

in his field. He is an accomplished surgeon, a clinical assistant professor at the University of Pennsylvania, and an entrepreneur with a highly successful private practice. Dr. Ladenheim recently retired as medical director for Blue Cross, and spent 20 years in practice at Presbyterian Hospital, as well as Nazareth Hospital and Hahnemann Hospital.

Dr. Ladenheim succeeded through hard work and sacrifice. In order to become a doctor he served in the military during the Vietnam War to pay his way through medical school. Throughout his career, he has created programs of outreach to the underserved community of Philadelphia, donating medical services and medicine to families and children who are denied access to health care. Taking the Hippocratic Oath to heart, Dr. Ladenheim is renowned for treating patients regardless of ability to pay, and to help those in need without any thought to his own benefit.

In addition to all of his accomplishments in the field of medicine, he has maintained a strong family life with his wife and three daughters, as well as a notable presence within the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing Dr. Steven Ladenheim for his contributions to the city of Philadelphia and to the medical community.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 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, it is \$15,776,139,241,010.39. We've added \$5,149,262,192,097.31 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.

Forty-eight years ago today, the Civil Rights Act was approved. This act provided for a brighter future for all Americans. We must not eclipse the hope included in this legislation with the grim future of debt repayment.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2012*

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 313, I was absent due to a family matter. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

#### TO COMMEND COLONEL JOHN J. STRYcula

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleague, Congressman JAMES

MORAN (VA—8th), to recognize COL John J. Strycula for his service to our Nation and his extraordinary leadership as Commander, U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Belvoir.

On July 7, 2010, COL Strycula assumed command of Fort Belvoir, which is located in the shadow of the Nation's capital and one of the most diverse and complex installations in the United States. In addition to the monumental responsibilities of providing support, services, and a high level quality of life to service members, their families, and related support providers of more than 200,000 people, he was immediately immersed into the most complicated Base Realignment and Closure mission within the Department of Defense.

COL Strycula assumed personal stewardship of all aspects of realignment under BRAC 2005. To accomplish the many aspects of this mission, he oversaw the activities of 150 mission partners on more than \$4 billion in construction and infrastructure improvement projects needed to accommodate the increase of installation population from 30,000 to 48,000 military and civilian personnel. Belvoir North, Fort Belvoir Community Hospital, the Wounded Warrior Complex, the USO Family Support Center, expansion of housing units including state of the art handicapped-accessible housing, child care centers, roads, bridges, fire stations, office buildings, and parking structures are examples of projects completed under the careful watch of COL Strycula.

The "brick and mortar" component of BRAC 2005 tells only part of the story; as impressive as these accomplishments are, the manner in which COL Strycula led the men and women under his command and the mission partners demonstrate the depth of his professionalism and commitment. His open and engaging command climate encouraged initiative and innovation. He has been fully involved in addressing and resolving community issues, both in the neighboring community and in the military community. COL Strycula successfully formed consensus among the various stakeholders on contentious issues, and he established strong relationships of mutual respect with elected and executive leaders in the local, State, and Federal Governments.

The first and most important priority for COL Strycula consistently has been the care and wellbeing of our soldiers and their families. Through his outstanding leadership, vision, and total dedication to soldiers, families, and civilians, he has profoundly impacted and Unproved the quality of life for all at Fort Belvoir. Serving our country in uniform, at home or in harm's way on foreign soil, is the highest of callings, and it is our sacred obligation to ensure that our military and their families receive the support, protections, respect, and services that they have earned.

Prior to his assignment as Commander of Fort Belvoir, he served in numerous capacities including several tours of duty in Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm. COL Strycula stood up and trained the Army's first Military Intelligence Interrogation Battalion, which he then led in Operation Iraqi Freedom. COL Strycula is a highly decorated officer; his awards include the Bronze Star with two oak leaf clusters, the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Joint Service

Achievement Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, and the Parachutist and Air Assault Badges.

