

For example, they support youth and educational opportunities through international student exchange programs, and, each year, they award eight different scholarships to Arkansas's college students.

Along with serving our community, many members of the Little Rock Rotary Club have bravely served in our nation's Armed Forces.

They will be recognized next week in Little Rock, and I want to take this opportunity to thank them for their bravery and their service to our nation and preserving our freedoms.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF LITTLE ROCK VETERANS

Dan G. Beranek, Tom Bonner, Harvey F. Brown III, Sam L. Chaffin, James B. Conner, Samuel D. Cummings Jr., Eugene G. Eberle Jr., Victor A. Fleming, Irving B. Goldberg, Wayne A. Gruber, Thomas Harding Jr., James T. Harvey, Richard B. Homard Ph.D., Gerald K. Johnson D.D.S., J. Floyd Kyser, