

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.

EDWIN SAENZ

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 Edwin Saenz for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Edwin Saenz is a 10th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Edwin Saenz 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 Edwin Saenz 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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote No. 206 on the evening of May 7, 2012. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: rollcall vote No. 206—Scalise (LA) Amendment: “no.”

2012 14TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT ART COMPETITION**HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the artistic ability of a young woman from my Congressional District, Iesha Grady from Penn Hills High School. Ms. Grady is the winner of the 2012 14th Congressional District of Pennsylvania's High School Art Competition, “An Artistic Discovery.” Ms. Grady's artwork, a composition in oil pastels entitled “Harmless Apple Juice?” was selected from a number of outstanding entries to this year's competition.

In fact, 45 works from ten different schools in Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District were submitted to our panel of respected local artists. It's a real tribute to her skill and vision that her work was chosen as the winner of this year's competition. I am certain that Ms. Grady's family is proud of her artistic talents and this impressive accomplishment.

Ms. Grady's artwork will represent the 14th Congressional District of Pennsylvania in the national exhibit of high school students' artwork that will be displayed in the United States Capitol over the coming year. I encourage my colleagues as well as any visitor to

Capitol Hill to view Ms. Grady's artwork, along with the winning entries from the high school art contests held in other Congressional Districts, which will be on display in the Capitol tunnel. It is amazing to walk through this corridor and see the interpretation of life through the eyes of these young artists from all across our country.

Maggie Morgans from West Mifflin High School was awarded second place for her pastel composition “Snowmageddon.” Sara Hopkins from Northgate High School received third place for her pencil drawing entitled “Britney.” Jasper Means from Penn Hills High School was awarded fourth place for his watercolor “Life Saving Station #7.” Stephanie Taylor from South Allegheny High School was given fifth place for her oil painting “Shades of Green.” I should note, by the way, that this is the third year in a row that one of Stephanie's works has placed in this competition. Last year she took Second Place, and in 2010 her painting was the winner. Clearly, this young lady has a lot of talent.

In addition, Honorable Mention Awards were presented to works by Erin Hart of Riverview High School, Julian Moriarty from Woodland Hills High School, Alexis Yauch of McKeesport High School, Morgan Turner of Northgate High School, Mikaila Hoffman from Pittsburgh Allderdice High School, Dan O'Leary of Riverview High School, Stephanie Taylor of South Allegheny High School, Elizabeth Thornton from Sto-Rox High School, Sara Hopkins of Northgate High School, and Ashley Reid of Riverview High School.

I would like to recognize all of the participants in this year's 14th Congressional District High School Art Competition, “An Artistic Discovery:” from the Pittsburgh High School for the Creative and Performing Arts, Adam Linn; from McKeesport High School, Jordan Armstrong, Jake Hall, Cortez Snooks, and Alexis Yauch; from Northgate High School, Sara Hopkins and Morgan Turner; from Penn Hills High School, Ebony Black-Yancey, Serena English, Stephan Godbolt, Iesha Grady, Jasper Means, and Roomel Reese; from Pittsburgh Allderdice High School, Justin E. Dumas, Sarah Fehl, Mikaila Hoffman, Asma Qutyan, and Olivia Savisky; from Riverview High School, Bailey Conroy, Erin Hart, Demetrius Kokales, Lauren McKee, Dan O'Leary, and Ashley Reid; from South Allegheny High School, Eric Raynes and Stephanie Taylor; from Sto-Rox High School, Shane Jenkins, Melissa Fowkes Palitti, Samantha Reiss, and Elizabeth Thornton; from West Mifflin High School, Kasey Angel, Victoria Cooper, Chelsey Earnest, Katie Fahringer, Kristine Lype, and Maggie Morgans; and from Woodland Hills High School, Madison Harding, Julian Moriarty, Manuel Russell, and Jacqueline Zollner.

I would like to thank these impressive young artists for allowing us to share and celebrate their talents, imagination, and creativity. The efforts of these students in expressing themselves in a powerful and positive manner are no less than spectacular.

I hope that all of these individuals continue to utilize their artistic talents, and I wish them all the best of luck in their future endeavors.

HONORING TOM LEONARD

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and commend, Tom Leonard, who will be receiving the 2012 Essex Heritage Hero Award tonight.

Having championed heritage preservation and responsible stewardship of the region's historic, cultural, and natural resources during his eight-year tenure as the founding president of the Essex National Heritage Commission and now as its president emeritus, Tom is certainly deserving of this honor.

However, those in attendance at tonight's award dinner will know that Tom's service to his community did not begin with nor is it limited to his work with the Essex National Heritage Commission. Throughout his life, Tom has been dedicated to making our neighborhoods better places to live, work, and raise a family as well as increasing opportunities for children and young adults, particularly those who attend his alma mater, St. John's Preparatory School in Danvers. Tom is a selfless leader, a man of integrity, and a true citizen.

Tom's awards and accomplishments are too long to list, but I would be remiss if I did not mention that, in 2006, Essex Heritage established the Thomas M. Leonard Partnership Grant Program. This unique effort is focused on educating our youth and increasing their awareness about our region's natural and historic resources. Grants have been awarded to local schools and the National Park Service to enable more kids from outside of Salem to visit the Salem Maritime and Saugus Iron Works National Historic sites. Additionally, over the years, Tom has been recognized by the American Cancer Society, the Salem Harbor Community Development Corporation, the Salem Chamber of Commerce, the Salem Rotary Club, and the Danvers Community Council.

Mr. Speaker, that impressive list will grow when Tom receives the 2012 Essex Heritage Hero Award this evening. I want to congratulate Tom and his wife, Marge, and their sons, Michael and Mark, and their entire extended family on this great honor.

EDITE MALOKU

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 Edite Maloku for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Edite Maloku is an 11th 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 Edite Maloku 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.