

A gifted athlete, Sergeant Hansen served as captain of the track, wrestling and football teams for the Kingsley High School Stags during his high school career. Sergeant Hansen also enjoyed outdoor activities such as snowboarding and was an avid motorcyclist—often doing these activities with members of his family.

Sergeant Hansen graduated in 2003 from Kingsley High School and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 2005. He attended the School of Infantry at Camp Pendleton, California, where he graduated with honors. In 2006, Sergeant Hansen was selected to participate in and graduated from the Basic Reconnaissance Course in Coronado, California. He was also stationed at Camp Schwab with the 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion in Okinawa, Japan. He was later deployed with the 31st Expeditionary Marine Unit and joined the Special Operations Command in 2009. His honors include the Purple Heart, two Combat Action Ribbons, two Good Conduct Medals, certified Corps Parachutist, and a brown belt in the U.S. Marine Corps Martial Arts program.

Sergeant Hansen is survived by his parents, Ms. Vickie Hayes of Vanderbilt, Michigan, and Mr. Richard Hansen, of Williamsburg, Michigan. Sergeant Hansen is also survived by his stepmother, Shawna Hansen; stepfather, Steven C. Cornell; sisters, Adrienne (Matthew) Russell, of Traverse City, Morgan Compton and Veronica Compton of Kingsley; stepbrothers, Jeremy Borey, of Chicago, IL, and Adam Cornell, of Traverse City; stepsister, Jessica Borey, of Elk Rapids; grandparents, Wayne and Ardyce Hansen, of Traverse City, Ken and Sandra Sleder, of Traverse City, and Carol Hays, of Jackson; niece and nephew, Madison Goodwin and Garrett Russell, of Traverse City; aunts and uncles, Steve Hansen of Pacifica, California, Richard and Sue Costlow of Traverse City, USAF Chief MSgt. Erick M. and Mary Hays, of Benton, Louisiana, Lonnie and Valerie Schaub, of Grand Rapids, Dave and LeAnne Sleder, of Traverse City, Jeff and Bev Sleder, of Katy, Texas, and Kathy Sleder, of Fort Collins, Colorado; as well as a large extended family throughout the United States.

I can find no words that can fully express my gratitude for his service to our country or for the sympathy I feel for family, friends, and loved ones by the loss of this young man. I know Justin's memory will live on through our actions and conduct towards others.

To Justin's family, I can offer only the hope that you will find solace in the loving embrace of your family, friends, and the kind providence of God. I am well aware that my words will not soften your overwhelming grief, but I am reminded of the words of President Lincoln, written to a mother during the Civil War, "I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom."

On behalf of the citizens of the First District of Michigan, I would like to express my profound sadness for the loss of Sergeant Justin Hansen. Northern Michigan has certainly lost one of its finest, and his memory and service will not be forgotten.

## MARINE DEBRIS ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2012

SPEECH OF

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the House passed H.R. 1171, known as the Marine Debris Act Amendments of 2012.

This act reauthorizes the NOAA Marine Debris Program at currently appropriated levels through fiscal year 2015. It has strong bipartisan support, particularly from my colleague DON YOUNG, who was an original co-sponsor.

Look, nobody wants to go out on the water or to sit on the beach and see trash. But it's not just an eyesore—marine debris is a very critical problem for marine ecosystems, fisheries, and shipping. Marine debris can have devastating impacts on the U.S. economy too. For instance, it is estimated that \$250 million of marketable lobster is lost annually to derelict fishing gear, which can also cause up to \$792 million per year in damages to boat propellers.

Right now, an estimated 5–20 million tons of debris from the Japan's tsunami are floating across the Pacific Ocean toward the United States. As this first wave of tsunami debris—including a 66-ft dock teaming with over 90 non-native species—washes ashore, I am astounded by the magnitude of this disaster's global impact. Cleanup costs can be huge. Alaska has already spent \$200,000 just for aerial monitoring of the local debris field from the Japanese tsunami. While the Japanese tsunami debris resulted from a natural disaster, ocean trash is preventable.

Added to the debris that's already out there—is an average of 7 million tons of new trash dumped into the ocean each year. Solving this problem is going to require:

Local action, national and international coordination;

Unique partnerships between private and public sectors;

Innovative technology;

Education, Research and Prevention.

The NOAA Marine Debris Program has been achieving real successes at sea and on shore, for a modest amount of funding. But this program expired in 2010 and must be reauthorized. Over the past 5 years, funding has ranged from 3.2 million to 4.9 million dollars.

