

order to ensure that every child is properly taken care in the eyes of both the law and the community, these volunteers provide judges with detailed information of a child's home life and legal situation to help judges better understand each and every child's unique story.

Among the many volunteers that help make CASA possible, three Texans have gone above and beyond what is expected, and they have been recognized for their extraordinary efforts. Rose DeRouen earned the Volunteer of the Year award for her selfless and extensive services for children. Judge Randy Shelton was recognized for his honorable services with the Big Voices for Little Texans Judge of the Year award, and Eleanor Johnson was the first ever recipient of the Joseph Gagen Leadership Award.

CASA and their advocates have done right by their community, and, most importantly, right by children in need. Their efforts have been an exemplary manifestation of American values in local communities, and Texas's 2nd congressional district is blessed to benefit from the work of these outstanding Americans.

And that's just the way it is.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OUT-
STANDING WORK OF OUTLOOK
NEBRASKA, INC.

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize—Outlook Nebraska, Incorporated—an organization that I've had the pleasure of visiting and seeing firsthand the positive impact they have in the lives of so many. This organization is part of the AbilityOne Program, which enables more than 50,000 Americans and 3,300 wounded warriors nationwide, who are blinded or severely disabled, to work and provide products and services to federal and commercial customers.

Today in America, seventy percent of blind and visually impaired working-aged adults are not employed. Opportunities provided by Outlook Nebraska and the AbilityOne Program have played an important role in bringing people with disabilities into the workforce. As one of Outlook's employees said to me, "They looked at me for my abilities—not my disability."

The AbilityOne Program affords Americans who are blind or disabled the opportunity to acquire job skills and training, receive good wages and benefits, and gain greater independence and a better quality of life. I applaud Outlook Nebraska and the work it does each day to open doors of opportunity for Americans who are blind or disabled.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 45TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE UNITED
PALACE CATHEDRAL

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, recognize, and celebrate the United

Palace Cathedral's 45th anniversary and 45 years of ministry's services to the community.

The United Palace Cathedral has been an important institution of the Northern Manhattan community with an esteemed reputation of devotion to our families and youth. The congregation has opened its doors, providing service and hope, to the poor, middle class and immigrant communities. The church has united the community and provided a welcoming place to practice the Christian faith.

United Church, under the leadership of our pastoral beloved founder REVEREND IKE, is a place of worship for thousands of people of various races, faiths, and social strata. It is also a classic, architecturally grand, international, inter-cultural Center for the Arts.

The square block United Building Complex, containing the Palace Auditorium, was purchased by the United Christian Evangelistic Association in 1969, under the direction of Dr. Frederick Eikerenkoetter ("Rev. Ike"), Founder and Pastor of the United Church. It fronts on four streets, occupying a full block on Broadway, 175th Street, and Wadsworth Avenue.

The building was the last of the "Wonder Theatres" erected between 1925 and 1930. These "Wonder Theatres" were so named because of their extravagant design and were placed in strategic areas of Manhattan. Intended as a stage theatre, it opened February 15th, 1930, and housed vaudeville shows for uptown residents. With the decline of vaudeville and the growing popularity of moving pictures, the theatre was quickly converted to a deluxe movie house and renamed Loew's 175th Street Theatre. The Church provides an impressive roster of youth programs ranging from tutoring classes for elementary to high school students to the Collegiate Society for the elder students. These programs have become vital in the fostering of young talent. United Palace has joined in a concerted community effort to keep our children off the streets by providing simulative, spiritual and cultural alternatives. The United Palace Cathedral demonstrates the power and fortitude of our community. Their congregation serves as a positive outcome produced by uniting in the face of adversity.

The United Palace Cathedral believes and affirms: The Omnipresence of God—God is absolute good, everywhere present—The Divinity of Humankind—The Power and Value of Thought—Practicing the Presence—The Law of Demonstration. Knowing the Ancient Wisdom Principles, Universal Law and the laws of life, also called Truth, is not enough, we must also live and practice the Truth we know. "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and God's righteousness; and all these things will be added unto you." (Matthew 6:33)

As a Spiritual and Multicultural Community, we: Believe that spiritual power lives within us, eager to be discovered and expressed; Emphasize universal spiritual principles and welcome people of all races, religion, social backgrounds, lifestyles and economic levels; View religion as an open-ended search for Truth rather than as a closed system of pre-established beliefs; Embrace Jesus Christ as the perfect expression of our own indwelling spiritual potential, and his teachings as a guide to our own spiritual empowerment; Recognize and embrace the importance of spiritual community in supporting and empowering our personal journey.

