

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 112th Congress that Mrs. Eileen Samuel of Birmingham, Alabama is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Recognition"—Mrs. Eileen Samuel, U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 10th day of March, 2012.

IN RECOGNITION OF MATTHEW  
PETER O'CONNOR

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Matthew Peter O'Connor who retired as the Chief of Police for the Hillsborough Police Department after more than 30 years of service.

Chief O'Connor has a stellar record of keeping the residents of Hillsborough safe. He maintained the lowest crime rate for a municipality with a population of over 10,000 for the entire decade of the 2000's. His leadership was instrumental in the department's radio and computer technological advances and in establishing lasting relationships with the Hillsborough school district. He has engaged our youths with bike rodeos, reading events and police officer lunches.

Mr. O'Connor followed in his father's footsteps in pursuing a career in law enforcement. The son of Matthew M. O'Connor, who was a special agent at the San Francisco office of the California State Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement, Matthew P. O'Connor began his career as a community service officer with the San Bruno Police Department at age 20. In 1981, he was hired as a deputy sheriff for the Alameda County Sheriff's Office. The following year he moved to the Hillsborough Police Department where he worked his way from police officer to field training officer to sergeant to commander and eventually chief of police in 2002.

Chief O'Connor has received numerous awards including the Life Saving Act of Heroism, the Notre Dame de Namur University Dean's Award for academic excellence and service to the University, the Notre Dame de Namur Alumni Award for achieving prominence in a profession and the Leadership in Action Award. Chief O'Connor's dedication and commitment to law enforcement are reflected in the many roles he has taken on over the years: he served as president of the San Mateo County Police Chiefs and Sheriff Association, Member of the California Police Chiefs Association and International Association of Chiefs of Police, chair of the County Communications & Technology Committee, member of the California State Police Chiefs Communications & Technology Committee, President of the 100 Club of San Mateo County, and graduate of the Leadership Program of San Mateo, Foster City, Burlingame and Hillsborough. He has also been a strong supporter of the annual Hillsborough Concours d'Elegance, the Centennial Celebration, the Memorial Day Parade and dignitary visits.

Matthew O'Connor was born in Glendale, California and raised in South San Francisco. He attended St. Veronica's Catholic School and South San Francisco High School. He earned his Associate in Science Degree from

San Francisco City College. He received both his Bachelor of Science in Human Services and Counseling and his Master's Degree in Public Affairs Administration from Notre Dame de Namur University. In addition, he is a graduate of the FBI National Academy Class 191 and the Delinquency Control Institute at the University of Southern California.

Chief O'Connor and his wife of 28 years, Janie, have two children, Matthew and Tayler. Upon his well deserved retirement Mr. O'Connor will be spending more time with his family and friends, traveling and taking photos.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor Matthew Peter O'Connor for his outstanding service to our community. He personifies what a law enforcement officer ought to be and has touched and improved the life of every resident in Hillsborough.

COMMENDING ARMISHA ROBERTS  
FOR BEING A RECIPIENT OF THE  
2012 BUICK ACHIEVERS SCHOLAR-  
SHIP PROGRAM

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Armisha Roberts of Boynton Beach, Florida, for being named one of the first four winners of the 2012 Buick Achievers Scholarship Program. The Buick Scholarship is bestowed upon students nationwide who have continually demonstrated an ability to excel in the classroom as well as have an interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, STEM, education; along with a willingness to serve the community.

Armisha has displayed an extraordinary commitment to community activism, volunteering for a variety of important projects such as Toys for Tots, Relay for Life, and Education Rocks. Furthermore, through her community involvement Armisha has participated in efforts to clean debris from a local inlet in addition to planting a community vegetable garden. Due to her dedication to community service, Armisha was appointed to the Education and Youth Advisory Board for Boynton Beach as a student voting member.

