

HONORING DR. STEVEN K.  
HUMPHREY

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 27, 2012*

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Steven K. Humphrey on his upcoming retirement after serving 42 years as an educator.

Having earned his bachelor's and master's degree from Western Illinois University, Dr. Humphrey went on to receive his doctorate from Illinois State University. Over the past four decades, Dr. Humphrey has served the students of Illinois as a teacher, a building administrator, a district administrator, and as a superintendent.

In 1970, Dr. Humphrey began his career in Mt. Sterling, Illinois, at Brown County High School teaching social studies and history. Three years later, he started his administrative career as principal of Seymour High School in Payson, Illinois. For the next eleven years, Dr. Humphrey served as administrative assistant and then assistant principal of Thornridge High School in Dolton, Illinois. He became assistant superintendent of Thornton High School District 205 in 1987, where he served until 1993 when he became superintendent of Crete-Monee School District 201U. He began his current post as superintendent of DuPage High School District 88 in 2001.

Throughout his career, Dr. Humphrey has set high expectations for his students, and has championed his belief that all students can learn at high levels. He has built important partnerships between businesses and educators, and has always put students first. Of particular note, Dr. Humphrey successfully led the nine communities in District 88 to support a referendum to modernize the infrastructure and environment of District 88's Addison Trail High School and Willowbrook High School. When both high schools made the Top Schools in America list in 2008, it was a testament to his leadership. Additionally, he has served as a member of several professional and community organizations. Dr. Humphrey's service and commitment to the community has helped strengthen the Illinois school system.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in honoring Dr. Humphrey for his remarkable career and in wishing him the best of luck in all of his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING LAKE TIRE  
AND AUTO ON 25 YEARS OF  
BUSINESS

**HON. DANIEL WEBSTER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 27, 2012*

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the 25th anniversary of Lake Tire and Auto, Inc. of Tavares, Florida. For a quarter of a century, the good people of Lake Tire and Auto have provided quality tire and auto service to residents across central Florida.

Owned and operated by the father and son team of Ralph and Matt Smith, Lake Tire and Auto is the oldest family-owned business in the Golden Triangle area of Lake County. The

Smiths' dedication to their customers and community is evident not only in their commitment to superior vehicle service, but through their involvement in community organizations and activities, such as Kiwanis and the Tavares Chamber of Commerce.

Local small and family-owned businesses like this are the backbone of our economy, and I am pleased to congratulate Ralph and Matt Smith for their hard work and tireless efforts in serving their customers and their community. May their actions inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

RECOGNIZING HERB WEITZMAN

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 27, 2012*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Mr. Herb Weitzman, a Dallas-born commercial real estate professional who has been in business for over 51 years. Mr. Weitzman is 72 years old, the owner and chief executive of the Weitzman Group and Cencor Realty Services, and he shows no signs of slowing down any time soon.

Texas is widely known for its thriving economy and deeply-rooted culture. Over the past five decades, Mr. Weitzman's contributions have added considerable value to the Texas economy, and he has helped to define the dynamic culture found in cities all across Texas.

In North Texas, Mr. Weitzman established the first locations for a number of retail chains including Kentucky Fried Chicken, Toys R Us, and T.J. Maxx. Mr. Weitzman has also brought newfound prominence and economic diversity to various shopping centers throughout Texas by bringing anchor stores like Whole Foods and Krogers, among many others. In addition to the economic benefits enjoyed by many Texans through the creation of jobs, Mr. Weitzman has helped to breathe new life into a number of Texas communities.

Mr. Speaker, Herb Weitzman is a man who understands the importance of building lasting relationships with his clients. In doing so, those relationships have helped Mr. Weitzman launch a long and successful career in real estate, and has had such a keen insight in business that he has weathered the difficult times in the economy. Mr. Weitzman is a model of what it takes to lead a successful business, and I am pleased to recognize his accomplishments and integrity in commercial real estate.

HONORING HOWARD CHAPMAN  
MORRIS

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 27, 2012*

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I honor Howard Chapman Morris, a devoted public servant to the people of Giles and the Greater New River Valley, who passed away on Wednesday, April 11, 2012.

A World War II Army Veteran, the first Giles County Voter Registrar, an active member of

Christ Episcopal Church in Pearisburg, and a member of the American Legion Post in Narrows, the American Legion Post in Pembroke and the VFW Post in Narrows, Howard truly loved to serve.

