

In 2011, the power of such documentation was confirmed when three women received the Nobel Peace Prize. One was Leymah Gbowee, whose story of pushing for peace in Liberia might have been forgotten if not for the documentary "Pray the Devil Back to Hell." Similarly, the Women PeaceMakers Program in San Diego records the stories that are overlooked or neglected in the media and in history books.

To date, the program has documented the stories of 35 Women PeaceMakers from 30 countries. This year it has selected four more women, from Colombia, Kenya, Nepal and the Solomon Islands, to reside for two months on the campus of the University of San Diego and have their stories recorded by professional writers and a documentary film team. The location of the university, overlooking San Diego's Mission Bay and the Pacific Ocean, is an idyllic one for rest and reflection for women who often face violence on a daily basis, and who must struggle for space and security to do their work for peace.

The process of reflection that the women undertake as they share their stories, contemplating their motivation to become leaders, and why the initiatives they developed were successful teaches them how to be more effective peacebuilders when they return to their countries.

It is not only the professional writers, however, who get to hear the women's stories and learn of their methods of building peace. Members of the local community, as well as students and professors at the University of San Diego and neighboring schools and colleges, have the opportunity to attend the Women PeaceMakers' lectures and other public events, and those events are often streamed live online for national and international audiences as well. Last year, the university received the Senator Paul Simon Spotlight Award from NAFSA: The Association of International Educators, in recognition of the Women PeaceMakers Program and its success in internationalizing the campus.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice and the University of San Diego on a momentous 10th year of the Women PeaceMakers Program.

IN RECOGNITION OF PLAINFIELD
MAYOR SHARON ROBINSON-BRIGGS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mayor Sharon Robinson-Briggs as she is honored by the New Jersey State Conference of the NAACP at its 2012 Annual NJ NAACP State Convention. As the NJ NAACP celebrates African-American mayors throughout New Jersey, Mayor Robinson-Briggs should also be recognized as the first female Mayor of the City of Plainfield.

Serving as mayor of the City of Plainfield since 2006, Mayor Robinson-Briggs has committed herself to the residents of Plainfield by creating a Welcome Desk at City Hall, a Community Garden for the city and a Feed the Children program to provide groceries to local families. She has established herself as an

advocate for the community of Plainfield and all of the residents of New Jersey, participating in several organizations, including the NJ State NAACP Executive Committee; the American Cancer Society; the American Diabetes Association; and the NJ Sharing Network, which strives to promote organ and tissue donation. She is also an exemplary leader, having served as past president of the Plainfield Board of Education and past president of the Plainfield Area NAACP.

Mayor Robinson-Briggs has been commended by several organizations for her efforts on behalf of the residents of Plainfield and New Jersey. The State NAACP, as well as the Plainfield Area NAACP and Regional NAACP, have honored her with Certificates of Achievement. The YMCA of New Jersey also decorated Mayor Robinson-Briggs with the Minority Achievement Award. Her dedication to the community is demonstrated in her many accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in honoring Mayor Sharon Robinson-Briggs as the NJ State NAACP gathers to celebrate its annual convention. It is my hope that my colleagues will join me in thanking her for her leadership and service to the City of Plainfield.

IN HONOR OF MS. MARGARET
"PEG" BARKER

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Margaret "Peg" Barker for her tireless service to Maple Shade Township, New Jersey. Ms. Barker was a pillar of her community who ceaselessly worked to end adult illiteracy and protect the natural resources of Maple Shade Township.

Ms. Barker was a tireless advocate for literacy. As the founder of the Maple Shade Friends of Literacy organization, she tutored international residents so they could learn to read and write in the English language. Ms. Barker volunteered a majority of her time teaching English because she viewed books as a window to knowledge and satisfying curiosity. She wanted other residents to have the ability to enjoy reading and writing as much as she did.

However, Maple Shade Friends of Literacy was only the beginning of Ms. Barker's service to her community. She was a member of several town planning committees and various environmental committees that were dedicated to improving the lives of residents in Maple Shade. As a member of the Pennsauken Water Shed Committee, Ms. Barker volunteered her efforts protecting the environment by making sure that the water shed was safe for fellow residents. Furthermore, on her own time, Ms. Barker volunteered by mapping and marking every storm drain in the town of Maple Shade in order to protect turtles. Ms. Barker was dedicated to protecting the environment, but also extended her services to help the residents of Maple Shade in any way she could.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Barker's endless commitment to Maple Shade Township should not go unrecognized. I join the township and all of South Jersey in paying tribute to this exceptional woman.

