

Brook, Lisa spent a semester interning with Minority Leader Gephardt.

Having skillfully proved her ability to manage casework and the many important responsibilities of my constituent services operation, Lisa was promoted to manage special projects and coordinate intergovernmental affairs. She excelled in these areas and built a reputation for solving problems and delivering outstanding service to my constituents. Thus, her promotion to District Office Director in January of 2012 was well earned and richly deserved.

Lisa has proven time and again that she is self-motivated and is constantly striving to assume ever greater responsibility. I have such tremendous confidence in Lisa that I asked her to take an official leave of absence to manage my campaign for re-election in 2008. Lisa has since managed my past two campaigns in 2010 and 2012, which were the two most challenging races in my congressional career. Lisa presided over each of these three consecutive campaigns with skill, determination and an unparalleled work ethic.

Lisa has indeed proven invaluable and achieved all of this success by the age of only 30. She became a mother earlier this year and now moves on to become the Assistant Deputy County Executive for Intergovernmental Affairs for the County of Suffolk on Long Island. Lisa will be missed very much, but my staff and I are comforted in knowing that she will remain nearby and continue to serve a mutual constituency in her new capacity.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of New York's first congressional district, I thank Lisa Santeramo for her many years of outstanding service and wish her continued success in serving the residents of Suffolk County in the years ahead.

#### A TRIBUTE TO MR. FELMERS CHANEY

#### HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2012*

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Felmers Chaney, a civil rights leader and the first African American Sergeant in the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD). Mr. Chaney passed away on December 5, 2012 at the age of 94.

Mr. Chaney was the son of a dairy farmer and born and raised in Spooner, in northern Wisconsin. He came to Milwaukee to work as a machinist in 1941 but was unable to find work in that field. He was drafted into the Army in 1942. He was sent to officers' candidate school, graduated as a 2nd Lieutenant and commanded troops in England and France.

After the war, he returned to Milwaukee and, at the urging of a friend, he joined the Milwaukee Police Department in 1947. Mr. Chaney became an MPD trailblazer; he was only the 4th black person to serve on the police force serving 36 years as a police officer. Mr. Chaney became the first African American to rise to the rank of Sergeant but this was not without controversy. Felmers Chaney passed the Sergeant's exam in 1954 but was asked if he would consider being a detective with the same pay and no supervision of staff. He declined the detective post; in the mid-60's he

supervised 20 officers of which only two or three were African American. He had a reputation of fairness.

Felmers Chaney was elected president of the NAACP—Milwaukee Branch where he served for 12 years. He was a true advocate for the community speaking out on a range of issues including: education, housing and minority hiring and representation. He once described discrimination against blacks in Milwaukee as a "broken record; it's been going on for the past 40–50 years"

Mr. Chaney championed Milwaukee's inner city development. He was president of the Central City Development Corporation which built the Central City Plaza and he was a founder and president of North Milwaukee State Bank, Wisconsin's first black-owned bank. Felmers Chaney also served as president of the Milwaukee Urban League.

In 2009, Mr. Chaney and his wife, Jessie attended the inauguration of President Obama. Although they both were infirm, they were determined to attend this historic event. He treasured that moment of being able to participate in an event he never dreamed could occur in his lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that Mr. Felmers Chaney a civil rights champion, public servant and trailblazer lived, worked, and served in the 4th Congressional District of Wisconsin. Mr. Chaney's legacy will live on through the many people he mentored, his family and the community.

#### A BIRTHDAY WISH

#### HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2012*

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I just want to take a brief moment to wish a very Happy Birthday to my son, Duncan, who turns 12 years old today. Call it a coincidence, Mr. Speaker, but he turns 12 on 12–12–12. It's a special day for a very special boy.

He's got a lot of great qualities, but it's his dedication to doing what's right when no one is looking that makes me, as his father, so proud. He's also got a great sense of humor and his energetic love for life is both infectious and inspiring. So on this occasion, Mr. Speaker, and as I think about how the last twelve years have gone by way too fast, I want to wish him a very Happy Birthday.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF JEAN WARD

#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2012*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, during the Christmas Season we remember people far and near and reminisce about those who are no longer with us. I rise to remember Jean Ward, who passed from this life on July 16, 2012.

