

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Boy Scout Troop 508 on 50 years of inspiring young men to do their best in all that they do, while enjoying competition with good sportsmanship.

CONGRATULATING ELIZABETH  
BEISEL

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Olympic silver medalist and Rhode Island resident, Elizabeth Beisel. Elizabeth is a member of the USA Olympic Swimming Team, and on July 28, she competed in the Women's 400 meter individual medley, finishing in second place with a time of 4:31.27. I join her family, friends, Rhode Islanders, and the entire United States in congratulating her on this remarkable accomplishment.

Growing up in Saunderstown, Rhode Island, Elizabeth began swimming at 5 years old. Her passion, energy, and hard work paid off in 2008 when she qualified for her first Olympics. In Beijing, 15 year old Elizabeth was the first Olympic swimmer from Rhode Island in 44 years. She finished in fourth and fifth in the 400 meter individual medley and the 200 meter backstroke respectively. Last year she won her first world title at the Shanghai World Championships in the 400 meter individual medley.

After the Beijing Olympics, Elizabeth enrolled in the University of Florida, where she continues to train and compete. Outside of the pool, Elizabeth is a dedicated student and a talented violin player. She balances the demands of her collegiate and Olympic training programs, academic coursework, and international competition schedule with incredible grace and maturity.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in extending congratulations and best wishes to Elizabeth and all of the exceptional athletes who make up Team USA. America is so proud of you!

HONORING BARBARA ANTHONY,  
VALDINE ATWOOD, BARBARA  
DRISKO, AND SALLY JACOBS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the nominations of Barbara Anthony, Valdine Atwood, Barbara Drisko, and Sally Jacobs for the Mighty Women of Washington County Elder Award.

The Mighty Women of Washington County is a group of strong, compassionate women who collaborate with businesses in Washington County to promote positive social and economic change in the community. This self sustaining organization continues to draw together talented and dedicated women who are committed to the region. Since 2006, the Mighty Women of Washington County have

grown their membership to over 180 strong representing business owners, government workers and volunteers. Together, their remarkable efforts have made a positive impact in the areas of homelessness, health care and other social issues.

In June of this year, the organization held its first event "Celebrating the Mighty Women of Washington County" in the town of Machias. At the event, Barbara Anthony, Valdine Atwood, Barbara Drisko, and Sally Jacobs were nominated for the Mighty Women Elder Award. This recognition is offered to members of the organization who embody exceptional character and citizenship.

Each of these women is a pillar of the Washington County community and they are all tremendously deserving of this recognition. Their energy, commitment to helping others, and devotion to the region are an inspiration to future generations of Washington County women and to Mainers throughout the state.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating these exceptional women for being recognized through this honor and thanking them all that they do for their community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CON-  
GRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS  
FOUNDATION'S 2012 SUMMER IN-  
TERNS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with immense gratification that I recognize the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) and its Summer 2012 Interns for the completion of their intensive nine-week internship program on Capitol Hill. This summer, 40 college-aged students from across the nation participated in this program. These students were chosen through a competitive process based on an essay submission, a history of community involvement and a sense of civic engagement.

The CBCF's Congressional Internship program was designed to diversify our Congressional offices and give students an opportunity to develop their talent as young professionals and future leaders. During their tenure, summer interns had the opportunity to learn more about public policy and gain a complete understanding of the federal legislative process. In addition, they have grown professionally by identifying the skills and qualities of strong leaders. Outside their congressional offices interns put their legislative experience to use by engaging in their own mock Congress simulation.

Furthermore, interns were offered the opportunity to attend numerous professional and leadership development workshops, networking events, and engage with Members of the Congressional Black Caucus. I had the privilege to speak with the CBCF interns myself, encouraging them to be leaders and continue to be persistent in their fight for equal justice and opportunities for all. I would like to specially recognize CBCF intern Amir Rowe who worked in my office this summer. Amir demonstrated a great deal of proficiency in completing assignments and engaging with my constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate the CBCF 2012 summer interns for taking advantage of this lifetime opportunity and I thank the CBCF, under the leadership of Elsie L. Scott, Ph.D., for providing such an invaluable experience.

