

DONOVAN NICHOLS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2012*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Donovan Nichols for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Donovan Nichols is a 12th grader at Jefferson High and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Donovan Nichols is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Donovan Nichols for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

HONORING ROBERT F. JORDAN

**HON. RANDY HULTGREN**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2012*

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring the attention of the House of Representatives to a momentous occasion, the 85th birthday of Mr. Robert F. Jordan, to be celebrated on May 25, 2012, and to recognize the work he has done, first as a United States diplomat for more than 36 years, and in retirement, as an integral part of the US-Asia Institute.

Mr. Robert F. Jordan was born and raised in Framingham, Massachusetts. He served overseas in the U.S. Army from 1945 to 1947 and then attended the University of Massachusetts, graduating in 1951. From 1951 to 1956 he was a high school teacher of Algebra and Spanish.

In 1956 he started a 36-year diplomatic career with the U.S. Information Agency, serving as the Public Affairs Officer and director of the United States Information Service in 11 countries in Asia, Europe and Latin America with responsibility for all U.S. government press and cultural exchange programs. Mr. Jordan learned four foreign languages—Spanish, Italian, French, and Portuguese. He was president of the Fulbright Commission in several countries and was also president of the Government of Ireland's scholarship board. While on a Washington tour he was assigned to USIA's inspection corps and conducted policy and public diplomacy inspections of American embassies in some 40 countries worldwide.

Mr. Jordan is the recipient of several meritorious and superior honor awards and performance pay awards from USIA, the Department of Defense and the Department of State. He also received the Order of Merit from the Government of Portugal.

Following retirement in 1992 Mr. Jordan was called back by both USIA and the Department of State to conduct policy inspections of some

20 embassies worldwide. Then from 1995 to 2001 he worked for the Federal Emergency Management Agency handling the Spanish-speaking media on disasters around the country. All total during his career, he has honorably represented the United States in over 100 countries around the world.

In 1994–95 and then since 2007, Mr. Jordan has volunteered his time at the US-Asia Institute as a senior advisor and serving as Vice President of International and Government Affairs. In this role, he works closely with the Asian diplomatic community as well as with the U.S. Congress, and numerous delegations from Asia. He is committed to the mission and goals of the US-Asia Institute, promoting dialogue on international issues of common interest to the United States and Asian nations, whenever and however possible. In the course of his work, Mr. Jordan has led numerous delegations of Congressional staff to China and Singapore. He spent his 80th birthday on the Great Wall of China.

In his retirement, Mr. Jordan continues to work tirelessly to promote mutual understanding and communication between the U.S. and the countries and people of Asia. As he celebrates this latest milestone, we say thank you to Mr. Jordan for his sage counsel, his inimitable vision, his quiet behind-the-scenes diplomacy, and his unwavering commitment to the U.S.-Asia relationship.

IN HONOR OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS  
OF FLORENCE LARIVIERE**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2012*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Florence LaRiviere, a passionate citizen activist responsible for creating our country's first urban national wildlife refuge. Without Florence, it is safe to say that thousands of acres of wetlands and salt ponds along the San Francisco Bay would have been destroyed and developed. The Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, in my Congressional District, is the result of her tireless commitment to preventing urban sprawl from taking over unspoiled natural area.

On May 10th, Florence is being rightly honored for her decades of environmental and community service with the National Wetlands Award from the Environmental Law Institute of Washington, DC. Although Florence is being honored now, at the age of 88, her work to preserve the Bay spans seven decades.

In the 1950's Florence would take her children to enjoy the Bay's natural marshes and wetlands. Even then, development was steadily encroaching on this fragile ecosystem and threatened its very survival. Marshes were being drained and filled and the Bay's health was in severe decline. Florence organized other concerned citizens and launched a battle to preserve the wetlands and restore the Bay. They took their fight to then Representative Don Edwards, who championed legislation to create the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge in 1972. She didn't stop there. In the 1980s, she established the Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge and led the fight to expand the refuge by 20,000 acres.

After all these accomplishments, Florence LaRiviere still works to preserve and protect California's wetlands. In the last few years, I've been honored to work with Florence to restore the Eden Landing salt ponds along the Hayward Shoreline. Now, instead of sterile ponds, we have a thriving marsh where hundreds of bird species can be seen and the public can access the bay for hiking and kayaking.

The National Wetlands Awards are presented annually to individuals who have excelled in wetlands protection and is administered by the Environmental Law Institute and is supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA Forest Service, and Federal Highway Administration. A committee of wetlands experts representing federal and state agencies, academia, conservation organizations, and the private sector selects the Award recipients.

Florence is well deserving of this award. Her work to create and preserve the refuge has produced enormous benefits. It has sustained an immense number of birds and endangered species. It has also brought awareness to the Bay Area of the value of wetlands, and vastly improved residents' quality of life by providing them with public spaces to escape from the hustle and bustle of urban life. Florence is an inspiration to all of us who care about passing on a healthy environment to future generations.

RECOGNIZING DOWNTOWN  
WASHINGTON INC.**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2012*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Downtown Washington, Inc. On April 2, 2012, Downtown Washington was named a recipient of The Great American Main Street Award. The winners of this award are recognized for their exceptional accomplishments in revitalizing the nations' historic Main Street commercial district by using the National Trust's Main Street Four-Point Approach.

