

Will we shine bright?
 Will we put it all on the line?
 Will we make each shot so count,
 all in our time to so complete?
 Wam!
 Bam!
 Thank you Sams!
 As Hero, your life is one that is ever so very
 sweet!
 Because, on battlefields of honor bright!
 There are but all those who so bring their
 light!
 Who aim so very high,
 as onto greatness they so set their sights!
 Who so make the shot,
 and make it count all in that fight!
 Who but give all that they've so got!
 Who so lead, not follow . . . and that says it
 all . . . that says a lot!
 Or on football fields of green . . .
 There are but those who are so seen!
 Who come up to the line to so convene . . .
 Who do not follow, but so lead!
 For in The Game of Life,
 every step that we so take,
 will our very futures all so make!
 All in what we have so left,
 until we so take our last and final breath's!
 Will this world our lives so bless?
 Will we go deep all in our life's quest?
 Or will we come up short,
 only to in our old ages our lives will we so
 regret!
 When, we so realize . . .
 That In The Game of Life, our hearts were
 not so pledged!
 Better to die for something,
 than live for nothing at all!
 Better to give up your two strong legs,
 and walk like a hero and stand ever so tall!
 Than, walk on two legs and crawl!
 Better to go deep,
 and put it all on the line . . . than not at all!
 Do we do it?
 Do we hear that call?
 Or in the end,
 are we but left with nothing at all!
 For In The Game of Life,
 Cpl Sams, you've made a difference with it
 all!
 And still you're coming up to that line,
 and going deep with that long ball each and
 every time!
 For, your life has been and will always be,
 all about going deep and making that call!
 Because, some men are put upon this earth!
 To So Beseech Us, To So Teach Us . . . in all
 their worth!
 To Lead one and all!
 Yea, you United States Marine . . .
 all in your most heroic shades of green!
 As a sniper out into that darkness of night,
 or in the brightness of day unseen!
 Inspiring all of your brothers, fellow Ma-
 rines!
 Yea, just like on those football fields of
 green . . .
 You've always completed the long one,
 if you know what I mean!
 And then when you lost your legs,
 and death was but days away!
 You could have given up, and given way!
 But, you've got miles to go before your last
 days!
 And you've got hearts to so touch in so many
 ways!
 As you run to day light each day!
 And you've got that lovely wife Lindsey who
 is the love of your life,
 and so helped your heart to stay!
 And children in the future to so raise some-
 day . . .
 For you are the kind of son,
 that every Father so wished he so had one!
 Marine, for you are a Champion in all that
 you have done!
 And it's not even halftime yet,

and In The Game Of Life you have so many
 victories ahead my son,
 so many Championships to so achieve!
 As all in your heart of courage to keep!
 As what you've always done, compete!
 Because, you put GD in Going Deeppppp!

CONGRATULATING COLONEL
 AMANDA W. GLADNEY

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2012

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Colonel Amanda W. Gladney for her outstanding service to our Nation and the United States Air Force.

It is an honor to join the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District in congratulating Colonel Gladney upon her relinquishment of command as the Commander, 88th Air Base Wing, Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Colonel Gladney commands one of the largest air base wings in the United States Air Force, with more than 5,000 Air Force military, civilian, and contractor employees. The wing provides support and services to one of the largest, most diverse, and most organizationally complex bases in the Air Force including a major acquisition center, research and development laboratories, a major command headquarters, an airlift wing, and the world's largest military air museum. The base is home to more than 27,000 employees and is the largest single site employer in the State of Ohio.

Colonel Gladney completed the 350 million dollar Base Realignment and Closure Project, including the completion of the Air Force's largest military construction effort since World War II, and drove outreach efforts with 430,000-plus volunteer hours into the local community. I can attest to her solid reputation of dedication to and pride in the men and women of the 88th Air Base Wing.

For her strong dedication of service to our community, I join the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District in extending our best wishes upon her new assignment as the Director of Communications for Special Operations Command Europe in Stuttgart, Germany and wish her ongoing success in all future endeavors and in this new capacity.

HONORING THE MACKINAC ISLAND
 STATE PARK COMMISSION

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2012

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize the Mackinac Island State Park Commission on the occasion of the bicentennial of the beginning of the War of 1812. This war reasserted America's lasting independence and freed our country from foreign invasion.

