

the president of Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana. Also honored were the Chanute Prize team recipients, the Center for Innovation through Visualization and Simulation of Purdue University Calumet and "S-in motion," ArcelorMittal Global R&D Center, East Chicago. For their truly remarkable contributions to the community of Northwest Indiana and their continuous efforts to cultivate a culture of innovation, these honorees were inducted during a prestigious event that took place at the Horseshoe Casino in Hammond, Indiana, on October 18, 2012.

The Society of Innovators of Northwest Indiana was created by Chancellor J. Guadalupe Valtierra of Ivy Tech Northwest with the goal of highlighting and encouraging innovative individuals and groups within the not-for-profit, public, and private sectors, as well as building a "culture of innovation" in Northwest Indiana. The importance of innovation in Northwest Indiana, as well as globally, is crucial in today's ever-changing economy.

These five Fellows selected by the Society of Innovators were chosen for their extraordinary innovative leadership and the impact of their accomplishments throughout the community of Northwest Indiana and the world. Eugene S. Smotkin, Ph.D. is a professor of Chemistry at Northwestern University and the Chief Executive Officer of NuVant Systems, Incorporated in Crown Point. NuVant develops and distributes electrochemical equipment and materials for the research and development, manufacturing, and educational markets. Pearl Prince is the principal of Frankie Woods McCullough Girls Academy in Gary, the city's first public all girls school for kindergarten through seventh grade students. Pearl developed and implemented an educational model that has led the academy to become an award winning elementary school for students from low income areas. Olga Petryszyn was named one of the top hosta plant hybridizers in the United States. Since 1993, she has registered twenty-four hosta plants with twenty-two varieties commercialized. In 2012, the world famous "Niagara Falls" variety was honored by the American Hosta Society. Gus Olympidis, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Family Express, developed a nationally recognized business model that measures up to global competitors. The business model includes the "Living Brand" for customer service, innovative logistics, and state-of-the-art technology linking the 57 stores to their headquarters in Valparaiso. Neal Haskell, Ph.D., Saint Joseph College, Rensselaer, is one of the foremost scientists of forensic entomology in the world. Using his expertise of the life cycles of insects to determine time and location of death in criminal cases, Dr. Haskell is a pioneer and truly an innovative leader. He has assisted the FBI, Indiana State Police, New York State Police, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and Canada's Office of the Chief Coroner, among others, with criminal cases across the county and throughout the world.

I am also honored to represent Gregg A. VanDusseldorp Sr., who was awarded the Gerald I. Lamkin Fellow for Innovation and Service. Gregg is the President of Omnitech Systems, Incorporated in Valparaiso, Indiana. Gregg founded this medical device company that has developed products to assist with surgeries associated with urology and gynecology. He currently holds eight patents for products that are used by surgeons worldwide.

Finally, the recipients of the Chanute Prize for Team Innovation should be commended for their contributions. The Center for Innovation through Visualization and Simulation of Purdue University Calumet has been able to save more than \$30 million dollars for local business, industry, and communities by implementing its modeling, visualization and simulation technologies, researchers. Additionally, "S-in motion" is a revolutionary concept of designing lighter and safer automobiles utilizing new steel products that was created with the assistance of ArcelorMittal Global R&D Center in East Chicago. This innovative program works to create steel for automobiles that reduces the weight of vehicles in order to meet higher fuel standards and to guarantee the use of steel in automobiles in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending these outstanding innovators. The contributions they have made to society, here in Northwest Indiana and worldwide, are immeasurable and lifelong. For their truly brilliant innovative ideas, projects, and leadership, each recipient is worthy of the highest commendation.

CONGRATULATING MS. DEBORAH WASYLIK, RECIPIENT OF THE 2012 RICHARD C. BARTLETT ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARD

### HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Ms. Deborah Wasylik of Orlando, Florida on being named the recipient of the 2012 Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award. This annual award is presented to an outstanding middle or high school teacher who integrates environmental studies in their curriculum and engages students in interdisciplinary solutions to environmental challenges.

Ms. Wasylik teaches Advanced Placement Environmental Science and Marine Science to juniors and seniors at Dr. Phillips High School. In spite of not having a science budget and having to construct curriculum on her own, not only have her students on average scored over thirty points above the national average on their Advanced Placement exams, but they also hold the highest Advanced Placement passing rate in Orange County Public Schools. Ms. Wasylik succeeds in engaging her students, as well as her fellow colleagues, in environmental studies by integrating environmental education across subject areas beyond science, including history, language arts and mathematics. Her reinforcement of student learning facilitates students making real world and local connections associated with environmental issues.

