

happy to offer my support for the First Annual America's Family Day.

HONORING STATE
REPRESENTATIVE PAUL ROAN

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a man of determination, service, and integrity—State Representative Paul Roan of Tishomingo, Oklahoma.

Roan, a member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, has served his district and state with distinction during the years of 2000 to 2012.

Paul's legislative work has been devoted to helping Oklahoma's brave veterans and emergency responders, protecting the state's natural resources and improving education for young people.

His personal career has been built on a foundation of public service. Roan proudly served our country as a member of the United States Air Force, he then spent time as an educator, a police officer and was elected Deputy Sheriff of Pontotoc County, followed by over 20 years of service as an Oklahoma Highway Patrol State Trooper.

Representative Roan has been a civic leader in the Oklahoma community for several years, serving as 1st Vice-President of the Oklahoma State Troopers Association, President of Tishomingo Lions Club, Master of Tishomingo Masonic Lodge #91, and a member of Johnston County Chamber of Commerce and American Legion Post 164.

It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to acknowledge not only his successes in the Oklahoma legislature, but also as a devoted father and family man.

Paul Roan is the husband of Betty Roan and father of Chris, Brad, and Angela Roan. The 20th House District of Oklahoma is a better place because of the service of Paul Roan.

IN HONOR OF SEA OTTER
AWARENESS WEEK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the 10th Annual Sea Otter Awareness Week, September 23–29, 2012 sponsored by Friends of the Sea Otter located in my congressional district. This week-long event highlights one of the most iconic species in California and the integral role they play in the near-shore marine ecosystem and draws public attention to sea otters and the conservation issues they face.

We all know that sea otter recovery has been met with challenges and sea otter populations remain threatened. Each day, research is uncovering additional causes of sea otter population declines. As a keystone species, sea otters hold the entire kelp forest ecosystem together, and as a bellwether species, they are an important indicator of the health of the marine environment. The decline of south-

ern sea otters off of the California coast not only impacts the species itself, but also affects other marine populations and the surrounding ecosystems. The demise of sea otters allows their prey, sea urchins, to proliferate unchecked—leading to the alarming overgrazing of kelp beds, which function as critical nursery grounds for many marine animals, and also help to sequester CO₂. Recent research has shown that spreading kelp can absorb as much as 12 times the CO₂ from the atmosphere than would an urchin dominated system.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should be commended for their efforts in the recovery of the southern sea otter. Termination of the translocation program, allowing sea otters expansion into southern Californian waters, is a critical step along that path to recovery. I am concerned that language in the House version of the FY13 NDAA contains language that would impede the termination of this failed program and those flawed sections of the bill must be removed.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the many accomplishments of Friends of the Sea Otter and other non-profit environmental organizations that work on southern sea otter recovery in the Monterey Bay region. The Monterey Bay Aquarium, researchers, fishermen, state and federal agencies, schools, and many other institutions and individuals devote tremendous time and resources to protect and recover the southern California sea otter. Sea Otter Awareness Week is just one of their many activities geared towards honoring and saving this species, and I am proud to be associated with this vital work.

IN RECOGNITION OF TAIWAN'S
NATIONAL DAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of the Republic of China (Taiwan) on its upcoming National Day.

During the last four and a half years, the Republic of China's President Ma has further strengthened the ties between Taiwan and the United States. One way Taiwan has accomplished this has been by reducing its trade surplus with the U.S. year after year. Additionally, Taiwan recently lifted its ban on U.S. beef imports. Taiwan's lifting will help our beef industry economically and Taiwan's example will encourage other countries to lift their bans against U.S. beef and beef products.

Taiwan is also known for being a champion of peace. In addition to reducing tensions across the Taiwan Strait, Taiwan has continued to assert itself as a proponent of peaceful solutions. For instance, in the most recent dispute over the Diaoyutai/Senkaku islands, Taiwan has urged all parties to exercise patience and to put aside their differences, instead of resorting to military threats.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Taiwan on its 101st National Day. I am confident that the friendship and close relationship that has been cultivated by the United States and Taiwan will continue for many years to come.

HONORING SENIOR MASTER
SERGEANT EMILIO HERNANDEZ

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to honor Senior Master Sergeant Emilio Hernandez, an exceptional individual who has most recently been awarded the 2012 Outstanding Airman of the Year award by the United States Air Force. This prestigious award is given to only 12 members of the Air Force each year for their superior leadership, job performance, community involvement, and personal achievements.

