

RECOGNIZING THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON ITS 101ST ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Double Ten Day, the National day of the Republic of China. On October 10th, Taiwan will celebrate the 101st anniversary of China's military Wuchang Uprising, the start of the Xinhai Revolution, which led to the collapse of the Qing Dynasty, the end of 2,000 years of imperial rule in China and ushered in the Republican Era.

By the end of the 1683 century, Ching rulers governed all of China. After the first three emperors, the Ching Court began to decline, becoming weak and corrupt. In response, a group of national capitalists began inciting uprisings. One of the leaders of this nationalistic group, Sun Yat-sen, spent much of his youth in the United States and wanted a Western-style government for his country with a parliament and separation of powers. After the success of the uprisings, Sun Yat-sen became the first president of the Republic of China, a post from where he promoted the idea of a democratic society. Dr. Sun is now remembered as the father of modern China.

When the Republic of China lost control over the mainland in 1942, the government retreated to Taiwan where its constitution remains in command today. Taiwan is an exemplary standard of civil, liberal government in East Asia, and the Republic of China has stood shoulder to shoulder with the United States to defend and promote the very values and ideals that inspired Dr. Sun and founded the Republic all those years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I thus urge my colleagues to acknowledge the Founding Father Sun Yat-Sen and his vision to a democratic China, and join me in congratulating the Republic of China in Taiwan on its 101st anniversary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 585–586. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted “yes” on 585 and “no” on 586.

IN HONOR OF KEVIN QUIGLEY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Kevin Quigley, outgoing President of the National Peace Corps Association. After nine years at the NPCA, Kevin is moving on to serve as Peace Corps Country Director in Thailand, the country where he served as a Volunteer from 1976–1979.

Kevin's dedication to the Peace Corps community is evident in the legacy he leaves be-

hind at the NPCA. Under his leadership, the association launched new programs designed to connect Returned Peace Corps Volunteers to schools and community groups in the United States that are interested in learning more about Peace Corps, established a mentoring program to assist volunteers returning from overseas service, and provided alumni with continued service learning travel opportunities to Peace Corps countries. Kevin also guided the NPCA into the digital age with the Africa Rural Connect Program, which provides an online platform allowing global collaboration to advance small-scale agricultural development initiatives in rural Africa, and NPCA Twitter Chat, a weekly online gathering of the Peace Corps community to discuss how to address key issues of the day.

Kevin brought a unique skill set to the NPCA, drawing from his experience as Senator John Heinz's Legislative Director, staff member at the Office of Management and Budget, and Vice Chairman of USAID's Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Assistance. He also served as Acting CEO of the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation, Executive Director of the Global Alliance for Workers and Communities, and Vice President of Policy and Business at the Asia Society.

And uniting many of Kevin's diverse abilities is his commitment to volunteerism. In addition to his Peace Corps service, Kevin played a founding role in the formation of the Building Bridges Coalition, a consortium of more than 200 leading organizations working collaboratively to promote the field of international volunteering.

Mr. Speaker, while I will miss collaborating with Kevin at the NPCA, I wish him the very best in his ongoing service to our country. Peace Corps Thailand is lucky to have him.

IN HONOR OF THE NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, on Taiwan's National Day (October 10, 2012), I am pleased to take this opportunity to wish the leaders and people of Taiwan many happy returns. I look forward to continued bi-lateral relations between Taiwan and the United States of America.

Also, I would like to bid a personal farewell to Taiwan Ambassador, Mr. Jason Yuan. He has been reassigned as Taiwan's Secretary-General of the National Security Council. During his last four years in Washington, DC, Ambassador Yuan has been instrumental in fostering the strong relationship between the Taiwanese people and the Government of the United States. I wish Ambassador Yuan and his family best wishes and a smooth transition in his new position, and I thank him for his service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATION OF THE ALBANIAN CULTURAL GARDEN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the dedication of the Albanian Cultural Garden, taking place on September 22, 2012.

