

age of only 49. Charles was a good man and a dedicated public servant who represented his community with uncommon diligence and decency.

Charles was passionate and relentless in pursuit of important causes, exercising strong leadership to champion the SMART (Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit) train, the Marin Energy Authority, the Marin Economic Forum, a ban on plastic shopping bags, and even a resolution urging the U.S. to withdraw from the Iraq war. He cared about people; he cared about the environment; and he cared about a just and peaceful world.

Born July 15, 1961 in Hillsborough, California, Charles attended Yale and Stanford Universities before settling in Marin County in 1991. As a business consultant, his focus was on environmental issues and he quickly became a leader in local groups like the Mann Conservation League and the Environmental Education Council of Marin.

His green activism helped him earn an appointment to a vacancy on the Marin Municipal Water District Board in 2003. A year later he won election to the Board of Supervisors, where he was in the middle of his second term at the time of his death.

During his tenure in public service, Charles demonstrated a grasp of complex issues and an eloquent speaking style. Whatever his fervor, he always listened to other viewpoints. He was both a principled advocate and a pragmatic consensus-builder. I knew I could count on him as a true partner on issues important to the 6th Congressional District.

Charles is survived by his wife, Carol Misseldine, whom he met when both worked for Natural Strategies, a sustainability organization, as well as two brothers.

Mr. Speaker, Charles McGlashan brought to the Board of Supervisors a visionary's commitment to the environment and an acute sense of right and wrong. He embodied the very best of Marin County's spirit of progressive activism. Like so many in the community, I will miss his big smile, his good heart and his infectious personality. He leaves behind a legacy of important work. His memory must inspire us to continue that work in his honor.

AGENT ORANGE EQUITY ACT: GIVE COMBAT VETERANS WHAT THEY DESERVE

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 4, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, in passing the Agent Orange related laws in 1984 and 1991, Congress made clear that it wanted to ensure that a fair and independent system was established to determine the relationship between herbicide exposure and the manifestation of certain diseases in our veterans.

Congress also was concerned that exposure to Agent Orange could not be determined by tracking troop movements.

As such, my bill, H.R. 812, the Agent Orange Equity Act of 2011, would expand the eligibility for presumptive conditions to combat veterans of the Vietnam War to include Blue Water veterans, those who received the Vietnam Service Medal and the Vietnam Campaign Medal, or served on Johnston Island

during a specified period when undisputed evidence shows 250,000 gallons of Agent Orange leaked and contaminated the scarce water supply.

Before 2002, VA relied on veterans providing evidence of receipt of the Vietnam Service Medal to allow veterans to be presumptively service-connected for diseases identified as being related to Agent Orange exposure.

Against public outcry, VA unjustifiably reversed its own regulations.

H.R. 812 would reinstate this practice by requiring VA to go back to this fair way of determining service-connection and equitably adjudicating these claims.

These are benefits that these veterans have earned, yet the VA illogically refuses to acknowledge.

Time is running out for these Vietnam veterans and their families. I remain committed to restoring equity for our veterans as do so many of our colleagues. That is why in the 111th Congress, this exact same bill enjoyed the support of over 260 co-sponsors. I also point out that Vietnam Veterans of America also supports this bill.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support equity for our combat veterans of Vietnam exposed to this toxic and deadly cocktail of herbicides.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010-2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—DANIELLE KASPER

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 4, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and privilege to inform the Members of the United States House of Representatives that the students of the 2010–2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council (CYAC) from the Third District of Texas have completed a total of 500 community service hours, fulfilling and far-surpassing the requirements of their assigned CYAC in the Community service project.

This year 46 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 10 through 12 made their voices heard by joining CYAC. As the Third District's young ambassadors to Congress, these bright high school students met with me on a quarterly basis to discuss current events and public policy. These impressive young people recognize an important truth: the heart of public service is found when giving back to the community. CYAC students volunteered their time and talents with over 30 organizations including Adopt-A-Highway, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Teen Court, and the USO, to name a few. As one student shared, "CYAC in the Community has allowed me to realize my calling to serve those in the U.S. Armed Forces." I am beyond thrilled that CYAC has helped students unleash their full potential and chase their dreams.