SMSgt Hernandez was born in Havana, Cuba but grew up in Miami, FL. He graduated from Hialeah High School in 1990 and began his military career in 1992, serving at both Sheppard AFB in Texas and K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base in Michigan. He was deployed to Incirlik Air Base in Turkey later that year in support of Operation PROVIDE COMFORT where he garnered two achievement medals, and was selected as a holiday phone call recipient from then President Bill Clinton. His decorated service history includes deployments to Kuwait in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH, and Baghdad in support of both Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM.

In 2008, SMSgt Hernandez was assigned to his current position in the 100th Civil Engineer Squadron as Superintendent Operations Flight at RAF Mildenhall in the United Kingdom. In 2009 he deployed to Ali Base Iraq, where he served as Electrical Superintendent of the 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron and received the Meritorious Service Medal. Later, he was selected as the 100th Civil Engineer Squadron's 2009 Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the year. In 2011 SMSgt Hernandez was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his service at Kandahar Airfield as the Operations Flight Chief of the 777th Expeditionary Prime BEEF Squadron.

In his current position, SMSgt Hernandez has led 52 people in 53 civil engineering projects at 163 forward operating bases in support of 85,000 warfighters. He orchestrated \$80,000 in repairs to nine Marine Corps aircraft hangers to safeguard \$300 million in assets in support of a vital ISR platform. He oversaw a project to upgrade an electrical grid on a dam which preserved water and power flow to 450,000 Afghans, and managed the construction of two tactical operations centers worth \$500,000, securing Afghanistan's key district of Panjwai.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Senior Master Sergeant Emilio Hernandez for his continued service to our nation, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable individual.

RECOGNITION OF TAIWAN'S
NATIONAL DAY

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, in celebration of Taiwan's National Day on October

10th, I believe it fitting to call to mind one of the basic elements of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) that has long guided America's worldwide relationships.

The TRA states in SEC 2(b)(4)

“... to consider any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means, including by boycotts or embargoes, a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific area and of grave concern to the United States;”

The Taiwan Relations Act is monumental in the unique impact it has had in maintaining the Peace in the Pacific and our relationship with the nations of the Region.

Congratulations to Taiwan during this exciting time in your country's history and for helping to maintain peace in Southeast Asia.

CONGRATULATING HEALTH CENTRAL HOSPITAL ON 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the 60th anniversary of Health Central Hospital of Ocoee, Florida. Since 1952, the dedicated physicians and staff of Health Central Hospital have compassionately provided excellent healthcare services to residents across Central Florida.

West Orange Memorial Hospital, as it was originally named, moved from Winter Garden, Florida to Ocoee, Florida in 1993. Today, Health Central Hospital is an 85-acre medical facility, housing a 171-bed acute care hospital, physician offices, and a newly renovated 34-bed emergency center. Health Central's dedication to their patients is evident not only in their healthcare service, but also through their involvement in the community.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am pleased to congratulate and applaud Health Central Hospital, along with their physicians and staff, for their efforts to enrich the lives of their patients and the Central Florida community for the past 60 years. May their example of compassion and dedication inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

HONORING FAIR FAMILY FARMS OF MANN'S CHOICE, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fair Family Farms of Mann's Choice, Pennsylvania. On September 5, 2012, the farm marked its 200 years of continuous ownership and operation by the descendants of Lewis Turner.

In 1812, Lewis Turner of Loudon County, Virginia, purchased the 241-acres that would become the original farm from the Estate of George Woods and from Dr. John and Mary Anderson of Bedford County. Lewis and his wife, Anna Maria Beltz, raised their six children on the farm. Following Lewis' death, his

eldest son Fredrick Turner purchased the farm on April 24, 1838. Frederick and his wife, Susannah Mahala Exline, raised their seven children on the farm and constructed a gristmill on the property, remnants of which are still visible today.

Upon Frederick Turner's death, the farm was divided between three of his sons. One of the three, Andrew Turner, purchased the 95-acre Parent Parcel, a portion of the original land that has remained in the family's possession since the original 1812 survey. In 1865, Andrew and his wife Anna Maria Hillegass constructed a barn and homestead in which they raised their eight children. The homestead remains in use to this day.

Following the death of Anna Maria, the farm passed to her daughter Mary M. Turner and her husband, John W. Fair, on December 20, 1912. On April 2, 1923, they transferred the property to one of their six children, Ralph A. Fair, and his wife, E. Mae Mowry. The farm changed hands again on February 12, 1959, when Ralph H. and Floyd A. Fair, two of Ralph and Mae's three sons, took possession of the property. Since 1979, Ralph and his wife, Geraldine V. Coughenour, have worked to acquire portions of the original land that had been subdivided and sold over the years, and now hold 226 of the original 241 acres. Throughout their 55 years of marriage, Ralph and Geraldine have always lived on the farm where Ralph was born and where they raised their six children, two of whom still live on the property.

