

class education, while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Caleb brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2016. While attending Perrysburg High School in Perrysburg, Ohio, Caleb was on the High Honor Roll and was a member of the National Honor Society.

Throughout high school, Caleb was a member of his school's wrestling and football teams and earned varsity letters in both sports. In addition, Caleb participated in several mission trips in Ohio and West Virginia and served as Master Counselor for Demolay International. I am confident that Caleb will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Caleb Lipscomb on the offer of his appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Caleb will excel during his career at the Naval Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

CONGRATULATING GIRL SCOUTS
TROOP 333

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Girl Scouts Troop 333 from Madisonville, Kentucky on their selection as one of the 2012 Make A Difference Day honorees.

Make A Difference Day is a celebration of the power of neighbors helping neighbors. Created by USA Weekend, this annual day of service mobilizes more than three million volunteers to create change in their community.

Nine Junior and Cadet Girl Scouts of Madisonville Housing Authority Troop 333 dedicated a second Make A Difference Day to seniors. In 2010 the troop did chores for their older neighbors in public housing. This time around, they decided to bring cheer to nursing home residents.

The girls decorated 450 greeting cards and wrote special messages for the seniors. They distributed the cards to residents in three assisted living homes and spent time visiting with each resident who received a card.

I am pleased that Troop 333 will be honored for their efforts tonight during the Points of Light 2012 Make A Difference Day Awards Luncheon at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center here in Washington. Please join with me in celebrating their outstanding service.

HONORING JOURNEYMEN LINEMEN

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize this day, April 18, as a day of honor for Journeymen Linemen.

Accordingly, I have introduced H. Res. 561 to recognize April 18, 2012, as National Journeymen Linemen Day in order to honor these brave men and women for their contributions to protect public safety.

Journeymen Linemen are often the first responders during a storm or other catastrophic event, which means these brave men and women are often required to make the scene safe for other public safety heroes. Linemen work with thousands of volts of electricity high atop power lines every day of the year in order to protect the nation from dangerous electrical currents.

The profession of Journeymen Linemen is steeped in tradition and family, both professionally and personally. Generations ago, Linemen climbed poles using hooks and blocks, but as technology has grown through the years, innovative Linemen have pioneered advancements with innovative materials, altering the direction of line work for the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the extraordinary commitment and courage demonstrated everyday by the nation's Journeymen Linemen.

CONGRATULATING THE SHAW UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM ON THEIR NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate this year's NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Champions, the Lady Bears of Shaw University!

As fans of the game know all too well, North Carolina schools have a tradition of excellence in collegiate basketball. That success became even more legendary in 2012. We have a new champion in our midst, the Lady Bears.

In some ways it's no surprise that the Lady Bears won the 2012 national title. They made the Final Four in 2011 and began the year in the top ten. But every season is different, and nothing in life or basketball is certain. I don't know what Coach Curtis did, but the season didn't finish as it began. After compiling a 4–5 record in the first 9 games, the Lady Bears found their groove. From that point on, the team went 25–1 and closed the season on a 15-game winning streak. The Lady Bears went 15–1 in CIAA conference play, were undefeated on their home court, and won the conference tournament.

Then came the quest for the national championship. The Lady Bears beat West Virginia Wesleyan 92–78, Gannon University 64–59, Edinboro University 70–53, Pittsburg State 61–58 and Rollins College 87–71. The final game was as exciting and hard fought as they come. Shaw battled back from a 43–32 half-time deficit to force overtime. When the buzzer sounded, the Lady Bears had won 88–82 over Ashland University. Guards Sequoyah Griffin and Brittney Spencer led the team in scoring with 24 and 16 points, respectively. Center Aslea Williams scored 14 points and pulled down 11 rebounds, and Forward Kyria Buford scored 10 points and grabbed 8 rebounds. Reserve Guard Brittany Ransom also scored 14, providing the team with a valuable lift. The

Lady Bears ended the season number one in the polls and with a National Championship in hand!

Coach Curtis deserves special mention for leading this team to victory. He was named the Division II Bulletin National Coach of the Year and the Minority Division II Coach of the Year. But he's done much more than coach. Every single player who has completed four years of eligibility under Coach Curtis has graduated. True collegiate champions pair winning on the court with strong character and academic dedication, and that's exactly what Shaw has done. As an educator, I admire the academic focus that Coach Curtis has made an integral part of the Lady Bears basketball culture.

