

claimed the innocent lives of twenty children and six school employees. The loss of life and innocence at Sandy Hook is a tragedy over which all Americans mourn, and the thoughts and prayers of Americans everywhere go out to all the victims and their families.

This tragedy represents the fourth time the Nation has been horrified to learn that innocent lives have been ended by gun violence in the past few months. I believe the time has come—indeed, the time has long passed—for this Nation to reevaluate the accessibility and control, in particular, of military assault weapons in our country.

I therefore call upon the President and the Congress to place sensible gun control legislation at the top of their legislative agenda, beginning with the reposition of the expired assault weapons ban. Although such action cannot undo last week's tragedy, I believe it will help to prevent a similar occurrence in the future. For the sake of those lost in Connecticut and all Americans who mourn, we should act without delay.

Words cannot express the deep grief of the families and loved ones of the victims, nor can they properly offer comfort. My thoughts and prayers are with the children, parents, teachers, staff members, and families affected by the violence. I ask my colleagues to join me in a moment of silence.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRUCE
BODAKEN

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my friend and true visionary Bruce Bodaken, who many years ago brought his passion to expand health insurance coverage to all Americans to Blue Shield of California. Bruce is now retiring after a remarkable ten-year tenure of outstanding service as Chairman, President and CEO of Blue Shield.

Bruce is not your typical health plan CEO. In fact, I was prepared not to like him when we first met more than ten years ago. He has a Masters degree in philosophy and was teaching that subject at the University of Colorado when he shifted his career to health care. The man who will take over Bruce's role in January 2013, Paul Markovich, currently COO of Blue Shield, calls him their "resident philosopher."

Under Bruce's leadership, Blue Shield became one of the fastest growing health plans in California, with a total membership today of 3.3 million and 4,800 employees. In 2002, Bruce was the first health plan CEO in the country to propose a plan for universal coverage. His plan became a template for the Affordable Care Act enacted by Congress in 2010. I share Bruce's belief that health care is a right, not a privilege.

Bruce launched the Blue Shield of California Foundation which has given over \$150 million in grants during the last five years to support community clinics, children's health initiatives, domestic violence programs, leadership training and policy research. It was named one of the country's 20 most generous corporate foundations by BusinessWeek in 2010.

In a remarkable move, Bruce oversaw the company's precedent setting step to cap prof-

its at two percent of revenue and return the differences to its customers. Last year that difference amounted to almost \$500 million.

Bruce also serves on the board and executive committee of America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP) and the BlueCross and BlueShield Association board. He is a member of the Institute of Medicine's Roundtable on Value & Science-Driven Health Care and serves on the board of directors of the California Business Roundtable, WageWorks, and the University of California, Berkeley's Health Services Management Program.

He joined Blue Shield in 1994 as president and chief operating officer. Previously, he served as senior vice president and associate chief operating officer of FHP International Corporation in Southern California.

A native of Iowa, Bruce earned his BA from Colorado State University and his MA from the University of Colorado, both in philosophy.

Bruce says that his education has deeply influenced his career and world perspective. When he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the San Francisco Business Times this year, he said that his training in philosophy, logic, communications and thinking about big questions had an application particularly in a world that was changing to a new model of health care.

In his retirement, Bruce is looking forward to dedicating more time to his family and friends and his favorite past time—tennis.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Bruce Bodaken, a compassionate leader, big thinker and tireless advocate. His fight to cover all the uninsured isn't over and hasn't always been easy, but he will not give up. His commitment reminds me of something his most inspirational icon, Nelson Mandela, once said: "When the water starts boiling, it is foolish to turn off the heat."

CELEBRATING THE 85TH BIRTHDAY OF HIS MAJESTY KING
BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ OF THAILAND

HON. DANA ROHRABACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, we join the people of Thailand in commemorating the 85th birthday of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand on December 5, 2012.

During King Bhumibol's 66 year reign, he has continued to foster a strong partnership with the United States. As a great source of tranquility in the country, he has helped Thailand strengthen its friendship with the United States while becoming an example of democracy and economic development in Southeast Asia. Next year, we look forward to celebrating the 180th anniversary of America's bilateral relationship with Thailand since the signing of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce.

King Bhumibol's life work has been dedication to the fulfillment of his coronation oath: "We shall reign with righteousness for the benefit and happiness of the Siamese people." Today we applaud his righteousness and his many accomplishments that have brought peace, stability, and prosperity to the people of Thailand. It is known that His Majesty is a

talented musician, and today we recognize he has replaced discord with harmony throughout his life.