He was active in the Giles County community serving as a member and past chairman of both the Giles County Board of Supervisors and the Giles County Republican Party. He was a proud member, volunteer, and past president of the Giles County Chamber of Commerce. He was named the Giles County Citizen of the Year in 2006. And, he served on the Agency On Aging Board, the New River Valley Airport Commission. Howard also spent time on the Board at the Fairview Home in Dublin, where the dining room was dedicated in his honor.

A man whose legacy and influence will be long remembered across the Greater New River Valley and throughout Southwest Virginia, Howard will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to Howard's wife, Brenda; his four daughters; and all his family and friends. A husband, father, grandfather, public servant, and veteran, I am honored to pay tribute to Howard's many contributions to the community.

THE HEROISM OF JOSE DANIEL  
FERRER GARCIA

**HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 27, 2012*

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, today, I call attention to the brutal, unjustifiable imprisonment of pro-democracy activist and member of the Patriotic Union of Cuba (UNPACU), Jose Daniel Ferrer Garcia, who was once again arrested on April 2, 2012 and remains in prison more than three weeks later.

Ferrer was one of the seventy-five pro-democracy activists arrested during the infamous Black Spring of 2003, when Castro's thugs brutally arrested and imprisoned those who dared to speak out against oppression. Ferrer works closely with Cuba's well-known pro-democracy group, the Ladies in White, and has often documented the details of their arrests, beatings and other harassment to disseminate to the international community.

On April 2, at the time of the arrest, Ferrer's 14-year-old daughter, Martha Beatriz Ferrer Cantillo, reported that Ferrer and his wife, Belkis Cantillo, a Lady in White, were arrested in their home in Palmarito de Cauto in the province of Santiago de Cuba. Both Ferrer and Belkis were brutally beaten and removed from their house, and several of their personal items, including a picture of Laura Pollan, the courageous founder of the Ladies in White murdered by the regime, were taken by Castro's thugs. Their minor daughter was also beaten and threatened by Castro's thugs.

Ferrer remains confined in abhorrent conditions in the Versailles Police Unit prison used for violent criminals. His wife was able to visit him in prison for a few minutes on April 10, and she said that Ferrer was covered in insect bites and had become very thin. Earlier this week, Ferrer began a hunger strike to protest his imprisonment. He told his wife that, "they are killing me slowly."

Amnesty International once again listed Ferrer as a prisoner of conscience and called

for his release, saying that he was “detained only for peacefully exercising [the] right to free speech.” Prior to his arrest, Ferrer was offered the chance to go into exile and escape the regime’s brutality. However, he bravely chose to stay in Cuba and continue the struggle for freedom.

Regrettably, the arrest of Ferrer is not an isolated instance, but a common tactic of the regime. These arrests are part of an increasingly brutal campaign of oppression meant to silence Cuba’s growing pro-freedom movement. For example, we remember the daring protest of Andres Carrion Alvarez, the “mysterious” protester who dared to speak against the regime’s oppression during the Pope’s visit last month. Like Ferrer, he also languishes in prison for exercising his fundamental right to speak.

In fact, according to the Cuban Commission on Human Rights and National Reconciliation, the number of political arrests more than doubled in 2011 from those in 2010. This year, the regime is on course to make even more arrests. For the first three months in 2012, the Castro dictatorship has made 2,393 political arrests.

The days of the aging Castro dictatorship are numbered, and soon the real criminals will be held accountable for their crimes. Until then, we must call on the international community to stand with brave pro-democracy activists like Ferrer, and we must continue to recognize those who refuse to stay silent in the face of brutal oppression.

The Cuban people are demanding freedom, and many pay a high price for their courage. Here in the halls of Congress, the Cuban people are never forgotten. While Ferrer waits in a dark, humid cell covered with insect bites and growing thinner each day, he is never alone.

#### RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL DAY OF REASON

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 27, 2012*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thursday, May 3, 2012 as the 2012 National Day of Reason.

The National Day of Reason celebrates the application of reason and the positive impact it has had on humanity. It is also an opportunity to reaffirm the Constitutional separation of religion and government.

On March 24, I was proud to address the tens of thousands of Americans who gathered on the Mall for the Reason Rally. These individuals came from all around the country to deliver a simple message: Reason must be the guiding principle of our democracy. In a nation of citizens from so many different backgrounds and beliefs, the only way we can solve our problems is through cultivating intelligent, moral, and ethical interactions among all people.