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in commending COL John J. Strycula for his exceptional leadership of Fort Belvoir through the BRAC process, and in thanking him for his years of service to our country. COL Strycula's accomplishments and expertise have contributed immeasurably to our national defense and security, and he has rightfully earned the admiration, respect, and gratitude of all. We also extend our sincere appreciation to COL Strycula's wife, Wendy, and their 5 children for their support and sacrifices, which have enabled COL Strycula to serve with such distinction. COL Strycula will soon be deploying to Afghanistan, and our thoughts and prayers are with him and his family for his safe return home.

#### IN HONOR OF GEDLU METAFERIA

#### HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2012*

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Gedlu Metaferia, for his decades of service to the people of the St. Louis, Missouri.

Mr. Metaferia started the African Mutual Assistance Association of Missouri, AMAAM, on April 10, 1983 and for nearly 30 years has helped over 30,000 African immigrants and refugees settle into the St. Louis metropolitan area. Today St. Louis is home to almost 6,400 African immigrants and refugees.

As Executive Director, Mr. Metaferia skillfully managed the day-to-day operations of his organization, and he successfully led it toward the fulfillment of its mission to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate social services to African refugees and immigrants. The work of this organization includes: assistance with applications and insurance forms, mediation, education about civic participation, interpretation during medical visits, transportation, and locating housing. Sadly, we are all aware of the plight of refugees and other displaced communities; therefore, I am eternally grateful for the adjustment assistance provided by Mr. Metaferia and his organization.

Mr. Metaferia's efforts have fostered a greater appreciation of diversity, and have advanced ethnic inclusion in the St. Louis community. Moreover, he remains active in the community as a poet, freelance writer, human rights activist, advocate for refugee and immigrant rights, and a member on several non-profit boards. Mr. Metaferia has led by example and demonstrates resilience as a pillar of strength, sound judgment, and compassion.

Mr. Metaferia has dedicated his life to serving and promoting the welfare of others, and he has exemplified extraordinary commitment and selfless dedication. I congratulate Mr. Gedlu Metaferia on his many accomplishments, and I thank him for his continued service to our community.

EXPRESSING REGRET FOR PASSAGE OF LAWS ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE CHINESE IN THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2012*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support passage of H. Res. 683, an overdue and needed resolution that expresses the regret of the House for passing laws that targeted Chinese in the United States, including the Chinese Exclusion Act. A previous commitment has prevented me from being present to vote in support of H. Res. 683 today, but had been present, I most certainly would have voted for the Resolution, adding my voice to the Sense of the House of Representatives in expressing regret for the unconscionable Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882.

That Act stands as an example of the intolerance against which Americans must constantly fight to achieve the ideals on which our nation was founded. We can't ignore our country's history of exclusion and discrimination based on identity and country of origin. But today, the House's expression of regret for the past and apology to Chinese Americans is an important milestone in our nation's ongoing moral journey. This resolution, insufficient to repair the historical harm caused by such laws, does serve to recognize past wrongs and to remind us of our continuing work ensuring inclusion and equality for all.

While I could not be present to add my solemn support to the votes in favor of the resolution, I wish to express my regret for this historical legislation. I join my fellow members of the House of Representatives in recognition of the immense contribution of Chinese-Americans to the success of the United States historically and today, and affirm my commitment to securing the rights of all who call America home.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS ASSOCIATION

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2012*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 25th anniversary of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association. Since their establishment in 1987, NATCA's 20,000 air traffic controllers and aviation safety professionals have ensured that our nation has the safest, most efficient air traffic control system in the world. This is a record that makes both the Union and our country proud.

Aviation creates more than 10 million good-paying U.S. jobs and drives more than \$1 trillion in annual economic activity. The services that NATCA members provide enable American businesses to connect on a local, regional, national, and global level.

Aviation safety is not a partisan issue. As Members of Congress, we are all frequent users of the National Airspace System and are

reassured to know that when we board a plane, NATCA's membership will safely guide us home.

Again, I want to commend the National Air Traffic Controllers Association and their leadership on a job well done.

