

they will assume the responsibility of leadership.

Mr. Speaker, if these young men and women are a representation of the future, I know our country will remain a nation of fairness, equality and greatness for generations to come.

GRATITUDE FOR THE SERVICE OF
BENJAMIN STAUB

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank one of the most dedicated and productive members of the Judiciary Committee staff for his service to the House, Benjamin Staub. For six years Ben has worked ably and diligently for the Judiciary Committee, and I would like to commend him on his achievements.

After growing up in Greeley and Silverthorne, Colorado, and being named a Boettcher Scholar, Ben graduated cum laude from Yale University. During his time at Yale, Ben worked for the Undergraduate Admissions Office, taught health in New Haven high schools with the Community Health Educators, worked at the Blake Street Head Start and Calvin Hill Day Care, volunteered in the welfare-to-work early childhood educator program at All Our Kin, and served as a Freshman Counselor for Davenport College. He served as the Executive Co-Coordinator and on the Board of Directors of Dwight Hall at Yale—the student-run nonprofit for community service and social justice with more than 3,000 annual undergraduate volunteers. He interned at the Paris branch office of the UN Office of the High Commissioner on Refugees (UNHCR) and wrote and recorded a year-long radio column for Colorado Public Radio about his senior year in college. He earned Yale's John C. Schroeder Prize for social service and the Davenport College Prize for Citizenship.

Ben came to Washington following graduation to work for the political television advertising firm of Murphy Putnam Shorr and Partners, and following the 2006 election, came to work for the House Judiciary Committee.

During his time with the Committee, Ben has worked on a host of issues of national significance—principally in intellectual property policy, antitrust law, and civil liberties. He distinguished himself as an excellent writer and was instrumental in the Committee's work on performance rights legislation and protecting intellectual property from digital theft. He authored large portions and supervised the editing and publishing of the Committee staff's report *Reigning in the Imperial Presidency: Lessons and Recommendations Relating to the Presidency of George W. Bush*, and always stood ready to work on a host of issues at a moment's notice, including voting rights, health care, civil rights, immigration policies, and Executive Branch oversight.

Finally, Ben is well known among his peers as a dedicated athlete and began a trend in our office to use stability balls as desk chairs.

On behalf of the Judiciary Committee, its staff, and this distinguished body, I would like

to thank Ben for his exemplary work, generosity, sense of humor, and loyalty. He will be sorely missed as a colleague, advisor, and friend. We wish him the best of luck and extend to him our deepest gratitude.

STATEMENT OF INTRODUCTION,
RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE
CENSUS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to be introducing a resolution supporting the importance of census surveys and the data they produce. Special thanks to Senator JOHN ROCKEFELLER for his leadership on the issue and for introducing the Senate companion, and to the House original cosponsors, Reps. MICHAEL HONDA, JUDY CHU, KEITH ELLISON, JOHN OLVER, BETTY MCCOLLUM, JOSÉ SERRANO, LAURA RICHARDSON, EARL BLUMENAUER, FORTNEY STARK, JOHN LEWIS, and BARNEY FRANK, for their strong support of census surveys.

Since our founding, Congress has recognized the value of census surveys to inform policymaking and measure our country's progress. By including this modern invention in our Constitution, the founders turned a survey into a tool of political empowerment. The decennial census is the basis for fair representation and fair distribution of hundreds of billions of dollars in federal aid. In recent times, the information is used by the public and private sectors for planning purposes and to better understand the needs of communities.

The statistics gathered through the Census Bureau give politicians, researchers, urban planners, educators, and other interested Americans, a regular and measurable snapshot of the growth and the socio-economic status of our Nation. Census programs like the American Community Survey and the Economic Census provide vital data to federal, state, and local governments, to all sectors and industries, and to all geographic areas across the country—from rural to urban to suburban neighborhoods.

These surveys are a fundamental building block for how our country measures itself; the value of these statistics cannot be underestimated. They let us know how we are doing as a nation, identifying areas where we could grow, where we could be more economically efficient, and how best to compete globally. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

IN MEMORY OF SHERMAN
HEMSLEY

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of my friend, actor Sherman Hemsley. This man was best known as the iconic and central figure, George Jeffer-

son, in the sitcom, "The Jeffersons" who became one of the most enduring, beloved characters in television history.