President George H.W. Bush once said, "A volunteer is a person who can see what others cannot see; who can feel what most do not feel. Often, such gifted persons do not

think of themselves as volunteers, but as citizens—citizens in the fullest sense: partners in civilization."

With this statement as a benchmark, I am proud to congratulate the members of the 2010–2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council for showing themselves to be outstanding young citizens of this nation. It is my privilege to submit summaries of their work to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to be preserved for posterity and antiquity. To these young public servants, thank you, and keep up the great work. I salute you.

A copy of each submitted student summary follows:

For my five hours of community service I volunteered at my church, preparing food boxes for Thanksgiving. Every year my church helps put together Thanksgiving food boxes. I always look forward to it each year because my mom and I always go shopping for it. It's a way to help people less fortunate than us. It allows them to have a big Thanksgiving meal just like everyone else. No one should have to miss a holiday with their family for any reason, especially if they just simply can't afford it. Community service to me is anything where you help people with their lives. It doesn't matter how big or small the act may be, it's just making an impact on their lives that makes a difference. It can help to put hope back in people's lives or to let them know that there are people out there that work to help others.

—Danielle Kasper

TRIBUTE TO RUTH AND STEPHEN HENDEL

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 4, 2011

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ruth and Stephen Hendel of Larchmont, New York, recipients of the Jewish Theological Seminary's 2011 Louis B. Marshall Award. This award recognizes their commitment to principles to which Louis Marshall adhered as the Chairman of the Board of JTS from 1904 to 1929: exemplary ethics and communal commitment.

In addition to helping strengthen our community and economy through their demanding careers—Stephen in business and law and Ruth in theatre production—the Hendels have worked to ensure equal opportunity for all.

Their contributions have enhanced education programs, including at JTS, where both are actively involved. Stephen takes a unique interest in supporting rabbinical students while Ruth takes an active role on Chancellor Arnold M. Eisen's Arts Roundtable and on the Advisory Board of the Library to help expand students' access to cultural and literary works.

The Hendels' contributions to the New York arts community extend far beyond professional commitment. With a long list of production credits on and off Broadway, the Hendels co-conceived and co-produced the critically acclaimed musical *Fela!*, which was nominated for eleven Tony awards. The Hendels sought to highlight continued oppression and civil rights struggles around the world in their production, which chronicles the life of a legendary Nigerian musician who inspired a generation in his pursuit of human rights and freedom.

They also serve on boards of several important arts organizations. Mr. Hendel is on the boards of the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, New Group, Culture Project, St. Ann's Warehouse, Afropop.org, and the African Museum for Art, and serves on various advisory committees at Yale University. Ms. Hendel serves on the boards of the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, LABYRINTH Theater, The Play Company, and the Yale School of Drama Advisory Board.

In addition to their substantial contributions of their time and talents to JTS, Ms. Hendel received a Very Important Parent Award from the Board of Jewish Education and together they have been honored by Westchester/Fairfield County's Crohn's and Colitis Foundation and the Westchester Jewish Center of Marmonneck.

Married for thirty-three years, the Hendels have three adult children and a son-in-law—Abby and Guy, Sam, and Joe—and one grandson.

The Hendels' commitment to community service and investment in the arts is greatly appreciated and extolled. I urge you to join me today in recognizing their outstanding achievements.

REIMBURSE THE VA

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 4, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I introduced H.R. 814, the "Medicare VA Reimbursement Act of 2011."

This legislation authorizes the establishment of a Medicare VA reimbursement program where HHS reimburses the VA for the provision of health care to Medicare eligible veterans for the treatment of non-service connected conditions at VA medical facilities.

Today, there are veterans who have earned VA health care benefits with their service to our country, as well as Medicare benefits by paying into the Social Security system during their working years. Even though these individuals have clearly earned both of these benefits, current law unfairly prohibits them from using their Medicare benefits at VA facilities even though they may feel more comfortable seeking care among their fellow veterans from VA providers who specialize in caring for veterans.