After Floyd's death, full ownership of the farm passed to Ralph and Geraldine, on June 29, 2006. In 2008, Ralph and Geraldine created Fair Family Farms LLC to hold and preserve all the farm's land. They, as well as four of their children, are partners of the LLC, making them the 6th and 7th generation owners of the ancestral farm.

Since the farm's creation 200 years ago, it has remained an active dairy. Currently, Fair Family Farms is the only Pennsylvania Certified Organic dairy in Bedford County, producing milk, hay, corn and oats, as well as a significant poultry operation that produces millions of eggs each year.

It is quite an accomplishment to keep a farm productive and in the same family for seven generations. Happy bicentennial, Fair Family Farms, and best wishes for many more!

RECOGNIZING AND THANKING CAPTAIN ROD W. STUBBLEFIELD

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Captain Rod W. Stubblefield for the time and energy he has dedicated to the Military Academy Nomination process by serving the constituents of the 19th Congressional District as a member of our Academy Selection Board.

Rod W. Stubblefield was born, raised, and schooled in Fresno, California. He graduated from California State University, Fresno (CSFU) with a Bachelor of the Arts and was a four-year letterman with the Fresno State Football Team. He returned to CSUF as a graduate student, where he earned his Mas-

ter's in Business Administration. For 51 years, he has been a Trustee and Board Member of the Bulldog Foundation at Fresno State University and is a devoted fan and supporter of Bulldog Football.

He has been married to Carol Stubblefield for 52 years, and their family has traveled extensively. They have been blessed with two sons, Tim and Curtis, and two grandchildren, Tori and Nicholas.

Captain Stubblefield entered the United States Navy as a Seaman Recruit in January, 1951. He was a member of the 12-1 Surface Division while he completed his undergraduate education. In August of 1954, Mr. Stubblefield was commissioned as an Ensign in U.S. Navy.

His professional schooling includes Department of Defense Graduate Studies, Boeing Aircraft Management Studies, National Security Management School, and studies at the Naval War College. Captain Stubblefield holds Active Duty Certification specialties in Explosive Ordinance Disposal, Master Deep Sea Diver, Scuba Diver, and Extensive Training in Atomic, Biological, and Nuclear Warfare and Terrorist Insurgency. In addition, he is a surface-qualified officer. He has served numerous tours at sea, including U.S.S. Laws DD 558, U.S.S. Renville APA 227, U.S.S. Estes LCC 12, along with many more.

Captain Stubblefield's major shore duties include Commanding officer: Naval Ammunition Depot, Hawthorne, Nevada; Officer in Charge: Naval Riverine Operations and Special Forces, Mare Island, California; Officer in Charge: Counterinsurgency Training with EOD, Unit 1, Hawaii; and Officer in Charge: US Navy Elk Hills, California, Petroleum Facility. Captain Stubblefield retired from the active service with the U.S. Navy on July 1, 1985.

Capstain Stubblefield continues to serve his country as a representative of the U.S. Naval Academy. In 1973, the Navy assigned Capt. Stubblefield as the Central California Blue and Gold Officer. He currently represents thirty schools in the Central Valley. He has served on five Congressional All Academy Nominating Committees and is currently assigned to the 19th Congressional District of California. Captain Stubblefield greatly helped me during my term in Congress and has served honorably for Congressmen Sisk, Krebs, Coehlo and Radanovich.

Beyond his significant military career, Captain Stubblefield has been employed by New York Life and NYLIFE Securities for 56 years as a Financial Planner and Agent. The Stubblefield Office specialized in Business, Personal and Estate Planning. Captain Stubblefield has been a Club Member for 45 years and also holds the Chartered Life Underwriter and Charter Financial Consultant designations. The Stubblefield Family has a combined service to New York Life for over 200 years. Captain Stubblefield has also been Life Member of the Million Dollar Round Table for 37 years.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Captain Rod W. Stubblefield for his outstanding service to his country and community. He has served the U.S. Navy for a total of 61 years, including 39 years at the Blue and Gold Officer to the United States Naval Academy. This service, along with his dedicated work as part of the Academy Selection Board, makes him an invaluable asset to his community. He is a true public servant, and I wish him continued success in his future endeavors.