Mackinac Island played a decisive role in the war effort. Ceded to the United States by Britain in 1796, Fort Mackinac was the site of two battles during the conflict: one in which the fort was captured in a bloodless battle by

the British, and another in which American forces bravely attempted to take back the island and its fort, but were ultimately repelled. According to local legend, fallen soldiers of this battle are buried at the Fort Mackinac Post Cemetery, which by custom flies its flag at half-staff to honor the many unknown soldiers buried in its hallowed ground. This war also marked the end of conflict between the United States and Great Britain and ultimately led to peaceful relations with England and Canada, two of our nation's greatest allies.

The Mackinac Island State Park Commission has been a leader in preserving this proud history. Since the site of the first land battle of the War of 1812 and an important memorial to our armed forces are both located on this island, I would like to commend the Commission, its board and its employees for their dedication to the island, its sites, its people, and its organization of this year's bicentennial commemoration.

I wish to extend my best wishes to the people of Mackinac Island, visitors, and the governments of the United States and Canada as they commemorate this solemn and significant occasion.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF DR. ANNA
 SCHWARTZ

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last month, the United States lost one of its most pre-eminent minds.

Anna J. Schwartz, perhaps the most pioneering economist in her generation, passed away at the age of 96. Dr. Schwartz had considerable impact upon how academics and others think about monetary policy and the role it can play in sustaining the economic health of nations. She was best known for co-authoring, along with Milton Friedman, "A Monetary History of the United States, 1867–1960." The book's thesis attributed the worst depth of the Great Depression to the Federal Reserve's restricting the supply of money, when it should have expanded it. Its conclusions revolutionized both our understanding of that era and how its history was being taught.

The book was instantly recognized as a classic in its field. "Anna did all of the work, and I got most of the recognition," Friedman, who received the Noble Prize in economic science in 1976, observed.

As he did most things, Friedman had that right. Had Anna either been born male or entered the world a generation later, she certainly would have won more plaudits than she did and received those that came her way much earlier in her career.

Yet in many ways, hers was the typical American story, one we would do well to keep in mind as we prepare to celebrate the 236th anniversary of our nation's independence.

The third child of Jewish immigrants from eastern Europe, Anna, at an early age, showed that pioneering spirit that so characterizes the best of America. While at Walton High School in the Bronx, she showed a particular bend for economics, hardly a field known to be hospitable to women. "I found it more exciting than literature or foreign languages." She was only 18 when she graduated from Barnard College. She would be

well into middle age when she obtained her Ph.D.

Right until the end, Anna remained active in her field. She lectured officials at the Federal Reserve when she thought they made wrong calls and blissfully engaged in debates in the opinion pages of newspapers to correct misstatements of fact and of economics by columnists she thought incorrigible.

Looking back on her career, she quoted the poet Wordsworth:

"Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive/But to be young was very heaven!"

I ask that the House join in paying tribute to this most inspiring woman and in expressing both our gratitude and condolences to her family.

TRIBUTE TO CARMEN CASTRO-CONROY AND HUD-CERTIFIED HOUSING COUNSELORS

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to my colleagues' attention the "First Person Singular" interview by Amanda Abrams that appeared in the Washington Post magazine on Sunday, July 15, 2012 about my constituent, Carmen Castro-Conroy, the senior HUD-certified housing counselor serving my congressional district.

I commend this article to my colleagues because it highlights the dedication and compassion of the HUD-certified counselors who are assisting those hardest hit by the housing crisis. These counselors, whose services are funded by the federal government, help homeowners who are behind or at risk of becoming behind on their mortgages to analyze their options, prepare modification applications, and advocate on their behalf. Statistics show that homeowners who utilize these counseling services have greater success in obtaining mortgage relief from their lenders than those who do not.

My staff and I have worked with Ms. Castro-Conroy since the housing crisis began. She is a leader in her field—a truly outstanding, professional and dedicated public servant. As Ms. Castro-Conroy notes in her interview, applying for assistance is often emotionally difficult—and made even more so by the poor quality of service homeowners so often receive from the banks. Counselors like Ms. Castro-Conroy help homeowners to navigate these challenges with diligence and care.

I hope that this article will help to educate my colleagues who fund these counseling services and the homeowners who use them about the invaluable services that our HUD-certified counselors are providing.

FIRST PERSON SINGULAR: CARMEN CASTRO-CONROY, 40, GAITHERSBURG, HOUSING COUNSELOR, HOUSING INITIATIVE PARTNERSHIP
(By Amanda Abrams)

We see a lot of families who have either lost their jobs or experienced income reduction through a cut in salary or another type of crisis related to illness, death, divorce, disability. We see all of it. They feel overwhelmed. Our job is to educate them so they can know all the options available and make good decisions.

