

training and employing a high-quality workforce.

I ask the House to join me in honoring the Metropolitan Fire Sprinkler, LLC for its outstanding accomplishments as the 2011 District of Columbia Small Business of the Year, and its founder and president, Walter "Merrill" Smith.

### CONDEMNING THE RECENT TERRORIST ATTACK IN MOROCCO

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 2, 2011*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn the terrorist attack that took the lives of at least 16 innocent people and wounded 23 others on April 28, 2011 in Marrakesh, Morocco. The Argana Café, the site of the bombing, overlooks the city's bustling Jamaa el-Fnaa square, which is a lively hub of cultural exchange and celebration. Moroccan, French, and British lives were lost in this senseless act, indicating that this was not a protest of local concerns, but of global ideals.

This disgraceful demonstration of ill will is considered an attack not only on Moroccan, French and British civilians, but on the human right to freedom, security, and happiness. No human being should have to live in constant fear of such needless violence, and I firmly stand with the people of Morocco as they strive to cope with this blow. I would also like to express my most heartfelt sympathies to all who have suffered from this tragedy, whether through their direct presence on the scene or indirectly through the suffering of a loved one.

Mr. Speaker, acts of cowardice and violence must not be allowed to prevail. It is my hope that the people of Morocco and the victims of this attack find peace and healing, and that we continue to work toward a global society that values every human life.

### HONORING MRS. LINDA WINFIELD FOR HER RETIREMENT AFTER 33 YEARS OF TEACHING

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 2, 2011*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Linda Winfield, one of Illinois School District 101's most beloved teachers, who will retire at the end of this school year in May. For 33 years, Mrs. Winfield has blessed the Forest Hills community with her compassion and her commitment to educating children.

Raised in the small town of Assumption, Illinois, Mrs. Winfield understood the importance and lasting impact of education in small town communities. After graduating from nearby Millikin University, she began her career as a teacher at Forest Hills. In 1990 she became the kindergarten teacher at Forest Hills Elementary after spending several years in other teaching roles. Her ever-present smile and dedication to elementary school education have made her a favorite teacher in her local community. Her love of music, which she in-

fuses into each class by singing and playing the piano, has endeared her to parents and left lifelong impressions on her students. Mrs. Winfield has made a tradition of the kindergarten students hosting a Mother's Day tea for their mothers; this event is truly one of the highlights of the year for Forest Hills kindergarten families.

Mrs. Winfield's engagement with her students and their families always lasted long after the ring of the school bell. Active in the local community, Mrs. Winfield set a positive example for her students and neighbors within and outside the classroom, teaching extra-curricular music lessons.

I ask you to join me in honoring Mrs. Winfield on her retirement after 33 years of teaching in District 101. Mrs. Winfield will be greatly missed at Forest Hills Elementary by parents, students, and co-workers alike. Her contributions to the community exemplify her commitment to her students and their families. May she enjoy a long and productive retirement, and continue to put a smile on the faces of those around her.

### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF STAFF SERGEANT JEFFREY HAWTHORNE

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 2, 2011*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to recognize the life of Staff Sergeant Jeffrey Hawthorne. Staff Sergeant Hawthorne was a true patriot who exemplified the honor and valor of our Armed Forces. His passing is an enormous loss for Northwest Florida and the United States Army.

Staff Sergeant Hawthorne was a native of Chumuckla in Santa Rosa County, Florida. His love for his country was unparalleled. As a junior at Central High School he signed a commitment to serve his country in the U.S. Army. Immediately following his graduation in 1995, Staff Sergeant Hawthorne enlisted, serving 16 years on active duty until his recent passing.

As a member of the Army, Staff Sergeant Hawthorne served with honor and distinction, receiving numerous medals and commendations. He served as a military policeman throughout the U.S. and in Korea. He also served as a special agent with the protective services detachment at NATO Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.

The United States of America is a bastion of liberty and freedom, and it is because of the indefatigable dedication and professionalism of servicemembers like Staff Sergeant Hawthorne, who put themselves in danger to protect our country, that we continue to prosper as the world's greatest nation. Staff Sergeant Hawthorne has gone home to the Lord; however, his dedication and service to our nation will not be forgotten.

Staff Sergeant Hawthorne is survived by his parents, Joseph and Ruth Hawthorne; sisters, Cynthia Bloyd and Diane (John) Marceau; nephews, Kevin and Sean Carroll; aunts, Marian Hendrix, Loretta McCrory, Ann Blanton, Cora Abel and Irene Joyner; uncles, Ralph Jr. Bailey and James Hawthorne and many other nieces and nephews and his military family,

and he remains in the hearts and minds of all those who knew him.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I extend my deepest condolences to Staff Sergeant Hawthorne's family. Staff Sergeant Hawthorne was a true patriot, and his willingness to serve our nation will endure as an example for our community. My wife Vicki joins me in extending our thoughts and prayers to the entire Hawthorne family.