In addition to their academic successes, her students have excelled significantly in achievements beyond the traditional classroom. Her students started a recycling program for Dr. Phillips High School's campus and created an outreach program to educate other school groups on aquaponics. With Ms. Wasylik's help, her students have been able to give back to their community in various ways in-

cluding cleaning up beaches, removing invasive plants, and giving tours of the ecosystem section at the Orlando Science Center.

Her spirit of dedication and commitment to her students is an example of the life-changing impact a dedicated educator can have on a community and on the individual lives of students. She is a shining example of the fruits of selflessness demonstrated by educators who devote themselves to Florida's future by investing in Florida's students.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am pleased to recognize and applaud Ms. Deborah Wasylik for her hard work, dedication, and leadership. She is most deserving of the 2012 Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award. May her investment in our nation's students, environment and educational institutions inspire others to follow in her footsteps.

### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 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 \$16,370,056,245,929.64. We've added \$5,743,179,197,016.56 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.

### COMMEMORATING THE CITY OF SOUTHFIELD

### HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the City of Southfield, and thank the residents of Southfield who have provided me with the honor of representing them in Congress for 30 years. My beloved late wife, Vicki and I, called Southfield our home when I was first elected to Congress, and our Congressional office was based there for many years. I have been proud to see the fabric of this community diversify racially and to watch it develop economically.

Historically, when Governor Cass first ordered the area in the "south fields" of Bloomfield Township surveyed in 1817, he could not have guessed at the fine city it would become. Though it became a township in 1830, it wasn't until 1958, over 100 years later, that Southfield would formally incorporate into a city.

Southfield has earned its moniker, "The Center of It All." Strong neighborhoods. Good schools. Manufacturing. Office high-rises which house more than 100 Fortune 500 companies. And, a deep sense of community and friendship.

I have enjoyed participating in so many activities and events like the annual Dr. Martin

Luther King Day peace walk and commemoration, ceremonies at the VFW, activities sponsored by your schools and your strong and vibrant religious institutions, and the effort many years ago to cleanup the Rouge River, which I actually got into. I am pleased at what a leader your community has become in the Veterans History Project interviewing over 200 veterans and placing their histories at the Library of Congress. And, congratulations to Dr. Wanda Cook-Robinson, the Superintendent of Southfield Schools, who was recently named the 2013 Superintendent of the Year by the Michigan Association of School Administrators.

I was proud to fight for the federal dollars needed to create the Center for Innovative Materials Research. This partnership between Lawrence Technological University, TARDEC and the Army Research Lab, was established for the research, development and testing of carbon-fiber composite materials for defense applications.

Mayor Lawrence, former mayor and current City Councilman Don Fracassi, along with all of the dedicated City Council members and other local elected officials continue to move the City of Southfield forward, and I look forward to following their success in the years to come.

As I close, I can say with confidence that the City of Southfield and its residents are in good hands with Congressman GARY PETERS. My office will, of course, stay in close touch on issues that impact Oakland County and southeast Michigan as we all work together to revitalize our Michigan economy.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF WALTER NEWMAN

##### HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay final tribute to a prominent San Francisco businessman, philanthropist, and civic leader: Walter Newman. San Francisco has been blessed by Walter's life, vision, leadership, and generosity. His legacy will leave an everlasting impact on our city.

Walter Newman was a third generation Californian, a dedicated patriot, and a proud American. He served our country as an Army infantry captain during World War II. He earned a Purple Heart for wounds sustained while leading his troops into Normandy. He earned the gratitude and accolades of the people of France, the recipient of that country's highest civilian honor, the Chevalier of the National Order of the Legion of Honor.

Mr. Newman continued his service in our beloved hometown of San Francisco. As head of the Planning Commission and the Redevelopment Commission, he helped lead the effort to develop major civic projects ranging from the Transamerica Pyramid to Mission Bay. As president of the San Francisco Fine Arts Museum, he was instrumental in bringing King Tut artifacts to San Francisco as one of our first great art exhibitions.

He played a vital role in the establishment of University High School in San Francisco. He was a member of the Board of Governors of the University of California, San Francisco; a member of the UCSF Conflict of Interest

Committee; and a member of the board of the San Francisco General Hospital Foundation.

In a true reflection of his dedication to his fellow veterans, he served on the Board of Directors of NCIRE—The Veterans Health Research Institute, a national leader in advancing veterans' health research based in San Francisco. He helped establish a veterans' resource center at the City College of San Francisco. It is a testament to Mr. Newman's longstanding dedication to San Francisco and our veterans that UCSF will soon have a 42,000-square-foot Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Mission Bay.

