

it largely fails to protect farmers and ranchers specifically in the pork and beef industry. Nevertheless, I will continue to fight to protect our farmers and ranchers from further corporate abuses and urge the USDA to enforce existing laws designed to regulate corporate packers and processors.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN M.
DUGAN

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Police Sergeant John M. Dugan, who is retiring after nearly 30 years of law enforcement service to the City of Fairfield. As his colleagues, friends and family gather together to celebrate the next chapter of his life, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting this outstanding public servant and defender of peace and safety.

John started his career of service as a Firefighter for the California Department of Forestry and the City of Paradise. On March 19, 1982, he was hired as a Public Safety Officer with the Fairfield Police Department. As an officer, John worked in various capacities that included Patrol, Investigations, Special Operations, and Field Training.

John was promoted to Police Sergeant on July 22, 1994, and ultimately supervised a number of different units including Patrol, Traffic, Crime Suppression, and Youth Services. In 2000, he earned the California Highway Patrol's 10851 Award for recovering 12 stolen vehicles in eight months; three of which were occupied vehicles. Sergeant Dugan was a strong, decisive, professional, and respected leader. As a result of these superb traits, he received the Manager of the Year award in 1999 and 2006.

In 2007 and 2010, as the Police Department experienced changes in leadership and command staff, Sergeant Dugan stepped in and assisted the City management in filling the gaps. Over the last four years, he has assumed the Police Lieutenant's position twice and managed Patrol Operations. Sergeant Dugan has a can-do attitude and he consistently provides quality service to the community.

John has been a valued employee and his commitment to the community was evidenced on a daily basis. He was a loyal representative of the law enforcement community and admired for his hard work, dedication, and positive work ethic.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly honored to pay tribute to this dedicated public servant. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing John M. Dugan continued success and happiness in all of his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
HANDLEY HIGH SCHOOL STATE
FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention

today to congratulate Handley High School of Roanoke, Alabama, on winning its first Alabama Class 3A championship football title in 90 years.

Rallying from a 14–7 deficit late in the fourth quarter, Handley came back to win the game 20–14 in stirring fashion with a goal-line stand in the final seconds. Led by their coach, Mike Battles, this team showed the type of grit and determination that we should all try to emulate during these difficult times.

Originally opened in 1848 as the Roanoke Academy, it was the first school in the city. After various changes through the years, the name of the school finally settled on Handley High School in 1910 to honor the memory of a Confederate soldier, Captain William Anderson Handley. The late Captain had gifted the land which supports the campus today in exchange for one dollar.

Known for its strong music, band and theatre department, Handley has always been known to offer its students excellent opportunities to pursue artistic endeavors. Now it has a football program it can brag about too.

Congratulations to Handley High School, Principal Gregory Foster, Superintendent Chuck Marcum and all their fans on their State Championship. Go Tigers!

SUPPORT OF TIME WARNER
CABLE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Time Warner Cable, which is headquartered in my district, for its investment in local television news coverage, specifically for opening a Washington, D.C., news bureau that will cover stories and events here in Washington that are important to the communities served by its 14 local news channels throughout the country.

Mr. Speaker, Time Warner Cable is dedicating significant resources to high quality local news channels that provide critical local news, weather, traffic and sports coverage in the local communities that they serve. These stations are good for the public, and for our republic, at a time when many local television news budgets are being cut and local newspapers are cutting back, too. Thus it is important to note the rare times when we see new investment in local news coverage.

I applaud Time Warner Cable for recognizing the importance of local news, for investing in it, and creating jobs while providing this critical service to its customers—many of whom are my constituents. With more local news coverage, it's a certainty that we will have a better informed citizenry, which can only improve our nation.

CELEBRATING THE 200TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF
CITRONELLE, ALABAMA

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of this House a very special his-

torical event in my home state, the 200th Year of Celebration of the founding of Citronelle, Alabama.

Located in northwest Mobile County, Citronelle may not be a household name nationwide, but over a hundred years ago the friendly and charming small town was a popular stop for Northern vacationers. To the residents of such bustling Midwestern cities as Cleveland and Chicago, the name Citronelle conjured images of healing springs and bucolic Southern vistas.