It is my pleasure to join our Thai friends in celebrating this important occasion, and extend my best regards to His Majesty for his good health and a happy birthday.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, December 17, 2012, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: "yes" on vote No. 627 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4606, as amended); and "yes" on vote No. 628 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 3193).

IN RECOGNITION OF CHRISTINE
KROLIK

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Christine Krolik, retiring Hillsborough city council member, former mayor, and tireless advocate for our public schools and many community organizations.

Christine moved to Hillsborough in 1995 with her husband Jeff and two sons, John and Billy. She immediately immersed herself in work to improve the public school system by advocating for smaller class sizes. She combined two of her outstanding talents in this effort: singing and fundraising. While she co-chaired the Scrip Committee from 1996–2000, she launched the Scrippettes singers to promote sales. The four Scrippettes performed jazzy versions of holiday songs including "Jingle Bell Rock," "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and "Swingin' at Santa's Place." Today the group calls itself Swing Set and continues to delight people at civic functions from singing the National Anthem at Giants' games to warming up the crowd at Hillsborough's Light Up the Town celebrations.

Christine's boundless energy has been successfully put to use as co-chair of Hillsborough Concourse events in 2001, co-chair of the Measure B campaign to benefit Hillsborough's public schools in 2002, and the Citizens Communication Advisory Committee appointed by the mayor to help the city council and town staff to communicate with residents about issues affecting the town, also in 2002.

Christine was first elected to the city council in 2004. From 2006–2008, she served as vice mayor, and from 2008–2010 she served as mayor. During her 2010 term, she oversaw Hillsborough's Centennial, a flawlessly orchestrated celebration featuring marching bands, floats and vintage cars, and the dedication of Centennial Park. That year Christine was appropriately honored for her countless contributions as Hillsborough Citizen of the Year.

Christine is a firm believer that a strong sense of community is vital in a city and improves quality of life. While mayor, she embarked on an ambitious agenda to develop a

Hillsborough emergency preparedness program, the Hillsborough Neighborhood Network, an outdoor movie night, adult classes at Town Hall and the first ever Hillsborough Memorial Day Parade.

Her remarkable contributions to the Town have been matched by her generous support of many important community organizations. Christine serves as president and board member of Innvision/Shelter Network providing transitional housing to homeless families, veterans and single adults. She is past president and present board member of Hillbarn Theatre providing valuable cultural programming in the county.

A native of Philadelphia, Christine earned her BA in Theater from Arcadia University, and she is a graduate of the conservatory at Circle-in-the-Square School of Theatre in New York. She is an accomplished actress in amateur productions and has played memorable roles such as Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls* and *Dolly in Hello, Dolly*.

The vitality, creativity and enthusiasm that Christine has brought to the city council for eight years will certainly be missed. She has created a standard of community engagement which will be an inspiration to her successors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor one of the finest local elected officials of San Mateo County, Christine Krollek. I am honored to call her one of my best friends. She has dedicated herself to the betterment of her fellow residents and our beautiful town. At a white elephant Christmas party a year ago, Christine fought for a superman costume—a fitting symbol of a person who has committed her life to helping other survive and thrive.

BARONA BAND OF MISSION INDIANS LAND TRANSFER CLARIFICATION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 3193, which amends the Native American Technical Corrections Act of 2004 to revise the description of the land to be held in trust for the Barona Band of Mission Indians of California. This noncontroversial bill states that the parcel of private, non-Indian land that is excluded from the revised description was not intended to be held in trust for the Band or considered to be part of its reservation.

As a member of the Native American Caucus, I have worked with my colleagues in Congress to address the needs of Native Americans. California is home to nearly one hundred federally recognized tribes. I have made it a priority of mine in Congress to safeguard the interests of our tribes.

After thousands of years of peaceful life in the region, known today as San Diego County, Native American life was abruptly changed in the late 1700s. More than 200 years of hardship for Native Americans began with the arrival of the Spanish military and the establishment of the first presidio and mission in 1769.

In 1875, the Federal Government established the Capitan Grande Reservation for the

native people living in the area at that time. About 40 years later in 1932, the city literally bought the Capitan Grande Reservation to build a reservoir and the people were removed from their land.