RECOGNIZING THE 147TH ANNIVERSARY OF JUNETEENTH AND THE 19TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF THE JUNETEENTH FREEDOM AND HERITAGE FESTIVAL IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2012*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 147th anniversary of Juneteenth and the 19th annual celebration of the Juneteenth Freedom and Heritage Festival in Memphis, Tennessee. This past weekend, we celebrated Juneteenth, which is the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery. Juneteenth commemorates African-American freedom and emphasizes education and achievement.

On June 19, 1865, Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, and announced in the town square that all slaves were free. Although this came nearly 3 years after the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation, the newly freed men and women rejoiced in the streets with jubilant celebrations, and thus, the Juneteenth holiday was born. The theme of this year's Memphis Juneteenth festival is "Saluting Black Educators."

Memphis has a long history of excellent black educators. During the Civil Rights Movement Memphis needed a powerful voice to stand up and push for equality in the Memphis City schools. After being denied admission to Memphis State University because of her race, Maxine A. Smith joined the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and soon became an agent for change as she was instrumental in desegregating Memphis schools. In 2003, alongside President Clinton, Maxine Smith received the Freedom Award from the National Civil Rights Museum.

Memphis has had its fair share of outstanding black educators in recent years as well. In 2009, the White House honored Melissa Collins with the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Melissa Collins is a second grade teacher in Memphis, and during a time in this country where math and science teachers are scarce, Melissa Collins exhibits the teaching skills necessary to inspire our children to learn. In February of this year, Velma Lois Jones received the Drum Majors for Service Award from the White House. Velma Lois Jones was the first black classroom teacher ever elected as president of the Tennessee Education Association and she was also a board member of the National Education Association.

Mr. Speaker, it is in the spirit of these great individuals that I ask my colleagues to join me in observing our nation's 147th anniversary of Juneteenth and the celebrations in Memphis. This is a time to celebrate the end of slavery in America and to recognize the many contributions of African-American citizens.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF RICHARD W. LYMAN

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2012*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the rich and accomplished life of Richard W. Lyman, Stanford University's seventh president, who died on May 27, 2012, at his home in Palo Alto at the age of 88.

The eloquent words of Stanford University President John Hennessy bear quoting: "Dick Lyman was a man of great strength, integrity, common sense and good humor. It was a privilege to know him, and I am deeply saddened by his death. His impact on Stanford was profound. He guided the university through some of the most turbulent years in its history, and under his leadership, Stanford not only survived, it flourished. He had an unswerving belief in academic freedom and universities, and he inspired that commitment in others. We are very fortunate—and certainly the better—for having known him and for having his courageous, committed leadership and service to Stanford."

Richard Lyman was born in 1923 in Pennsylvania and was raised in New Haven, Connecticut. His father was an attorney and his mother a French teacher. His education at Swarthmore College was interrupted by three years of service in the Army Air Forces Weather Service, and after college he began graduate studies leading to a Ph.D. in history at Harvard. He spent two years as a Fulbright Fellow at the London School of Economics, and two summers writing for *The Economist*. He also taught history at Washington University in St. Louis from 1954 to 1958.

Richard Lyman came to Stanford in 1958, with the great love of his life, Jing, whom he married in 1947. He became a full professor in 1962, and rose through the ranks, becoming Stanford's president in 1970, a post he held until 1980. He served in some of the most turbulent years in our Nation's history, and in the opinion of many, he saved Stanford from collapse and greatly enhanced its prestige.

After leaving Stanford, he held many important posts, including President of the Rockefeller Foundation and Vice Chair of the National Council on the Humanities. He returned to Stanford in 1988 and developed a forum for interdisciplinary research on key international issues, and retired in 1991.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of one of the most distinguished and extraordinarily accomplished leaders of our country, and to extend our deepest condolences to his devoted wife Jing, and his four children Jennifer Lyman, Rev. Holly Antolini, Christopher Lyman, Timothy Lyman, and his four grandchildren.

Richard Lyman's leadership brought great distinction to our community and strengthened our Nation. I am blessed to have known him, and our country was blessed by his high sense of citizenship and patriotism.