

them for more than 100 years of progress. As a good friend and ally of the United States, the Republic of China on Taiwan remains a peaceful and prosperous democracy, and is a model for nations around the world.

I would like to take a moment and recognize the 23 million citizens of Taiwan for their commitment to peace. As a symbol of this commitment, the Republic of China on Taiwan recently melted down artillery shells and used the metal to construct a "Peace Bell." President Ma Ying-jeou also proposed a peace initiative in the hope of easing the recent tensions in the East China Sea. The initiative calls on all parties concerned to show restraint, shelve controversies and settle disputes in a peaceful manner. It also urges all parties concerned to strive for a consensus on a code of conduct in the East China Sea, and to establish a mechanism for cooperation on exploring and developing resources in the region. We celebrate these efforts to maintain good relations with other countries, and the United States is proud to call the Republic of China on Taiwan a partner in peace.

In closing, I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking Ambassador Yuan for his service along with President Ma, Vice President Wu, and the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan for their continued commitment to peace and democracy on this anniversary of their National Day. Although I am retiring from the United States House of Representatives, please be assured that my support, commitment and friendship to Taiwan will remain strong, and will never die.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 585 regarding the "Andrew P. Carpenter Tax Act" (H.R. 5044). Had I been present, I would have voted "yes".

HONORING NANCY OSBORNE

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nancy Osborne, an important public figure in the Central Valley news industry, on the occasion of her retirement.

Ms. Osborne graduated from Las Cruces High School in New Mexico and attended New Mexico State University for 3 years.

Following a five year break from her education, she returned to college in the valley at Fresno State University. She graduated in 1976 with a BA in Speech Communications and began work on a Master's degree.

After a year of graduate study, she accepted a reporting job at ABC30. As one of only a handful of women in the local broadcast industry, Nancy became a role model for many young women.

In the fall of 1977, Nancy joined the anchor team at KFSN-TV. In 1980, she produced and

anchored the valley's first locally produced news magazine show while continuing to co-anchor Action News.

In 1996, Nancy joined the Action News Management Team. While continuing her coverage of the valley's political scene and issues involving children and families, she was named Executive Producer—Special Projects. With this new assignment, she helped shape Action News around the clock.

In January 2004, after a short hiatus, Nancy returned to reporting full time, once again adding her experience and expertise to the expanding daily Action News coverage while continuing to co-anchor Action News Live at Five. She also wrote a popular blog, "The Red, White, and True", which focused on stories about the Central Valley's military personnel and families.

In 2005, Nancy was inducted into the prestigious Silver Circle by the Northern California chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for her commitment of over 25 years to the Fresno television market and broadcast news industry.

Nancy has reported on countless stories and events important to the people of Central California and she has given her time and effort to numerous non-profits and charities over the decades. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Osborne on her "award-winning and trailblazing television career," as she retires from ABC30 Action News.

IN RECOGNITION OF FORTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP FROM CLINTON RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC) as it celebrates 40 years of service to Southeast Michigan. Situated within Macomb and Oakland Counties and located in the heart of the Great Lakes region, the Clinton River watershed covers over 760 square miles that begins at the headwaters of the Clinton River in Springfield Township and stretches to its outlet into Lake St. Clair.

Water has long been an important part of our lives in Michigan and throughout the Great Lakes region—it was the means through which Michigan became a center of industry and innovation during the Industrial Revolution and remains a critical part of our economy. However, as an unintended consequence of our success, the Clinton River and its watershed became polluted by industrial runoff and untreated sewage, which threatened this important natural resource in Southeast Michigan. As a response to growing public concern, in 1972 the CRWC was founded with a mission to protect, enhance and celebrate the Clinton River, its watershed and Lake St. Clair.

In execution of its mission, the CRWC has created programs that have engaged all the sectors of the community in efforts to restore the watershed, while providing hands-on education which has instilled the value of good environmental stewardship. Among its programs is Adopt-a-Stream, which directly involves area residents in the water quality mon-

itoring process. It promotes annual events like Clinton River Day, which brings the community together in dozens of sites around the watershed to participate in projects that educate, clean and promote the importance of the Clinton River to our region. Over its 40 years, the CRWC has created a clear track record of leveraging strong partnerships with area stakeholders to remove the impairments caused by pollution.

