

Christine started as a temporary employee in 1979 but soon became a permanent member of the GE staff. While raising two sons, working full time, and completing a bachelor's degree at Salem State College and a master's degree in Management at Lesley College in Cambridge, Christine progressed in various roles throughout the Lynn Aircraft Engine unit and became one of the first women in the company to become a Six Sigma Black Belt—a team leader responsible for measuring, analyzing, improving and controlling key processes that influence customer satisfaction and productivity growth.

Christine completed her General Electric career at the end of 2011 as a Senior Tech Manager for Turbo Shaft & GE38 Marine & Commercial Programs. The GE38 engine is believed to be the most technologically advanced turbo shaft engine in its class, and it is my understanding that the United States Marine Corps has selected it to power the Sikorsky CH53K Super Stallion helicopter.

General Electric has been in Lynn since 1892, and members of Christine's family have proudly worked there for most of that time. Christine's grandfather, Martin G. Higgins, entered the apprentice program at Lynn General Electric in 1904 and worked there for 34 years. Her father, John J. Higgins, worked at GE for 33 years, from 1943 to 1975. Christine's husband, Michael Taillon, also worked for 41 years at Lynn GE. In total, that is 140 years of service to General Electric in Lynn.

I congratulate Christine on her remarkable career and wish her all the best in her retirement.

HONORING JIMI YAMAICHI

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with Representative ZOE LOFGREN to honor Mr. Jimi Yamaichi. On November 3, 2011, Mr. Yamaichi was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays, from the Government of Japan. Mr. Yamaichi is being recognized for his contributions to Japan-U.S. relations arising from decades of community involvement. On February 24, 2012, the Consul General of Japan in San Francisco, Hiroshi Inomata, will present Mr. Yamaichi with this distinguished award.

Mr. Yamaichi grew up on his family owned farm in San Jose, California during the Great Depression era. As a young student, Mr. Yamaichi dreamed of becoming a carpenter. However, racism within the carpenter's union and the outbreak of World War II postponed that dream. With the signing of Executive Order 9066, Mr. Yamaichi and his family were forcibly removed from their home to the Pomona Assembly Center, then to the internment camps at Heart Mountain in Wyoming and at Tule Lake in California. While at Tule Lake, he oversaw building projects as the camp construction manager. After the war ended, Mr. Yamaichi doggedly pursued union membership, which he was finally granted.

With his experience in the internment camps and as a carpenter, Mr. Yamaichi has turned his attention towards memorializing the experi-

ences of Japanese Americans. Over the years, he has served on a variety of boards and committees in San Jose's Japantown. Currently, he leads the effort to restore the Tule Lake Relocation Center in addition to leading biannual pilgrimages to the internment camp. Through the restoration and pilgrimages to Tule Lake, Mr. Yamaichi shares the harsh reality of life in internment. Driven by the desire to tell the story of Japanese Americans, Mr. Yamaichi became a charter member of the Japanese American Museum of San Jose. As the curator of the Japanese American Museum of San Jose, he has managed projects and played a key role in the construction of the new museum. One of the key exhibits is the replica of the camp barracks, complete with artifacts found at Tule Lake.

Mr. Yamaichi's lifelong work to preserve Japanese American history was recognized by the Government of Japan in the 2011 Conferment of Decoration. Mr. Yamaichi is receiving the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays, for his work in Santa Clara County.

Mr. Speaker, we commend Mr. Jimi Yamaichi for his years of dedication and commitment to Santa Clara County and the Japanese American community. His contributions ensure that Japanese Americans' experiences of persecution will never be forgotten.

URGING PASSAGE OF THE STOCK ACT

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of The STOCK Act. This bill will make government more transparent and accountable to its citizens.

It is unacceptable for any Member of Congress, federal official or their staff to use non-public information obtained during their work as a public servant for their own financial gain.

The STOCK Act will give our constituents peace of mind that no one will gain from insider trading. This legislation greatly improves the Senate-passed version by extending these requirements to include the Executive Branch. All public servants must be held to the same standards.

I urge my colleagues to support this responsible legislation.

U.S. COMBAT OPERATIONS IN AFGHANISTAN

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I commend President Obama's administration for the steps it is taking to bring the longest war in our nation's history to a close. Last week, Defense Secretary Panetta expressed the hope that "by mid- to the latter part of 2013 we'll be able to make a transition from a combat role to a training, advice and assist role." I urge the administration to fulfill this aspiration and bring our troops home to their families. They have sacrificed enough.