The 254 acre piece of land that constitutes Rockefeller Park was donated to the City of Cleveland by John D. Rockefeller in 1896. The Cleveland Croatian Cultural Garden is a two acre piece of land within Rockefeller Park. The Cleveland Cultural Gardens were founded in 1926 to create a memorial area for the diverse ethnic groups that shape the region, and to serve as a space for reflection on peace, cooperation and understanding. The Cultural Gardens are currently a collection of more than 30 gardens which include African-American, American Indian, British, Chinese, Czech, Estonian, and Slovenian gardens, among others.

The planning and construction of the Albanian Cultural Garden started in 2007. Legislation sponsoring its dedication was spearheaded by Cleveland City Councilwoman Dona Brady. Members of the Albanian American Association of Cleveland, Ohio, Albanian Cultural Garden Committee, Jim McKnight and Kreshnik Xhiku were instrumental in creating the Albanian Cultural Garden.

The dedication of the Albanian Cultural Garden will occur on September 22, 2012. In addition to inaugurating the Albanian Cultural Garden, it will also commemorate the 100th year of Albanian Independence and dedicate the Mother Teresa memorial statue. Special guests of the dedication will include Albanian President, Bujar Nishani; Albanian Ambassador, Gilbert Galanxhi; Mayor Baftjar Zeqaj; and Mary, Mariano and Christian Gannon.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the dedication of the Albanian Cultural Garden.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lincoln High School, in Tacoma, WA, for its many achievements over the almost one hundred years it has been open, and to congratulate all who work and study at Lincoln as they prepare to celebrate the school's 100th anniversary.

Lincoln High School accepted its first students in 1914. Since then, the teachers at Lincoln have educated thousands who would go on to graduate, and the school has supported many of its students by raising scholarship funds for future graduates. In the coming year, Lincoln High School hopes to raise \$100,000 in scholarship money to celebrate their centennial anniversary. This year's fundraising will build upon the successes during the school's 75th anniversary, when \$75,000 was raised to

support 12 graduating students. Lincoln High School's organizing committee has hosted various fundraisers to connect students and communities through education.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I honor Lincoln High School. Schools like Lincoln High School keeps students motivated and active by ensuring that all are given the opportunity to have a bright future.

CONFIRMING FULL OWNERSHIP RIGHTS TO ARTIFACTS FROM ASTRONAUTS' SPACE MISSIONS

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4158, to Confirm Full Ownership Rights for Certain United States Astronauts to Artifacts from the Astronauts' Space Missions Act.

H.R. 4158 preserves the rights of astronauts who served on the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo missions in the 1960s and 1970s, through the time of the Apollo-Soyuz Test Flight, to retain full and complete ownership of certain artifacts such as personal logs and flight manuals that were used in training or during their flights.

For many years, it was an accepted practice for astronauts to keep mementos of their training and flight missions.

However, confusion surrounding NASA's informal policies on artifacts have led to attempts to repossess those artifacts years later.

This has resulted in questions concerning the status of items that astronauts have had in their possession for years, if not decades, or donated to museums, universities, scholarship funds, and so forth.

I support this bill, because it clarifies that the ownership of those artifacts rests with the astronauts who served during those missions, while preserving the current policy that ownership of moon rocks and lunar material will continue to rest with the Federal Government.

Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago, we lost an American hero, Neil Armstrong. He and his fellow astronauts fulfilled the dreams of a grateful nation by pushing the boundaries of space.

One small way to show our gratitude is by passing this bill. I urge my colleagues to support it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on roll-call No. 586, I was unavoidably detained and could not be present for last night's rollcall vote on H.R. 5912, a bill that would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit the use of public funds for political party conventions and provide for the return of any previously-distributed funds for deficit reduction. I am a strong supporter of this legislation. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

IN HONOR OF THE NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES ACT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reflect on one of the most important pieces of federal legislation impacting our coastal, great lakes and ocean resources stretching from Fagatele Bay in American Samoa to the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary along the East Coast. The National Marine Sanctuaries Act, which was signed on October 23, 1972, recognized the value of these national treasures; designating marine protected areas for current and future generations.