This parish has demonstrated the power and fortitude of community. They refused to

allow the loss of a physical space to destroy the bonds that they share with each other. The congregation serves as a beautiful portrayal of the positive outcome produced by uniting in the face of adversity.

I ask my colleagues and our Nation to join me in this special Congressional Recognition of the United Palace Cathedral as they celebrate the 45th anniversary and 45 years of spiritual service and strength in the face of Adversity.

KATHLEEN CALLENDER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kathleen Callender and Heather Callender-Potters for their service to our community and receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence.

Kathleen, founder of PharmaJet, and Heather, chairman of the board of directors, transformed the way vaccines and liquid medications are delivered by developing and marketing a unique, efficient, affordable and life-saving needle-free syringe. These devices can deliver half a milliliter fixed dose of a liquid medication into the muscle where many vaccines are delivered, or into the subcutaneous layer between the skin and the muscle.

PharmaJet continues to serve communities around the world by creating a safer workplace with less exposure to needle stick injuries and reducing the amount of hazardous sharp medical waste in a way to better control the spread of bloodborne HIV and hepatitis from needle reuse.

PharmaJet's mission is to serve individual patients in the community and promote public health in all areas of the world. Their partnership with UNICEF eliminates many of the risks of unsafe injections, along with the 1.3 million deaths per year.

Ms. Callender and Ms. Callender-Potters are champions in the community and throughout the globe. I am honored to congratulate them on receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence. I am sure they will exhibit the same dedication and commitment in all their future endeavors.

HONORING GRIFFIN AUTO REPAIR
SHOP

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable minority business, Griffin Auto Repair Shop, owned by Mr. Jerry Griffin. Throughout the years, Mr. Griffin has shown what can be done through hard work, setting goals, and aiming high.

Griffin Auto Repair Shop was sparked out of a need to survive. The owner, 51 year old Jerry Griffin, worked on a farm in Louise, Mississippi for nine years. He was promised a raise but his employer refused to honor that promise. At that point, Griffin asked that someone take him home, and he vowed to never to-return to that line of work again.

Mr. Griffin had held steadfast to the dream of owning his own business since he was a teenager. After leaving the job because of a failed promise for a raise, he found himself unemployed and married with two children. It was at this point he began to give his dream serious thought—an auto repair business. He was not exactly sure how to start or where to begin. Mr. Griffin said he was led by God to go to the bank and ask for a loan. Once there, he was informed that chances of him getting a loan were almost impossible since he was no longer employed nor did he have any kind of collateral. However, Mr. Griffin said the loan officer decided to “give him a chance” and grant him a loan for \$17,000 because he “looked like an honest man that would keep his word”. In 1998, Griffin obtained a small lot and built a building which would serve as his shop. He did not have any tools, so he began purchasing tools a few at a time.

Mr. Griffin relied on what he learned from books and what his grandfather taught him about working on cars. His first big job was the repair of an engine in which he earned \$600.00. As time went on, he gained more customers, and was able to buy more tools than he could imagine, which lead him to be an established self taught mechanic.

After his business grew, he decided to go to the bank to apply for a second loan in order to purchase a tow truck. This time, using his mother's land as collateral, he obtained an \$8,000 loan. He purchased a used tow truck for \$6,000 from a dealership in Greenwood, Mississippi and used the remaining \$2,000 to make necessary repairs to the truck. He was now an auto shop owner with his own tow service.

Now, fourteen years later, Griffin Auto Repair Shop is still a thriving business. Griffin credits the success and longevity of his business to it being “built and ran on faith” from its beginning to now. “I kept my word and provided fair prices and that kept me with good customers from all around and they've been good customers for many years, said Griffin.”

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Griffin Auto Repair Shop for its dedication and passion for serving its customers.

DHS ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2012

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5913, the “DHS Accountability Act of 2012,” which establishes an independent advisory panel in the legislative branch to: (1) comprehensively assess the management structure and capabilities related to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and (2) make recommendations to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of DHS management.

Moreover, the advisory panel is tasked with directing the panel to examine: (1) the efficiency and effectiveness of the management structure and capabilities (2) the extent to which unnecessary duplication exists in such management structure and capabilities and how any such duplication negatively affects

the mission of protecting the United States; (3) the extent to which management of key homeland security missions is centralized under DHS; (4) options to reduce or eliminate harmful waste and duplication of effort in DHS; and (5) measures to evaluate DHS's progress in reducing and eliminating waste and duplication from its management structure and capabilities.

