

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 Bedreau, 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, Milton 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 Maycock, 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, Samuel 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 Maycock, John Garrison, Norman Kight, Henry Picket, Willie Thang, April Barnes, Thaddeus Pinkney, John Wallace, Walter Hodge, Luther Benjamin Smith, Charmaine Rolle, Alison Bullard, Timothy Forbes Sr., Sam Lattimore, Edilberto Martinez, Phillip Moncur, Vernetta Berry Richardson, Wilfred Bedreau, 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.

CONGRATULATING THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS ON ITS PRESIDENCY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2012

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the Republic of Cyprus as its first six-month rotation of the European Union Presidency comes to a close. The EU Presidency is a significant event in the history of this nation with which the United States has such a close relationship.

This small, but vigorous country has overseen a number of historic events during its tenure in the Presidency. Most notably, the EU approved a new round of sanctions against Iran. These sanctions are the toughest measures imposed by the EU to date and target Iran's nuclear and ballistic missile program. The sanctions ban financial transactions, prohibit the export to Iran of materials that could be used for its nuclear and ballistic program, ban the importation of natural gas from Iran, and impose an asset freeze and travel ban on 34 additional Iranian entities reportedly providing financial support to the Iranian government. I would like to congratulate the Republic of Cyprus for overseeing the enactment of these sanctions as they will work in tandem with the strong US sanctions imposed against Iran. This is a critically important step that will help to keep the rulers of Iran from fulfilling their quest for nuclear weapons. Furthermore, it will help to ensure the security of our strongest ally in the region, Israel, by maintaining regional stability. Again, I extend my sincere congratulations to the Republic of Cyprus on a successful EU Presidency.

DR. FREDERICK L. GROVER, MD

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dr. Frederick Grover for his service to our community.

After serving in the Navy, Dr. Grover diligently worked to ensure the future of cardiothoracic medicine. Throughout his career, Dr. Grover trained and mentored over 39 thoracic surgery residents. As the Chair of the Department of Surgery at the University Colorado School of Medicine, Dr. Grover preserved the success of our medical communities for generations to come. Dr. Grover's selfless devotion to his students provided an exemplary standard of service.

Dr. Grover's continual efforts in aiding the men and women whom served our nation are undoubtedly worth the upmost gratitude. For 12 years, Dr. Grover dedicated himself as the Chief of Surgical Services at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Denver. During this time, Dr. Grover pioneered the VA Cardiac Surgery Database as the Medical Director of the Continuous Improvement. It is his daily endeavors, as well as promotion of future medicines, that exemplify the level of service Dr. Grover continues to emulate.

Dr. Grover distinguishes himself as a caring member of the community by striving to aid

numerous professional organizations. Whether it is his advocacy through the formation of healthcare policy at the national level, or serving as President of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, Dr. Grover is truly a remarkable member of our community.

Dr. Grover's commitment to enriching the community serves as a great example to those in medicine, and throughout all disciplines. It is with great pride and admiration that I am able to briefly speak on the successes of Dr. Frederick Grover. I am certain the effects of his service will continue to benefit our communities in Colorado for decades to come.

RECOGNIZING CENTRAL SERVICE TECHNICIANS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Central Service Technicians.

Central Service Technicians are responsible for processing surgical instruments, supplies and equipment, and serve in settings ranging from hospitals to ambulatory surgical centers throughout the country.

These individuals provide support to patient care services and are tasked with ensuring supplies needed for patient care are decontaminated, cleaned, assembled, and sterilized.

The Central Sterile Supply Department of a health care facility is the heart of all activity surrounding instruments, supplies and equipment required for operating rooms, Endoscopy suites, Intensive Care Units, birth centers and other patient care areas.

Central Service Technicians play an important role in patient care arenas, and are responsible for first-line processes to prevent patient infections.

Mr. Speaker, Central Service Technicians are instrumental to patient safety and I am honored to recognize their vital role in the health care arena.

IN HONOR OF THOMAS MCKENNON "KEN" SHEA

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2012

Mr. ROSS of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Thomas McKennon "Ken" Shea, a life-long resident of Dumas, Arkansas, who passed away at the age of 58 on November 29, 2012. Ken was born on August 9, 1954 in Dumas, Arkansas and I would like to recognize his life and achievements.

Raised in Dumas, Arkansas, Ken attended Dumas High School and earned a bachelor's degree from Louisiana State University, where he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity. Ken returned to Dumas after graduating from LSU to become associated with his father at McKennon Implement Co. Inc, the family's John Deere farm equipment dealership, and served as president and sales manager there while helping to oversee his family's farming interests. Following the sale of the McKennon

dealerships Arkansas Ag in 2011, he was Location Manager for Arkansas Ag in McGehee. He was a past president of the Southeast Equipment Dealers Association.

Ken led an exemplary life and was extremely active in many different capacities. He was past president of the Dumas Chamber of Commerce, Dumas Lions Club, and Walnut Lake Country Club Board. He served as chairman of the Dumas Airport Commission, on the Chicot-Desha Metropolitan Port Authority (Yellow Bend Port) and on the Dumas School Board. He represented the Dumas area on the Southeast Arkansas Levee District Board and had been a member of the AgHeritage Farm Credit Services Board of Directors since 1993. Ken was chosen as the Ding Dong Daddy of Dumas for 1996 and was named Dumas Lions Club Man of the Year in 1993, the same year his wife Debbie was honored as Woman of the Year at the annual Dumas Chamber of Commerce banquet.

Ken was also very active at the First United Methodist Church where he served as past chairman of the Administrative Board, a member of the governing council, and a Sunday School teacher.

Leading by example through a lifetime of dedication, community service, and commitment to agriculture, Ken has left an undeniable mark on the Desha County community. Dumas is a better place, more cohesive community because of Ken Shea and he will be deeply missed. My heartfelt condolences are with his wife of 35 years, Debbie; his son, the Rev. Thomas McKennon Shea Jr. and wife Anna Collins Shea; his daughter, Sarah Helen Shea Studebaker and husband Peyton Mills Studebaker; his brother, William Warrick "Bill" Shea; his sister, Anne Shea Carroll; and his two grandchildren, Jackson Reade Studebaker and Thomas McKennon "Mac" Shea, III. While Ken may no longer be with us, his spirit will live on forever in the lives he touched.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,338,092,943,716.61. We've added \$5,711,215,894,803.53 to our debt in nearly 4 years. This is \$5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

TRIBUTE TO TOM VICINI

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, Tom Vicini, for his tremendous leadership and tireless dedication to inspire young people in southern and eastern Kentucky live a drug-free life.