In the early 20th century, Citronelle was known as the "Land of Healing Waters," owing to its mineral springs which a 1903 publication compared to the famous Poland Springs of Maine.

Located along the main line of the Mobile and Ohio Railway, for many years Citronelle was celebrated not only for its prized therapeutic waters, but also for its "salubrious" air which was reported to aid in the treatment of respiratory disorders. Indeed, the small town soon sported four very nice guest accommodations, including the Illinois Hotel, the Hygeia Hotel and the Hotel Citronelle. The Hygeia Hotel Cottage still stands today and is a local tourist attraction.

It is not surprising that Citronelle would have gained a reputation as a haven for rest and good health. In the late 1700's, the area was already destined for fame because of its curative properties. Native Americans in Southwest Alabama told European settlers about a unique plant thought to cure malaria. The miracle plant—which was named "Citronella"—was discovered growing in abundance along the hills that would eventually be known as Citronelle.

Along Citronelle's historic journey, the community also found improbable ways to add to its remarkable resume. For example, we all learned in school that Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia on April 8, 1865. What some may not have been told in class is that less than a month later, on May 4, Lt. Gen. Richard Taylor, son of President Zachary Taylor, surrendered his Confederate forces under the "Surrender Oak" in Citronelle, Alabama. Citronelle was, therefore, one of five Civil War surrender locations. The legendary oak tree was sadly lost to a hurricane many years ago, but the town's contribution to American history is undeniable.

In addition to being a site of the official end of the Civil War, Citronelle has also occupied the spotlight as a potential rival to America's Western oil fields. In 1955, Citronelle was dubbed the Oil Capital of Alabama and home to the largest oil discovery east of the Mississippi River at that time.

Over the years, the sometimes sleepy town has capitalized on its quaint atmosphere, touting its "delightful walks through the woods (that) always charm the man or woman who seeks rest and recreation away from the busy city." Today, Citronelle remains a beautiful place to live filled with hard-working, dedicated people who love their God, their country and their families. I am proud to represent this lovely city in Congress.

On December 10, 2011, I will join Mayor Loretta Presnell, and other city officials, along with the people of Citronelle, in celebrating the birthday of their historic city. Older than the State of Alabama, Citronelle occupies a special place in our culture and in our hearts.

Congratulations to the City of Citronelle on this special occasion and a very Happy 200th birthday! May there be many more good years ahead in the next chapter of your rich history.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, had I been able to vote, I would have voted "yes" on the Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 10.

SYNTHETIC DRUG CONTROL ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following letter from one of my constituents with respect to the debate on H.R. 1254 that occurred on December 7, 2011.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN LATHAM: Regarding the Synthetic Drug Control Act, as you know I am a mother who lost her son to these drugs and I can't stop myself from reacting to the opposition on the floor yesterday.

Hundreds of chemical compounds are used to make synthetic drugs manufactured under the guise of bath salts, plant food, k2 and various names of synthetic marijuana—with the sole purpose being to ingest. These drugs are smoked, snorted, injected, or put into drinks. The label may say they are not for human consumption, but they are implicitly being sold as such.

Yet those opposing H.R. 1254 argue that not enough research has been done to prove whether or not these already banned and potentially future banned chemicals would bear any medical benefit.

To the contrary, not only have the synthetic drugs included in this legislation failed to show medicinal promise, but the Controlled Substances Act would still allow research on these synthetic drugs to continue if H.R. 1254 were enacted.

Under current law, researchers, universities and labs may register with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) to obtain Schedule I controlled substances for scientific study. DEA allows thousands of labs to handle Schedule I drugs for scientific and investigative purposes. Chemicals with "a high potential for abuse" and "a lack of accepted safety" under the Controlled Substances Act should be placed under Schedule I—available for scientific study but not sold on convenience store shelves.

The reality is that without H.R. 1254, our society will continue to allow informal, unsupervised and unethical medical experimentation—with our kids as the subjects. It begins with unscrupulous manufacturers obtaining unknown chemical compounds from other countries. It is either manufactured overseas here or in our own backyard. These drugs are openly sold to those "18 years or older" and can be purchased at gas stations, convenience stores and head shops around this country. Its availability is rampant on the internet as well. It is difficult if not im-

possible to find out who the people really are that sell the chemicals or premade products. When it's all said and done, it is American teens who are being endangered and experimented with.