As the Ranking Member of Homeland Security Subcommittee on Transportation, I am familiar with the challenges facing the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as the various agencies within the Department work to ensure the safety of all Americans. Like most other agencies, DHS and the agencies within it are facing budget cuts amidst the rising cost of ever present threats.

I want to recognize the outstanding work and progress that this body, in cooperation with the United States Senate and the executive branch, has made in learning from the events of 9/11. Together, we have taken steps toward the implementation of policies that have made our nation more secure from terrorism, including the creation of the Department of Homeland Security in 2002.

With over 200,000 employees and encompassing numerous agencies and various other components, DHS is the 3rd largest cabinet level department.

There were certain flaws in our security apparatus that failed us on 9/11 which include the lack of information-sharing between agencies charged with determining who should and should not be permitted to enter our borders, as well as friction and difficulties that resulted from some of the overlapping responsibilities of those agencies.

DHS was created to resolve some of those difficulties, and although it has made great strides, more work remains to be done.

The advisory panel created by the H.R. 5913 will be instrumental in assisting Congress and the Department of Homeland Security in achieving missions vital to America while trimming waste and improving its efficiency and efficacy.

It is essential that this Congress work in tandem with the Department of Homeland Security to ensure that the nation is protected from threats to our homeland. Because it will help to facilitate this important process, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5913, the “DHS Accountability Act of 2012.”

IN TRIBUTE TO VENTURA COUNTY'S LAW ENFORCEMENT

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to the dedicated and professional members of the law enforcement community with whom I have had the privilege to serve during my more than 30 years of public service.

It's impossible to name them all. When I was mayor of Simi Valley, California, I rode with patrol officers to see first-hand the challenges our men and women in uniform face on a daily basis. Those on the front lines of public safety deserve our enduring thanks and respect.

But over the years, I have established partnerships with certain extraordinary people, in-

cluding Ventura County District Attorneys Greg Totten and Mike Bradbury and Sheriffs Al Jalaty, John Gillespie, Larry Carpenter, and Bob Brooks.

Al Jalaty was Sheriff when I was first elected to the Simi Valley City Council. He set the standard for those to come after him, demanding compassion and common sense from those under his command. John Gillespie began the technological modernization of the department. Larry Carpenter helped lead the charge to change the California Constitution to ensure that the first function of government is to protect the public, and in passing a county ordinance to ensure proper funding. Bob Brooks continued to modernize the department, particularly after 9/11, and instituted Six Points of Honor that established the foundation for the department's core values.

I worked closely with each and every one of these distinguished lawmen to ensure they had support from the federal government to provide the tools and training necessary to keep Ventura County safe. But it was their dedication, service, and vision that has kept Ventura County ranked among the safest counties in the nation.

In addition to their role in prosecuting criminals, District Attorneys Mike Bradbury and Greg Totten are responsible for legislation I introduced that became federal law. Mike Bradbury was presented with a problem of prosecuting the makers of videos showing the killing of small animals. Because of jurisdictional issues, it was hard to prove a crime on a local level. I introduced a bill making the interstate distribution of such videos a federal crime. It sailed through the House and Senate and was signed by the President in December of 1999. Prior to it becoming law, about 3,000 different videos were sold over the Internet. The next day, virtually none were available.

Because of a 2004 law, DNA matches in cold cases skyrocketed, creating a huge backlog for prosecutors Greg Totten and I discussed the problem and I introduced a bill to provide federal grants to local prosecutors to help prosecute DNA cold cases. My bill was included in the Children's Safety Act of 2005 and signed into law the following year. Greg Totten not only tirelessly championed funding the grants, he also worked diligently to make the program a success. Consequently, murderers have paid for their crimes.

Mr. Speaker, public safety is the number one responsibility of government. I have been honored to know and work with dedicated law enforcement professionals who I believe are among the best in the nation. I am honored not only to call each of them District Attorney and Sheriff, but friend. I know my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Ventura County District Attorneys Greg Totten and Mike Bradbury and Sheriffs Al Jalaty, John Gillespie, Larry Carpenter, and Bob Brooks, and all those in law enforcement who make our communities safe.

DAN DWYER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dan Dwyer for