

to the U.S. Constitution, positive political action, and election reform.

Into the twentieth century and the present day, the legacy of the Union League includes an outstanding record of 150 years of civic, philanthropic, and cultural activities. Today, its 3,300 members continue to sustain the Union League and its ethos of patriotism and service.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring the Union League of Philadelphia for its 150 years of service to the city of Philadelphia and the Union.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT
COLONEL MAREN CALVERT

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Maren Calvert, who has worked in my office for the past year as a Defense Fellow. Lt. Col. Calvert started in my office last January and she has truly been a pleasure to have on the staff. Her law background coupled with her military experience has benefited the office tremendously. She offers a unique perspective, is always prepared, takes on any task and does it with a smile.

Lt. Col. Calvert is a Category A reservist and came to my office from the 701st Combat Operations Squadron (COS) detachment 1 at Hickam Air Force Base in Hawai'i where she served as the Deputy Commander. The 701 COS operates out of March Air Reserve Base, California which is located in my congressional district. The 701 COS provides trained, experienced Air Operations Center (AOC) warfighters primarily in support of 7th Air Force, the Combined AOC, and Commander of Air Force Forces at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. In her capacity as Deputy Commander, Lt. Col. Calvert provided expertise within the Operations, Plans and Strategy Divisions on the Law of Armed Conflict and Rules of Engagement. She advised the Commander on all legal issues, including military justice and civil law.

Lt. Col. Calvert was commissioned in 1993 from the Air Force Academy where she graduated with a Bachelors of Science degree in Humanities. She served on active duty through August 1998 and then obtained her law degree from the University of California, Los Angeles before joining the Air Force Reserve. In addition to her 701 COS assignment, Lt. Col. Calvert has served as the Chief of Health Services, 701 COS; Commander, Business Operations & Beneficiary Services, TRICARE, and Resource Management Flights; and as Squadron Section Commander. Lt. Col. Calvert has furthered her Air Force education, having completed the Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, and the Judge Advocate General Staff Office Course at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

As a civilian, Lt. Col. Calvert is a commercial litigation attorney at Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing in Honolulu, HI. Her practice is diversified, with experience in condominium law, real estate development, foreclosures, adversary proceedings in bankruptcy, and an emphasis in health law and health care compliance. She is

admitted to both the California and Hawai'i Bar.

During her time in the office she has focused her efforts on defense acquisition, TRICARE, basing issues, wildfire resource issues, Medicaid portability for military members with autistic children, and many other policy areas. She has been an invaluable resource to all my staff and I would also like to take this opportunity to thank her and her family—I know it was not easy to move across an ocean and a country to start a new life. To Jason, Braedon, and Teryn, thank you for supporting your wife and mom, she is an impressive lady. On behalf of everyone in the office, I would like to extend a heartfelt "Mahalo" to Lt. Col. Calvert for all her hard work and let her know that my office door is always open for Pau Hana!

COLONEL PETER J. BROOKS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2012

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, November 20, 2012, Colonel Peter J. Brooks wore the United States Army uniform for the very last time. After over 32 years of dedicated service to our nation, Pete has retired from our Armed Forces and will serve his last day with the South Carolina National Guard on December 31, 2012.

Colonel Brooks began his military service in September 1979, when he entered the Army ROTC/SMP at Valley Forge Military College in Wayne, Pennsylvania. Following graduation, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Armor branch in June 1981. Pete studied at the University of South Carolina for several years before attending officer basic course. In 1986, Colonel Brooks graduated from the University of New York where he studied political science and received a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Arts.

Since 1995, Colonel Brooks has worked in the public affairs department of the South Carolina National Guard and the Military Department of South Carolina. Due to his superb knowledge, he has more recently served as a senior advisor to the director of public affairs and strategic communications. Pete always worked extremely hard on behalf of the SCNG and has developed great working relationships with Congressional leaders and staffers, resulting in tremendous legislative support for the Soldiers and Airmen serving in the South Carolina National Guard. He also has served as a former president to the National Guard Association of South Carolina. Additionally, under Colonel Brooks' mentorship, the SCNG public affairs professionals earned awards from many different organizations including the National Guard Bureau, Air Force, Army, and Department of Defense. In 2009, due to Colonel Brooks' expertise, NORTHCOM/ARNOTH requested him by-name to support their communications programs.

Colonel Brooks also has worked with the University of South Carolina to develop a Media & the Military course in the university's School of Journalism and Mass Communications. This graduate-level course has helped approximately 100 recent graduates enter the public relations and journalism career fields

with a level of understanding of military operations that very few students ever achieve. Additionally, Colonel Brooks and his team of public affairs professionals, all of who have been deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan in recent years, served as guest lecturers and mentors for the students.