Afghanistan began as a war of necessity. After the horrific September 11th attacks, we sent troops to eliminate Al Qaeda, killing their leaders and destroying their training camps to prevent a future terrorist attack. Our troops carried out this mission with extraordinary courage and dedication. Osama Bin Laden was driven out of Afghanistan and he is now dead. Furthermore, our intelligence community affirms that Al Qaeda is virtually extinguished from Afghanistan, yet the war continues. End this war now and focus like a laser on terrorists wherever they may be.

Our troops in Afghanistan are no longer fighting terrorists who pose a threat to the United States. They are now fighting domestic Afghan factions and defending a corrupt and inept Afghan government. Our service-members are dying in another country's civil war. This has become a war of choice.

I recently met with Lt. Col. Danny Davis who described to me what that civil war looks like on the ground. He has served two combat deployments in Afghanistan, and has traveled throughout the country talking with US troops stationed all over. A recent evaluation of Col. Davis reads: "His maturity, tenacity and judgment can be counted on in even the hardest of situations, and his devotion to mission accomplishment is unmatched by his peers." This is how Col. Davis describes what he has observed:

What I saw bore no resemblance to rosy official statements by U.S. military leaders about conditions on the ground. Entering this deployment, I was sincerely hoping to learn that the claims were true: that conditions in Afghanistan were improving . . .

Instead, I witnessed the absence of success on virtually every level.

I saw the incredible difficulties any military force would have to pacify even a single area of any of those provinces; I heard many stories of how insurgents controlled virtually every piece of land beyond eyeshot of a U.S. or International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) base. I saw little to no evidence the local governments were able to provide for the basic needs of the people. Some of the Afghan civilians I talked with said the people didn't want to be connected to a predatory or incapable local government. From time to time, I observed Afghan Security forces collude with the insurgency. . .

Col. Davis's candid testimony reinforced my conviction that there is no military solution to the conflict in Afghanistan, only the prospect of continued shedding of American blood in a war that is not ours to fight. Only through a negotiated political settlement amongst the Afghan factions, not through an open-ended U.S. military presence, could Afghanistan become a stable, developing country.

America faces new threats now. The more than a trillion dollars spent on two wars over the course of a decade undermines our financial stability and takes away from much needed funds for American jobs and investments at home. The Obama administration has shown courageous leadership in eliminating Osama Bin Laden and other top Al Qaeda leaders. They have also shown leadership in bringing the war in Iraq to an end and in planning to ensure that the U.S. military commitment in Afghanistan is not an open-ended one. As President Obama clearly stated in his speech on the drawdown plan last year, we need to focus on nation-building at home. I agree, and I strongly support ending U.S. combat operations in Afghanistan and bringing our troops

home by mid-2013, if not sooner. It is the people in this body, the United States Congress, that can choose when this war ends.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. FRANK
W. ANDERSON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of Mr. Frank W. Anderson, a strong proponent of disabled veterans' rights in the state of Ohio, who is being honored by the Joint Veterans' Commission of Cuyahoga County with the Judge Felix T. Matia/Chester J. Koch Memorial Award.

Frank Anderson was born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1953 and attended East Tech High School. He attended Bowling Green State University, and then left in 1976 to enroll in the Ohio National Guard's 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment. Mr. Anderson was paralyzed in an accident while participating in an Ohio National Guard convoy in 1981. He was discharged as a sergeant in 1982.

Following this life altering experience, Frank became a strong advocate for disabled veterans' rights. He joined the Paralyzed Veterans' Buckeye Board in Ohio in 1985, and became the Advocacy Director in 1987. Mr. Anderson was also an active member of ADA Ohio Network, Greater Cleveland RTA Citizen's Advisory Board, Governor's Council on People with Disabilities, and was a trustee with the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. Frank was the 1st Vice President of the Joint Veterans Commission of Cuyahoga County and the Vice President of the Memorial Day Association of Greater Cleveland. Because of his tireless work he was awarded the Richard Fuller Outstanding Achievement in Government Relations Award in 2010.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Mr. Frank W. Anderson and his tireless work on behalf of Ohio's disabled veterans.

HONORING SPECIAL AGENT
DONALD WARE

HON. JOSEPH J. HECK

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

Mr. HECK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and sacrifice of Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent Donald Cleo Ware, a Nevadan who dedicated his life to protecting the public from the dangers and violence associated with illegal drugs.