Ashley Bobo, interning in the office of Rep. LAURA RICHARDSON, attending Harvard College;

Jeremy Broadus, interning in the office of Rep. EMANUEL CLEAVER, attending Rutgers University;

Tierra Burns, interning in the office of Rep. MELVIN WATT CAMERON, attending North Carolina Central University;

Melissa Chin, interning in the office of Sen. CHARLES SCHUMER, attending Brown University;

Saliha Cifci, interning in the office of Rep. AL GREEN, attending Rutgers University;

Devon Cox, interning in the office of Rep. HANSEN CLARKE, attending University of Michigan;

Nairobi Cratic, interning in the office of Rep. GWEN MOORE, attending Temple University;

Devon Crawford, interning in the office of Rep. TERRI SEWELL, attending Morehouse College;

Elizabeth Davis, interning in the office of Rep. BOBBY SCOTT, attending George Mason University;

Courtne Drigo, interning in the office of Rep. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, attending Rice University;

Camille Fleming, interning in the office of Rep. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, attending Wellesley College;

Chazmon Flood, interning in the office of Rep. MAXINE WATERS, attending Howard University;

Ariana Gibbs, interning in the office of Rep. BENNIE THOMPSON, attending Spelman College;

Brianna Gibson, interning in the office of Rep. DONNA EDWARDS, attending Columbia University;

John Grigg, Jr., interning in the office of Rep. DONNA CHRISTENSEN, attending University of Tampa;

Brittany Harvey, interning in the office of Rep. ANDRÉ CARSON, attending Clark Atlanta University;

Brandon Hill, interning in the office of Rep. CORRINE BROWN, attending Stanford University;

Tyler Hill, interning in the office of Rep. BARBARA LEE, attending University of California, Berkeley;

Brooke Hutchins, interning in the office of Rep. CHAKA FATTAH, attending Georgetown University;

Duane Jackson, interning in the office of Rep. YVETTE CLARKE, attending Bates College;

Ocosio Jackson, interning in the office of Rep. SANFORD BISHOP JR., attending Morehouse College;

Tatehona Kelly, interning in the office of Rep. MARCIA FUDGE, attending American University;

Jordan Lindsay, interning in the office of Rep. WILLIAM LACY CLAY, attending Morehouse College;

Malaiya McGee, interning in the office of Rep. GREGORY MEEKS, attending Howard University;

Kaylan Meaza, interning in the office of Rep. G.K. BUTTERFIELD, attending North Carolina State University;

Origen Monsanto, interning in the office of Rep. DAVID SCOTT, attending Southern Polytechnic State University;

Kristopher Nicholas, interning in the office of Rep. ALCEE HASTINGS, attending Columbia University;

Matthew Norwood, interning in the office of Rep. JOHN LEWIS, attending Dartmouth College.

Jasmine Omeke, interning in the office of Rep. JESSE JACKSON JR., attending Harvard University.

Brittany Porter, interning in the office of Rep. FREDERICA WILSON, attending Hampton University;

Jeremy Ratcliff, interning in the office of Rep. EMANUEL CLEAVER, II, attending Livingstone College;

Amir Rowe, interning in the office of Rep. CHARLES RANGEL, attending St. John's University;

Shannon Schoultz, interning in the office of Rep. JAMES CLYBURN, attending American University;

Kaleese Shepperd, interning in the office of Rep. BOBBY L. RUSH, attending Western Illinois University;

Jason Sneed, interning in the office of Rep. KAREN BASS, attending University of Southern California;

Travis Stanislaus, interning in the office of Rep. EDOLPHUS TOWNS, attending Cornell University;

Jonathan Sykes, interning in the office of Rep. HANK JOHNSON, attending Fort Valley State University;

Rahel Tekola, interning in the office of Rep. SHEILA JACKSON LEE, attending Texas Tech University;

Terrence Threweatt Jr., interning in the office of Rep. ELIJAH CUMMINGS, attending St. Mary's College of Maryland;

Benjamin Turman, interning in the office of Rep. JOHN CONYERS, attending Hampton University.

#### TRIBUTE TO PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JOSE OSCAR BELMONTES

#### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a hero from La Verne, California, Private First Class (PFC) Jose Oscar Belmontes, United States Army. Today I ask that the House of Representatives join me to honor and remember this incredible young man who died in service of our country.

PFC Belmontes was born in Riverside, California in 1984. He graduated from Polytechnic High School in 2002 and joined the Army in February 2011. After training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, he arrived at Fort Drum in July 2011. He was serving as a construction engineer with the 630th Engineer Company, 7th Engineer Battalion, 10th Sustainment Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, which deployed to Afghanistan later that month. He died of injuries sustained from small arms fire in Wardak Province, Afghanistan on July 28, 2012 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. PFC Belmontes was 28 years old.