Mr. Speaker, it was a tremendous season for the Lady Bears of Shaw. On behalf of my colleagues in this body, I congratulate this team for their perseverance, their will to win, and their success in becoming the 2012 champions.

No. 20 Shemieka Brown PG Sr. 5–8 Salisbury, NC; No. 21 Kyria Buford F Sr. 6–1 Charlotte, NC; No. 2 Isayra Diaz G Jr. 5–6 New York, NY; No. 10 Sequoyah Griffin G Jr. 5–9 Columbus, GA No. 30 Crystal Harris C So. 6–1 Jersey City, NJ; No. 32 Ariel Hatcher G Sr. 5–10 Detroit, MI; No. 15 Allyssa Lane PG Sr. 4–11 Winter Park, FL; No. 22 Jashaye Magnum C Fr. 6–1 Miami, FL; No. 33 Brittany Ransom G Sr. 5–10 Columbus, OH; No. 11 Brittney Spencer G Sr. 5–7 Norfolk, VA; No. 3 Enonge Stovall F Jr. 5–11 Philadelphia, PA; No. 41 Victoria Tanner F Sr. 5–10 Raleigh, NC; No. 5 Aslea Williams C Jr. 6–1 Akron, OH; Head Coach: Jacques Curtis; Associate Head Coach: Carl Hatchell; Assistant Coach: Ashante Timoli; Assistant Coach: Jonas Richard; and Athletic Trainer: Sean Burton.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAROL SLOANE

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lieutenant Carol Sloane for her 21 years of service at the Daly City Police Department.

Ms. Sloane was appointed police officer in 1990 and graduated from the Basic Academy at Butte Community College in Oroville, California. As a patrol officer, she trained new recruits as field training officers and was well respected by her fellow officers. She served as acting patrol sergeant on several occasions.

In 1994, Officer Sloan was awarded a departmental commendation for the arrest of three graffiti suspects. Four years later she received the same recognition for apprehending a homicide suspect. Immediately after a stabbing incident, Officer Sloan identified a suspicious person and through her investigation determined that the person was indeed the homicide suspect.

In February of 2003, Ms. Sloan was promoted to the rank of police sergeant. She graduated from the Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Institute and was then assigned to the Management Control and Audit Unit where she conducted internal affairs investigations, departmental audits and served as the public information officer. Sergeant

Sloane was the face of the Daly City Police Department on many local television news stories.

Carol Sloane broke the gender barrier by becoming the first woman to be promoted to police lieutenant at the Daly City Police Department in 2006. She earned the respect and admiration of her department by dedicating much time, attention and mentorship to new and young officers.

Carol Sloane graduated from Terra Nova High School in 1975. She attended City College of San Francisco and the College of San Mateo. In 1999 she completed her degree in management at St. Mary's College.

Lieutenant Sloan lives in Pacifica with her husband of 14 years, Daly City Firefighter Doug Blanckensee, and their seven-year-old son Bryce.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor the outstanding service of Lieutenant Carol Sloan to the residents of Daly City. She will be remembered for her dedication, her leadership and for making our community a safer and better place.

TRIBUTE TO OPERATION UNITE
FOR THE INAUGURAL NATIONAL
RX DRUG ABUSE SUMMIT

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Operation UNITE, the non-profit anti-drug organization in southern and eastern Kentucky for organizing the inaugural National Rx Drug Abuse Summit in Orlando, FL April 10–12, 2012.

This small grassroots organization took on the enormous task of uniting federal, state and local officials on a national stage to discuss obstacles and solutions for the prescription drug epidemic plaguing our country. In its first year, the Summit garnered an outstanding audience of 750 attendees, along with national headlines including: the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, Gil Kerlikowske; U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. Regina Benjamin; the Principal Deputy Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, Dr. Ileana Arias; Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Office of Diversion Control with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, DEA, Joseph Rannazzisi; the Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, NIDA, Dr. Nora Volkow; the Appalachian Regional Commission, ARC; and four members of the Congressional Caucus on Prescription Drug Abuse, including myself, U.S. Rep. Mary Bono-Mack of California, U.S. Rep. Jack Kingston of Georgia, and U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall of West Virginia.