It is clear from the recent tsunami debris events—the boat off the coast of Washington and the dock washed ashore in Oregon—that the problem is growing. There is no doubt in my mind that the Marine Debris Program could effectively spend \$10 million dollars a year—that is the magnitude of the problem. And that is what was authorized in 2006. As this bill moves through the legislative process, I hope we can bring up the funding levels. Most of these funds go to local communities in the form of grants for marine debris cleanup, education, research, and prevention efforts.

Mr. Speaker, NOAA's Marine Debris Program is leading the effort to address this growing problem proactively and I thank my colleagues for passing for H.R. 1171.

HONORING FLORENCE MURNEY

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 2, 2012*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Florence Murney, a lifelong resident of Chicago, who is celebrating her 100th birthday.

Florence Murney née Klein was born on August 9, 1912, on the southwest side of Chicago where she has resided her entire life. Florence is the older of two daughters of Edward and Augusta Klein; her loving younger sister, Dorothy Buhe, recently celebrated her 98th birthday. Florence and her sister grew up in St. Raphael's Parish where they attended Catholic school and developed their lifelong devotion to the Catholic faith.

On May 22, 1937, Florence married Edward Murney at the historic St. Rita's Church. The married couple lived happily in the same apartment building in the Chicago Lawn neighborhood as Dorothy and her husband making sure that Dorothy's children would never be too far away from their beloved "Auntie Florence."

Florence worked as a jewelry and clothing saleswoman at several Chicago stores including Busch Jewelers, Bond's Clothing store, and O'Keefe's Men's Wear. During World War II, Florence served our country as a true "Rosie the Riveter" working in a plant that manufactured airplanes for the war effort.

In 1956, Florence and her husband moved to a house in the Mt. Greenwood neighborhood of Chicago where she still resides by herself with no assistance. Florence remains a devout parishioner at St. Christina's Church and is very involved with Catholic Charities.

Florence Murney is a beloved and cherished aunt, great aunt, and great-great aunt to 15 nieces and nephews. She is also the godmother to several people who are all honored to know her.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Florence Murney a happy 100th birthday, and to thank her for being such a great contributor to her community and our country.

## HUDSON HIGHLANDS LAND TRUST AND THE WESTCHESTER LAND TRUST ACCREDITATION

**HON. NAN A.S. HAYWORTH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 2, 2012*

Ms. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the Hudson Highlands Land Trust and the Westchester Land Trust for receiving accreditation from the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. Accreditation represents the highest standard of excellence in land conservation, and provides public recognition of land trusts that are engaged in the long-term protection of the land in the public interest.

As a supporter of legislation to make permanent the tax deductions for conservation easements, I am committed to working with organizations to promote responsible stewardship of our nation's most cherished natural resources. The Hudson Highlands Land Trust and the

Westchester Land Trust have played a crucial role in protecting the beauty of our Hudson Valley; preserving biodiversity; and keeping our air, water, and public lands for future generations to enjoy.

Congratulations to the Hudson Highlands Land Trust and Westchester Land Trust for their dedication and leadership in conserving land for the people of New York, and may they continue to enjoy great success in the years to come.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, July 31, 2012 I unfortunately missed three votes on account of travel delays due to weather at Reagan National Airport. I realize the importance of the votes I missed and therefore would like to state for the record how I would have voted on the three bills that were before the House of Representatives on Tuesday.

First, I would have supported S. 679, the Presidential Appointment Efficiency and Streamlining Act. S. 679 would seek to reduce the burdens and improve the efficiency of the appointment process for executive branch officials.

I would have supported H.R. 828, the Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act. H.R. 828 would prohibit individuals who have "seriously delinquent" tax debts from being eligible for federal employment in the executive and legislative branch.

Lastly, I would have supported H.R. 3803, the DC Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. As a co-sponsor of H.R. 3803, I wholeheartedly support this measure that would prohibit abortion within the District after 20 weeks fetal age, unless the mother's life is endangered.

#### A TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF DOROTHY RUMSEY MILLER

#### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Dorothy Rumsey Miller, a lifelong resident of Contra Costa County and native of Richmond, California, who passed away on July 8, 2012, at the age of 97 years old, surrounded by her devoted family after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

Dorothy Rumsey Miller is survived by four children, including our distinguished colleague in the U.S. House of Representatives, her son Congressman GEORGE MILLER III of California's 7th Congressional District, his wife Cynthia and three exceptional daughters, Laura Miller of Martinez, Gretchen Miller of Martinez, and Kat Miller of Mexico; four wonderful grandchildren, George Miller IV (Wendy) of El Dorado Hills, Stephen Miller (Kathleen) of Lafayette, Michael D'Aloisio and Sam D'Aloisio

(Barbara) of San Francisco and ten beautiful great-grandchildren and two nephews.

