

Deborah Dodge—Despite personal obstacles, Deborah has gone above and beyond in single-handedly providing care to her adult son for the last 12 years. Deborah's son is severely ill, and requires 24/7 care. She has served on the Northern Virginia Mental Health Board, and is an exceptional caretaker and maintains her positive and cheerful attitude despite the hardships that she faces.

I congratulate today's winners and recognize each of them for their devotion and personal sacrifices. These individuals are examples of the many thousands of caregivers who put the needs of their families, friends and colleagues above their own. I also would like to applaud the efforts of LifeCircle Alliances. As a strong advocate for public-private partnerships, I commend LifeCircle Alliances for its creative approach to addressing these very important challenges within our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to today's awardees and in thanking the volunteers, staff, and partners of LifeCircle Alliance for their efforts in providing assistance to not only those in need of care, but to those who provide the care here in our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY HULTGREN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 904, the RECORD indicates that had I been present, I would have voted "no." This is a mistake. The RECORD should indicate that had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

COMMENDING ANTHONY GRIFFIN FOR RECEIVING CAREER EXCELLENCE AWARD

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the many accomplishments of Anthony Griffin and commend him for receiving the International City/County Management Association's Award for Career Excellence in honor of Mark E. Keane. After a career as City Manager for Falls Church, Virginia, Tony came to Fairfax County in 1989.

In 2000 the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, of which I was a member, appointed Tony as County Executive. As County Executive, Tony Griffin managed the day-to-day operations of a jurisdiction with more than 1 million residents and more than 11,000 employees. Tony provided over Fairfax County during some of its more challenging times including 9/11, the 2001 anthrax attacks, the Beltway Sniper, Hurricane Isabel, the flooding of Cameron Run in 2006, the 2007 recession, Hurricane Irene, and Tropical Storm Lee. Throughout it all, he has continued to provide outstanding leadership to Fairfax. During his tenure, *Governing Magazine* named Fairfax County its Best Managed County in the Country. Fairfax has won numerous e-government awards including the Digital Counties Survey

and the Best of the Web. Time Magazine referred to Fairfax as, "the economic success story of our time."

I was pleased to work with Tony Griffin during my 13 years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and I know the value he brought. I urge my colleagues and the residents of Fairfax County, Virginia to join me in commending Anthony Griffin for receiving this Award for Career Excellence, and thank him for his years of dedication to making Fairfax a safe and vibrant community to live and work.

HONORING THE SHORT LIFE OF ANGELO ZOLTAN SCHWARTZ

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I am honored, yet saddened today to come to the floor to honor the short life of Angelo Zoltan Schwartz. The son of Lawrence Sanson Schwartz IV and his wife Allison, Angelo suffered from a rare bone disease, Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI). He was born on Monday, November 28, 2011 at 11:29 a.m., just one minute after his twin sister Cecilia Anne Schwartz. Angelo was 4 pounds 15 ounces and was delivered at INOVA Fairfax Hospital in Virginia.

OI, which is a condition causing extremely fragile bones, was the main cause of Angelo's shortened life. Due to this condition his rib cage was fractured in utero and he succumbed to respiratory failure on December 1, 2011 at 3:45 a.m. Over his 64 hours of life, Angelo made a huge impact on everyone who met him, including the nursing and hospital administration staff, who worked together to modify hospital policy to ensure that the Schwartz family could spend as much time together as possible.

Angelo is loved and will be missed by his entire family including his grandparents, Debrah and Barry Shulman of Fayetteville, New York; Joanne and Lawrence Schwartz III of Anaheim Hills, California; and his parents Allison and Lawrence Schwartz IV, and his sister Cecilia Anne Schwartz of Alexandria, Virginia.

TO RECOGNIZE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MANTUA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of Mantua Elementary School. For half a century, Mantua Elementary has provided its students with a superior education and a solid foundation for lifelong learning and becoming productive and responsible citizens.

The school and community have a shared vision for elementary education based on Ernest Boyer's "Basic School" philosophy paired with tenets from DuFour's Professional Learning Communities. As part of the Basic School Network, Mantua focuses on proven elemen-

tary best practices; the school as a community, a curriculum with coherence, a climate for learning, and a commitment to character. Teachers and specialists at each grade level work in professional learning teams to assess their students' needs and design integrated curricula using the Basic School's eight commonalities: life cycle, use of symbols, group membership, time and space, the aesthetic, nature, producing and consuming, and living with purpose.