As a nation, we can no longer afford to sit quietly on the sidelines. The epidemic now claims more lives every year through drug overdoses than any other accidental death, according to the CDC. During the Summit, Director Kerlikowske called it a public health crisis, noting prescription drug abuse is the fastest growing drug problem in the country. In Kentucky, we are losing 82 people a month to drug abuse—more than car crashes. This Summit brought forth the realization that unsecured medicine cabinets are more dangerous than our cars.

President & CEO, Karen Kelly, highlighted the multi-pronged approach of the UNITE organization on the national stage as a model for the rest of the country. The Summit featured sessions on healthcare, advocacy and prevention, human resources, treatment and law enforcement. Together, leaders from each field shared resources and information at the Summit, crossing industry lines and state boundaries, for the first time in some areas.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Operation UNITE on a successful inaugural National Rx Drug Abuse Summit. They tossed a pebble into a big pond and I believe the ripple effect will be tremendous in the years to come.

HONORING GLENDON ENGERT

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Glendon Engert, who was slain together with Deputy Bob Paris on April 12th in Modesto, California while serving an eviction notice. My thoughts go especially to his wife of 11 years, Irina. No words can lessen the grief that is felt by those close to him; but I hope they know that we share, in what measure we can, their sorrow.

Mr. Engert was a man who did not discourage easily. Like so many in the Valley, he lost his employment when the recession took hold. He didn't give up, though, and secured a new job as a locksmith—a job that gave him the ability to support his family and maintain an active role in his church and community.

It is a tragedy that his initiative, his strong work ethic, unwittingly placed him in harm's way on April 12. We are thankful for the life of Glendon Engert and if this act, this statement, seems small before the moment, be assured of the sincerity of our sympathy and the depth of our emotion. May God bless the family and friends of Mr. Engert and welcome him to his everlasting reward.

CONGRATULATING BRENDA V.
TRIPLETT

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Brenda V. Triplett on her retirement from the Social Security Administration after thirty-four years of service to our government. As a member of the Federal Workforce Subcommittee in the House, we have had the honor of hosting many fellows from SSA that have advised us on the many complex issues of the agency.

Brenda has worked at various SSA offices in Illinois and Indiana. Her first position for SSA was at the Harvey, IL field office as a clerk and also as a clerk in the Markham, IL field office. Brenda's next position with SSA was at the Agency's Chicago Regional Office as a personnel staffing assistant in addition to the Gary, IN field office where she worked as an administrative aide; and later promoted to

the service representative position there. Brenda was then promoted again to the Title 16 claims representative position located at the Back of the Yards field office in Chicago, IL. Finally, in August 2008, she was promoted to the Chicago Teleservice Center, Chicago, IL as a supervisor where she remained until present.

During Brenda's retirement, she anticipates joining a bowling league. As an avid skater, there will be more opportunities for her to roller skate. In addition, she plans to act as primary caregiver for her parents and attend Bible study on regular basis.

I congratulate Brenda on all of her achievements and wish all best in her future endeavors. In the words of an old Irish saying, "May the sun always shine on your windowpane, May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain, May the hand of a friend always be near you, May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you!"

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION
EXTENSION ACT OF 2012, PART II

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4348) to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a multiyear law reauthorizing such programs, and for other purposes:

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, I support the Boustany amendment. I have been a long-time supporter of the RAMP Act. I represent the Port of Houston. We pay into the harbor maintenance trust fund, but we get far less out than we pay in. In fact, we get far less out than we need. We are facing a dredging crisis in upcoming years if we cannot get more harbor maintenance funding.

I am proud to represent the Port of Houston. The work that happens here and the commerce that is moved through here support the economy of the entire region. The Port is the largest foreign tonnage port and the largest petrochemical port in the country. In fact, it moves the second largest amount of cargo in the country. 8.5% of our nation's cargo moves through the Port of Houston. The commerce that occurs at our port is critical to our nation's energy and chemical sectors and to our country's ability to trade and move goods.

In 1998, the Federal Government invested \$700 million in deepening and widening the Houston Ship Channel. An investment we have benefitted from tremendously. However, as the years have passed silt has settled and reduced the draft in the channel significantly. Today, only .4% of the channel is dredged to its proper depth across the entire width of the channel. That is astounding. Our nation's investment is rapidly deteriorating. It is time that our government renews its commitment to maintaining the Port.

This is as important as ever as we face new business opportunities that are created by the expansion of the Panama Canal.

The Texas Transportation Institute performed a study and determined that a direct