

May 13, 2011, due to a family emergency. Had I been present, I would have recorded the following votes: rollcall No. 323—"nay," rollcall No. 324—"nay," rollcall No. 325—"aye," rollcall No. 326—"aye," rollcall No. 327—"aye," rollcall No. 328—"aye," rollcall No. 329—"aye."

CALVIN MERRILLS

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Calvin Merrills for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Calvin Merrills is an 8th grader at Oberon Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Calvin Merrills is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Calvin Merrills for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF FATHER GEORGE  
WANSE, S.J.

### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Father George Wanser, who has served the people of Sacramento since 1994 as a priest, campus minister, and chaplain. He has been with the Newman Catholic Community in Sacramento for close to 10 years, and as he moves on this summer to the Most Holy Trinity Parish in San Jose, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting this man for the dedication he has shown the Sacramento area.

At a young age, Father Wanser became involved in the church. He excelled at both Fordham University and the Pontificia Universidad Catolica Javeriana de Bogota in Columbia. Father Wanser taught history, religious studies, and English in Puerto Rico from 1970 through 1973. He taught music, was head wrestling coach, and worked as the Puerto Rican High School Athletic Alliance Wrestling Commissioner.

In the 1970s, Father Wanser moved back to the U.S. and was ordained. He was assigned to several community organizing projects all over California, including churches in Fresno, Santa Ana, Fullerton, and San Diego.

Father Wanser arrived in Sacramento in 1999 when he began at Jesuit High School. Since his arrival he has contributed much to the Sacramento area. He has spent the last several decades as a campus minister and

chaplain, and has also worked at Christian Brothers High School, UC Davis, and Cristo Rey High School.

Father Wanser has served the Newman Catholic Community of Sacramento for the past 10 years, and has inspired countless people through his goodwill and leadership. His friends and followers have expressed their gratitude for his strength and conviction, and his presence will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize the contributions that Father Wanser has made to Sacramento. His sincere commitment to those around him and his enthusiasm for inspiring others has made a difference for countless people in our community. I ask all my colleagues to join me in thanking Father Wanser for his years of leadership, and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

### HONORING POPLAR SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, Poplar Springs Baptist Church is one of our most beloved treasures in the State of Georgia; and

Whereas, Pastor Ulysses and First Lady Annie Ponder are the two jewels that have been placed by God to lead and serve the members of Poplar Springs Baptist Church for the past 23 three years; and

Whereas, this tenacious man and virtuous woman of God give of themselves daily in order to uplift the kingdom, serve the community and to give to those in need; and

Whereas, honor, humility, courage and foresight are words that describe the Pastor and First Lady, we would be remiss if we did not speak of the love and admiration they have towards God, the Church and the Community; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Pastor Ulysses Ponder and First Lady Annie Ponder as they celebrate 23 years of outstanding leadership and service;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim May 1, 2011 as Pastor Ulysses and First Lady Annie Ponder Day in the Fourth Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 1st day of May, 2011.

BRIANA MUNOZ

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Briana Munoz for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Briana Munoz is an 8th grader at North Arvada Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Briana Munoz is exemplary of the type of achieve-

ment that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Briana Munoz for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

### COMMEMORATING AZERBAIJAN'S REPUBLIC DAY AND 20 YEARS OF U.S.-AZERBIJAN RELATIONS

### HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, as it celebrates its 93rd anniversary of independence from the Russian Empire, I would like to take the opportunity to honor the Republic of Azerbaijan on the occasion of its May 28th Republic Day. Later this year, Azerbaijan will also celebrate the 20th anniversary of its freedom from the Soviet Union and the start of diplomatic relations with the United States.

Azerbaijan has made incredible progress in the last 20 years and has become a key ally of the United States in a strategically important region.

Azerbaijan is located between Russia and Iran in the strategic region between Europe and Asia. A stable and secular country, it is one of the few places in that part of the world where Muslims, Jews and Christians live together in peace.

The U.S.-Azerbaijan partnership is based on shared values and common goals and is a key component to regional security. As highlighted by Secretary of Defense Robert Gates during a recent visit to Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan provides multi-faceted support for U.S. and NATO operations in Afghanistan and is a key part of the Northern Distribution Network providing ground and naval transit for roughly 25 percent of the Coalition's supplies bound for Afghanistan.

Beyond support for U.S. security interests in the region, Azerbaijan plays a paramount role in strengthening U.S. and European energy security and is expanding its commercial and economic ties with the United States. Azerbaijan is a secular Muslim country that maintains close friendly ties with Israel and supplies roughly a quarter of Israel's oil.

My colleagues are encouraged to join me in honoring Azerbaijan on the occasion of its 93rd Republic Day and celebrating a robust U.S.-Azerbaijan relationship.

### TO COMMEMORATE THE 100TH AN- NIVERSARY OF THE MV *PRU- DENCE*

### HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the *MV Prudence*, what is believed to be the oldest continuously operated, fully documented merchant vessel in the United States.