SUPPORT OF THE BETTER
BUSINESS BUREAU

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the nation's Better Business Bureaus ("BBB"; originally known as Advertising Vigilance Committees).

The BBBs came into being at the annual meeting of the Associated Advertising Clubs of America in May, 1912, following an editorial in Printer's Ink magazine challenging false and misleading advertising. The first such Vigilance Committee was organized later that year by a group of industry leaders in the fight for truth in advertising and selling.

BBBs are private, non-profit organizations collectively constituting the United States' oldest and largest grassroots business self-regulatory organizations and pre-date the creation of the U.S. government's Federal Trade Commission by two years. Today, they consist of 116 independent BBB offices serving every market area in the United States, an additional 10 international offices serving Canada, and a national coordinating office located in Arlington, Virginia.

Over the past 100 years, BBB's have sought to foster an ethical marketplace where buyers and sellers can trust each other—advancing marketplace trust by creating communities of trustworthy businesses, setting standards, encouraging and supporting best practices, celebrating marketplace role models, and denouncing substandard marketplace behavior.

Throughout the 1920s—at a time when pernicious investment frauds and schemes threatened to undermine public trust in securities markets—BBBs across the country served the nation as a de facto securities regulator until the creation of the Securities and Exchange Commission in 1934. During the Great Depression of the 1930s, the nation's BBBs were nearly alone in their fight to promote "Truth in Advertising" and protect the public from the myriad frauds and schemes that preyed on the nation's beleaguered consumers. During the 1940s, BBBs conducted a relentless effort to educate and protect families on the home front from a number of war-related schemes and provided major technical assistance to the U.S. Government's efforts to coordinate war relief. As U.S. and Canadian soldiers returned from the war, and throughout the dramatic economic expansion of the 1950s, BBBs helped educate veterans and their families on a wide variety of marketplace trust issues—significantly expanding "truth in advertising" review, consumer complaint handling and the availability of consumer information—all at no cost to North American taxpayers.

The BBB system responded to the challenges of the consumer revolution of the late-1960s by merging activities of its National BBB and its Association of BBBs—under the leadership of businessmen Henry Ford II and Elisha ("Bud") Gray II—into a single, international organization—the Council of Better Business Bureaus. In the period following the creation of that new coordinating body, the BBB system:

Launched its National Advertising Division and National Advertising Review Board (in a

partnership with leading advertising industry associations) and created a special Children's Advertising Review Unit (CARU) to evaluate child-directed advertising and promotional material in all media against its own standards and relevant laws;

Created a National Consumer Arbitration Program to provide consumers and businesses with a fast, fair and free method of resolving disputes without resorting to overburdened courts;

Consolidated BBB's long-standing role—reviewing publicly-soliciting charitable organizations against a set of standards—into a single Philanthropic Advisory Service (now the BBB Wise Giving Alliance);

Served as the organizing body to create the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals in Business (SOCAP) to “. . . provide for and promote the exchange of ideas, expertise and opinions relevant to consumer affairs” and “to aid business in anticipating, recognizing and responding to consumer needs, desires and expectations”; and

Began the process of utilizing emerging computer technology to better understand consumer dissatisfaction with the marketplace and provide timely, fact-based data for business, consumer groups, regulators and the public.

The BBB system accepted a major challenge in 1983, when the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and General Motors Corporation (GM) signed a consent order, agreeing to use BBB AUTO LINE®—a consumer mediation and arbitration program—to resolve disputes arising out of certain specified component parts of GM vehicles. In 1991 (when the consent order was to expire), the FTC noted that more than 233,000 consumers received in excess of \$68 million from GM through BBB arbitration and millions of other owners received settlements from GM through BBB conciliation and/or mediation. A similar consent order was signed by Volkswagen of America in 1988, also providing for arbitration through the BBB. Today, 28 manufacturers continue to participate in BBB AUTO LINE®, nationally, with others participating on a state-by-state basis.

In 1997, the BBB system launched BBBOnLine® at a briefing at the U.S. Capitol for legislators and regulators with business and consumer leaders. This BBB program was designed to take advantage of Internet technology to provide timely information to the millions of people who were becoming “wired” through emerging Internet technologies. In 2004, the BBB system launched BBB Military Line to provide free, specialized resources to support military communities in the areas of financial literacy and consumer protection through education, outreach to service members and their families, information, data collection and BBB complaint-handling and dispute resolution.