As a 31 year veteran of the South Carolina Army National Guard and with three sons currently serving in the Army National Guard, I am truly grateful of Colonel Pete Brooks and his selfless service to the United States Army. I wish him and his wife Laurie the best in the future and look forward to working with him throughout the Midlands community.

IMPORTANCE OF FEDERAL
INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2012

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, the importance of federal investment in research cannot be overemphasized. Our investment in research, including through the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Science Foundation, saves lives, improves health, and increases our understanding of the world that we live in. Grants to research institutions, including Northwestern University, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Loyola University in the Chicago metropolitan area, not only help to make medical progress but train our next generation of scientists.

Biomedical research funded by the National Institutes of Health has made a real difference in the health and lives of millions of Americans. The outcomes of those research efforts speak volumes. Anti-viral therapies for HIV have been developed that make it possible for HIV-infected individuals to live into their 70s and beyond as compared to a life expectancy of just months when the disease first appeared in the 1980s. New treatments and procedures have been developed for Age-Related Macular Degeneration that will allow hundreds of thousands of Americans to continue to have useful vision over the next five years. Researchers have identified a treatment that could reduce premature birth by 45 percent among at-risk women.

Public health research sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention helps us prevent and contain disease outbreaks. As we transition from a health care system focused on the treatment of disease to a system based on disease prevention, we will increasingly rely on public health research to identify new prevention techniques and interventions that help keep people healthy. For example, the CDC has established a research grant program to help develop and test new ways to combat healthcare-associated infections—infections that harm patients and increase health care costs. Through this initiative, the CDC awarded a grant to the Chicago Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Prevention Epicenter, a collaboration between the Cook County Health and Hospitals System and Rush University Medical Center, to research strategies for antimicrobial resistance and infection prevention.

The funding of basic research in fields such as chemistry, engineering, physics, and computers by the National Science Foundation

has led to discoveries and technological advances that have been truly revolutionary. NSF-funded researchers have decoded the genetics of viruses and created an entirely new state of matter. NSF-funded research is also enhancing our understanding of the link between brain health and overall human health.

These examples merely scratch the surface of federally-funded research discoveries and only hint at the promise of our continued investment in research. We can imagine the possibilities—a cure for HIV/AIDS, the elimination of health disparities, or the end of Alzheimer's disease. If we don't stop the sequester cuts, which include budget cuts of \$2.5 billion to NIH, \$586 million to NSF, and \$490 million to CDC, or any other cuts, these discoveries could be severely delayed or even worse never become reality. We can't allow that. We must avert these cuts and replace them with a balanced approach that continues our investment in research.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. EVELYN TURNER PUGH

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest appreciation to not only an outstanding public servant but an extraordinary banker and fiscal professional, Mrs. Evelyn Turner Pugh, Vice President of SunTrust Bank and Mayor Pro Tem of Columbus, Georgia, upon her retirement this year from SunTrust Bank. Retirement celebrations will be held on Friday, November 30, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. at SunTrust Bank in Columbus and at 7:00 p.m. at The Benning Club at Fort Benning, Georgia.

A Columbus, Georgia native, Mrs. Pugh received an Associate's degree in Secretarial Science, a Bachelor's in Management/Accounting and an MBA in Business Administration from Columbus College before it was known as Columbus State University.

Beginning her career as a secretary at Columbus College and Progressive Funeral Home, Mrs. Pugh rose quickly through the ranks, holding a number of positions ranging from entry-level to managerial at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia across the span of thirty years.

In 1999, Mrs. Pugh was appointed Vice President of SunTrust Bank, West Georgia, the position she still holds today. In addition, Mrs. Pugh also serves as City Councilor—Post 4 and in 2007, was elected Mayor Pro Tem of Columbus Consolidated Government.

Due to her strong leadership and dedication to public service, Mrs. Pugh was appointed by former Governor Zell Miller to the Georgia Policy Council on Children and Families in 1995; the University of Georgia Carl Vinson Institute of Government Advisory Committee in 1995; and the Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse (MHMRSA) Funding Study Committee in 1998.

Mrs. Pugh was also appointed Chair of the National League of Cities' Public Safety & Crime Prevention Steering Committee in 1996, where she worked with former U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno and the U.S. Department

of Justice to increase the flexibility in the use of grants from Community Oriented Policing Services, COPS.

Moreover, Mrs. Pugh was elected as Georgia Chair of Women in Municipal Government in 1995 and President of the Georgia Municipal Association in 1999. She was appointed to the Georgia Public Defenders Council by former Lieutenant Governor Mark Taylor. She has also served on the Board of Directors and Advisory Council of the National League of Cities.