### IN HONOR OF EDITH WILKIE EDWARDS

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 2, 2011*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Edith Wilkie Edwards. Most often known as Edie, I am honored that I have this opportunity to recognize such a caring, giving and loving woman.

Edie's tireless and dedicated work towards making the world a safer and more humane place is remarkable. She was an activist on peace and arms control issues, a former congressional staff member and wife of former Congressman Don Edwards, (D-CA). Edie passed away in Carmel, California at the age of 64. She had cancer and pulmonary disease.

Edie will forever be remembered as one of Capitol Hill's most talented, driven and selfless individuals. She directed Congress' bipartisan and bicameral Arms Control and Foreign Policy Caucus from 1978 to 1995. In that role, she worked to halt the development of new nuclear weapons, strengthen congressional support for the United Nations, end funding for proxy wars in Central America and expand and encourage human rights around the world. Prior to directing the caucus, she served as chief of staff to Reps. Fortney (Pete) Stark (D-CA) from 1975 to 1978; and Ogden R. Reid (R-NY) from 1968 to 1975.

Additionally, Edie served as president of the Peace Through Law Education Fund, a spin-off of the Arms Control and Foreign Policy Caucus, where she co-authored two reports examining the views of key military leaders on peace operations. The reports, "A Force for Peace" (1999) and "A Force for Peace and Security" (2002), foresaw the increasing need for U.S. troops to participate in multi-lateral peace operations in failed states.

Edie was also an active board member of the Ploughshares Fund, the San Francisco-based foundation that is the largest U.S. grant-making organization focused on peace and security issues; Council for a Livable World, a leading nuclear arms control lobbying organization in Washington; Peace-PAC, which supports arms control activists seeking election to the House of Representatives and the Center for International Policy, an organization started after the war in Vietnam by former diplomats and peace activists to promote human rights and international cooperation. She was a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

In 1981, after 11 years together, she married Rep. Edwards, the 32-year Member of Congress from San Jose, CA, who chaired the Civil and Constitutional Rights Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee. They were

married at Martha's Vineyard in a small and beautiful ceremony.

After they both retired from their careers on Capitol Hill in 1995, the Edwards decompressed by living in the village of Loumarin in Southern France. For more than a decade, the Edwards lived half the year in Carmel-by-the-Sea in California and half at Holly Point, their home overlooking the Chesapeake Bay in Edgewater, Maryland. They settled in Carmel for the last three years.

Born in New York on October 5, 1946 to the late John and Dorothea J. Wilkie, Edie graduated from Concord Academy and Vassar College. Tall and slim and athletic, she was an avid tennis player with a forehand her opponents considered lethal.

In addition to Mr. Edwards, she is survived by five stepsons; a sister and two brothers, Rennie Wilkie Lieber, John McNeil Wilkie and Peter Wilkie, and their families. She is also survived by her stepmother, Margot Loines Wilkie, of New York and Martha's Vineyard and two stepsisters, Faith Morrow Williams and Constance Morrow Fullenweider and their families.

Mr. Speaker, Edith Wilkie Edwards touched many lives in her community and devoted her life to building a more peaceful world. It is a privilege and a high honor to recognize her life. She will be missed and I know I speak for the whole House in honoring the life of this dedicated and loving woman.

#### HONORING ABRAHAM BREEHEY

#### HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 2, 2011*

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Abraham (Abe) Breehey, a devoted husband, father, son, and brother and to mourn him upon his sudden passing at the age of 34. Abe was the Government Affairs Director of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers. Born in Binghamton, New York in 1976, Abe Breehey graduated with a Bachelor's Degree from Sienna College in Loudonville, NY. He earned a Master's Degree in Public Policy from Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy at the University of Albany and went on to serve as a Legislative Assistant during the 107th Congress and 108th Congress. He joined the IBB legislative staff in 2004. Abe was a sagacious voice for labor, widely respected on Capitol Hill and throughout the ranks of his union for his intellect, passion and commitment. He had the innate ability to build consensus across political and ideological lines.