Much of that credit belongs to Mr. Hemsley, the gifted character actor who gave life to the blustering black Harlem businessman on "The Jeffersons", one of the longest-running sitcoms with a primarily black cast in television history.

With the gospel-style theme song of "Movin' On Up," the hit show depicted the wealthy former neighbors of Archie and Edith Bunker in Queens as they made their way on New York's Upper East Side. The show often dealt with contemporary issues of racism, but more frequently reveled in the sitcom archetype of a short-tempered, opinionated patriarch trying, often unsuccessfully, to control his family.

Despite the character's many faults Hemsley managed to make the character endearing, part of the reason it stayed on the air for so long. Hemsley's Jefferson loved his family, his friends (even the ones he relentlessly teased) and had a good heart. His performance was Emmy and Golden Globe nominated. The show's producer Norman Lear said that when Hemsley read for the part "the minute he opened his mouth he was George Jefferson."

This man, the son of a printing press-working father and a factory-working mother, served in the Air Force and worked for eight years as a clerk for the Postal Service.

Having studied acting as a teen at the Philadelphia Academy of Dramatic Arts, he began acting in New York workshops and theater companies, including the Negro Ensemble Company. For years, he kept his job at the post office while acting at night, before transitioning to acting full-time. Sherman embodied the American dream, to "move on up".

He had many other production credits other than playing George Jefferson. He made his Broadway debut in 1970's "Purlie," a musical adaptation of Ossie Davis' Jim Crow-era play "Purlie Victorious." (He would later star in a 1981 made-for-TV version of "Purlie," as well.) It was while touring the show that he was approached by Lear about playing a character on the sitcom that would become "All in the Family."

In an interview Hemsley said his show business career actually began in childhood. "Making people laugh was automatic," he said. "I was in a play in elementary school and had to jump up and run away. I was nervous and tripped and fell down and everyone laughed. Their laughter made me relax, so I pretended it was part of the show."

When we visited with each other, I was truly impressed with his good-spirited personality and optimism that could brighten the mood of any room he entered. He was a fun man with a good heart. He once said, "I always told my mother I wanted a job where I could have a lot of fun and have a lot of time off. She asked me where I was going to find that, and I said, 'I don't know, but it's out there.'"

Sherman Hemsley will forever be remembered as the loud and boisterous yet good-hearted family man whom he played for almost 10 years. The world is a little less funny today, and we should all celebrate the memory of Sherman Hemsley.

HAPPY 108TH BIRTHDAY MRS.
LUCY SPELLER

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Saturday, August 4, 2012, the 108th birthday of native Washingtonian, Mrs. Lucy Speller.

Affectionately known as "Aunt," and "Sister," Mrs. Lucy Speller was born in 1904, was married for 76 years, and is a lifelong resident of the District of Columbia. As a Sunday school and Vacation Bible School teacher at Calvary Episcopal Church, Lucy Speller demonstrated her love of the District's children by touching their hearts and cultivating their minds. Students of Mrs. Speller often recall her kind-hearted nature and the guidance and support that she offered through the years. Many residents also celebrate Lucy Speller's work as a professional planner for weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, and numerous other functions. She even planned her own golden wedding anniversary.

I ask the House to join me in recognizing the 108th birthday of Mrs. Lucy Speller, a special lady, whose service to our community is greatly appreciated.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH, HURON, OHIO

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the centennial anniversary of Macedonia Baptist Church, located in Toledo, Ohio. The congregation will celebrate this milestone event on August 25, 2012.

Since its founding in 1912, Macedonia Baptist Church has served its congregation and its community inspired by Christ's teachings as recorded in Matthew 25:40 that, "Whatsoever you do to the least among you, that you do unto me." Its "rich history of service began on Yondota Street on the East side of Toledo" where the church originally stood and continues to the present day from its location in West Toledo.

Through a century of service the church has been a neighborhood mainstay. In addition to worship services, Macedonia Baptist Church members teach fellowship and provide services to families in need. Motivated by their servants' hearts and strong pastoral leadership, the church carries forth a tradition of reaching out. All are welcome into the faith-filled, inspired congregation. We proudly commemorate this 100th anniversary while looking forward to Macedonia Baptist Church's future.