In addition, Mantua Elementary School offers programs in English for Speakers of Other Languages, Special Education for students who need additional assistance, Advanced Academics for exceptionally gifted and talented students, and Total Communication for students who are deaf or hearing impaired. These specialized programs when combined with the school's core educational philosophy ensure that every student is given access to a quality education. The result has been an award winning school and a vibrant, academically charged atmosphere that has enabled the children of our community to excel.

Mantua Elementary School has greatly benefitted under the leadership of its principal, Ms. Jan-Marie Fernandez, who has held this position since 2000. Ms. Fernandez is credited with applying brain-based research to instruction methods in order to improve literacy development for students with learning disabilities, and focus and attention issues. This innovative approach was one factor in Ms. Fernandez being named the 2010 Distinguished Principal by the Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals. As the parent of a child who attended Mantua Elementary School, I have personally witnessed her effectiveness as an administrator and an educator. She has led this large, very diverse school to great success and I thank her for her dedication and commitment to the students and to the community as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Mantua Elementary School on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary and in congratulating the students, educators, administrators, and parents on working together as a team for the benefit of all.

HONORING JUDGE ELMER DAVIES, JR.

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, There are citizens making up this great country who never cease to explore, to learn, to grow. Skilled in multiple crafts, these men and women add much to our communities and the quality of our lives. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and legacy of one such Renaissance man, Judge Elmer Davies, Jr. Patriot, master of the law, and passionate culinary artist, Judge Davies left an indelible mark on his family and our community.

After receiving his law degree from Tulane Law School, and serving as a Reserve Colonel with the United States Marine Corps, Davies began his public service in the legal field and followed in the footsteps of his father, Judge Elmer Davies. President Roosevelt appointed Davies, Sr. to the United States District Court and he became the first Chief

Judge of the Middle Tennessee District. Davies, Jr. served as District Attorney General from 1972 to 1982 and then as Circuit Court Judge from 1982 to 1989. Serving Tennesseans from Hickman, Lewis, Perry, and Williamson Counties, Davies cultivated a pristine and upstanding legal reputation.

Judge Davies certainly followed his passions; never settling to look from the outside onto a subject he loved. Wanting to learn more about the art of food, Davies went to France to study the culinary arts. Then seeking to serve folks in a very different way, Davies purchased a hotel in the South Pacific and lived his later years in service to one of his many dreams.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Judge Elmer Davies, Jr. and I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring his legacy. May his life teach us all to serve with greater nobility and live out our dreams in service to others.

TO CONGRATULATE SANDI
QUALLEY ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Sandi Qualley, Executive Director of the Hemophilia Association of the Capital Area (HACA), on the occasion of her retirement following 21 years of dedicated service to those individuals who suffer from bleeding disorders and their families.

HACA is a nonprofit organization that provides many needed services to people with bleeding disorders such as hemophilia and von Willebrand disease and their families. HACA serves more than 250 families in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, and it is a chapter of both Hemophilia Federation of America and the National Hemophilia Foundation, the two leading national hemophilia patient organizations. HACA's mission is to improve the quality of life for individuals suffering from bleeding disorders and their families through education, advocacy, and member services in order to promote research and to raise the resources needed to achieve these goals.

Sandi has been instrumental in ensuring that HACA continues to deliver on its mission. It sends children with bleeding disorders to camps that are equipped to address their specific medical needs. HACA offers educational programming to members of the bleeding disorders community at all stages of life: Families with newly diagnosed infants, school-age children, adolescents, adults, and those now confronting the additional complications that advancing age can pose for an individual with a bleeding disorder. HACA also helps provide financial assistance to needy families and resources to other nonprofit organizations that work with the hemophilia community in an expanding global network.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Sandi Qualley for her years of service and in congratulating her on the occasion of her retirement. Her distinguished service has greatly contributed to the advancement and improvement of care and treatment available to individuals suffering from bleed-related afflictions.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 3648, THE
HARBOR FAIRNESS ACT OF 2011

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to ensure that future expenditures for the maintenance of commercial harbors are equitably distributed, so that all communities—large and small—may optimize the economic benefits of their inland and coastal ports.