Walter will be remembered for his positive attitude and compassion, for his unyielding commitment to the education of our children and the health of our people, for his unending devotion to the well-being of our veterans.

He will be remembered for his exemplary will and exceptional values—for the way he inspired others to action, even in moments of his own grief. Indeed, when his son Bob tragically passed away from a malignant brain tumor, Walter responded in characteristic fashion. At a time when so many others would, understandably, turn inward with grief, he honored his son's memory by co-founding and becoming President of the National Brain Tumor Foundation—an organization that assists thousands of people suffering from brain cancer.

A cherished civic leader. A proud San Franciscan. A champion for our city, our state, and our country. This is how we will all remember Walter Newman.

Yet, as devoted as he was to civic and cultural causes in San Francisco, he was above all devoted to his beloved wife Ellen, his sons Walter Jr. and John, and brother-in-law Jerry. I hope it is a comfort to his family and loved ones that so many join them in mourning his passing.

#### HONORING COLONEL PAUL W. BRICKER

##### HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people in New York's 20th District to express our sincere appreciation for the selfless service, dedication, and sacrifice to the United States by Colonel Paul W. Bricker who retired this year after 25 years of service. As a tribute, I wish to enter the poem written by the Poet, Albert Carey Caswell, entitled "Brick by Brick."

BRICK, BY BRICK

Brick!

Brick, by Brick!

Are but built, all of those men of honor who our Nation now so picks! To so lead our magnificent men and women off to war!

Whose fine hearts, all in the midst of such hell so ever soar!

Who all so valiantly, all so charge off so forth!

Brick, by Brick!

Whose hearts are Air Borne!

Who lead with such honor and such speed!

Who take off and hover over danger, with hearts so very warm indeed!

Who crank and bank, who we all so thank. . . who our Lord so adores!

Who cry when their Brothers and Sisters In Arms so die!

Who in times of war will leave all that they so love with tears in eyes!

But, for The Greater Good they do not so ask why!

Who on the ground and in the air their fine hearts to new heights so fly!

Brick, by Brick. . . as their fine hearts are so molded to so pick!

To make those tough choices, to send magnificent heroes off to die!

Built on courage and such faith!

Whose brilliant hearts shall not so wave!

With words like Honor, Duty, and Country their foundations are all so made!

Brick, by Brick!

Showing us all how men and leaders of honor so behave!

Who each day walk by the grave!

All so to lead!

All so our nation can so succeed!

Can so live all in such peace!

As we so thank all of them and all of these!

Who Brick by Brick, but build the very bedrock of our peace!

Who are Army Strong, whose lives are like a song!

Air Borne, Colonel Bricker. . . in hearts we carry you now so very warm!

Hoo. . . oh!

—By Albert Carey Caswell

#### TO RECOGNIZE THE 2012 LIFECIRCLE ALLIANCE KUDOS FOR CAREGIVERS HONOREES

##### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the winners of the 2012 LifeCircle Alliances Kudos for Community Caregivers Awards. LifeCircle Alliances, a non-profit organization based in Fairfax County, Virginia, is a leader in promoting and enabling independent living for older adults with developmental, intellectual, or physical disabilities, including our Wounded Warriors.

LifeCircle Alliances has formed public-private partnerships to create innovative long-term care solutions, enhance existing programs, and address workforce, mobility and transportation issues. The goal of these efforts is independence for life; ensuring that our older adults and adults with disabilities are able to live independently and with dignity in their communities of choice.

The LifeCircle Alliances Kudos for Community Caregivers Award celebration recognizes the efforts of six outstanding caregivers, who tirelessly provide dedicated care, day in and day out. The recipients of the 2012 Kudos Awards are:

Stephanie Mensh—Stephanie Mensh has been a caregiver for Mr. Paul Berger for 25 years. Additionally, she has volunteered her time supporting stroke and TBI survivors and their families. She also provides support and advice to other caregivers by hosting a support group as well as providing individual support by phone, email, and in person.

Liza Ruiz—The loving mother of two daughters, Mrs. Ruiz has been caring almost daily for her 65 year old daughter, Cynthia, who was brain injured at birth and her husband who has been diagnosed with dementia. For many years, she did this while working as a full-time employee of the federal government. Mrs. Ruiz was instrumental in helping to establish the Northern Virginia Training Center, which opened in 1973.