

## OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2012*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, on the 200th anniversary of President James Madison signing a declaration of war against Great Britain, it is \$15,736,971,094,472.17. We've added \$5,110,094,045,559.09 to our debt in just over 3 years. This is debt our Nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

LEECHIA JONES

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2012*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Leechia Jones of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Leechia is active in the community through her work and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Award for Woman in the Workplace.

Leechia is humble regarding her numerous accomplishments she has earned through her leadership and dedication, which include the Communicator of the Year award from Southwestern Bell; the Sullivan Award from Catholic Charities, and the Distinguished Leadership Award from the National Association for Community Leadership and from Leadership St. Joseph. Often called upon to help with new initiatives, Leechia extended her wisdom and leadership as coordinator for the St. Joseph Youth Alliance during its beginning phases, serving there as a loaned team member from Family Guidance Center for three years.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Leechia Jones. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

## CELEBRATING CHIEF DAVID DUBOIS' TWENTY NINE YEARS WITH THE ROCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

**HON. FRANK C. GUINTA**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2012*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, on May 31, 2012 Chief David Dubois retired from the Rochester Police Department after 29 years as a law enforcement officer in that community. A native of Somersworth, New Hampshire, Chief Dubois decided from an early age to pursue a career in law enforcement based on the example of his father who also enjoyed a career as a police officer.

Chief Dubois began his career as a part-time police officer in Somersworth and became a full-time officer in Rochester in 1983.

He quickly rose through the ranks, serving the community in many capacities during his tenure. In May of 2002, he was appointed Police Chief and served in that position for a decade. Throughout his career, he has been known as a community leader committed to protecting the citizens he represented and the men and women under his command. Chief Dubois has also been active in the Rochester community and has participated in many civic organizations like the Rochester Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club of Rochester.

I want to commend Chief Dubois for his service and wish he and his family well in the coming years.

MONTFORT POINT MARINES: JOE COBBS AND JOHNNY THOMPSONS; DISTINGUISHED MASON AND SON OF CIVIL WAR VETERAN LUKE MARTIN, JR.

**HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2012*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two American trail blazers from North Carolina's first congressional district: Montfort marine veterans Johnny Thompskins and the recently deceased Joe Cobbs. I would also like to recognize the son of a Civil War veteran Luke Martin, Jr. Thompskins, Cobbs, and Martin will be honored by the Christian Community Charity Workers (CCCW) Inc., on June 24 at the Flame Banquet Center in New Bern, North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, recruiting for the "Montfort Marines" began on June 1, 1942, following public pressure on President Franklin D. Roosevelt by Black leaders to issue Executive Order 8802, which barred government agencies and federal contractors from employment discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color or national origin. The order also required all of the U.S. Armed Services, including the United States Marine Corps, to recruit and enlist African Americans. Despite an era thick with racial discrimination, Black recruits lined up by the thousands to defend the freedoms of people abroad, while still being denied basic unalienable rights at home.

Among the inaugural class of Black Marines were Johnny Thompskins and the late Joe Cobbs. Thompskins, a man of small stature but enormous courage; and Cobbs, who developed a strong work ethic while working his family's farmland, received basic training at the segregated Camp Montfort Point in North Carolina, because no Black recruit was allowed to enter the main base of nearby Camp Lejeune unless accompanied by a white Marine.

Nevertheless, these three men were unafraid by the onslaught of World War II. They understood that victory in war was only achievable with the talent of its Black citizens. As a result, these men served their country with distinction, chartered uncharted territory, and set the bar for exemplary African American servicemen.

At 94 years old, Martin is widely known around the state of North Carolina as one of a few living children of Civil War veterans. His father, Luke Martin, Sr., was a slave in Hertford County when he joined the Union Army

and began to bravely fight for the freedoms of his loved ones.

Nonetheless, Martin, Jr. is a distinguished mason who has earned enormous respect for building a several structures across Craven County. Martin's son Frederick Martin was killed in the Vietnam War in 1968.