Jean Ward was born in Detroit, Michigan on March 8, 1934 to Clarence and Agnes Ward. He graduated from Michigan State University and served in the U.S. Navy. Together he and

his wife Jean raised five daughters. His family was most precious to him.

Jean worked with the City of Toledo in forestry, and then began a career with the Toledo Area Metroparks. He became the Metroparks Director in 1985 and served until his retirement after 35 years in service to the organization. During that time he was Founding Director of the Stranahan Arboretum. His tenure brought a growth which established the Toledo Area Metroparks as a hallmark of our region. Jean Ward was "an ambassador of conservation. He had a passion and a dedication to protecting, preserving and improving natural areas for all to enjoy." His legacy will last through the ages. His extraordinary efforts brought him statewide recognition when, in 2009 he was inducted into the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association Hall of Fame and later received a Lifetime Achievement Award.

I was privileged to work with Jean through many years of shared public service. Though he will be missed by all whose lives he touched, his spirit carries forward in the natural beauty his efforts enshrined for generations to come.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 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 \$16,375, 1874,429,255.52. We've added \$5,748,997,380,342.44 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.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2012*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on December 11, 2012, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for Rollcall No. 620. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 620—"yes"—On approving the Journal.

#### HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

#### HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2012*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the following law enforcement officers who have been honored by the Horse Shoe Curve Benevolent Association for their service to their communities and continued willingness to put their lives on the line to protect public safety.

Virginia State Police Senior Trooper David R. Gray has served the Virginia Department of State Police for 12 years. During his tenure, Trooper Gray has done an outstanding job as a breath alcohol testing operator, a firearms instructor and a field training officer. As a member of the department's crash reconstruction team, Trooper Gray actively assisted with fatal crash investigations and his extensive knowledge in crash investigations and his devotion to training academy members and newer troopers has gained him notoriety with the force. For these reasons, Trooper Gray is often sought out after for his expertise. He continues to serve his community and mentor to his fellow troopers with professionalism.

Sergeant Brian Rosenberry has served the Clarke County Sheriff's Office since 1985, where he began as road deputy. Now, as court services sergeant, Sergeant Rosenberry provides for the safety and security of all of the courts in Clarke County, is responsible for civil processes in the office, as well as budgeting procedures, scheduling and supervising personnel. He was also responsible for establishing a new evidence storage unit and the successful maintenance of other operating procedures. His commitment to the citizens of Clarke County is displayed through his willingness to serve at the sheriff's office and his countless hours as a volunteer firefighter.

Deputy Tonya M. Kittoe is the school resource officer for the Frederick County Sheriff's Department at Millbrook High School. In addition to her work at Millbrook High School, she is also a dedicated counselor for the Frederick County Sheriff's Office Youth Camp. Before becoming a counselor, Deputy Kittoe served as the secretary for the Frederick County Sheriff's Office Youth Camp, as well as the activities director. As part of the accreditation team at the sheriff's office, Deputy Kittoe played a pivotal role in the office's initial accreditation and again this summer during re-accreditation. Deputy Kittoe's service at the Frederick County Sheriff's Office is greatly appreciated.

Sergeant John R. Austin has served the Winchester Sheriff's Department where he oversees the courthouse and other security operations. Sergeant Austin began his career in law enforcement in 1967 in Prince George's County, Maryland before working at the State Department and the Pentagon. Sergeant Austin is an expert at working with contractors, alarm companies and other issues with the joint judicial center, judges, clerks and deputies and was instrumental in serving the sheriff's office during its accreditation process and was always ready to assist in any way he could. On November 30, 2012, Sergeant Austin retired from his post at the Winchester Sheriff's Department, but his attention to detail and extensive knowledge will be missed. We appreciate his dedicated service to our community.

Major David White served a 33 year career with the Winchester Police Department, where he first started as a dispatcher in 1979. Since he became a police officer on the force in 1982, Major White quickly moved up and earned the admiration of his peers. Over the years, he served as polygraph examiner and training officer and also trained in forensic science and command staff. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. During a time of change at the Winchester Police Department from 2007–2010,

Major White served as an interim Chief of Police. Major White's patience and leadership during times of adversity at the Winchester Police Department helped the department continue its responsibilities as one of the best police organizations in the country. In October 2012, Major White retired from the police department, but he will always be a committed role model and a mentor to many.