Dorothy Rumsey Miller was the daughter of Sea Captain John Rumsey and Laura Rumsey. She graduated from Richmond High School and attended the University of the Pacific.

She was an accomplished and dedicated artist, who for more than fifty years, painted with her Point Richmond artist group where her passion and love of arts and the water were expressed on her canvases.

As an entrepreneur she successfully opened and managed Rumsey's restaurant, and went on to be one of the proprietors of Mama's Mercantile, both in Martinez.

Dorothy was an avid reader of all books, including eastern and western spirituality. In her earlier days she volunteered at Loaves and Fishes, and the Special Olympics. As one of the original Women of the Waterfront, a group which helped develop the Martinez Waterfront Park, Dorothy's daily walks brought her great peace and solace throughout her life.

Dorothy's greatest joys were her children, her family, and her friends. The Miller home was always a safe haven and a warm gathering place for the young and old seeking her sage advice and loving ways. Through her wonderful wit, eccentricity, humor, counsel, and spirit she was able to share her wisdom and laughter with her children.

Dorothy was predeceased by her sister Laura Carey and her distinguished husband, State Senator George Miller Jr. who passed away in 1969, while serving California's 7th State Senate District. Senator Miller was a highly respected legislator, recognized for his warmth, vigor, vision, courage and tremendous accomplishments as Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join my colleagues—Leader NANCY PELOSI; Representative MIKE THOMPSON; Representative DORIS MATSUI; Representative LYNN WOOLSEY; Representative BARBARA LEE; Representative JOHN GARAMENDI; Representative JERRY MCNERNEY; Representative JACKIE SPEIER; Representative PETE STARK; Representative MIKE HONDA; Representative ZOE LOFGREN; Representative SAM FARR; Representative DENNIS CARDOZA; Representative JIM COSTA; Representative LOIS CAPPES; Representative BRAD SHERMAN; Representative HOWARD BERMAN; Representative ADAM SCHIFF; Representative HENRY WAXMAN; Representative XAVIER BECERRA; Representative JUDY CHU; Representative KAREN BASS; Representative LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD; Representative MAXINE WATERS; Representative JANICE HAHN; Representative LAURA RICHARDSON; Representative GRACE NAPOLITANO; Representative LINDA SANCHEZ; Representative JOE BACA; Representative LORETTA SANCHEZ; Representative BOB FILNER; and Representative SUSAN DAVIS—in extending our deepest condolences to Dorothy's children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nephews, and friends, as well as her caregivers who were so loving and dedicated to her over an extended period of time.

We celebrate Dorothy's life and her accomplishments, and we are proud to honor her memory in the House of the People. Our nation has lost a beloved citizen who made her community stronger and our country better.

#### HONORING SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN WEST TENNESSEE

#### HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize schools in the Fayette County, Henry County, Hollow Rock-Bruceton, McKenzie Special, Milan Special, South Carroll County Special, and Union City districts. Each of these districts in West Tennessee earned the state's highest status of "exemplary" for their efforts to raise student growth and close achievement gaps during the 2011–2012 school year.

The Tennessee Department of Education recently received a federal waiver to replace the No Child Left Behind accountability system with its own. Tennessee's new accountability system recognizes students across the state have different needs and a one-size-fits-all approach doesn't always work. It measures growth and improvement based on a school's starting point of proficiency, rather than expecting all schools to meet specific proficiency targets each year.

To reach exemplary status under Tennessee's new accountability system, schools in the Fayette County, Henry County, Hollow Rock-Bruceton, McKenzie Special, Milan Special, South Carroll County Special, and Union City districts met the majority of their achievement and gap closure targets and ensured students moved forward or held steady in target areas. Attaining exemplary status shows these schools are truly making improvements and helping students learn.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I commend the teachers and staff of these school districts for their hard work and commitment to improving public education for all students in Tennessee. Please join me in congratulating them on their success and achievements.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE OF KRISTINE J. MICHALSON TO THE CONSTITUENTS OF COLORADO'S FIFTH DISTRICT

#### HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, it is with mixed feelings that I announce the departure of a valued member of my staff, Kristine J. Michalson. Words are not adequate to express how much she will be missed.

For the past four years, Kristine has professionally and enthusiastically served the constituents of the Fifth Congressional District of Colorado as my Legislative Assistant and Press Secretary. She successfully handled her duties with a wealth of knowledge of the legislative and procedural processes. Her dedication and work ethic will be very difficult to replace.

Beginning her career on the Hill as my Staff Assistant and Deputy Press Secretary, she faithfully carried out her duties and was promoted to handle a variety of issue areas. She has particularly aided me in the area of Foreign Affairs, focusing on Israel and the Middle