

acres of land. The apartment buildings themselves occupy only 14% of the property, leaving the rest available as open space. There are two playgrounds (which are used by the entire community), large lawns and beautiful landscaping. Some of the land has been made available for on-site parking, an amenity that is a great convenience for residents. Several buildings have community or club rooms that are used by a variety of local groups. As a mark of gratitude, the cooperators dedicated the community rooms in Buildings 7 and 14 to Queensview's founders, Mr. Pink and Mr. Swope.

In 1987, Queensview paid off its initial mortgage. In 1989, Queensview reconstituted as a private corporation known as Queensview, Inc., but since it is a limited equity corporation, prices remain affordable. As a cooperative, Queensview is a self-governing organization, overseen by the Queensview Council. The Council consists of two representatives and an alternate elected by each building. Residents make decisions about management of the building, including the nature of the amenities, upkeep of the building, staffing and security. As a result of their diligence and conscientiousness, Queensview is impeccably maintained and is a wonderful place to live.

Queensview is a naturally-occurring retirement community (NORC), meaning that a significant number of residents are seniors. The NORC program, operated by Selfhelp Community Services, provides residents with a wide range of on-site services including health and wellness, case management, counseling, social, recreational, educational, home care, technology, transportation, community trips and volunteer opportunities.

Since 1951, the Queensview Nursery School & Kindergarten has provided day care and early education. Currently serving children aged 2.9–5, the Queensview Nursery School & Kindergarten gives parents peace of mind by providing a caring and nurturing environment for their children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the success of Queensview, a warm, welcoming and gracious community and a terrific place to live.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 7, 2011*

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 4 I was unavoidably detained and unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

A TRIBUTE TO SUSAN PETERS, CARMICHAEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S 2011 PERSON OF THE YEAR

#### HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 7, 2011*

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Susan Peters, who on January 7, 2011, the

Carmichael Chamber of Commerce honored as its 2011 Person of the Year.

Susan Peters is currently serving her second term on the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors representing the third district, which includes the community of Carmichael. Susan was first elected in 2004, re-elected in 2008, and chosen by her colleagues to be chair in 2009.

Susan also serves on a number of boards including the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, which she chaired in 2009, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments, where she currently serves as vice chair, and the Sacramento Transportation Authority, where she served as chair in 2006.

Her career started in banking, leading her to serve as treasurer of McCuen Properties beside her late husband, Peter McCuen. Susan also served as Board Chair of the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, where she was a forceful voice for business and private enterprise in the region. At the chamber, she worked to locate Raley Field in West Sacramento and was the founding chair of the Chamber's "Perspectives" program, an annual conference hosting national and world leaders discussing topical subjects.

In addition to her duties as a member of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, Susan currently serves as Board Chair of the Leland Stanford Mansion Foundation which restored the historic home of California's eighth governor.

Susan has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for the Sacramento region in both the private and public sectors. She is a true public servant who is always accessible to her constituents.

It has been my pleasure to know Susan Peters and more importantly, to call her my friend. I am pleased to congratulate her on being named the Carmichael Chamber of Commerce's 2011 Person of the Year.

#### "EXPERTS LETTER ON DEFENSE SPENDING"

#### HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 7, 2011*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I have been encouraged to see some signs that the mind set that would not only exclude the military budget from deficit reduction efforts but would in fact inflate an already excessive allocation has been weakening. Secretary Gates' statement on Thursday, January 6, of a recognition of many to take the deficit into account in budgeting for the Pentagon is encouraging, although he does not go far enough. I think that there is no issue more important than to recognize that reducing the extent to which America engages in an extremely expensive worldwide subsidy for many of our wealthy allies in the area of defense has contributed significantly to our deficit, and it is clear that we can substantially reduce military spending without in any way reducing the security of the United States.

In November of last year, a wide-ranging group of people very knowledgeable about national security needs met. I am encouraged that the Commission recognized the importance of including military spending restraints,

although I did not agree with their proposal to increase healthcare costs for retirees. And I believe that the thoughtful letter that they received from this wide-ranging coalition of experts on national security and military spending should be shared with our colleagues so I ask that it be printed here.

EXPERTS LETTER ON DEFENSE SPENDING TO THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND REFORM, NOVEMBER 18, 2010

DEAR CO-CHAIRMAN BOWLES AND CO-CHAIRMAN SIMPSON: We are writing to you as experts in national security and defense economics to convey our views on the national security implications of the Commission's work and especially the need for achieving responsible reductions in military spending. In this regard, we appreciate the initiative you have taken in your 10 November 2010 draft proposal to the Commission. It begins a necessary process of serious reflection, debate, and action.