Let's be bold and put a stop to the newest drug trends that are sweeping across our nation like a tidal wave—Jan Rozga, Indianola, IA

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN KATZ

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Alaska's most distinguished, faithful, and respected public servants, John Katz.

Fresh out of Berkley Law, he boldly moved to Alaska and made a decision to embark upon a life of selfless public service to the people of Alaska. Among his first few jobs in public service were being Alaska Commissioner of Natural Resources and special counsel on land-use issues, before being appointed the Governor's man in Washington D.C. in 1983.

His departure can only be described as an enormous loss for our great state. For more than 40 years, and spanning eight governors, he has served Alaska with unwavering commitment, integrity, and with the utmost level of professionalism. Having worked with him for almost 30 of those years, I have little doubt that his loyalty to and knowledge of Alaska is second to none.

Through thick and thin, his dedication to Alaska was evident to everyone who worked with him. Over the years he has always put the needs of Alaska first, no more so than when he delayed his retirement at the request of Governor Frank Murkowski.

His reputation of being calm and cool under pressure is well known and his ability to work well with Republicans and Democrats alike should be emulated by others here in Washington. He once said his greatest disappointment was being unable to open up ANWR and I share that disappointment with him.

But despite ANWR, he was an integral part of every positive development to happen to Alaska in the last three decades including Alaska Native rights, fisheries management, protecting Alaska's sovereignty, and natural resource development. After all the work we've done together, I will do my utmost to continue this legacy for the good of Alaska.

He is exactly the kind of public servant who gives public service a good name. My staff and I will miss working with him, but I hope that our paths will continue to cross.

Thank you for your service to Alaska, John, and I wish you all the best in the future.

SYNTHETIC DRUG CONTROL ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I am voting for this legislation because, like the rest of my

colleagues, I want to see an end to the illegal manufacture, sale, and use of synthetic drugs that mimic the properties of illegal drugs. Many of these drugs are extremely dangerous and warrant control. In fact, some 30 states, including Hawaii, have laws that address the manufacture, sale, and use of synthetic drugs.

I am concerned, however, that we may be moving too fast. I would prefer to see a bill that is as important as this considered under regular order, with members having an opportunity to offer amendments. I am hoping that the Senate will take a more measured approach in considering this legislation.

I am especially concerned about the application of mandatory minimum sentences and Schedule I penalties that are included in this bill. I support judicial discretion, especially when the lives and futures of young people are involved.

I know too that there are concerns that this could impede legitimate scientific research of chemical compounds listed in this bill. Adjustments to this legislation may be needed to ensure that we don't hinder development of future biomedical breakthroughs.

We need to make sure the legislation targets those most responsible for widespread distribution of these drugs. Most important, we need to find ways to keep our young people from using synthetic drugs. Education of parents and young people is badly needed as is market regulation to reduce the availability and misuse of certain household and industrial aerosol products. Adding to our already crowded prisons is not a real solution to the very real problem of synthetic drugs.

THE CENTENNIAL SEASON OF THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and joy that I join my constituents in celebration of the centennial season of the San Francisco Symphony. Its illustrious history is marked by commitment to artistic excellence and innovation; its future is sustained by its large and loyal base of supporters.

One hundred years ago today, December 8, 1911, the Symphony gave its first performance. In recognition of this historic occasion, on September 7, 2011 we began a year-long celebration with a free outdoor concert at the Civic Center Plaza with Conductor Michael Tilson Thomas, pianist Lang Lang and violinist Itzhak Perlman. This concert demonstrated the San Francisco Symphony's value of making music available to everyone. The founders believed music was a source of enrichment and pleasure intended for all and not the province of the privileged few. Reaching broader audiences has always been a priority, from recordings and radio broadcasts in the 1920s to video and internet today. Today the San Francisco Symphony has accomplished one of its early goals, to offer music to a city, to a Nation and to the world.

To help commemorate the centennial over the next year, San Franciscans will welcome notable performers and six of our Nation's greatest orchestras will visit San Francisco: