engineer Heavy Equipment Operator. His first duty assignment was with C Company, 94th Engineer Battalion in Nillingen, Germany, where he assisted in the construction of facilities for ammunition and equipment when France resigned from NATO.

Vietnam was the next tour for the young Army combat engineer. He was assigned to the 92nd engineer Battalion in January 1968 as a heavy equipment operator and squad leader. The 92nd was known as the "Black Diamonds" and gained a reputation as the "can do" unit during combat operations, earning fourteen battle streamers in Vietnam and four Meritorious Unit Commendations and the Vietnamese Civil Action Honor Medal First Class. Maxwell participated in the Tet Offensive and four more major campaigns until his tour ended in January 1969. He was wounded by enemy mortar fire in May 1968 and was medevaced to the Army hospital at Bien Hoa and after recovery from his wounds he returned to the 92nd for duty.

He concluded his twelve-month tour and returned stateside. He took a brief break from the Army for two years before re-enlisting in 1971, and was stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas, with the 68th engineer Company as a squad leader and heavy equipment operator, where he worked on numerous projects including those for the Bureau of Indian Affairs on the Mescalero Indian Reservation. After Fort Bliss, he received orders to report to the 598th Supply and Service Company in Kaiserslautern, Germany, where he assumed duties as Class 3 Distribution Chief. He subsequently was promoted to Assistant Platoon Sergeant of the Equipment Platoon with the 370th engineer company. While serving in Germany, his unit was designated as the best engineer company in the U.S. Army.

In 1975, he reported to B Company, 43rd engineer battalion, Fort Benning, Georgia, where he served initially as a squad leader and promoted to platoon sergeant. With obvious leadership qualities, he was assigned to the 36th Engineer Group as an instructor in the Basic Leadership Course. His superiors selected him to attend the Engineer Advanced Course at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Upon completion of the Advanced Course, he was selected for Drill Sergeant School at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. After graduation from Drill Sergeant School, he served as Drill Sergeant from June 1979 to October 1982.

He returned to Germany as First Sergeant with the 58th Combat Engineer Mechanized 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment at Downs

Barracks, at Fulda, Germany. The unit was responsible for protecting the East/West German border. After completion of the tour with the 11th Armored, he found himself back at Fort Leonard Wood as First Sergeant of A Company, 6th Battalion, 10th Infantry Basic Training.

In June 1988, he was selected for the Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Bliss, Texas. After graduating from the Sergeants Major Academy in January 1989, he was assigned to Army forces at Camp Nimble in Korea as First Sergeant of B Company, 44th Engineer Battalion. The 44th had responsibilities for duties on the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). In September 1989, he was promoted to Sergeant Major and served in the capacity in Korea at Camp Mercer.

After returning stateside, he assumed duties as Sergeant Major for the 535th Prime Power Detachment at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. The 535th had teams stationed in Kentucky, Georgia, Virginia, New Jersey, Panama, and Germany.

At the beginning of the Gulf War, Maxwell was designated Command Sergeant Major. In the U.S. Army, the leadership position of Command Sergeant Major is the highest enlisted rank and acts as the senior enlisted advisor to the commanding officer and represents all the enlisted soldiers of the command.

Maxwell was made Battalion Sergeant Major of the 43rd Engineer Battalion and deployed to Saudi Arabia, where he became Command Sergeant Major of Task Force 43 assigned to echelons above corps during hostilities with Iraq.

After the Gulf War, he participated in disaster relief during Hurricane Andrew. He deployed to Somalia twice, first as Sergeant Major with Task Force 43, 10th Mountain Division, and the second time when his battalion was attached to United Nations' forces for the construction of Victory Base. He subsequently deployed to Panama and Costa Rica for civic action projects and construction of medical aid facilities. His last assignment was Command Sergeant Major of the 84th Engineer Battalion and Sergeant Major of the 45th Corps Support Group (Forward), with the Army's famed "Tropic Lightning" 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. While at Schofield, Maxwell deployed with units throughout the Philippines, and other areas. After thirty-two years of service to his country, he retired from the U.S. Army in 1998 and returned to Madera.

For his service, Command Sergeant Major Maxwell was awarded numerous decorations including: two awards of the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, three awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, four awards of the Army Commendation Medal, three awards of the Army Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with five campaign stars, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, two awards of the National Defense Service Medal, United Nations Medal, ten awards of the Good Conduct Medal, two awards of Humanitarian Service Medal, the Korean Defense Service Medal, the Presidential Unit Citation, the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry Unit Award with frame, the Southwest Asia Service Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal, two awards of the Army Service Ribbon, four awards of the NCO Professional Development Ribbon, the German Schutzenschnur, the Bronze and Silver de Fleury Medal, and the

Drill Sergeant Badge. During his military career, Larry earned an Associate of Arts degree from Central Texas College.

After retirement from the Army, Larry worked as a Corrections Officer for the Madera County Probation Department, where he performed duties as an instructor in ceremony and physical drill at the boot camp. In 2000, his drill team won the Grand Prize at the Fresno Veterans Day Parade. He was promoted to sergeant in 2002 and continued to teach and counsel adolescents to become productive members of society until his retirement from the Probation Department in January 2010.

Larry is a life member of Chowchilla VFW Post 9896 and American Legion Post 148. He is a member of the Army Engineer Association, the Noncommissioned Officers Association, the Association of the United States Army, and the Armed Forces Association. He is a member of the Grace Community Church and is a volunteer with Food Bank.

Larry has two brothers, Charley Maxwell (deceased) of Idaho, First Sergeant (Ret.) Donnie Maxwell, Sr. of Madera, and three sisters, Donna Lea and Bonnie Bartley of Madera, and June Maxwell of Cleveland, Oklahoma. Larry married his first wife, Linda Swilley of Chowchilla and had three children, Garry Maxwell and his wife Tonya of Falmouth, Kentucky, and a daughter Samantha and husband Tim Richards of Chowchilla, and daughter Wendy and husband Chris Yowell of Chowchilla. Larry married Ronda Davis of Mulberry Indiana, who has two children, Jonathan Shambaugh and wife Melanie of West End, New Jersey, and Courtney Shambaugh and Andrew Watkins of Highland, New Jersey. Larry has thirteen wonderful and very active grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Larence C. "Larry" Maxwell for his honorable service to our great country, and wishing him the best of luck and health in his future endeavors.

#### HONORING MRS. DIANE MCMANUS

#### HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Diane McManus who will be retiring after 25 years of outstanding work in the field of commercial lending and finance.

Throughout her career, Diane has been a committed advocate on behalf of Maine's business community. As Vice President of Finance for Development Concepts Inc., she worked hand in hand with companies to locate new investment streams and further develop their business models. Diane brought this background with her to Northeast Bank where, as a loan officer, she continued to provide resources to help grow Maine enterprise. Her devotion to local commercial development, and the successes that followed, have earned her numerous promotions and professional accolades. As Regional Vice President and Senior Market Manager at Camden National bank, Diane is leaving behind a thriving program that covers \$82 million in commercial loans.

Diane has not only excelled within the realm of business, but she has gone above and beyond expectations to serve her community as