Our Nation faces many problems—bringing our troops home from Afghanistan, creating jobs, educating our children, and protecting our safety net from irresponsible cuts. We will solve these issues through the application of reason. We must also protect women’s reproductive choices, the integrity of scientific re-

search, and our public education system from those who would hide behind religious dogma to undermine them.

Finally, the National Day of Reason is about taking time to improve our communities. Every year, events are held on this day that demonstrate the desire of secular Americans to help their fellow citizens and our Nation as a whole. Community service events, such as food drives and blood drives, are just some of the ways that people will be working to help those in need on the Day of Reason and throughout the year.

I encourage everyone to join in observing this day and focusing upon the employment of reason, critical thinking, the scientific method, and free inquiry to improve our world and our Nation.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF WORKERS’ MEMORIAL DAY

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 27, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to observe April 28 as Workers’ Memorial Day and to commemorate all the workers who have suffered or died from workplace injury and disease. April 28 marks a day of solidarity with workers around the world and of renewed commitment to occupational safety and health.

Since the creation of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration in 1970, the safety and rights of workers has become a high priority. Workplace fatalities have dropped by 65 percent. We have made significant progress in protecting Americans’ right to a safe and healthy workplace. However, we can and must do more to protect our workers and hold accountable employers who do not comply with safety standards and regulations. Even one death or injury is one too many.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, 3.3 million people in the United States suffer a workplace injury each year, and 12 Americans are killed each day on the job. The direct and indirect costs of these occupational injuries in the year 2010 alone are estimated to fall between \$159 and \$318 billion. The sad truth is that these injuries and deaths are entirely preventable.

As a proud member of the Congressional Labor and Working Families Caucus, I have strongly supported legislation to protect the safety and wellbeing of American workers and their families. I was a cosponsor of the “Protecting America’s Workers Act,” which would increase protections for whistle-blowers, increase the penalties for certain violations, and give more rights to injured workers. I have opposed any effort to repeal, delay, or weaken the enactment of any health and safety standards.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join workers and union members across the country in recognizing Workers’ Memorial Day and keeping in mind its slogan: “Remember the dead, fight for the living.” On this day, I would like to honor those who have lost their lives simply by going to work and their families who have sacrificed so much.

#### TRIBUTE TO HAROLD PHILLIPS

**HON. JON RUNYAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 27, 2012*

Mr. RUNYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to pay tribute to a true American hero, Harold Phillips of Moorestown, New Jersey for his courageous and dedicated service to our Nation.

In 1942, President Roosevelt established a presidential directive giving African Americans an opportunity to be recruited into the United States Marine Corps, USMC. These African Americans, from all states, were not sent to the traditional Marine Corps boot camps of Parris Island, South Carolina and San Diego, California. Instead, African American Marines were segregated—experiencing basic training at Montford Point—a facility at Camp Lejeune near Jacksonville, North Carolina. Approximately twenty thousand African American Marines received basic training at Camp Montford Point between 1942 and 1949. The Montford Point Marines fought courageously during World War II in key battles such as Iwo Jima, Okinawa and Saipan.

Harold Phillips, a lifelong Burlington County resident, joined the Marines right out of high school in 1943, and went to Montford Point for Marine Corps boot camp. Harold went on to serve as a member of the Marine Corps’ first African-American combat unit, the 51st Defense Battalion. Like other African American servicemen, he served during a period of considerable racial discrimination but persevered and his example paved the way for future generations of African Americans to serve their country honorably in the military.

I was proud to cosponsor H.R. 2447, a bill to grant the Congressional Gold Medal to the Montford Point Marines, which was signed into law November 23, 2011. For their dedicated service to our Nation, I hope Harold Phillips and the other Montford Point Marines will soon be awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian honor Congress can bestow.

Harold has lived a life of patriotism and service to his community, his state and his country. He is a pioneer who forged a path for future generations of African American men and women to serve their country in the Armed Services. I am proud to call Harold Phillips my constituent and I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking him for his service.

#### CONGRATULATING LT. COLONEL FREDRICK L. SPAULDING FOR WINNING THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 27, 2012*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I am honored and humbled to rise today to honor a fellow Hoosier, Lt. Colonel Fredrick L. Spaulding, who was recently awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, our Nation’s second highest award for military valor, for his extraordinary heroism at the Battle of Fire Base Ripcord during the Vietnam War.