

are the proud parents of four sons and ten grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to acknowledge the craft, talent and lasting impressions of Art Gensler.

CONGRATULATING NATIONAL
HISTORY DAY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate National History Day, a year-long academic program focused on improving the teaching and learning of history for 6th to 12th grade students, for receiving a 2011 National Humanities Medal presented on February 13 at the White House by President Obama. Inaugurated in 1997, the National Humanities Medal honors individuals or groups whose work has deepened the nation's understanding of the humanities, broadened citizens' engagement, or helped preserve and expand Americans' access to important resources in the humanities. I am proud to recognize National History Day as the first K–12 education program that has received this honor "for sparking passion for history in students across our country."

National History Day is a program that can be integrated into any social studies or history classroom, as it helps teachers expand and enrich the existing curriculum. With schools spending more resources and time focusing on reading and math education, it is important that we also recognize and support programs that help to provide a well-rounded education that raises the bar for students and strengthens the instructional practice of teachers.

In every state and in hundreds of communities around the country, National History Day affiliates work with classroom teachers and students who choose historical topics related to a theme and conduct extensive primary and secondary research through libraries, archives, museums, oral history interviews and historic sites. In my own state of Maryland, the Maryland National History Day program is sponsored by the Maryland Humanities Council. Last year about 19,000 students from 158 different middle and high schools participated across the state at the local, state and national levels. The program is an outstanding example of outcome-based and performance-based learning.

I am also proud that each June students travel from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories to participate in the culminating four-day event held at the University of Maryland at College Park where professional historians and educators evaluate their projects. Attending the National History Day national contest where students are working in groups as well as individually to make history come alive is truly a unique experience. Each student is able to become an expert on a chosen topic while they further develop college- and career-ready skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving and oral and written communication. More than 5 million students have gone on to careers in business, law, medicine and countless other disciplines where they are putting into practice what they learned through National History Day.

As legislators, we are all interested in promoting increased student achievement and a deeper understanding of the impact of history on our everyday lives. For 30 years, the National History Day program has been transforming the way history is taught and learned in classrooms all over the country improving education every day.

THE ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED, AND
UNREGULATED FISHING EN-
FORCEMENT ACT OF 2011

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation to strengthen enforcement mechanisms to stop illegal, unreported, and unregulated, IUU, fishing. Illegal fishing threatens the economic and social infrastructure of fishing communities around the world by decreasing opportunities for legitimate and conscientious fishermen. While the United States is recognized for its commitment to domestic fisheries conservation and as an international voice in science-based ocean conservation, the failure of other nations to adopt similar approaches has both economic and conservation implications for U.S. industry and management. Additional action is needed from Congress if we are to be successful in combating IUU fishing and the depletion of fish stocks worldwide. Last Congress, I sponsored similar legislation and it passed the House without opposition by voice vote. This year, I am glad to be joined by Congressman FRANK GUINTA from New Hampshire as a bipartisan original cosponsor.

Recent reports have documented that IUU fishing accounts for between 10 and 22 percent of the reported global fish catch, or \$9–24 billion in gross revenues each year (MRAG, 2009, Sumaila et al., 2006 and Agnew et al., 2009). This undermines the United States' conservation focused approach to fisheries management and the efforts of fishermen, and has implications for sustainable international fisheries that benefit the world's Marine ecosystems. Unsustainable fishing practices by foreign fishing fleets adversely affect stocks that migrate between the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and the high seas. This problem can be particularly acute in places like Guam, where the EEZ is vast, and where the United States Coast Guard, despite its best efforts, will never have sufficient resources to patrol all of our waters.

The "Illegal, Unreported, Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2011," which I introduced today, further enhances the enforcement authority of NOAA and the U.S. Coast Guard to regulate IOU fishing. This bill would amend the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act, HSDFMPA, and other international and regional fishery management organization, RFMO, agreements to incorporate the civil penalties, permit sanctions, criminal offenses, civil forfeitures and enforcement sections of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. It would strengthen enforcement authority of NOAA and the U.S. Coast Guard to inspect conveyances, facilities, and records involving the storage, processing, transport and trade of

fish and fish products, and to detain fish and fish products for up to five days while an investigation is ongoing.