Today, Thompskins and Martin reside in New Bern, North Carolina. Cobbs also lived there until his passing in May. All entered the world as young men determined to forge independence and enthusiastic to contribute to the country and their communities.

Mr. Speaker, the contributions of Thompskins, Cobb, and Martin to America expand the definition of patriotism. Their trailblazing efforts will forever remain a cornerstone in American history.

LINDA JUDAH

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2012*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Linda Judah of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Linda is active in the community and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Lifetime Achievement Award: Woman in the Workplace.

Ms. Judah has served as Director of Buchanan Child Support Enforcement, a hospital and school nurse, and is currently the Executive Director of the Social Welfare Board. Linda has grown to have a compassionate understanding of the specific health challenges faced by low-income patients and has worked aggressively to overcome those challenges. Through her hard work and dedication to ensure that the Social Welfare Board achieve the highest level of care, the clinic now serves as a standard for others seeking to provide high-quality care.

In addition to serving as a leader for several overseas medical trips, Ms. Judah has worked diligently to secure funding for the free clinic through a period of economic uncertainty and has earned such a respect among nursing students and interns that she was invited to be the commencement speaker at graduation.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Linda Judah. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

## HONORING THE NEIGHBORHOOD MUSIC SCHOOL AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2012*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the many who have gathered in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Neighborhood Music School in New Haven, Connecticut. This is a remarkable milestone for this wonderful institution of learning.

The Neighborhood Music School is not your ordinary school. Its 3,000 students hail from communities across Connecticut and range from 6 months to over 80 years of age. The Neighborhood Music School offers a myriad of programs in music and dance that are open to children and adults regardless of age, economic status, or experience. The arts, in all of its many mediums, are both a celebration of culture and tradition as well as a means of personal expression. The Neighborhood Music School has opened the doors of opportunity to thousands throughout its century-long history and has become a beloved community treasure.

The Neighborhood Music School has a particularly interesting history. When it first opened in 1911, on Wooster Street in New Haven, it was established in conjunction with St. Paul's Church as a settlement house and social services organization for local immigrants known as the Neighborhood House. However, in its first four years Neighborhood House saw such a demand for music programs it was decided that a separate entity, the Neighborhood House Music School was created and placed under the leadership of its first director, Susan Hart Dyer, a violinist and graduate of the Yale School of Music.

Faculty came from the Yale School of Music and the New Haven Symphony Orchestra. The school grew rapidly and even during the most difficult economic times of the Great Depression, the demand for the programs remained high. In 1945, Neighborhood House Music School officially became an independent entity called Neighborhood Music School and during the next decade a change in admission policies broadened the school's reach and enrollment reached new heights. It was in 1968, after a 4-year long building fund campaign, that the Neighborhood Music School opened its new home on Audubon Street, in what is now the heart of New Haven's thriving arts community.

Today, in its 30,000 square foot facility, Neighborhood Music School is home to thirty-three studios, practice rooms, a recital hall, and a library, showcasing the extraordinary talents of thousands of children and adults every year. In fact, just a few years ago, eighteen students from the Neighborhood Music School participated in the White House Community Classroom Music Series program with First Lady Michelle Obama. It was an extraordinary opportunity for them and a testament to the incredible opportunities this organization provides.

The Neighborhood Music School is an extraordinary organization—a place where anyone can explore their passion for music and dance. I am proud to join our community in congratulating them on their 100th anniversary and wish them all the best for many more years of success.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHAIRMAN  
VICTOR V. SCUDIERY

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2012*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Victor Scudiery upon his retirement from his position as Chairman of the

Monmouth County Democratic party. Chairman Scudiery has faithfully dedicated his time and political experience to the constituents of Monmouth County, New Jersey and is truly worthy of this body's recognition.