The vitality of our economy is the cornerstone of our nation's strength. We share the Commission's desire to bring our financial house into order. Doing so is not merely a question of economics. Reducing the national debt is also a national security imperative.

To date, the Obama administration has exempted the Defense Department from any budget reductions. This is short-sighted: It makes it more difficult to accomplish the task of restoring our economic strength, which is the underpinning of our military power.

As the rest of the nation labors to reduce its debt burden, the current plan is to boost the base DOD budget by 10 percent in real terms over the next decade. This would come on top of the nearly 52 percent real increase in base military spending since 1998. (When war costs are included the increase has been much greater: 95 percent.)

We appreciate Secretary Gates' efforts to reform the Pentagon's business and acquisition practices. However, even if his reforms fulfill their promise, the current plan does not translate them into budgetary savings that contribute to solving our deficit problem. Their explicit aim is to free funds for other uses inside the Pentagon. This is not good enough.

Granting defense a special dispensation puts at risk the entire deficit reduction effort. Defense spending today constitutes over 55 percent of discretionary spending and 23 percent of the federal budget. An exemption for defense not only undermines the broader call for fiscal responsibility, but also makes overall budget restraint much harder as a practical economic and political matter.

We need not put our economic power at risk in this way. Today the United States possesses a wide margin of global military superiority. The defense budget can bear significant reduction without compromising our essential security.

We recognize that larger military adversaries may rise to face us in the future. But the best hedge against this possibility is vigilance and a vibrant economy supporting a military able to adapt to new challenges as they emerge.

We can achieve greater defense economy today in several ways, all of which we urge you to consider seriously. We need to be more realistic in the goals we set for our armed forces and more selective in our choices regarding their use abroad. We should focus our military on core security goals and on those current and emerging threats that most directly affect us.

We also need to be more judicious in our choice of security instruments when dealing

with international challenges. Our armed forces are a uniquely expensive asset and for some tasks no other instrument will do. For many challenges, however, the military is not the most cost-effective choice. We can achieve greater efficiency today without diminishing our security by better discriminating between vital, desirable, and unnecessary military missions and capabilities.

There is a variety of specific options that would produce savings, some of which we describe below. The important point, however, is a firm commitment to seek savings through a reassessment of our defense strategy, our global posture, and our means of producing and managing military power.

Since the end of the Cold War, we have required our military to prepare for and conduct more types of missions in more places around the world. The Pentagon's task list now includes not only preventive war, regime change, and nation building, but also vague efforts to "shape the strategic environment" and stem the emergence of threats. It is time to prune some of these missions and restore an emphasis on defense and deterrence.

U.S. combat power dramatically exceeds that of any plausible combination of conventional adversaries. To cite just one example, Secretary Gates has observed that the U.S. Navy is today as capable as the next 13 navies combined, most of which are operated by our allies. We can safely save by trimming our current margin of superiority.

America's permanent peacetime military presence abroad is largely a legacy of the Cold War. It can be reduced without undermining the essential security of the United States or its allies.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have revealed the limits of military power. Avoiding these types of operation globally would allow us to roll back the recent increase in the size of our Army and Marine Corps.

The Pentagon's acquisition process has repeatedly failed, routinely delivering weapons and equipment late, over cost, and less capable than promised. Some of the most expensive systems correspond to threats that are least prominent today and unlikely to regain prominence soon. In these cases, savings can be safely realized by cancelling, delaying, or reducing procurement or by seeking less costly alternatives.

Recent efforts to reform Defense Department financial management and acquisition practices must be strengthened. And we must impose budget discipline to trim service redundancies and streamline command, support systems, and infrastructure.

Change along these lines is bound to be controversial. Budget reductions are never easy—no less for defense than in any area of government. However, fiscal realities call on us to strike a new balance between investing in military power and attending to the fundamentals of national strength on which our true power rests. We can achieve safe savings in defense if we are willing to rethink how we produce military power and how, why, and where we put it to use.

Sincerely,

Gordon Adams, American University; Robert Art, Brandeis University; Deborah Avant, University of California, Irvine; Andrew Bacevich, Boston University; Richard Betts, Columbia University; Linda Bilmes, Kennedy School, Harvard University; Steven Clemons, New America Foundation; Joshua Cohen, Stanford University and Boston Review; Carl Conetta, Project on Defense Alternatives; Owen R. Cote Jr., Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Michael Desch, University of Notre Dame; Matthew Evangelista, Cornell University; Benjamin H. Friedman, Cato Institute; Lt. Gen. (USA, Ret.) Robert G. Gard, Jr., Center for

Arms Control and Non-Proliferation; David Gold, Graduate Program in International Affairs, The New School; William Hartung, Arms and Security Initiative, New America Foundation.