In addition, this bill makes technical adjustments to allow NOAA to more effectively carry out current IUU identification mandates, including extending the duration of time for identification of violators from the preceding two years to the preceding three years. This bill broadens data sharing authority to enable NOAA to share information with foreign governments and clarifies that all information collected may be shared with international organizations and foreign governments for the purpose of conducting enforcement. These amendments promote the conservation and sound management of fish stocks internationally and in a manner consistent with the expectations placed on U.S. fishermen. This bill would establish an international cooperation and assistance program to provide funding and technical expertise to other nations to help them address IUU fishing. This bill, however, does not authorize new funding or appropriations.

Finally, this bill implements the Antigua Convention, an important international agreement that provides critical updates to the principles, functions, and processes of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, IATTC, to manage fisheries in the eastern Pacific Ocean. The Antigua Convention modernizes the IATTC and increases its capacity to combat IUU fishing and illegal imports of tuna product. Without implementing legislation, the U.S. does not have the authorities necessary to satisfy its commitments under the Antigua Convention, including addressing IUU in the eastern Pacific Ocean.

IUU fishermen are "free riders" who benefit unfairly from the sacrifices made by U.S. fishermen and others for the sake of proper fisheries conservation and management. I would like to thank Rep. GUINTA, Rep. FARR, Rep. FALCOMA, Rep. CHRISTENSEN, Rep. PIERLUISI and Rep. SABLAN for joining me as original cosponsors and I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to advance this important bill through the legislative process.

HONORING SAXTON T. WATSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Saxton T. Watson. Saxton is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Saxton has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Saxton has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Saxton has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Saxton T. Watson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

COMMENDING THE HUNTERDON
CENTRAL REGIONAL HIGH
SCHOOL VARSITY CHEER-
LEADING SQUAD

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Hunterdon Central Regional High School Varsity Cheerleading Squad for winning the 2012 Universal Cheerleaders Association High School National Championship. After a week of competition in Orlando, Florida, this talented group of young women defeated the defending national champions to become the first team from Hunterdon Central Regional High School to bring home a national championship title.

Last year the team took second place, but the squad returned motivated this year to take home the championship. Supporters, friends and family refer to the winning performance as "The Perfect Routine." I congratulate Superintendent Christina Steffner, Principal Tim O'Brien, Head Coach Heather Buterbaugh and Assistant Coach Julie Strober for their hard work and dedication to the team. This marks another proud accomplishment for the Hunterdon Central Regional High School Athletics Department.

These talented young women should be proud of their hard work and I congratulate them on the outstanding achievement of bringing their "Perfect Routine" to the national stage.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 90TH
BIRTHDAY OF ROSARIO PEREZ-
PENA

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commemorate the 90th birthday of Rosario Perez-Pena, who was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico on February 28, 1922.

Rosario was married to the late Luis-Perez Soto, who was an accountant, writer, poet, playwright, musician, artist and actor. Together, they had four children, and she is now the proud grandmother of eight and great-grandmother of 18. She has spent most of her life in Puerto Rico, but also lived in New York for 24 years. She has designed and made most of her own clothes, and has been an active reader and voter throughout her life.

I join her family in wishing her a very happy birthday on this special day.

A TRIBUTE TO HIS EXCELLENCY
AMBASSADOR HAN DUK-SOO

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer thanks and respect to His Excellency Han Duk-soo, who is departing Washington after

three years as Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the United States.

Before his appointment in March 2009, Ambassador Han had served as his country's Prime Minister. The fact that President Lee Myung-bak chose a man of such distinguished credentials to be his country's Ambassador to Washington demonstrates the high regard with which he holds the longstanding friendship of South Korea and the United States.