Special Agent Ware began his career in law enforcement in 1967 with the Albuquerque Police Department in New Mexico. Soon after, he joined the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, an agency which later merged to become the Drug Enforcement Administration. Special Agent Ware served twenty-five years with the DEA, protecting the American people and bravely fighting to eliminate the scourge of dangerous drugs.

On June 9, 1975, while conducting an investigation of a heroin trafficking organization

in San Luis Rio Colorado, Mexico, Special Agent Ware and Special Agent Wilfred Stevenson were kidnapped on their way to a meeting with the drug traffickers. Both agents were badly beaten and searched for weapons, but the gangsters failed to discover a gun Special Agent Ware had hidden in his waistband.

Knowing their captors intended to kill them, Special Agents Ware and Stevenson made a desperate attempt to escape using the gun the drug traffickers had failed to find. However, both agents were shot during the escape attempt and were left for dead by their attackers. Both agents survived this harrowing ordeal, but Special Agent Ware's injuries were so serious that he remained hospitalized for the next six months.

The shooting that nearly took his life never changed Special Agent Ware's trademark humility and dedication to his job. Though Special Agent Ware qualified for full medical retirement, he instead chose to continue working for the DEA until his retirement in 1995. For his service, Special Agent Ware was awarded the DEA Medal of Valor and the DEA Purple Heart Award.

Don Ware died on October 12, 2004, due to complications during a surgery directly related to his injuries received in the line of duty. To honor his service and sacrifice, Special Agent Ware was memorialized on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial on May 12, 2011, and the DEA Wall of Honor on May 13, 2011.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the life and service of Special Agent Don Ware, a great Nevadan, a devoted husband and father, and a dedicated officer of the law. His legacy stands as an excellent example for the entire law enforcement community, and his service and sacrifice should always be remembered.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 26, 1995, when the last attempt at a balanced budget amendment passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 300-132, the national debt was \$4,801,405,175,294.28.

Today, it is \$15,343,504,866,785.66. We've added \$10,542,099,691,491.38 to our debt in 16 years. This is \$10 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN HONOR OF MARCIA GAMBRELL
HOVICK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Marcia Gambrell Hovick, who passed away on January 31, 2012 at the age of 89. Marcia's long life was devoted to the theater. Born in Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1922, she began taking ballet lessons at the age of

three, went on stage in children's theater at the age of four, and was playing piano when she was five. Right from the start, all who knew her recognized her talent.

Marcia graduated from Austin High School, in Austin, Texas. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Drama at Mills College in Oakland, California, and married Jack Hovick, a medical student. Jack became an obstetrician, and in 1956 they settled their growing family in Monterey, California. Together they had four children: Christopher, Nicholas, Kirsten, and Gwyneth, who preceded her in death.

Marcia soon was organizing a children's theater group, The Children's Experimental Theatre. Marcia said, "Children's theatre . . . is a truly awesome, transformational experience. It gives to children a kind of confidence, a location of themselves in the world, an ability to really notice each other, a feeling of mutual dependence and satisfaction."

Marcia wrote most of the plays she used in these productions. Many scripts available for children at the time were what she called "patronizing, simple-minded, phony." "What children are interested in," she said, "is truth. We can't always provide the truth, but at least we can give them a stab at it." She carried this exploration of truth forward in the monologues she wrote and performed herself, giving meaning to those women's lives. She also created the Traveling Troupe that brought theater into schools, and founded Staff Repertory Players.

Mr. Speaker, Marcia Gambrell Hovick was a teacher, director, actor, monologist, and writer. She touched many lives in her community, including my own daughter's, and was devoted to nurturing children and exploring truth through her art. It is a privilege and a high honor on behalf of her beloved community to recognize her life. She will be missed and I know I speak for the whole House in honoring the life of this dedicated and talented woman.

BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING
TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3581) to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to increase transparency in Federal budgeting, and for other purposes:

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Chair, yesterday I voted in support of H.R. 3581, the "Budget and Accounting Transparency Act of 2011," which passed through the House of Representatives by a vote of 245-180 and now awaits further consideration in the Senate. H.R. 3581 is a quality piece of legislation which requires the Federal Government to revise its policy of accounting for direct loans and loan guarantees by scoring these loans utilizing the market-based fair value method.

As further consideration is given to this bill, I urge my fellow colleagues to ensure that programs, such as the United States Department of Agriculture's Rural Utility Service loans, are not adversely affected by the legislation.