

new dams and powerhouses were constructed. Since then, TID has been able to provide safe, affordable and reliable electricity to a growing retail customer base, which has expanded to include over 98,000 residential, farm, business, industrial and municipal accounts in portions of Stanislaus, Merced, Tuolumne and Mariposa counties. 2003 was a monumental year for TID, when they purchased a 225-square-mile electric service territory from PG&E and designated it the Westside Service Area. In 2005, the Turlock Irrigation District became certified as an independent control area and opened the Walnut Energy Center, a natural gas-fired plant, in 2006. The most recent development occurred in 2009, when TID purchased the Tuolumne Wind Project, a wind generation facility capable of producing 136.6 megawatts, and began installing SMART Meters in its service area.

Currently, TID provides irrigation water to more than 5,800 growers in a 307-square-mile service area that incorporates 149,500 acres of Central Valley farmland. The Tuolumne River is the District's primary source of water, originating at Mt. Lyell in Yosemite National Park. Water for irrigation and hydroelectric power production is kept at Don Pedro Reservoir—about 50 miles east of Turlock in the Sierra Nevada foothills, near the historic gold rush era town of La Grange.

On February 24, 2012, the Turlock Irrigation District will be hosting a VIP showing of the documentary film they helped to produced entitled, *The Irrigationist: The Story of the Turlock Irrigation District*. The documentary will serve as an educational tool to inform people of all ages about the District's rich history and is a wonderful way to involve TID customers in celebration of the District's 125th anniversary, which occurs on June 6, 2012.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the Turlock Irrigation District on the release of the new documentary film and the upcoming 125th anniversary of athis pioneering institution.

CONGRATULATING  
COUNCILMEMBER JOE BUSCAINO

**HON. JANICE HAHN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2012*

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to applaud the swearing in of my hometown's newest Los Angeles City Councilmember—Joe Buscaino.

A native son of San Pedro and a first-generation Italian-American, Councilman Buscaino learned at an early age the importance of hard work, family, community and service. His dedication to these values led him to the Los Angeles Police Department, where he protected and served the community he loves so well for almost 15 years.

There he created the LAPD's first Teen Community Police Advisory board, a program breaking down barriers between teens and the police by bringing youth's perspectives on problem solving to the police department. The program has since been expanded to the whole city—and I am confident this will not be the last innovative initiative he has to share with the City of Angels.

Now Councilman Buscaino's commitment to public service has led him to the chambers of

the Los Angeles City Council, where I know he will serve the people of my home Council District 15 and the city of Los Angeles with honor and distinction. We are fortunate to have such an advocate.

HONORING WILLIAM H. "BILL"  
GRAY, III FOR HIS COUNTLESS  
CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION  
AND THE BLACK AMERICAN  
COMMUNITY

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2012*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a true public servant, educator, community activist, spiritual leader, and my dear friend, William H. "Bill" Gray, III. For nearly five decades, Bill has served the Philadelphia community, African American community, and the American people as a whole in numerous capacities. From education and the ministry to government and the business world, his influential leadership continues to this day.

Bill was born on August 20, 1941 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He is the second child of the late Dr. William H. Gray, Jr. and Hazel Yates Gray, and has an older sister, Marion. Bill attended Franklin and Marshall College, where he earned a B.A. in 1963, and received a master's degree in divinity from Drew Theological Seminary in 1966 and a master's degree in theology from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1970. He has served as a faculty member and professor of history and religion at St. Peter's College, Jersey City State College, Montclair State College, Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Temple University. The heir to a legacy of education leaders, his father served as the president of two Black colleges, Florida A&M University and Florida Memorial College. Furthermore, Bill's mother was a dean of Southern University and his grandfather a professor at another historically Black college.

Hailing from a family of ministers as well as educators, Bill began his service in the ministry in 1964, when he pastored his first church, the Union Baptist Church of Montclair, New Jersey. For 35 years, he was pastor of the 5,000-member Bright Hope Baptist Church in Philadelphia, as were his father and grandfather before him since 1925. In 1970, Bill became a community activist while living in Montclair, after winning a housing discrimination suit against a landlord who denied him an apartment because of his race. He founded the non-profit Union Housing Corporation in Montclair to build affordable homes for low- and moderate-income tenants and co-founded the Philadelphia Mortgage Plan, an organization that helped people in low-income communities obtain mortgages. In 1971, he married Andrea Dash, a marketing consultant. They raised three sons: William IV, Justin, and Andrew.