I ask that you join me in recognizing Downtown Washington, Inc. for its work to nurture and enhance its downtown area. A key part of Downtown Washington's success is due to the dedication and determination of Downtown Washington, Inc.'s board of directors and staff. With its outstanding leadership, the board of directors and staff have spearheaded the renovation of several historic buildings that have and will continue to attract fellow residents and visitors to the downtown area for years to come.

In addition, one of their top priorities is business retention, and Downtown Washington, Inc. works to make sure business owners have the latest information on grants and other incentives. Through their partnerships with the local chamber of commerce and city government, Downtown Washington, Inc. organizes many public events throughout the year, which truly help showcase the city's success.

In closing, I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing the members Downtown Washington, Inc. congratulations on receiving this award.

DRISZELLE RICHARDSON

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2012*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Driszelle Richardson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Driszelle Richardson is a 12th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Driszelle Richardson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Driszelle Richardson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING MRS. SHIRLEY W. SIMMONS FOR HER COMMITMENT TO LITERACY

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2012*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mrs. Shirley W. Simmons. Mrs. Simmons is a lifelong resident of Jackson, Mississippi and a graduate of Brinkley High School and Jackson State University. After college, Mrs. Simmons worked in early childhood education for a number of years. She then took time off from education to focus on raising her children. During those years, she took an active interest in the Parent Teachers Association, PTA, and volunteered with school fundraisers and local Girl Scout troops.

In 1996, she was hired as a Circulation Assistant with the Jackson/Hinds Library System-Medgar Evers Branch. While there, she was promoted to Professional Assistant and then to her current position of Branch Supervisor.

As Branch Supervisor, Mrs. Simmons continuously seeks new ways to involve the community in programs and activities being held by the library and has planned and participated in many library activities. Some of these include library story times, Medgar Evers celebrations, Medgar Evers parades, the Books for Tots program, the Medgar Evers Book Club, and annual summer reading programs.

Mrs. Simmons assists annually with the Jackson State University Alumni Association fundraising initiatives and participates in breast cancer awareness activities. She is also a Sil-

ver Life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP. Mrs. Simmons is a devoted wife and mother and grandmother of three children and one grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Shirley W. Simmons for her commitment to the community and others.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE JACQUELINE H. NGUYEN

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable Jacqueline H. Nguyen of California, whom the Senate confirmed yesterday to the United States Court of Appeals for The Ninth Circuit by a vote of 91–3. Judge Nguyen becomes the first woman of Asian descent to serve on the federal bench. What a wonderful way to begin Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month!

Mr. Speaker, Judge Nguyen is a testament to this truly being the land of opportunity. She was born in Dalat, Vietnam and at the age of nine, she fled Vietnam with her family during the fall of Saigon. Upon arriving in the United States, her family lived for a time in a refugee tent city at Camp Pendleton before settling in the Los Angeles area. She helped her family operate a doughnut shop in North Hollywood, where she studied between helping customers. At a very young age she was put in a difficult situation but her circumstances did not deter her from her dreams.

Judge Nguyen received her A.B. from Occidental College in 1987, and her J.D. from UCLA School of Law in 1991. From 1995 to 2002, she worked in the United States Attorney's Office in the Central District of California. Serving in the criminal division as an Assistant United States Attorney, she worked as a federal prosecutor in the General Crimes section from 1995–1996 and in the Public Corruption and Government Fraud section from 1996–1999. She took on the role of the General Crimes section's Deputy Chief from 2000–2002.

In 2002, she was appointed to serve on the state bench as a Judge of the Superior Court of the County of Los Angeles, becoming the first female Vietnamese-American judge in California's history. In July 2009, President Obama nominated Judge Nguyen for a seat on the bench of the United States District Court for the Central District of California. After being confirmed 97–0 she became the first Vietnamese-American to serve on the federal bench. Judge Nguyen brought to the federal bench substantial civil and criminal experience both as a lawyer and as a judge.

Like many other great Americans, she has followed in the American tradition of giving back. She is a founding member of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association. She is the recipient of numerous awards from legal associations, including the Women's Leadership Award, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (2010), and the Trailblazer Award from both the National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys (2009) and the

National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (2006).

I congratulate Judge Nguyen on her appointment and looking forward to having this exceptional jurist serve with distinction for many years to come.

H.R. 4967, THE “TEMPORARY BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIIPS EXTENSION ACT OF 2012”

**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2012*

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following exchange of letters:

MAY 9, 2012.

Hon. LAMAR SMITH,  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SMITH: I am writing concerning H.R. 4967, the “Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012,” which is scheduled for Floor consideration today.

As you know, the Committee on Ways and Means maintains jurisdiction over revenue measures generally. H.R. 4967, contains a provision that raises revenue by increasing the Chapter 11 filing fees for the operation and maintenance of the courts of the United States, which falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means. In order to expedite this bill for Floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action on the bill. This is being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation in the future.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 4967, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during Floor consideration.

Sincerely,

DAVE CAMP,  
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,  
Washington, DC, May 9, 2012.

Hon. DAVE CAMP,  
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CAMP: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 4967, the “Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012,” which is soon scheduled for consideration by the House.

I am most appreciative of your decision to forgo consideration of H.R. 4967 so that it may move expeditiously to the House floor. I acknowledge that although you are waiving formal consideration of the bill, the Committee on Ways and Means is in no way waiving its jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in the bill. In addition, if a conference is necessary on this legislation, I will support any request that Ways and Means be represented therein.

Finally, I shall be pleased to include this letter and your letter of even date herewith in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of H.R. 4967.

Sincerely,

LAMAR SMITH,  
Chairman.