In addition to his service as Prime Minister and Ambassador to the United States, Ambassador Han has also been Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economy, Ambassador to the OECD, and a senior diplomat in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The three years of Ambassador Han's tenure in Washington have been marked by great success and achievement in strengthening the U.S.-Korea alliance.

Last October, at the invitation of this body, President Lee addressed a joint meeting of the House and Senate. It was emblematic of not only the importance of our bilateral alliance, but a reflection of Ambassador Han's diligence and the many friends he has cultivated on Capitol Hill.

Mr. Speaker, nearly six decades have come and gone since the armistice that ended the Korean War, and the United States and the Republic of Korea remain partners dedicated to peace, freedom, democracy, and global stability. Our two countries' soldiers have fought side by side not only in Korea but also in Vietnam, Afghanistan, and Iraq.

In recent years, the Korean government has sponsored visits by American veterans to the place where they served and fought. Many Korean War veterans are getting up in years. There will not be many opportunities for them to revisit the battlefields of sixty years ago. The Korean people are most generous, and most gracious, in making these trips possible.

Ambassador Han has made a point of visiting with groups of Korean War veterans as he travels the United States. His personal expressions of gratitude have been touching, and most appreciated.

The friendship of the United States and Korea goes well beyond a military alliance, and well beyond our shared past on the battlefield.

Our countries are major trading partners. Our students study in each other's universities. We share numerous cultural exchanges. Ambassador Han has done much in his time here to strengthen and deepen the longstanding relationship between the United States and Korea. He will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Ambassador Han Duk-soo, wishing him well in his future endeavors as the Chairman of the Korea International Trade Association. I thank him for his service and most especially his friendship.

HONORING CAPTAIN ROBERT C.
GRANT

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Robert C. Grant, and to congratulate him on his retirement. Captain Grant

is an outstanding individual who served as the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Seventh Coast Guard District since coming on Active Duty in April of 1998.

Captain Grant first entered military service as a medic in the U.S. Air Force Reserve in December 1966, serving at both Tyndall Air Force Base near Panama City, FL and Homestead Air Force Base in South Florida. In April 1974, he received a Direct Commission in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve and served as a drilling Reservist in various Coast Guard Reserve Units in the Seventh District until coming on Active Duty in April 1998. Most notable of his Reserve Unit assignments was his three year tour as Commanding Officer of U.S. Coast Guard Reserve Unit Marine Safety Office Miami, during which the majority of the 90-member unit was activated in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

During his tenure as Deputy Chief of Staff, Captain Grant served as a senior advisor to eight Admirals. He was the primary District liaison to Congressional Members and their staffs from South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and Puerto Rico. His efforts assisted Congress in passing legislation that has proved instrumental in addressing new maritime smuggling tactics that constitute a threat to the United States.

Among his many achievements, Captain Grant was active in strengthening the relationship between the Coast Guard and the South Florida Hispanic and Haitian communities through a dedicated public outreach initiative. In the wake of the devastating 2010 earthquake near Port-au-Prince, Haiti, he also supported such large-scale responses as Operation Unified Response and Operation Southeast Watch—Haiti, which led to the evacuation of over 1,150 US citizens, 250 medical evacuations, the transport of over 715 first responders, and the delivery of over 1.1 million pounds of critically-needed relief cargo and equipment by Coast Guard aircraft.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Captain Robert C. Grant for his continued service to our nation, and more specifically South Florida and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this outstanding individual.

RECOGNIZING THE SPOTSYLVANIA
REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the many achievements of the Spotsylvania Regional Medical Center (SRMC). Since the hospital opened in June of 2010, its staff and volunteers have served their community selflessly, assisting patients with everyday illnesses as well as after tragic incidents such as the August 2011 earthquake that was centered just 25 miles from SRMC. With over 50,000 total hours of volunteer service performed in less than two years, these individuals have shown an extraordinary devotion to their community, and their compassion and friendly service certainly played a part in SRMC's high patient satisfaction ratings in 2011.

In a perfect world, there would be no need for hospitals; however, it is reassuring to know