Armisha will be attending Howard University where she plans to major in mathematics and then seek a career in electrical engineering. In this field, Armisha hopes to be involved in the development of electric vehicles. I am proud that Armisha and other students recognize the value and importance of STEM education as well as the importance of giving back to the community.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly honored to represent such a driven student and young leader who lives in my Congressional district. I wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors, where I know she will go on to do great things. Armisha Roberts is the definition of a role model, and she is truly deserving of this most prestigious award.

HONORING LORRAINE B. MYLES

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, reaching the age of 75 years is a remarkable milestone; and

Whereas, Ms. Lorraine B. Myles was born on March 4, 1937 and is celebrating that milestone; and

Whereas, Ms. Myles has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the Will of God; and

Whereas, Ms. Myles is celebrating her 75th birthday with her family members, church members and friends here in DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the Lord has been her Shepherd throughout her life and she prays daily and is leading by example a blessed life; and

Whereas, we are honored that she is celebrating the milestone of her 75th birthday in the 4th District of Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Lorraine B. Myles for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all,

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 4, 2012 as Ms. Lorraine B. Myles Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 4th day of March, 2012.

RECOGNIZING TWO-YEAR ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE DEEPWATER  
HORIZON OIL SPILL

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tragic two-year anniversary of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill on April 20, 2010. The explosion that day and subsequent fire claimed the lives 11 American workers and after the sinking of the oil rig two days later led to the largest oil spill in U.S. waters. The damaged well was estimated to have lost approximately 60,000–100,000 barrels of oil each day. The effects of the oil spill on the Gulf Coast were staggering and still today have lingering effects.

Hundreds of miles of delicate ecosystems were devastated along the tidal shorelines of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. Approximately 83,927 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters were closed to fishing because of health concerns. Even after the eventual sealing of the well and the shutting off of crude oil flow, the work was not done. Extensive efforts were made to rid the water of oil and to restore the shorelines to their prior beauty. The untold economic impact on the fishing, tourism, and other industries of the Gulf cannot be overlooked.

I praise the valiant efforts of the men and women that spent countless hours dedicating themselves to containing and cleaning up of this disaster. The team included the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), EPA, the Department of

Homeland Security (DHS), Department of Commerce (DOC), Department of Interior (DOI), as well as state and local representatives. Workers diligently worked to get the necessary equipment to coastal waters but there were delays that can't be ignored.

I commend our efforts to immediately respond to the disaster by passing H.R. 5503, the SPILL Act, to reform the following maritime liability laws: Death on the High Seas Act, Jones Act, and Limitation on Liability Act. These bills are to ensure the families of those killed or injured in the BP Spill and other similar tragedies are justly compensated. We also passed H.R. 5481 that gave subpoena power to the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling tasked with providing recommendations on how to prevent future oil spills that result from offshore drilling. Our efforts should not stop there.

Strides have been made to establish a clear chain of command and developing a coordinated and efficient response to disasters. But, there is much more that has to be done to avoid another oil spill of this magnitude. We must stay vigilant in evaluating our nation's capacity to respond to oil spills. Develop standard national protocols for oil spill response and clean up assessments and develop guidance and tools for oil spill responders. Establish direct research and take action to improve the ability of the United States to conduct oil spill prevention, response, and recovery in Arctic waters. Our civic responsibility is to learn from our mistakes and apply those lessons to future oil spills and other such disasters that unfortunately may occur.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tragic two-year anniversary of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. I urge this body to continue to introduce and support legislation that prevents and protects our environment, economy, and families from future unfortunate disasters that may occur.

#### HONORING MARCI MCCARTHY

### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, the public safety of our citizens is the foremost priority of our government; and

Whereas, Ms. Marci McCarthy has given and continues to give exceptionable and distinguished service by providing guidance, protection and leadership in protecting our public and private sectors in cyberspace; and

Whereas, Ms. McCarthy gives of herself to insure that our Nation can foster greater professionalism in the Information Security Industry; and

Whereas, the issue of cybercrimes is of historical importance, and the work of Ms. McCarthy enhances the efforts of our homeland security and local law enforcement agencies; and

Whereas, Ms. McCarthy gives of herself daily without any need for praise and fame, while serving valiantly and making us proud; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this

day to honor and recognize Ms. Marci McCarthy for her leadership and service to our District and the Nation;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 13, 2012 as Ms. Marci McCarthy Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 13th day of March, 2012.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT J. PAYNE

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Officer Robert Payne for his 30 years of service at the Daly City Police Department.