The work of the CRWC has left a tangible impact on the communities of Southeast Michigan—riparian habitat has been restored, children have been educated on the healthy and active lifestyle that the watershed supports and recreational fishermen once again enjoy premier fisheries. Beyond these benefits to area residents, the CRWC's outreach to its stakeholders has created important synergies between local governments, institutes of higher education, area businesses and advocacy groups, that have strengthened the vitality of the Southeast Michigan region. The results have been, not just a healthier ecosystem, but also increased economic activity and increased quality-of-life for our families.

Mr. Speaker, as a proud supporter of the Great Lakes and the federal commitment Congress has made through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the CRWC for 40 years of leadership in protecting, enhancing and celebrating the Clinton River, its watershed and Lake St. Clair. While there is still a lot of work left to be done to fully restore and protect our important natural resources, we have seen great progress because of the work of the CRWC and its sister organizations across the Great Lakes region. I am confident that with the sustained dedication of the CRWC, its stakeholders and its supporters, that we will continue to see more progress made to fully restore the Clinton River Area of Concern.

RECOGNIZING THE 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADOPTION OF THE NORTHWEST ORDINANCE BY THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize that 225 years ago the Continental Congress of the United States enacted the Northwest Ordinance, which in 1787 established a system of government that made the territory north and west of the Ohio River the first commonwealth in the world whose organic law recognized every man as free and equal.

Encompassing 265,878 square miles, the Northwest Territory included the future states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, and part of Minnesota.

In addition to prohibiting slavery, the Northwest Ordinance guaranteed religious freedom and civil rights throughout the territory. This federal mandate preceded by several years the Bill of Rights—the first 10 Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. The Northwest Ordinance was adopted by the Continental Congress on July 13, 1787.

The Continental Congress appointed Arthur St. Clair the first governor of the Northwest

Territory on October 5, 1787. Governor St. Clair was based in Losantville, a town he re-named Cincinnati on January 4, 1790.

The first delegate of the Northwest Territory to the U.S. House of Representatives was William Henry Harrison of Hamilton County, who served from March 4, 1799, to May 14, 1800. He successfully promoted the Harrison Land Act, which allowed people of modest means to buy land in the Northwest Territory directly from the federal government. This contributed to the rapid growth in Ohio's population.

The Northwest Ordinance established a process for new states to join the Union, and in 1803 Ohio became the first state formed out of the Northwest Territory.

The Northwest Ordinance also established the township form of government, which continues to be favored by many local communities in Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, Ohioans appreciate their state's history and their heritage of equality under the law.

Today, I want to recognize the 225th anniversary of the adoption of the Northwest Ordinance, which resulted in the great state of Ohio and ensured liberty for all its residents.

IN HONOR OF MR. GREGORY M.
SADLEK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor Mr. Gregory M. Sadlek who is being honored by the Polonia Foundation on October 7, 2012.

Born and raised in Northeast Ohio, Gregory is a graduate of Padua Franciscan High School in Parma, Ohio. In 1968, following his high school graduation, he moved to Quincy, Illinois to attend Quincy University and later attended the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. Gregory holds several degrees including a bachelor's in philosophy and a master's and doctorate in English. He has pursued a career in academia, teaching at the University of Nantes, Hamilton College, Eastern Illinois University, Northern Illinois University and the University of Nebraska at Omaha in the English Department. Gregory is married to Françoise Rolland; together they have two sons, Jonathan and Benjamin.

In 2005, Gregory returned to his native Cleveland, Ohio and became the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at Cleveland State University (CSU). At CSU, he has worked tirelessly to establish a Polish Studies program and a partnership with the University of Warsaw.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Gregory M. Sadlek and congratulating him as he is recognized by the Polonia Foundation.