Victor Scudiery was born and raised in Newark, New Jersey where he was active in local politics. Chairman Scudiery is an alumnus of Seaton Hall University where he earned a degree in business administration. Chairman Scudiery served two years active duty and four years as a reservist with the United States Army upon graduation. Along side his brother, Chairman Scudiery began to embark on his business endeavors and opened Interstate Electronics, Inc. (IEI) in 1968. Interstate Electronics was the beginning of a successful business enterprise that later included a record company, a series of children's albums and coloring books, and numerous successful music and pictorial productions. The Airport Plaza Shopping center on Route 36 in Hazlet, New Jersey remains the Chairman's primary base of operation. Through his efforts, Airport Plaza has been revitalized. Chairman Scudiery continues to admirably oversee several other business ventures throughout the State of New Jersey.

In addition to his business ventures, Chairman Scudiery served under former Governor Brendan Byrne on the Ethics Advisory Council. Chairman Scudiery was also appointed to serve as Co-Chairman of the Boy Scouts of Monmouth County, Technical Advisor at Kean College and Chairman of the Buck Smith Scholarship Award Foundation. Chairman Scudiery sits on the Bayshore Community Hospital Board of trustees and is the Chairman of the Bayshore Senior Health, Education and Recreation Center Board of Directors. He is a dedicated member of the Bayshore Hospital Health Care Center. Chairman Scudiery is also a long time member of the Northern Monmouth Chamber of Commerce and was recently appointed to the Board of Directors. As a result of his hard work and dedication, he was honored with the 2008 Business Ambassador of the Year Award.

Victor Scudiery was elected Chairman of the Monmouth County Democratic Party in 1989. Under Chairman Scudiery's leadership, the Democratic party of Monmouth County continues to make impressive strides to assure that Democrats are elected to office. Multiple towns in Monmouth County with long tradition of Republican leadership now have a Democratic presence as a result of Chairman Scudiery's direction. The Chairman will be retiring from his position in 2012. His steadfast leadership has boosted the Monmouth County Democratic party. He will continue to serve as an inspiration to future Democratic leaders.

Mr. Speaker, Chairman Victor Scudiery has dedicated his life to various philanthropic, business and political endeavors. Please join my colleagues in thanking the Chairman for 23 years of service to the Democratic Party and dedication to the Monmouth County, New Jersey community.

**LORI PRUSSMAN**

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2012*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Lori Prussman of

Saint Joseph, Missouri. Lori is active in the community and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Lifetime Achievement Award: Woman in Volunteerism.

Lori Prussman is a valuable volunteer leader and has provided faithful services within the PTA for nearly 20 years. Ms. Prussman has served two terms as the St. Joseph PTA Council President. In that capacity, she has worked tirelessly promoting new schools and new technology and has patiently addressed hundreds of questions from concerned citizens. Ms. Prussman has been actively involved in leading PTA projects like the Character and Spiritual Scholarship and has worked to keep the organization solvent through the Major Savers Fundraisers. Thanks to Lori Prussman, the PTA manages to keep attention focused on advocating for children in the St. Joseph community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Lori Prussman. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2012*

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote 362, On agreeing to the King Amendment—I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote 363, On agreeing to the King Amendment—I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote 364, On agreeing to the Blackburn Amendment—I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall vote 365, On agreeing to the Blackburn Amendment—I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall vote 366, On agreeing to the Sullivan Amendment—I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote 367, On agreeing to the Turner Amendment—I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote 368, On agreeing to the Polis Amendment—I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall vote 369, Motion to Recommit H.R. 5855—I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall vote 370, Final passage of H.R. 5855—Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act—I would have voted "aye."

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE GREATER LANSING BUSINESS MONTHLY

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2012*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Greater Lansing Business Monthly, which this month will mark the 25th anniversary of its founding by mid-Michigan entrepreneur Chris Holman.

Twenty-five years ago, Mr. Holman saw the need for a publication that would promote, publicize, and support local companies, provide a forum for ideas, and keep members of the community informed of the services and products offered by businesses in the area.