Losing a home is devastating; just thinking about losing a home is very stressful. It's

not necessarily just a house that we're talking about, it's a family. Some clients come to us when things have very much deteriorated, and they're under a lot of stress and their health is at risk. Not everyone will stay in the homes they're in, but it's better to be at peace than to try to keep a home that they cannot afford and end up in a hospital. It's difficult if you've lived in a home for a long time, and it's the only place that you think you're going to be okay.

Many times, even if they have family or friends, they feel embarrassed to let people know what they're going through, so they suffer in silence. I tell them that regardless of the outcome, they're not going to be going through this by themselves. It's my responsibility to encourage them and to lift them up. I tell them, "This is a house; you're bigger than this, and you're going to come out of this stronger."

I hear a lot of judgment out there of people that go into default, but I always think it could happen to anybody. I have clients who never thought they'd be diagnosed with cancer. Never thought they'd lose a husband. Never thought they were going to lose their job. It makes me very conscious about how one day you could think you have everything, and the next day your life could dramatically change.

I just got an outcome this week of a case I opened in January 2011. This was a client whose husband left her with five children to care for. She went from being a stay-at-home mom to finding a full-time job, but her income still wasn't enough to make regular mortgage payments. She just qualified for a permanent modification, so she'll be able to stay in the property.

I love what I do. I was thinking about this during the weekend, during Mass. This is one way to show that you love God, working in the face of people that are in trouble, people that are suffering. Before '08, I was working in a home-ownership education program. We were all pulled out from that to serve in foreclosure intervention counseling. We didn't know how long it was going to last, and now we're in the fourth year of crisis. And we don't see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored that Carmen Castro-Conroy is my constituent and that she is able to provide such outstanding service to so many others.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. MARIE "RIE" BLAISDELL

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Marie "Rie" Blaisdell. Ms. Blaisdell will be recognized by the Monmouth County Historical Association at the 2012 Garden Party for her outstanding contributions to the association.

Rie Blaisdell has served as a member of the Monmouth County Historical Association since 1959. Ms. Blaisdell continues to volunteer countless hours and is a member of the Board of Trustees. She is a strong advocate for the study of Monmouth County history. Rie is fondly remembered for her role as a docent at Allen House. She often provides animated and historically accurate stories of Revolutionary soldiers for visitors to enjoy. Colleagues continue to applaud Ms. Blaisdell's warm personality, hard work and motivation. Rie Blaisdell

continues to personify the qualities of a true historian.

Members of the Monmouth County Historical Association praise Ms. Blaisdell for her instrumental role in launching the Historical Association's first Garden Party in 1975. At its inception, the Historical Association Garden Party included an informal afternoon cocktail party hosted by local residents. Ms. Blaisdell has remained an active Garden Party committee member for 37 years and continues to lend her experience and expertise. Ms. Blaisdell's unending generosity has undoubtedly touched many lives throughout Central New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Ms. Marie "Rie" Blaisdell for receiving the honor bestowed by the Monmouth County Historical Association. Her dedication and service continues to provide inspiration and insight for future generations of historians throughout Monmouth County and New Jersey.

HONORING THE CITY OF RALSTON, NEBRASKA ON ITS 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2012

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the city of Ralston, Nebraska, for its 100-year anniversary.

Ralston is a city with a population of roughly 6,000 people, all of which are extremely hard working and are some of the friendliest people you will meet. It provides its residents with a small town atmosphere inside of Nebraska's largest city.

Ralston was founded in June 1912 with a population of about 200 people. The population continued to grow until March 23, 1913, when a devastating tornado destroyed much of the town. The residents banded together and decided to rebuild a better, more beautiful city.

The city of Ralston is recognized across the State as being a great place to raise a family. The city plays host to family friendly functions throughout the year and works to promote a safe place for families to reside. Ralston has been ranked as one of the top cities to relocate to in America and one of the most secure places to live in America by national Web sites.

Living an active lifestyle is highly valued by the people of Ralston. There are many city-wide events scheduled each month to provide citizens with opportunities to get involved in the community. Ralston has many beautiful parks, campgrounds, and a water and ride park.

The city of Ralston also makes a significant contribution to Nebraska's economy. Members of the Ralston Area Chamber of Commerce work to enhance the city's economy by creating jobs and encouraging the location of new businesses into the community.

Ralston has made meaningful contributions to the State of Nebraska and has been an excellent place for its residents to call home for the last 100 years. I would like to extend my congratulations to the city for a successful century and wish the community many more years of continued success.