Mr. Payne was appointed a police officer on June 1981 and attended the San Jose Criminal Justice Training Center Academy where he graduated in November of the same year.

Officer Payne served as a patrol officer and trained many new police recruits as field training officers. In the late 1980s he was assigned to the community division where he launched his career as a school resource officer and investigator. In that capacity he graduated from the prestigious Delinquency Control Institute at the University of Southern California. Officer Payne has taught an anti-gang and drug program throughout all the elementary schools in Daly City. He also was a liaison officer for both Westmoor and Jefferson High Schools where he developed a great rapport with the faculties.

Officer Payne coordinated several youth programs, including the "Every 15 Minutes" anti-drunk driving event and the "Kops and Kids" program. He helped design the "Just Say No to Gangs" program which was commended by the State of California Youth Authority.

He distinguished himself as a detective investigating crimes against children and was promoted to senior juvenile officer as a result. Officer Payne's dedication and commitment has not gone unnoticed. He received numerous awards, letters of appreciation, citizen letters and tributes from schools for his empathy and advocacy for our youth.

As a patrol officer he was awarded several commendations. For example in 2003, he received one for bravery and quick action for his assistance in the capture of an armed bank robbery suspect.

Robert is a Daly City boy through and through, having attended Holy Angels School and graduated from Westmoor High School in 1976. He earned his degree in criminal justice from San Jose State University.

He lives in Brentwood with his wife of 26 years, Debbie. They are the proud parents of two sons, Brian and Stephen who serve in the Marine Corps.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor the distinguished service of Officer Robert Payne to the residents of Daly City. His familiar face will be missed by his fellow officers and citizens alike.

#### HONORING SHUNDRA Y. NEPHEW

### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, there are many individuals who are called to contribute to the needs of our community through leadership and service; and

Whereas, Ms. Shundra Y. Nephew has answered that call by giving of herself as an educator at Edward L. Bouie, Sr., Elementary Traditional Theme School, and as a beloved daughter, granddaughter and friend; and

Whereas, Ms. Nephew has been chosen as the 2012 Teacher of the Year, representing Edward L. Bouie, Sr., Elementary Traditional Theme School; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents for the betterment of our community and our nation through her tireless works, motivational speeches and words of wisdom; and

Whereas, Ms. Nephew is a virtuous woman, a courageous woman and a fearless leader who has shared her vision, talents and passion to help ensure that our children, receive an education that is relevant not only for today, but well into the future, as she truly understands that our children are the future; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Shundra Y. Nephew for her leadership and service for our District and in recognition of this singular honor as 2012 Teacher of the Year at Edward L. Bouie, Sr., Traditional Theme Elementary School;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 30, 2012 as Ms. Shundra Y. Nephew Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 30th day of March, 2012.

#### HONORING SERGEANT DONALD E. SCHNOOR

### HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Veterans of Foreign Wars Chowchilla Post 9896 Life Member Sergeant Donald E. Schnoor. Mr. Schnoor served the United States of America honorably with the U.S. Army First Cavalry in the Korean War.

Sergeant Schnoor was born in Chowchilla, California, on December 19, 1934. After graduating from Chowchilla High School in 1952, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. He completed basic training at Fort Ord, and was selected to train as a musician with the Army Band Training Unit. Upon completion of band training, he was assigned to play the trombone with the 6th Army Band at Fort Mason in San Francisco. The band played for troops leaving and arriving by ship to and from the Far East, primarily Korea. Numerous Hollywood and local professional celebrities performed with the band.