

otherwise had to close their doors, to ensure the safety of their employees and the environment alike. Sustainable and environmentally-conscious practices have been a top priority for LTE since its foundation. Certainly, without companies like LTE, the citizens of Colorado would not be able to enjoy the beautiful lands we have all come to know and love.

The list of awards and recognitions received by LTE serves as a testament to the ongoing successes of LTE. Most notably, the company is the recent recipient of the both the 2012 Top Company award and the 2012 Colorado Company to Watch. It has also been recognized by Colorado Biz Magazine as one of the top ten fastest growing private midsize companies in Denver.

I am very proud to have the LTE headquarters located in Arvada, Colorado. LTE continues to expand its outreach into all areas of Colorado, as well as New Mexico, Wyoming, Idaho, Utah and Florida. I can confidently say that my colleagues here today will soon observe the benefits of having LTE serve in their communities.

Mr. Speaker, the commitment of LT Environmental to the people, businesses and lands of Colorado serves as an example to those in the environment, and throughout all areas of commerce. It is with great pride and admiration that I am able to briefly speak on the triumphs of LT Environmental. I am certain the effects of their service will continue to benefit our communities for decades to come.

CONGRATULATING BENJAMIN  
STRALEY

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 4, 2012*

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Benjamin Straley on being named Assistant Organist at the National Cathedral in Washington D.C. His dedication to sacred music and continued education is truly remarkable. Today, Mr. Straley holds his position on the incredible music staff at the National Cathedral and shares playing responsibilities with two other organists.

Mr. Straley is an Ohio native from the 15th Congressional District, and he has proven to be one of the top organists in the nation. A recent graduate of Yale University, Mr. Straley studied sacred music and theological education and earned many awards and recognitions. Included among his many accomplishments is the Baker Prize, a prize awarded to incoming organ students at Yale deemed to be in the top one or two percent of young organists in the country. Mr. Straley was also one of the few Americans in the entire history of the Haarlem Organ Festival invited to compete in its prestigious improvisation contest.

I would again like to congratulate Benjamin Straley on being named Assistant Organist at the National Cathedral. The people of Ohio's 15th District are dedicated, hardworking people, and Mr. Straley's accomplishments make me proud to represent the 15th District in Congress.

HONORING SOLANO COUNTY  
SUPERVISOR BARBARA KONDYLIS

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 4, 2012*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Congressman MIKE THOMPSON, to recognize the many accomplishments of Solano County Supervisor Barbara Kondylis as she retires after twenty years of distinguished service on the Solano County Board of Supervisors.

Barbara as born in Seymour, Indiana, and raised in Port Jefferson on Long Island, NY. In 1969, Barbara moved to Vallejo with her husband Gabriel. Barbara completed her education in the Bay Area, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration from the University of San Francisco and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from California State University, Hayward.

Barbara won a Vallejo City Council seat in 1979 and served for nine years. She then turned her attention to the Solano County Board of Supervisors, winning the seat in 1992. Barbara was motivated to run because she was concerned about government process and land use decisions that threatened Solano County's environment, as well as the plight of women and children, particularly issues of family violence, poverty, and family planning.

Barbara has accomplished much on behalf of Solano County's children and families. She established the Office and Family Violence Prevention, the Family Justice Center, and Baby Coach, an innovative program to ensure good outcomes for high risk mothers and their babies. Barbara also successfully promoted AB 2010, which passed the California Legislature, allowing Solano County to charge Vital Records Fees, increasing revenue \$80,000 a year directed to reduce family violence. She helped implement Court Appointed Special Advocates who have helped hundreds of children going through dependency court. Barbara also proposed and initiated "Smile in Style" which provided dental screenings and other services to thousands of elementary school children, allowing many to get emergency dental care.

During her long career, Barbara has served on many local and regional boards including the Solano County Water Authority, City-County Coordinating Committee, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, Mare Island Re-Use Committee, Health and Social Services Sub-Committee, Tri City-County JPA for Agriculture Lands and Open Space Preservation, Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District Board, Vallejo Justice Committee, California State Association of Counties Board of Directors and Executive Committee, Solano County Children and Families First Commission, Baby First Solano, Association of Bay Area Government Board, Delta Protection Commission, and California State Association of Counties Condition of Children Taskforce.

Mr. Speaker, we invite this chamber to join us in honoring Supervisor Barbara Kondylis for her tireless and dedicated service to the people of Solano County. We also join her family, colleagues, and friends in congratulating her on a successful and fulfilling career as an elected official and wish her the very best in her future endeavors.

HONORING DENNIS ROTH ON THE  
OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT  
FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RE-  
SEARCH SERVICE

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 4, 2012*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the outstanding career of a dedicated public servant from the Congressional Research Service, Dennis Roth. Mr. Roth is retiring in January after 42 years of public service.