100 years after the first BBB launched in Minneapolis, BBBs will likely have responded to over 100 million requests from consumers for BBB assistance, will accept, process and attempt to resolve roughly one million consumer complaints and will be supported in that effort by over 400,000 BBB Accredited Businesses and national partners representing many of the world's largest advertisers. In addition, BBB will very often be the “first responder” to Wed the public to new and fast-moving frauds and schemes that increasingly use high technology to prey on victims.

This fall, from September 30—October 3, 2012, BBBs from the United States and Canada will gather to celebrate their centennial anniversary in Washington, D.C., highlighting an extraordinary century of service to business and consumers with events in both the District of Columbia and at Mt. Vernon, the home of America's first President. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the BBB, and that this Congress:

(1) Recognizes the 100th anniversary of the advertising industry's “fight for truth in advertising” that culminated in the founding of the Better Business Bureau; and

(2) Honors and praises the Better Business Bureau system on the occasion of its anniversary for its work to advance marketplace trust on behalf of businesses and consumers, in cooperation with government and the local, state and federal level, through a transparent process of voluntary self-regulation, public education and marketplace conflict resolution.

CONGRATULATING THE LEMON GROVE LITTLE LEAGUE SENIOR DIVISION ALL-STARS ON WINNING THE U.S. CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Lemon Grove Little League Senior Division All-Stars on becoming U.S. champions and coming in second at the Senior Division World Series in Bangor, Maine.

Getting to the World Series in Maine was no small task, and Lemon Grove showed how practicing hard and working together can really pay off.

Actually, Congress could probably learn a lot from how well this group worked together.

Lemon Grove's run to becoming U.S. champions was inspiring for everyone in the community, and we are all very proud.

Congratulations to all the families, the coaches, and of course, the players!

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Lemon Grove Little League All-Stars and wishing them the very best in all of their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF GOSNOLD ON THE CAPE

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gosnold on Cape Cod as the facility celebrates its fortieth year of service to southeastern Massachusetts.

Gosnold on Cape Cod is the largest provider of addiction and mental health services on the Cape and has been helping individuals on the road to recovery since 1972. It has grown since its founding, when it was originally known as the Pocasset Detox Center, and has continuously expanded throughout the years in order to better serve its patients. Two years after it first opened its doors,

Gosnold incorporated one of the first residential treatment programs in the country designed exclusively for women, and expanded again in 1996 to treat individuals with mental and emotional disorders in addition to individuals suffering from addiction.

Gosnold has been recognized nationally for its excellence as it has grown. In 1987, Forbes Magazine recognized Gosnold as one of the twelve leading substance abuse treatment programs in the country, and in 1995, the Emerson House Pregnancy Program, Gosnold's residential treatment center for pregnant women and women with children, was selected to be featured on ABC's Nightline. Recently, the Massachusetts Mental Health Counselors Association named Gosnold as the 2010–2011 Mental Health Agency of the Year. These are all such fitting accolades for a center whose employees have worked tirelessly to ensure that patients receive the treatment they need, along with the compassion they deserve.

Focusing on individualized treatment as well as group therapy, twelve-step principles, family involvement, and continuing care, the specialists at the Gosnold center understand that addiction is a chronic disease requiring lifelong management. Gosnold's mission—to excel in addiction and mental health treatment, to serve men, women, and families affected by these illnesses, and to promote lasting recovery—has guided the center since its inception. Surrounded by the restorative and calming qualities of the Cape Cod shoreline, Gosnold has allowed those affected by addiction and mental illness to find peace and stability after turmoil.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me great pride to honor Gosnold on Cape Cod as it celebrates its fortieth year of service to its patients and to Massachusetts. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the center for its steadfast leadership in the treatment of addiction, and for its dedication to the patients it serves.

TO HONOR THE LIFE OF JUDY GALLO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a tireless advocate for workers, Judy Gallo. She is survived by her husband, two sons, a step-daughter, a sister, a sister-in-law, a daughter-in-law, co-grandmother and grandson.

Ms. Gallo's work experience included spending three years in the 1960's campaigning for civil rights with the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee in the south, working as a youth leader in New York City, helping lead the Cleveland peace movement, acting as a leader with Peace Action and Women Speak Out for Peace, and attempting to organize a nurses union at MetroHealth.

Upon retiring, Judy remained active in the United Labor Agency serving as Outreach Coordinator, and beginning in 2001 helped register several thousand Cleveland voters through the development of the Greater Cleveland Voter Coalition.

As her illness became more assertive Ms. Gallo did not allow her inability to walk, read,