The MV *Prudence* was originally christened as the *Madeline* in 1911 and commissioned for Former Boston City Councilor and Dedham State Representative Frank Gethro. Upon completion, the *Madeline* operated until 1920 providing ferry service from Marine Park in the City Point area of South Boston to Castle Island in South Boston and other Boston Harbor Islands.

The *Prudence* received her name in 1921 when the *Madeline* was sold to the Prudence Island Navigation Company in Bristol, Rhode Island. For over four decades, ferry goers were serviced by the *Prudence* between Bristol, Rhode Island and Prudence Island, Rhode Island. Following the 1960 election of President John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts, the *Prudence* was purchased by Hyannis Harbor Tours, Inc. founders, Richard "Dick" and Robert "Bob" Scudder in 1962 and returned to its home state.

Since 1962, millions of Cape Cod tourists have been serviced by the *Prudence's* sight-seeing cruises from Hyannis Harbor to the Kennedy Compound in Hyannisport, Massachusetts. Hundreds more have been provided employment by the *Prudence's* reliable passenger service. Today, I honor the *Prudence's* role as a celebrated cultural icon and reliable employer for residents of my district.

With the celebrations of the MV *Prudence's* 100th year of service scheduled to begin on May 26, 2011, I extend my deepest congratulations to the vessel and its operators on this incredible achievement.

BREANN HOLTER

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Breann Holter for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Breann Holter is a 12th grader at Ralston Valley High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Breann Holter is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Breann Holter for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, on May 11th, my vote on rollcall No. 309 was incorrectly recorded as "aye," when I intended to vote "no." I did not see the error until it was too

late. I ask that the record reflect my strong opposition to H.R. 1229 and my intention to vote no on this legislation.

### HONORING REVEREND FURQUAN R. STAFFORD, SR.

### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, the works of Dr. Charles R. Drew have been and continue to be credited for medical innovation and saving lives throughout the world; and

Whereas, Reverend Furquan R. Stafford, Sr., has given of himself to continue the works of Dr. Drew in the U.S. Plasma Collection Industry and to educate and motivate our youth; Reverend Stafford has given exceptional and distinguished service to our citizens by providing guidance, service and leadership; and

Whereas, Reverend Stafford is a proven leader and advocate with the heart of a lion and the spirit of an angel; and

Whereas, his determination and will is a testament that one man can make a difference; and

Whereas, Georgia is proud to have Reverend Stafford, who gives of himself daily without any need for praise and fame; he always serves valiantly and with honor, a modern-day knight; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Reverend Furquan R. Stafford, Sr., for his outstanding leadership and service to our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim May 19, 2011 as Reverend Furquan R. Stafford, Sr. Day in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 19th day of May, 2011.

BREANNA MARTIN

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Breanna Martin for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Breanna Martin is an 8th grader at Arvada K-8 and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Breanna Martin is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Breanna Martin for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, I was unavoidably detained yesterday hosting a Job Fair in Jacksonville, Florida. Had I been able to attend the vote here yesterday, I would have voted, "yea" on rollcall Vote 330. I support H.R. 1627 Honoring American Veterans Act of 2011. This bill will allow certain monuments to be placed at Arlington National Cemetery, allow for a memorial marker to honor the memory of the Jewish chaplains who died while on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States to be placed on Chaplains Hill in Arlington National Cemetery.

On rollcall vote 331, I would have voted, "yea" to support H.R. 1383, Restoring GI Bill Fairness Act of 2011. This bill resolves a provision that certain veterans who were retroactively affected by a provision of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Improvements Act of 2010. The tuition these veterans were paying was increased by as much as \$10,000 a year, and they should not be penalized for a change in law after they have begun their college education. However, an offset should be found that does not penalize the housing allowances of other GI bill recipients.

On rollcall vote 332, I would have voted, "yea" to support H.R. 1657, a bill to revise the enforcement penalties for misrepresentation of a business concern as a small business concern owned and controlled by veterans or as a small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans. The bill directs the VA to establish timelines to take action to debar non veteran-owned firms who fraudulently misrepresent themselves as veteran-owned firms, and sets a mandatory 5 year debarment period.

### RECOGNIZING MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AND AWARENESS MONTH

### HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, this month towns across Texas will commemorate Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month, which is designed to increase awareness of the unique safety issues facing motorcyclists.

Starting in 2003, the Texas Confederation of Clubs began obtaining Proclamations from Texas towns recognizing Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month and encouraging all drivers to educate themselves about motorcycle safety issues. In 2010, Proclamations were issued in 178 cities and 11 counties all over the State of Texas and Governor Rick Perry read a Motorcycle Safety Awareness Proclamation at the state capital.

The 2011 Texas Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month kicked off with the Texas Department of Transportation placing Share the Road and Watch for Motorcycles on all of their billboards all over Texas during the last week of April and the first week of May.

Mr. Speaker, since the Texas Confederation of Clubs began promoting Texas Motorcycle