In 1932, without a homeland but with some Federal monies allotted from the sale, a group of the Capitan Grande tribal members purchased the Barona Ranch which today is the Barona Indian Reservation near Lakeside, about 30 miles northeast of San Diego. For many years living without electricity and other services, the tribal members tried to create a living through the ranch and farming.

Until the early 1990s, the Barona Tribe was still struggling economically in the backwoods of San Diego County. In 1994, the tribe, with the consulting guidance of Venture Catalyst, opened the Barona Casino "Big Top", and this property eventually became the world-class Barona Valley Ranch Resort and Casino.

The casino has become the means to a restoration of self-sufficiency, prosperity and renewed hope. Unemployment and welfare dependency have dropped from 70 percent to zero on the Barona reservation.

Mr. Speaker, the Barona Band of Mission Indians has a long and strong tradition that continues to this day. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO JERRY BROWN

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to Hood River County Chief Deputy Sheriff Jerry Brown. Chief Deputy Brown joins Sheriff Joe Wampler in retirement from the Hood River County Sheriff's Office on January 1, 2013, capping a career in law enforcement and public service going back to the 1970's. Chief Deputy Brown has dedicated his life to duty, honor, and service to the citizens and visitors of Hood River County, Oregon.

Jerry Brown has served his country and his community for decades. He is not only a long time veteran of law enforcement, but also he is a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps who served our country in Vietnam. In 1978 he took the reins of "The Next Door," a non-profit organization in Hood River that provides care and support for children and families in the area. During his time with The Next Door, Jerry coordinated week-long hikes and camping trips for youth, diligently fundraised, and secured accreditation through the Youth Care Association. His efforts helped form the program into a model for other areas to follow that endures to this day.

The pull to serve and protect citizens of my home town, Hood River, Oregon, drew Jerry to his full-time career in law enforcement. He started as a patrolman with Hood River Police Department and spent 20 years working to ensuring the community's safety. During his career with Hood River Police Department, Jerry also served as a detective, sergeant, and attained the rank of lieutenant before joining the sheriff's office in 2006.

For the past six years, Jerry has served as Sheriff Wampler's chief deputy, lending his knowledge and experience to the position. The

positive impact Chief Deputy Brown has made on the sheriff's office, and his community, will continue to inspire others to serve their nation, state, and community long into the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my fellow colleagues join me in recognizing Jerry Brown. He has earned the thanks of a grateful nation for his service and the thanks of our community for his unwavering commitment. Please join me in wishing Chief Deputy Sheriff Jerry Brown a very long and happy retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF GINNY SILVA JAQUITH

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Ginny Silva Jaquith, a close friend, former colleague and remarkable public servant who is retiring today from serving an interim term on the Pacifica City Council. When the city needed her, Ginny stepped up to the plate and brought her professionalism and experience to the council. In the 30 plus years I have known Ginny, she has always risen to the occasion.

Ginny is no stranger to the Pacifica City Council. She served on it from 1980–1992, including three terms as mayor. The highlights from her tenure were the creation of the city's best known event, the Pacifica Fog Fest, and the Community Center, both of which greatly enhanced the wonderful sense of community in Pacifica. Ginny served on the Pacifica Coast Fog Fest founding board from 1985 to 1992 and after she left the council, she was on the Fog Fest Organizing Group from 2000–2010.

She worked closely with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area to acquire Sweeney Ridge, a spectacular hiking area of ridges and ravines between Pacifica and San Bruno that slope down to the San Francisco Bay on one side and the Pacific Ocean on the other. She helped turn the Sanchez Art Center into reality. The city worked closely with local artists and residents to purchase an abandoned elementary school and transform it into the invaluable art and educational center it is now.

Ginny was also instrumental in the establishment of the Redevelopment Agency in Rockaway Beach and a Commercial Development Task Force and Plan. She served on the San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury and on the Pacifica Task Force for Sharp Park Golf Course.

Today she continues to give her time and energy to the Board of Directors of Pacificans Care, the Rotary Club of Pacifica, the Presidio Golf Club and the City of Pacifica Beautification Task Force.

Ginny was born in Gustine, California and grew up in the Sunnyvale, Cupertino area. She earned her BS in Recreation from San Jose State University, her MS in Recreation Administration from San Francisco State University, and her EdD in Education from the University of San Francisco.

She taught in SFSU's Recreation and Leisure Department for 27 years, was the department chair for three years and is a Professor Emerita.

She and her husband Robin of 38 years live on Pedro Point. In her spare time she enjoys the arts, playing golf, cooking and traveling.