PFC Belmontes' fellow servicemen and women fondly remember him for his positive

attitude; Belmontes was known for stepping up to the plate and helping out whenever he was needed. PFC Belmontes accomplished so much during his short time and he will be dearly missed by his unit and all who knew him. PFC Belmontes served honorably, earning many awards and decorations including the Purple Heart, the Army Achievement Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with one star, the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon and the Combat Action Badge. He is survived by his wife, mother, and father.

As we look at the incredibly rich military history of our country we realize that this history is comprised of men, just like PFC Belmontes, who bravely fought for the ideals of freedom and democracy. Each story is unique and humbling for those of us who, far from the dangers they have faced, live our lives in relative comfort and ease. The day the Belmontes family learned of their husband and son's death was probably the hardest day they have ever faced and our thoughts, prayers and deepest gratitude for their sacrifice go out to them. There are no words that can relieve their pain and what words we can offer only begin to convey our deep respect and highest appreciation.

PFC Belmontes' family have all given a part of themselves in the loss of their loved one and we hope they know that the goodness he brought to this world and the sacrifice he has made, will never be forgotten.

#### IN HONOR OF THE HITCHCOCK CENTER FOR WOMEN

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Hitchcock Center for Women, HCFW, for 30 years of dedicated service to thousands of women and their families in Cleveland, OH.

The mission of the Hitchcock Center is to holistically empower women to achieve and maintain productive, chemical-free lives. The Hitchcock Center is "the place where healing begins" for women who are in need of help.

The founder of the Hitchcock Center is Jayne Mazzerella, who realized that women recover differently from chemical substances than men. She founded Merrick Hall, a 4-bed treatment program for female alcoholics, which led to the beginnings of the Hitchcock Center.

The Hitchcock Center is now the largest agency of its kind in the Greater Cleveland area. To date, it has provided services to approximately 13,000 women and their families. The Hitchcock Center recently announced its planned expansion of the Traditional Housing and Recovery Management services, which strives to return families back into the community. They eventually seek to expand into even more communities.

Today, there are 53 women who work for the Hitchcock Center. There are also many alumnae of the program who return to volunteer for the center through the HCFW Alumnae Council. Together, they have proven success in helping women to grow and recover so they can go back to their families and homes as whole and healed persons.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the HCFW of Cleveland, OH, for all of their dedication and service to the community.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF EUGENE MORGAN WELSH

#### HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor the late Eugene Morgan Welsh. Gene passed away peacefully on July 25, 2012. Staff Sgt. Gene Welsh was a true American hero and served his country with pride and dedication.

Eugene "Gene" Morgan Welsh was born May 9, 1925 in McAllister, OK to William Morgan Welsh and Tina Pearl Welsh. Gene had two brothers, Kenneth and Billy Welsh, who preceded him in death, brother Don and a sister Wanda Griffith.

Proudly at age 18, Gene joined the U.S. Army's 19th Infantry Regiment during World War II. Staff Sgt. Welsh's assignment took him to the South Pacific. While serving in the Asiatic Pacific, Staff Sgt. Welsh was wounded in combat and was eventually awarded the Purple Heart with the Oak Leaf Cluster.

While recovering from his injuries, Gene started writing to a Pen Pal, Miss Bettye Cavazos from Sharyland, TX. This was the bright spot during his recovery and he often told her in his letters that if he ever made it out of the war alive he was going to come back to the U.S. and marry her. Upon completion of his military career, he in fact went to Texas and asked for her hand in marriage. Flag Day, June 14, 1946, Bettye Cavazos became Mrs. Eugene Welsh; that same year they moved to Ceres, CA. Gene eventually opened up a business in 1967 that is known today as Ceres ProTow and it is still located at the same place 45 years later. Gene and Bettye had two sons, Mike and Ron. Gene was very proud of his sons and was devastated when Ron passed away from a pulmonary embolism. Mike continues to run the family business.

Gene had a great love for his community and was very active with many social and charitable as well as civic organizations. In 1987, Gene was awarded Rotarian of the Year and in 1988 he was awarded Ceres Citizen of the Year and in 2003 he was awarded the Stanislaus County Senior Citizen of the Year. Gene also had a love of Square Dancing, and taught beginner Square Dance lessons and eventually formed the Ceres Twisters where he was the club caller for over 40 years. Gene and Bettye were always happy to share their love of Square Dancing with others and provided demonstrations to Ceres and Modesto grammar schools and convalescent homes and they danced at local, state and national festivals as well as on cruise ships.

Gene is survived by his wife of 66 years Bettye, son Mike and his wife Maureen, daughter-in-law Sherry and 8 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandson.

Mr. Speaker, the recognition that I am offering today before the House of Representatives for Eugene Morgan Welsh is small compared