Over the past few administrations, far more funds have been collected by the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund than have been expended on an annual basis—and unfortunately, the adverse signs of underfunding are becoming apparent. Year after year of insufficient maintenance dredging resources for coastal and inland ports has resulted in reduced depths at countless port facilities, and has all but passed over the dredging needs of moderately sized or smaller ports, such as Lake Montauk, in the New York's First Congressional District.

In recent years, there has been a concerted effort in Congress to fully utilize harbor maintenance funds in the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund for the purpose they were collected. I am a strong supporter of these efforts because I have seen, firsthand, the adverse impacts of shoaled harbors on local and regional economies. When local harbors become filled with sediment, the corresponding reduction of commercial shipping can have a significant adverse impact on the national, regional, and local economies, as well as on the jobs that are directly and indirectly related to ports and shipping.

It is essential that Congress find a way to ensure that funds collected in the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund be fully allocated—not only to ensure the viability of commercial shipping, but also to realize the jobs that can be created for port workers and dredgers, as well as through businesses that rely on local harbors for their livelihoods.

However, even if annual collections to the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund were fully utilized, there is reason to believe that, under the status quo decision process for where funds are expended, the needs of many of the moderate-to-small harbors would remain unmet.

According to information from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), there is a significant backlog of maintenance dredging activities necessary to restore fully authorized project dimensions of existing commercial navigation projects. According to the Corps, the estimated annual maintenance cost to restore authorized projects to their full widths and depths is \$2.3 billion during the first five years. Once this backlog is addressed, the Corps estimates that annual maintenance costs (for year 6 and beyond) would average around \$1.8 billion per year.

Based on the Corps' projection on maintenance dredging needs, it appears that the annual operation and maintenance needs identified by the Corps exceed the amounts that have been collected, annually, by the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund. This means that, even if annual collections to the Trust Fund are fully allocated, there will be an unmet annual maintenance dredging need far into the

future. It is that unmet annual maintenance dredging need that makes the Harbor Fairness Act of 2011 critical to mid-size and small commercial harbors, so that these harbors are not continually left behind.

Over the past few years, I have heard numerous examples of commercial harbors that were passed over for critical maintenance dredging funds from the Corps, in essence, because insufficient funds were made available for maintenance dredging needs. However, in my view, it has been the mid-size and small commercial harbors that have been disproportionately impacted by the lack of annual maintenance dredging funds.

For example, according to the Corps, the agency is currently responsible for maintenance dredging at 1,067 harbors, nationwide. Of this number, only 59 harbors (or 5 percent) are characterized as "high-use" harbors—on those that use at least 10 million tons of commerce annually. The remaining 1,008 harbors that fall under the Corps' maintenance dredging responsibility are characterized as "moderate" or "low-use" harbors.

However, when you look at the President's budget request for the past two fiscal years, it is easy to see the disparity in funding allocations among these categories of harbors.

For example, in the fiscal year 2012 budget request, "high-use" harbors received 66 percent of available funds, while "low-use" harbors received only 6 percent of the funds. This would mean that, under the status quo process for allocating maintenance dredging funding—which has been followed by both Democratic and Republican Presidential administrations—approximately 5 percent of eligible harbors received over 66 percent of the funds made available from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund.

Mr. Speaker, as the Representative of a Congressional district with small commercial harbors, the status quo must change.

To my community, the benefit of small and mid-size commercial harbors to the local economy is not proportional to their size. As a witness from New York's First Congressional District, Ms. Bonnie Brady, testified before the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, the small commercial fishing ports on Long Island are responsible for 99 percent of New York's landed seafood catch—worth over \$49 million dollars at the dock.

That is why I am introducing the Harbor Fairness Act of 2011. This legislation attempts to balance the operation and maintenance needs of all commercial harbors, regardless of size, and to ensure that funding is equitably distributed between high-, moderate-, and low-use facilities.

First, the Harbor Fairness Act of 2011 would require the Corps to assess, on a biennial basis, the overall dredging needs of those commercial harbors that it is responsible for, including harbors used for commercial navigation, fishing, subsistence, domestic energy production, recreation, the transport of persons, and navigation safety.

This legislation would require the Corps to report its findings on operation and maintenance needs to the authorizing Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate, as part of the President's budget submission to Congress. This information would be critical for Congress to comprehensively understand the overall operation and maintenance needs of all commercial harbors, as well as that portion of the national dredging need that would