In conjunction with her professional accomplishments, Mrs. Pugh has served on a number of boards including the Board of Directors for Girls, Inc., St. Francis Hospital, Columbus Technical College, Columbus Housing Initiative, Liberty Theatre, and Muscogee Educational Excellence Foundation. She is also a member of the Columbus Chapter of The Links, Inc. and the Columbus Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and has served as President, Treasurer, and Financial Secretary, among other roles, continuing the sorority's tradition of far-reaching service to the community. In addition, she has been awarded the Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Award, among other distinguished honors. Former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm once said that, "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Mrs. Pugh has paid her rent and she has paid it well.

Mrs. Pugh has accomplished many things in her life but none of this would have been possible without the enduring love and support of her husband Reginald; children Marcus, Maurice, Tajuana, Talender and Reggie; daughters-in-law Tasha and April; and grandchildren Lincoln, Lyric, Makaylah, Imani, Caleb, Taylor, McKenzie, Jaylon, Kennedy and Regan.

The great agricultural chemist George Washington Carver once said, "It is not the style of clothes one wears, neither the kind of automobile one drives, nor the amount of money one has in the bank, that counts. These mean nothing. It is simply service that measures success." By any measure, Evelyn Turner Pugh has been successful because of her service to humankind.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the almost 700,000 people in the 2nd Congressional District of Georgia, in paying tribute to Mrs. Evelyn Turner Pugh upon her retirement from SunTrust Bank, while she continues her exemplary service to the Columbus, Georgia community.

RECOGNIZING MALAWI PRESIDENT JOYCE BANDA ON BEING NAMED A "TOP 100 GLOBAL THINKER" BY FOREIGN POLICY

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2012

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year I congratulated Joyce Banda on becoming the first female President of the Republic of Malawi. In her first 100 days, President Banda amassed an impressive list of accomplishments including securing Millennium Challenge Corporation investments, pledges for more support from USAID and strengthening

Malawi's commitment to democracy. President Banda has now been named by Foreign Policy magazine a 2012 "Top 100 Global Thinker," being accredited for "stepping in—and up—to fix a broken country." I congratulate President Joyce Banda on this most recent acknowledgement of her success. Submitted here is the text of her prestigious recognition:

When Malawian President Bingu wa Mutharika died of a heart attack in April, it wasn't immediately clear what would become of his vice president, Joyce Banda. The two had fallen out in recent years, with the increasingly autocratic president booting Banda from his political party in 2010. Even Mutharika's wife publicly derided the smalltown veep—a longtime grassroots advocate for women, children, and the poor—scoffing, "She will never be president. How can a mandazi [fritter] seller be president?" After a tense two days in the wake of Mutharika's death, however, Banda proved the first lady wrong, becoming Africa's second-ever female president.

Governing Malawi—where an estimated 75 percent of its more than 15 million residents live on \$1 or less a day—presents enormous challenges, to be sure. But in just seven months Banda has largely thrown out her predecessor's playbook, showing the world how to take charge and work to turn around a troubled country. Within days of taking office, she dismissed key members of Mutharika's administration, including the police chief in power when 19 Malawian demonstrators were killed at a 2011 opposition rally, and in May, amid rising persecution of gays in Africa, she vowed to repeal Malawi's laws against homosexuality. By devaluing the Malawian currency by more than a third, a move Mutharika had long refused despite the IMF's urging, Banda also secured a much-needed \$157 million IMF loan in June—a first step toward rebuilding Malawi's debilitated economy.

Her work is cut out for her. So far, however, all signs suggest Banda could become a new model for African leadership—shedding the strongman syndrome and getting down to business to help the poor. To prove it, she has cut her own salary by 30 percent and put her predecessor's \$12 million presidential jet and most of his fleet of 60 luxury cars up for sale. "I can as well use private airlines," she said. "I am already used to hitchhiking." But it's more than that: "I must demonstrate to Malawians that we are in this together," she explained to Al Jazeera. "I must be the first person to set an example." For Malawi, and the world over.

IN RECOGNITION OF JIMMY AND CHRIS PURSELL WINNERS OF AUBURN UNIVERSITY'S LIFE- TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend members of an outstanding family who have spent their lives building successful businesses and giving back to their community. Jimmy and Chris Pursell started Pursell Technologies, Pursell Farms and FarmLinks all located in or around Talladega County in Alabama.

Jimmy Pursell grew up in Talladega, Alabama and graduated from Auburn University in 1952. In 1953, Jimmy married Chris Parker of Sylacauga, Alabama. Jimmy spent four