David Hendrickson, Colorado College; Michael Intriligator, UCLA and Milken Institute; Robert Jervis, Columbia University; Sean Kay, Ohio Wesleyan University; Elizabeth Kier, University of Washington; Charles Knight, Project on Defense Alternatives; Lawrence Korb, Center for American Progress; Peter Krogh, Georgetown University; Richard Ned Lebow, Dartmouth College; Walter LaFeber, Cornell University; Col. (USA, Ret.) Douglas Macgregor; Scott McConnell, The American Conservative; John Mearsheimer, University of Chicago; Steven Metz, national security analyst and writer; Steven Miller, Kennedy School, Harvard University and International Security; Janne Nolan, American Security Project.

Robert Paarlberg, Wellesley College and Harvard University; Paul Pillar, Georgetown University; Barry Posen, Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Christopher Preble, Cato Institute; Daryl Press, Dartmouth College; Jeffrey Record, defense policy analyst and author; David Rieff, author; Thomas Schelling, University of Maryland; Jack Snyder, Columbia University; J. Ann Tickner, University of Southern California; Robert Tucker, Johns Hopkins University; Stephen Van Evera, Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Stephen Walt, Harvard University; Kenneth Waltz, Columbia University; Cindy Williams, Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Daniel Wirls, University of California, Santa Cruz.

#### IN TRIBUTE TO STUART APPELBAUM

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 7, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Stuart Appelbaum, an extraordinary man and my good friend, who has served with distinction as President of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union, representing thousands of working men and women across our nation. Last month, Mr. Appelbaum was honored by the venerable Americans for Democratic Action (ADA) organization at its annual Roosevelt Day Dinner at the Roosevelt Hotel in midtown Manhattan.

Stuart Appelbaum became President of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union on May 1, 1998, and has been re-elected to the position twice since then. He previously served as International Secretary-Treasurer, Vice President, Executive Board Member, Assistant to the President and Coordinator of Special Projects for the union. Stu Appelbaum is also an International Vice President and member of the Executive Board of the 1.4 million-member United Food and Commercial Workers International Union. He is the President of the Jewish Labor Committee, and an officer of two global union federations: the International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations and Union Network International. He is a Vice President of the Consortium for Worker Education.

Mr. Appelbaum has also served as a Vice President of the national AFL-CIO, a member

of the federation's Executive Council from 1998 until 2005, vice president of the New York State AFL-CIO and of the New York City Central Labor Council. An honors graduate of Brandeis University and Harvard Law School, he previously served as Chief House Counsel of the Democratic National Committee and as Executive Assistant to the Secretary of the State of Connecticut.

A skilled and tireless political activist who has dedicated his life to progressive causes, Stu Appelbaum was elected a Delegate to the 1996, 2000, 2004, and 2008 Democratic National Conventions and an Alternate Delegate to the 1992 Democratic National Convention. In 2008, he served as a member of the Electoral College as an Obama elector from New York.

By honoring Stuart Appelbaum last month, ADA is upholding its finest progressive traditions. Founded by Eleanor Roosevelt, John Kenneth Galbraith, Walter Reuther, Arthur Schlesinger, and Reinhold Niebuhr, the ADA seeks to promote and preserve Franklin D. Roosevelt's vision for a New Deal for the American people resulting in a more just society.

With the election of President Obama, the ADA's mission of promoting progressive American values has gained renewed momentum. Past presidents of the ADA include several of my distinguished colleagues in this House: BARNEY FRANK, CHARLES RANGEL, JOHN LEWIS, and JIM MCDERMOTT. Stuart Appelbaum is a proud heir to the ADA's long and honored tradition, and it is therefore entirely fitting that his lifetime of extraordinarily effective and passionate advocacy has been recognized by Americans for Democratic Action.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Stuart Appelbaum, a great American and a great New Yorker whose life's work has improved the lives and working conditions of countless individuals.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 7, 2011

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on the legislative day of January 6, 2011 and missed rollcall vote 8. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

#### RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. BILLY TAYLOR

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 7, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, it brings me sadness and honor to pay final tribute to Dr. Billy Taylor. He died Tuesday, December 28, 2010, of heart failure in Riverside, New York. He was 89.

For eight decades, Dr. Taylor remained vigorously dedicated to nurturing jazz and creating new forums and opportunities for the artists who perform it. He encompassed that rare combination of creativity, intelligence, vision,