On April 14, 2011, Abe passed from this earthly world to his eternal reward. He will long be remembered as a husband devoted to his beloved wife, Sonya and his treasured young daughter, Abigail. He is survived by his parents, Ray and Carol, his sister Rachel, three nieces, a nephew, and his loyal dog Kesey. Abe leaves behind a legacy of many friends whose lives were bettered for having known him. Mr. Speaker, during his lifetime, Abe enriched the lives of everyone around him. As we bid farewell to this vibrant man, I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning his passing and honoring his unwavering patriotism and legendary service to the working men and women of our community and our country.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 2, 2011*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is \$14,287,630,052,323.12.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$3,649,204,306,029.30 since then.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

#### ADA LAUNCHES JOBS-SOCIAL SECURITY-MINIMUM WAGE CAMPAIGN

#### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 2, 2011*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, Americans for Democratic Action has launched a Progressive agenda for jobs, rejuvenating the American economy, saving Social Security, and raising the minimum wage.

#### JOBS

Workers without jobs can't provide adequately for the basic needs of their families. The unemployment crisis is damaging families and contributing to a multitude of economic and social ills, including:

The highest poverty rate for working-age people between 18 and 64—12.9% in 2009—since 1965. Today, 43.6 million Americans are living in poverty, 19 million of whom are in deep poverty.

Workers who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own often cannot pay mortgages and rent, even when receiving unemployment benefits, which are not equivalent to wages lost. The foreclosure crisis—primarily the outcome of misdeeds of bankers and mortgage brokers—is driving further declines in home values while destroying once-vibrant neighborhoods. Joblessness also contributes to increased homelessness, which is not only tragic for families who lose their homes, but is accompanied by broader social harms and increased budget pressures on already strapped local and state governments.

Unemployed workers—along with many who are still employed—are losing employer-based health insurance coverage. In 2009, 50.7 million people were without health insurance—the highest number of uninsured since the Census started collecting the data in 1987. Joblessness is increasing pressure on public programs such as Medicaid, while increased use of uncovered emergency services by those with no other option for care is driving further increases in healthcare costs for small businesses and those still fortunate enough to have jobs and healthcare coverage.

Workers without jobs can't pay taxes that provide the resources to hire teachers, police and firefighters, build and maintain roads, provide for appropriate national security, ensure product safety, protect the environment, and fill urgent long- and short-term national needs.

We condemn the folly of deficit slashing while 15 million Americans remain unemployed—plus 11 million more who are underemployed or have dropped from the labor force. Insufficient economic demand and idle productive capacity in the economy, in the short-term, bleeds federal and state budgets, whether or not current economic conditions meet the official definition of "recession." Reckless spending (except perhaps for ill-conceived and poorly executed wars) is not the cause of our budget woes. This is made obvious as conservatives decry the deficit, but cannot or will not name any specific government program they would slash in order to meet their demands for deficit reduction.

Job creation—and the economic growth that spurs job creation—is the only way to reduce a budget deficit that is primarily the result of high unemployment. Unemployed workers represent idle productive capacity—lost wages and lost economic output. Lost wages reduce demand for goods, services, and investment, and depress tax receipts. Without consumers with money to spend, firms don't invest or hire, leading to more joblessness and still lower output. That leads to declining tax receipts along with growing demand for automatic stabilizers (such as unemployment benefits) and safety net services (such as Medicaid, food stamps, and housing assistance). Government deficits are inevitable in economic downturns with high unemployment.

Since firms will not hire or invest where demand is lacking, and unemployed workers cannot expand consumption and increase demand, only the government can spur growth—through deficit spending and investment. Tax cuts may be helpful, but in the current climate, direct spending and investment will more quickly and more strongly stimulate demand. Investing now in America's current and future prosperity is the remedy for both joblessness and the long-term budget deficit.

Conservatives argue that austerity will spur economic growth. That argument is based on evidence that fiscal austerity reduces interest rates (borrowing costs) for firms, and thus stimulates investment. But the evidence for this model does not mirror current conditions. Interest rates in the U.S. are already at historically low levels, yet firms are not investing or hiring. Moreover, few of the countries that experienced rapid growth while practicing fiscal austerity adopted austerity when the economy was operating far below its potential level of output, and in no case was a country as far below its potential as the U.S. is today.

Furthermore, all of the evidence that austerity fosters growth comes from countries with a much larger percentage of their economy involved in export industries than is the case with the U.S. Trade provides a source of demand for countries with a large export sector. The U.S. currently cannot rely on export-led growth to stimulate sufficient demand to reduce unemployment. For unemployment to be reduced in the short run, domestic demand must be increased. Thus, arguments for slashing government budgets in order to stimulate jobs and economic growth are not credible under current economic conditions.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, ARRA, may have created or saved up to 3.3 million jobs and averted a second Great Depression, according to the independent Congressional Budget Office, CBO, estimates. But simple math shows that it was woefully insufficient to offset the loss of \$2.1 trillion in