Mr. Roth came to the Congressional Research Service in 1976 as a labor economist, working in what was the CRS Economics Division. Mr. Roth rose steadily through the ranks, becoming one of that division's first section heads. During this time, Mr. Roth worked closely with Members of both houses of Congress and their staff, providing valuable research and analysis for one of the era's landmark pieces of legislation, the Humphries-Hawkins Full Employment Act. Among its provisions, the Act set national goals for full employment and mandated that the Federal Reserve establish policies that not only controlled inflation, but also encouraged long-term economic growth and price stability; a mandate that guides the Federal Reserve to this day as it navigates the troubled economic environment in which we currently find ourselves.

In the 1980's, while maintaining his workload as a labor economist at CRS, Mr. Roth became active in the Congressional Research Employees Association (CREA). In 1986, Mr. Roth ran for President of the Association, but lost on his first try. He ran again in 1987, and this time he won. The employees at CRS demonstrated their confidence in his stewardship by returning him to office each year since. For 25 years, Mr. Roth has been a tireless advocate for the rights, goals, and aspirations of all employees at the Congressional Research Service. In his spare time, he has also been active in the Federal Caucus of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (the IFPTE), with which CREA is affiliated, and which represents a broad segment of the federal workforce. In 1990, Mr. Roth was elected IFPTE Eastern Federal Area Vice President, a position in which he served until July of 1997. He was also elected as Executive Vice President of IFPTE in 1994 and served until July 1997.

Mr. Roth grew up outside Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Antioch College in 1968. He immediately joined the Peace Corps, serving in Catanduanes in the Philippine Republic where he taught math and worked in the areas of economic and agricultural development. In fact, Mr. Roth met his wife-to-be Daisy while he was a Peace Corps volunteer. The two wed and, at the end of his Peace Corps tour, they returned to the States, where Mr. Roth attended the University of California, Berkeley and completed the academic requirements for a Ph.D. in Economics. Before coming to CRS, Mr. Roth also served in the Department of Labor, working as an economist for the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Evaluation, and Research. Mr. and Mrs. Roth have two grown children, Jessica and Benjamin.

As Ranking Member of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee, I take great pride in all of the outstanding people

who choose to work for this august body and help us do our jobs better. On behalf of my colleagues, I congratulate Mr. Roth on his many years of exceptional service to this Congress, to the people of the United States, and the employees of the Congressional Research Service; and as a fellow Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, I thank him for his service to the people of Catanduanes Island. He epitomizes the highest ideals of public service. We wish him all the best.

THE PASSING OF MR. LOWELL O.  
SCHUSTER

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 4, 2012*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I come before the House with a heavy heart to express my condolences and pay tribute to Mr. Lowell O. Schuster a beloved Virgin Islander, loving husband, devoted father, veteran, teacher, businessman, community leader and very dear friend.

Lowell Schuster was born in Christiansted, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, on November 12, 1928 to Mr. Eugene and Mrs. Enid Schuster of Christiansted, St. Croix. Mr. Schuster attended St. Mary's Catholic School and The Christiansted High School. After graduation from high school, he enrolled at Howard University in Washington, DC, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology. While attending Howard University he entered the Reserve Officers' Training Corps. Following his graduation from Howard University, he entered the United States Army as an officer with the rank of Second Lieutenant.

Mr. Schuster had a distinguished military career. He was stationed in Germany where he bravely served during the Cold War. On May 9, 1955, he was promoted to First Lieutenant of the United States Army and was granted Top Security clearance. He became Infantry Unit Commander and led the troops on daily patrols along the West Germany-East Germany border. On November 26, 1958, Mr. Schuster was granted an Honorable Discharge. In recognition of his military service, he received the National Defense Service Medal. Mr. Schuster continued his service to our Nation by entering the Army Reserves where he was promoted to Captain. He also became active with the U.S. Virgin Islands National Guard. He was honorably discharged from the United States Army Reserves on February 10, 1969.

During his tenure in the Reserves, Mr. Schuster began his second career as a teacher at the Christiansted High School. He again distinguished himself as an educator and within a short period of time was promoted to Assistant Principal and later became Acting Principal. After his father became ill, he resigned from his position to enter the world of business, taking over the operations of Schuster's Services, the largest fully integrated water company in the Virgin Islands. He further expanded the business to include the bottling of water and named it Blue Mountain Water, now Blue Mountain Purified Water, LLC.

These water companies were Mr. Schuster's pride and joy. He looked forward to going to the office every morning, working tirelessly, and returning home to his family. Blue Mountain Purified Water, LLC remains the first bottled water company in the Virgin Islands and the largest of its kind on St. Croix. Schuster's Services is one of the oldest businesses in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Of all of his accomplishments, his greatest was being a devoted husband and father. Mr. Schuster married the love of his life and high school sweetheart, Rita M. de Chabert, after entering the armed services. They started their family while he was stationed in Germany. Mr. Schuster and his wife were married for 58 years and raised 4 children—Gregory, Janine, Kenneth and Troy. They are the proud grandparents of three grandchildren.