This is also inconsistent with the authorities granted to other federal entities such as the Indian Health Service (IHS) and the Department of Defense's (DOD) TRICARE for Life that are allowed to bill Medicare. IHS and DOD are able to augment their resources with Medicare collections and reinvest the extra funding back into their programs and services. H.R. 814 would provide equity in such billing practices among the federal entities. In other words, the VA would be able to access an important new source of revenues from Medicare which may be reinvested to further strengthen the VA's health care system.

In detail, this legislation requires the Secretaries of VA and HHS to establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) no later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of the Act. The MOU must establish such program elements as the frequency of reimburse-

ment, the billing system, the data sharing agreement, and the payment rate. H.R. 814 also provides some guidelines on setting the payment rate so that the terms that contributed to the failure of the Medicare DOD Subvention Demonstration Project are not repeated again. For example, this legislation prohibits setting a reimbursement rate which is less than 100% of the amount that Medicare would pay a participating provider. It also prohibits annual caps on reimbursement and does not allow for a maintenance of effort requirement, which refers to the requirement that VA maintain a certain level of spending before they can be reimbursed from HHS.

Finally, H.R. 814 requires an annual report to Congress providing program data, as well as a triennial GAO report assessing the program impact.

I urge your support of this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010-2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—TESS MICHAELS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 4, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and privilege to inform the Members of the United States House of Representatives that the students of the 2010–2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council (CYAC) from the Third District of Texas have completed a total of 500 community service hours, fulfilling and far-surpassing the requirements of their assigned CYAC in the Community service project.

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President George H.W. Bush once said, "A volunteer is a person who can see what others cannot see; who can feel what most do not feel. Often, such gifted persons do not think of themselves as volunteers, but as citizens—citizens in the fullest sense: partners in civilization."

With this statement as a benchmark, I am proud to congratulate the members of the 2010–2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council for showing themselves to be outstanding young citizens of this nation. It is my privilege to submit summaries of their work to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to be preserved

for posterity and antiquity. To these young public servants, thank you, and keep up the great work. I salute you.

A copy of each submitted student summary follows:

The Red Cross has been an integral part of my life since I founded the school chapter as a freshman and served in the Dallas Red Cross as a Tiffany Circle Intern and the Dallas Red Cross Youth Leadership Council. I hope to inspire my peers to realize that work is its own reward and giving of one's time is the greatest gift. I have seen a strong spirit of volunteerism in the members in installing smoke detectors, organizing fundraisers, and coordinating blood drives. Over 200 members are now actively involved, and by inspiring others to volunteer, the impact on the community increases exponentially. Red Cross blood collections in January were the lowest seen in a decade due to the severe winter storms. I wanted to play an active role and organized a large blood drive as a part of my CYAC community project. I also had the privilege of serving as an attorney in the Plano Municipal Teen Court. I defend and prosecute students from different backgrounds and my hope is that students realize the importance of not letting their impulses take over their common sense and deter them from having a bright future ahead.

—Tess Michaels

INTRODUCTION OF THE LOCAL TAXPAYER RELIEF ACT OF 2011

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 4, 2011

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Local Taxpayer Relief Act of 2011, a bill to reauthorize the Impact Aid program.

The majority of public school funding in America comes from local property taxes. However, in areas with military bases, Indian lands, national parks, federal low-rent housing, or other federal property, local school districts cannot collect needed revenue.

Without relief: taxpayers in these federally impacted areas would need to pay more in local taxes to support the same level of education as areas with no federal impact. This is patently unfair.

In 1950, Congress recognized the need to address this inequity and created Impact Aid, the original federal K–12 education law. Impact Aid helps local taxpayers by reimbursing school districts for the costs of hosting federal property and educating federally connected children. Today, Impact Aid supports over 12 million children in more than 1,300 school districts in all 50 states, DC, and U.S. territories.

In Hawaii, we have Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine bases where our brave men and women in uniform are stationed. Thousands of military-dependent children are students in Hawaii schools, but our state cannot collect local taxes from these bases. No matter what type of land you live on—and especially if your family serves our nation—all our children deserve a high-quality education.

Impact Aid is especially important now, as school districts nationwide continue to recover from the greatest recession since the Great Depression. Impact Aid funds come with few strings attached, helping districts support a wide range of vital services.