Master Patrol Officer Mark F. Castle has served the Berryville Police Department since 2006. He constantly strives to strengthen the department by attending numerous training programs and achieving certifications as a firearms instructor, National Rifle Association instructor, field training officer and police cyclist. Officer Castle has incorporated a variety of drills into the normally static firearms training at the department to aid officers in real-life situations and has helped increase the number of training sessions per year. His constant effort and dedication to bettering the force has gained Officer Castle notoriety among his peers. His service and willingness to share his knowledge with his co-workers is greatly appreciated.

Correctional Officer Michelle See began her career at the Northwestern Regional Adult Detention Center in July 2005. She began as a housing unit security officer, where she supervised more than 50 inmates on a routine basis and has recently been promoted to field training officer. Officer See has worked at several different posts at the regional jail, including community correction, visitation, main control and booking. She is known for often working several posts in one shift, which is something that few officers at her level can successfully perform. Her versatility is an important asset to the team and she was recently nominated for employee of the quarter for her determination and loyalty. Officer See has seldom requested to take a shift off and often comes to work early without claiming the time. Her consistent teamwork and professionalism enables Officer See to work extremely well with the public as well as civilian and sworn staff alike.

The Horseshoe Curve Benevolent Association, organized in 1997, has been honoring law enforcement officers since 2004. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize these officers for their courage, strength and service to the Tenth District of Virginia.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES W.  
COON

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege and honor to recognize James W. Coon, who is retiring after 25 years of distinguished service to the United States House of Representatives.

As the Staff Director of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Jim's leadership, knowledge and counsel have been invaluable to me and other Members of the Committee and this body. Over the years, he has helped guide important pieces of legislation through Congress and to the President for signature, including a major surface transportation bill that will reform and improve our Nation's highway and bridge programs, a long-

stalled and critical aviation reform bill, legislation to authorize the programs of the United States Coast Guard, a bill to improve federal pipeline safety programs, and a measure to protect U.S. sovereignty from a European Union attempt to unlawfully tax our domestic air carriers and operators.

Jim regularly and expertly navigated a difficult political atmosphere and helped ensure, through his untiring efforts and excellent leadership, that good, sound legislation was passed for the benefit of the American people. His in-depth understanding of the legislative process and ability to work with those of all political stripes are unique and respected here in the Congress.

Before I asked Jim to become the Committee's Republican Staff Director in 2006, he also advised me and other Members of the Committee in his capacity as the Subcommittee on Aviation Majority Staff Director.

In addition, Jim served as a Professional Staff member on the Subcommittee on Aviation from 1995 to 1998. Prior to his work on the Transportation Committee, he served as the Legislative Director to Congressman JOHN J. DUNCAN, Jr. (R-TN) from 1989 to 1994, and he was a Legislative Assistant to Representative Robert F. (Bob) Smith (R-OR) from 1983 to 1989. Jim's illustrious career also includes experience in the private sector where he held positions as director of government affairs for both The Boeing Company and the Air Transport Association, where he helped develop legislation to stabilize the airline industry following the tragic terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

His service to his Country goes beyond the halls of Congress and includes 12 years as an Infantry Officer in the U.S. Army Reserves and the Virginia Army National Guard where he attained the rank of Captain.

But of all Jim's accomplishments, I know he would tell you that he is most proud of his family—his beautiful wife Sara and their three children, Harrison, Caroline, and David. Jim and I often spoke about our families and the importance of faith, family, and Country, which were values instilled in him by his parents, David and Maureen.

In January, Jim will be ending a remarkable career here in the House and will be joining the National Air Transportation Association (NATA) as Executive Vice President. Jim has an even brighter future ahead of him, and I know he will be just as successful as he has been here in the people's House. He can be proud of his achievements and the commitment he has shown to public service. Above all, he has been a true and loyal friend and I will miss him very much.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and all of our colleagues to join me in thanking Jim Coon for his 25 years of service to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the Congress, and the Nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF THOMAS  
JOSEPH

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, during the Christmas Season we remember people far