On behalf of my family, staff and the Congress of the United States, I extend our sincere condolences and want the family to know that our thoughts and prayers are with them as we mourn the passing of a great man. We cannot replace Lowell but we will attempt to improve our lives and live our lives as demonstrated by his great example.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 4, 2012*

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from votes in the House last Friday (November 30th) due to a family funeral and missed rollcall votes 612–613. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on rollcall vote 612 (motion to recommit H.R. 6429, the STEM Jobs Act) and “no” on rollcall vote 613 (final passage of H.R. 6429).

HONORING UNITED STATES ARMY  
VETERANS

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 4, 2012*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor our veterans.

There are no words that can express the gratitude that the American people owe all of the men and who choose to serve the United States of America in the armed services. We are all humbled by the sacrifice they make—knowingly putting themselves in harm's way while also leaving loved ones behind. This commitment is the mark of America's finest citizens and those who answer to a higher calling. I would like to recognize, from the Army:

Mona Figueroa, Julie Chery, Amaury Acosta, Delawrence Blue, Pedro David Lanza, Jimmy Moises Palma, Edwin Garcia Llauger, Dejongh Oscar, Evette Linda Phillips, Virgil A. Lacey, Norman Cooper, William Berrios, James Hosley, Charles Henry Green, Daniel Shannon, Franklin D. Mack, Alfred E. Glass, Cleotha Brown, Thomas George Darden,

Ishmnel Cash Rolle, Jr., John Steele, Bobby White, Andrew D. Reid, Neville Solomon Shorter, Richard A. Love, Jr., Rufus Lester, Hector Ramirez, Paul Murray, Alexander Flowers, Eulas C. Mitchell, Jr., Jeffrey Smith, Reinnier Ray Santos, Sunil Mittoo, Trenton A. Brewton, Travis D. Small, Bernard Carr, Michael D. Beebe, George Hill, Robert Foster, Wilfred Bedeau, Derrill Clayton White, Hector E. Valle Acosta, Alex Esteban White, Tan S. Eward, Jeffrey Allen Cooper, Robert Brown, Mose McClain, Alejandro Suarez, James Henry Sconiers, Murray Lanard, Milto N. Smith, Tomas M. Rodriguez, Rutheven Williams, Roscoe Shannon, James L. Struchins, Tommy Fortner, Jr., Elizabeth Fequiere, Andrew Nesbitt, Paul M. Wellons, Samuel C. Rhoden, Cedric Halyard, Alvin Chambers, Shirlene Ann Lassiter, Jerome Williams, Hugh H. Hood, Jared M. Dawson, Charles F. Johnson, Jr., John A. Cooper, Israel Santiago, Deoraj Ramsaran, Willie L. Thompson, Michelle R. Forbes-Brown, Benjamin B. Cowins, Sr., Rufus Curry, Jr., Michel Pellerin, Craig Coney, Abe Stein, Phillip A. Johnson, Claude Evans Adside, Jr., Debra Reed, George A. Stewart, John Garrison, Ronald Maycok, Charles Markx, Walter Hardemon, Corey Cornell Butler, Willie Brinson, Willie Thomas, Edwin Bain, Herman Williams, Albert Sturrip, Dan Brand, Jerry Williams, Esme Bain, James C. Smith, Raymond Burke, John Donald Pace, Jr., Derrick Andrea Porter, Patricia Ann Barber, James E. Johnson, Diana M. Gilliam, Carla Horne, Beatrice E. McIver, Winifred D. Browne, Evette Linda Phillips, Charlie Reid, John Williams, Simuel Williams Jr, Maurice Ratliff, Michael Johnson, Santwan Williams, Hector Rivera, Nathan Johnson, Jose Morales, Alphonso Giles, Beverly Bethel, John Riley, Karen Boyd, Edgar Childs, Virgil Lacey, Frank Rawlerson, Mariano Cruz, John Zeigler, Melissa Billingsley, Evette Phillips, George Stanley, Namon J. Gilbert Jr. Glen R. George, Allyn McKinney, Charles Green, Roger Hibard, Seitu Muhammad Kokavi, Shirl Cornwall, Richard Mason, Peter James Kendrick, Charles Mack, Ronald Maycok, John Garrison, Norman Kight, Henry Picket, Willie Thang, April Barnes, Thaddeus Pinkney, John Wallace, Walter Hodge, Luther Benjamin Smith, Charmaine Rolle, Allison Bullard, Timothy Forbes Sr., Sam Lattimore, Edilberto Martinez, Phillip Moncur, Vernetta Berry Richardson, Wilfred Bedeau, Wesly Frazier, Darrell Morgan, Roland James, Henry Elam, Alfred Gordon, Peter James Kendrick, Louis Tyler, Karen A. Boyd, Frederick Edwards, Johnnie Nesmith;

Finally, it is not our tanks, weapons or machinery that make the United States Armed Forces the best military in the world. It is our young men and women who serve professionally with honor and distinction. If not for these exemplary citizens, freedom and the American way of life would not be safe and secure. For these sacrifices, we respect and should commend their service everyday of the year. Congress has designated, November 11th 2012 as the official day showing our gratitude.

Please join me in honoring these American heroes for their bravery and sacrifice in defense of this great nation.