From 1979 to 1991, Bill served in the U.S. House of Representatives. During his 12 years in Congress, he remained a staunch supporter of education. As the first African American to chair the House Budget Committee in 1985, Bill was a leading advocate for strengthening America's education system. He went on to

break further barriers as Chairman of the Democratic Caucus in 1988 and as Majority Whip later that year, becoming the highest-ranking African American ever to serve in Congress. In May 1994, Bill served as the Special Advisor to the President on Haiti. In that role, he assisted the President in developing and carrying out policy to restore democracy to Haiti, and received the Medal of Honor from Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide in 1995.

In 1991, Bill became the president and chief executive officer of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), America's oldest and most successful Black higher education assistance organization. During his tenure, he led the UNCF to new fund-raising heights while increasing educational assistance to minority students and support of historically Black colleges and universities. In particular, Bill spearheaded a number of bold initiatives to relocate UNCF's headquarters to the Northern Virginia area; develop a new technology center to link UNCF offices and member colleges electronically and thereby facilitate the sharing of scholarship and donor information; and develop the Frederick D. Patterson Research Institute to compile and analyze data on a host of issues affecting African American students from kindergarten through graduate school.

After retiring in 2004, Bill's contributions to public policy were far from over. He went on to serve as Chairman of the Amani Group and, beginning in 2009, Co-Chairman of the consulting and advisory firm GrayLoeffler, LLC. Today, Bill chairs Gray Global Strategies, Inc., a global business consulting and government affairs strategies firm. He also sits on the board of directors for several companies, including Dell, Inc., JPMorgan Chase, Pfizer, and Prudential Financial. Bill's many years of public and community service have earned him numerous awards and distinctions, such as the prestigious Franklin Delano Roosevelt Freedom of Worship Medal. In December 2009, he was listed in *Ebony* magazine as one of the 100 "Most Important Blacks in the World in the 20th Century." Additionally, Bill has also been awarded more than 65 honorary degrees from America's leading colleges and universities.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Black History Month, it is my distinct honor and privilege to recognize one of our own, former Congressman Bill Gray, for his tireless dedication to advancing education and opportunity in this country. His pioneering efforts have paved the way for future generations of American government, business, and community leaders. Bill's leadership and strength of character are a true inspiration to us all. I am so pleased to pay tribute to my dear friend, and wish him great success for many years to come.

HONORING THE NAI

**HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2012*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of the National Academy of Inventors, NAI. The NAI was founded at the University of South Florida, USF, in 2010, and has since become an institution that recognizes researchers who

translate their findings into inventions that may benefit society. To date there are more than 500 members in the NAI, each being awarded a patent by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The NAI provides a valuable role in the translation of science and technology within the university community, and for the benefit of society. It serves to promote creative thinking and originality, encourage the development and utilization of inventions, and offer guidance to new and existing inventor's efforts. Moreover, the NAI has assisted in awarding hundreds of successful patents for universities around the world.

More specifically, USF has progressed into a leading research university with important economic ties to the Tampa Bay community and Florida. The aptitude of the faculty, staff and students are the fundamental components that drive USF's research initiatives. USF lists among 14 universities in the top 300 organizations to receive patents from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in 2010 with 83 patents awarded.

Innovation, based on new inventions and technologies, has proven to be a key factor in the industrial and economic development of the world. The support, encouragement and development of technology and innovation are also fundamental to the success of a university, non-profit research organization or federal research institute. Furthermore, in addition to submitting this record, I am honored to introduce a House Joint Resolution recognizing the significance of the NAI.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE  
LIFE OF HOWARD M.  
DASCHBACH, JR.

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2012*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of a good friend and neighbor, and a highly respected member of our community, Howard M. Daschbach, Jr., who died on February 9, 2012, at the age of 87.

Howard was a man of deep and abiding faith. He was installed as a Knight of Malta in 1982, and a member of Saint Raymond's Church in Menlo Park, California, where he was seen daily, attending Mass. He had a special devotion to the Religious of the Sacred Heart who educated his children, and his Faith carried him through good times as well as difficult times.

Howard grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, graduated from Duquesne University, and served his country proudly during World War II. He served with the Army in Europe, the Philippines and Japan, and then moved to California to attend Stanford Law School. Upon graduation, Howard embarked upon his lifelong career of serving the legal needs of hundreds of people.

Howard was a member of the Circus Club and the Serra Club. He was an avid tennis player, an ardent Giants fan and a winning dominos player.