HONORING GRAY'S GENERAL
STORE

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, since 1788, Gray's General Store has served customers in Rhode Island. For seven generations the Waite family has owned what is considered the oldest general store in the Nation. Gray's General Store closed its doors for the final time last Sunday.

This store has been a cultural cornerstone for more than two centuries in Little Compton, a town in my district which itself was established in 1682.

Since 1879, the Waite family has owned and operated Gray's General Store allowing generations of Rhode Islanders to have a place to share an ice cream and a laugh.

Despite the tremendous loss the community will face, I extend my well wishes to the present owner, Jonah Waite, as he transitions into a new chapter of his life.

I Honor Gray's General Store for its place in the history of Little Compton.

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR E. "GENE" GOLDMAN ACTING DIRECTOR, NASA'S MARSHALL SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2012

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Arthur E. "Gene" Goldman, Acting Director of NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, on the occasion of his retirement from NASA and his 28 years of distinguished federal service. Mr. Goldman provided superb leadership to over 5,000 personnel across a wide variety of disciplines, and provided sound fiscal management of a \$2.5 billion budget. With those resources, he achieved cutting edge advancements in launch systems, spaceflight vehicles, and the supporting research and development efforts. All of these will shape our great nation's space program for years into the future.

Mr. Goldman was born and raised in Russell, Mississippi, where he was introduced and attracted to the awe of space when his father took him out one night and showed him the Echo satellite passing overhead. With that inspiration and desire to learn, he graduated from Mississippi State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and thereafter earned his Registered Professional Engineer-Civil certification, with the intention of building bridges. Although he never physically built a bridge, he certainly built, mended and maintained a multitude of bridges among NASA components, stakeholders and customers.

While at NASA, Mr. Goldman also held the positions of Deputy Director of Marshall Space Flight Center; Director and Deputy Director of Stennis Space Flight Center; Manager and Deputy Manager of the Space Shuttle Main Engine Project; and project engineer on the Marshall Shuttle Project Integration Office. He

was assigned to the Senior Executive Service in 2004. Prior to joining NASA in 1990, he worked for the Tennessee Valley Authority for 6 years and in the nuclear power industry.

During his tenure, Mr. Goldman was awarded the prestigious Presidential Rank Award in 2010, the NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal in 2007, the Exceptional Achievement Medal in 2002, the NASA Certificate of Appreciation in 1997, and the Marshall Space Flight Center Director's Commendation in 1992. He also completed the Senior Executive Fellows Program at Harvard University.

Mr. Goldman is widely known and appreciated throughout NASA for treating every single person he encounters with utmost respect and value, regardless of their function. His strategic guidance, sage advice and leadership have brought him unqualified success and significant positive impact on NASA's mission. With extraordinary and sincere gratitude, I thank Mr. Goldman for his dedicated service and outstanding contributions to our country. I wish Mr. Goldman all the best as he retires from NASA, and may God bless him, his wife Nancy, his daughter Jennifer, and his entire family in the days ahead.

TRIBUTE TO FIRST SERGEANT HECTOR SOTORODRIGUEZ FROM THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS HOUSE LIAISON OFFICE

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and pay tribute to First Sergeant Hector Sotorodriguez United States Marine Corps, on the occasion of his transfer from the United States Marine Corps House Liaison office back into the Fleet Marine Force. First Sergeant Sotorodriguez has served our great Nation for many years, earning many decorations and awards. I, and many other members of this chamber, have had the pleasure of working with him over the past two and a half years that he has served as part of Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps Office of Legislative Affairs, OLA, Fellow and as the Senior Staff Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge of the House OLA liaison office.

First Sergeant Sotorodriguez distinguished himself through exceptional meritorious service while serving as the Senior Staff Non-Commissioned Officer In-Charge of the Marine Corps House Liaison office. Every day he served in direct support of not only the Marine Corps Office of Legislative Affairs but in direct support of every member of Congress, every Marine and every American. His keen abilities in organization, interpersonal relationships, and communication were extremely critical to the successful accomplishment of the Marine Corps mission. His achievements and ability to get the job done have been understated but always effective and noteworthy. While serving in the Liaison office, First Sergeant Sotorodriguez was able to develop and execute legislative strategy for the United States Marine Corps. This strategy was instrumental in creating a shared understanding between congress and the Marine Corps, allowing leadership the ability to train and equip the Nation's most elite fighting force, ensuring their