40 years later, communities across the country have seen real dividends from these federal investments and are expressing their interests in protecting their own waters. Reactivation of NOAA's Site Evaluation List, a scientifically rigorous and publicly reviewed list of sites, is being considered as part of the Strategic Action Plan to implement our National Policy for the Stewardship of the Ocean, Our Coasts, and the Great Lakes. It would bring a renewed commitment to conserve, protect, and enhance the biodiversity, ecological integrity and cultural legacy of our nation's system of marine protected areas.

In my experience, the most remarkable thing about the National Marine Sanctuary Program is the transformation which occurs when communities recognize they have the opportunity to become stewards of their local marine environment. I cannot emphasize enough that ours and future generations will increasingly depend on a healthy ocean—for ecological, economic, educational, scientific, social, cultural and recreational benefits, as well as for the food we eat. For me, the best example is the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, which this year celebrates its 20th Anniversary.

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary emerged from a collaboration of local officials, civic minded citizens, environmentalists and many others who were concerned about the possibility of oil drilling on the Central Coast. Their hard work resulted in the establishment of the largest marine sanctuary in the Continental U.S. It goes down more than 2 miles and is almost as deep as the Rockies are tall. Its undersea mountain—"Davidson Seamount"—is higher than any coastal mountain, 7480 ft. tall, and it supports one of the most bio-diverse ecosystems in the world.

I am fortunate to represent a congressional district that has one of the greatest synergies of ocean science and research in the world. And it is through increased understanding of our marine sanctuaries that we become better stewards of our blue planet. The National Marine Sanctuary Program is charting the course forward through research and education and it is only fitting that, on this anniversary of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, we in Congress commend the National Marine Sanctuaries Act and all of our nation's sanctuaries for their significant work in advancing understanding and protection of the world's oceans.

HONORING NASA LANGLEY'S 95TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 95th Anniversary of NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia. In 1917, this nation's first civilian aeronautical research laboratory was established in Hampton, Virginia, by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics as the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory. Today, NASA Langley is known around the world for its cutting edge research, leading numerous aviation breakthroughs, making contributions to flight technologies across all speed regimes, and improving the safety of our national air space. I would also like to recognize the approximately 1900 civil servants and 1800 contractors who contribute to the important mission carried out at NASA Langley today and to thank the many individuals who have played a part in the Center's 95-year history in establishing the Center's strong legacy of excellence in aeronautics.

NASA Langley contributes to NASA's vision to "reach for new heights and reveal the unknown so that what we do and learn will benefit all humankind" by developing robust aerospace systems that can perform in our own atmosphere, on the Moon, on Mars or anywhere that NASA explores with aircraft, spacecraft and satellites. These NASA technologies can be found on virtually every civilian or military aircraft flying today. NASA Langley has also conducted ground-breaking climate and atmospheric research, which has improved the understanding of our planet, its atmosphere, and the impact on human health. NASA Langley is a vital member of the Hampton Roads community, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the Nation and I am certain that the Center and its employees will continue to achieve unparalleled technology advances that will inspire generations of future explorers.

I urge my colleagues to join me in commending NASA Langley for continuing to drive game-changing technology innovations that support our Nation's economic vitality and leadership in aerospace.

HONORING THE 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the 225th anniversary of the United States Constitution and to celebrate its many contributions to American society. On September 17, 1788 members of the Constitutional Convention signed what would become the most important and fundamental document in the United States of America.

Our founding fathers came together in true American spirit to lay out our rights and freedoms, rights that were later extended to include all Americans regardless of race or gender. The unmatched longevity of the Constitution still maintains those values today. This