Howard and his beloved wife of 59 years, Leonore, who survives him, were the proud and devoted parents of LeeLee and her hus-

band Steve; Rooney and his wife Claire; Lisa and her husband Rory; Laura and her husband Mark; Mark and his wife Elizabeth; and Michele, who died on October 12, 2011, and her husband Patrick. He adored his 18 grandchildren and two great grand-daughters, and is also survived by his sister Jeanne and sister-in-law Joan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our sincere condolences to the family of Howard Daschbach Jr., and to all those who were privileged to know and love him. He was a wise and good man whom I was proud to call my friend and neighbor. Our country was blessed with his service, strengthened by his faith, and bettered by his devotion to his family, his community and his country.

RECOGNIZING RANDELLA LINDSAY  
AS THE 2013 WALTON COUNTY,  
FLORIDA SCHOOL TEACHER OF  
THE YEAR

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2012*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Randella Lindsay as the 2013 Walton County, Florida School Teacher of the Year. For more than 38 years, Mrs. Lindsay has served the students of Northwest Florida, inspiring them to strive for excellence. I am honored to recognize her achievements.

Teachers are amongst our nation's most valuable public servants. They are responsible for mentoring our students and ensuring that our next generation emerges ready to lead our nation in the future. Mrs. Lindsay's assiduous work and unbridled enthusiasm for her profession exemplify the characteristics of a successful teacher. Today, Mrs. Lindsay approaches the challenge of teaching with the same energy and excitement that she has harnessed since she stepped into the classroom in 1973. Her enthusiasm and dedication to her students fosters an atmosphere of success, where individual students can pursue their education goals at their own pace.

Mrs. Lindsay clearly understands the important position that teachers serve as role models for their students. Being a role model demands an incontrovertible commitment to professionalism in all aspects of life. Mrs. Lindsay treats her students, their parents, faculty, and staff with the utmost respect. She also understands the importance of mentoring young teachers and always seeks to help young people interested in pursuing a career in teaching. By sharing her years of wisdom and experience with all of her fellow colleagues, Mrs. Lindsay improves the quality of her own classroom, as well as the entire school.

Throughout her career, Mrs. Lindsay has been selected to serve in important roles in both her school and her school district. In 1983, while teaching Florida History as part of her 4th grade curriculum in Okaloosa County, Florida, Mrs. Lindsay recognized that the state's Florida studies program did not include any information on Okaloosa County. Over the next two years, she worked with two of her colleagues to research the history of Okaloosa County, and they produced a work book to supplement the Florida History course for fu-

ture students. Mrs. Lindsay was also chosen to serve as one of three members on a committee responsible for planning the opening of a new elementary school, where she was later selected as their Teacher of the Year.

The importance of teachers is unquantifiable. Each and every teacher should be commended for their commitment to our nation's future. Mrs. Lindsay has proven to be among the many exceptional teachers in our nation. To be selected as Teacher of the Year, chosen from a large pool of extremely qualified applicants, is a reflection of Mrs. Lindsay's tremendous work ethic and steadfast dedication to the students of Northwest Florida.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Randella Lindsay for her accomplishments and her continuing commitment to excellence at Mossy Head Elementary School and in the Walton County School District. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Mrs. Lindsay, and we wish her all the best.

ZERO G AND I FEEL FINE

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2012*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, a long time ago in a galaxy far, far away, a world watched as a lone American sat inside a small capsule on top of an Atlas rocket waiting for blast off. Fifty years ago, after several disappointing and discouraging postponements, all systems were "GO" at Cape Canaveral's launch pad 14, the weather clear, and the countdown pounded as the voice of Astronaut Scott Carpenter at Mission Control wished—"Godspeed John Glenn."

*Friendship 7* lifted off with 360,000 pounds of thrust on its mission to put a man into Earth orbit, observe his reactions in space and safely return to Earth. It was the third Project Mercury manned mission and the first orbital flight. People around the world stopped and held their breath. Glenn felt six times the force of gravity on lift off and then once in space, we heard his voice crackling over the radio, "Zero-g and I feel fine." "Capsule is turning around. Oh! That view is tremendous!" The space race had begun in 1957 with Sputnik, the sinister Soviet satellite that propelled America into the new space age. Caught from behind, the U.S. scrambled to catch up. The first federal college loans were established under the National Defense Education Act of 1958 and federal support for basic research and development and the space program dramatically increased.

NASA was reorganized from the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) in 1958 and began the manned space program. In 1959, NASA selected 7 military test pilots to fly in space with Project Mercury. In 1961, Soviet Cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first man to orbit the Earth. America was on a mission. The Nation focused in a united cause, identified the challenge, built and organized a plan for that challenge, and rose to meet it. We pulled together. A collection of scientists, soldiers, and contractors, with tremendous public support welded together a national program without an established infrastructure that would later become the Kennedy Space Center and the Johnson Space Center. Flight tests