RECOGNITION OF TAIWAN'S
NATIONAL DAY

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SIRE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to send my best wishes to President Ma Ying-

jeou and the people of the Republic of China (Taiwan) on their National Day this October 10th.

In the last four and a half years President Ma, along with other national leaders, has helped Taiwan's economy thrive. President Ma took a number of helpful steps to take Taiwan out of an economic slump, including guaranteeing bank deposits, lowering interest rates, distributing shopping vouchers and investing in domestic infrastructure. As a result, Taiwan's economy has been rapidly improving, alleviating the problems of unemployment and poverty.

President Ma has also excelled on promoting foreign policy. Apart from the signing of the mutually beneficial Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) with mainland China in 2010, President Ma's government is currently negotiating economic cooperation agreements with the governments of Singapore and New Zealand and paving the way for Taiwan to become a member of the multilateral Trans-Pacific Partnership.

President Ma has also significantly reduced tensions in the Taiwan Strait by pursuing a policy of diplomatic truce with the mainland and has ended the dangerous cycle of diplomatic warfare between the two sides.

Taiwan is currently enjoying a robust relationship with the United States. U.S.-Taiwan ties have been the most amicable in 30 years. Communication between our two countries is smooth and friendly. Much of this is due to the capable stewardship of Taiwan's top diplomat in the United States: Representative Jason Yuan. Yuan is a seasoned diplomat and has been working very hard to promote an open discussion between Taiwan and Congress on Capitol Hill.

Again, congratulations to the Republic of China on its National Day.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office; the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,012,971,761,294.54. We've added \$5,386,094,712,381.46 to our debt in 3.5 years. This is \$5.4 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

ON THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE ACHIEVABLE DREAM TEN-
NIS BALL

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate An Achievable Dream and the Rotary Club of the Virginia Peninsula, a longtime sponsor of the event, on the occasion of the 20th Annual Achievable Dream

Tennis Ball. An Achievable Dream, with the generous help of the Rotary Club of the Virginia Peninsula and other sponsors, offers an extraordinary education program in my home district which provides tremendous promise to young at-risk students.

The motto of An Achievable Dream is "Teaching Kids Winning Ways." The Achievable Dream program is structured to give young people the skills needed to succeed in life. Those skills are taught at An Achievable Dream on the tennis court, in the classroom, on field trips, and in sharing experiences with successful and caring adults in the community.

Often, young people don't think too much about the future, and don't realize that choices made today may limit those in the future. The staff, supporters and sponsors at An Achievable Dream have worked to ensure that their students have every opportunity to be successful in the future, setting and achieving a goal of graduating 100% of students on time in the past, and hope to send all graduating seniors off to college.

As a public-private partnership with Newport News Public Schools, the City of Newport News, the Newport News Sheriff's Department, the U.S. Army, the Rotary Club, Riverside Health System, and the College of William and Mary, An Achievable Dream has received national recognition as one of the most effective urban school programs in the country and has provided a model for integrating support from the business community to support quality educational opportunities for at-risk students. The Achievable Dream Tennis Ball seeks to highlight the community's dedication to these students and to An Achievable Dream.

I am pleased that I have been involved with An Achievable Dream as a supporter since its beginnings. As An Achievable Dream and our community gathers to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the An Achievable Dream Tennis Ball, the community can look forward to the continued success of An Achievable Dream and the programs that have been put in place at these schools. I would like to congratulate the staff, supporters and sponsors at An Achievable Dream on this monumental occasion, and hope to see continued success from An Achievable Dream in the future.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIALIST JOSHUA
L. REED

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Army Specialist Joshua L. Reed, who died at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, on August 4.

Josh was born in Bellefontaine, Ohio, in 1990 to Lloyd and Tonja Reed. A 2009 graduate of Benjamin Logan High School, Josh participated in football and wrestling and also enjoyed skateboarding, snowboarding, and quad racing.

Enlisting in the Army in February 2010, Josh graduated from the Multiple Launch Rocket System Crewmember Advanced Individual Training Course at Fort Sill later that year. He was an ammunition specialist with Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 14th Field Artillery, and was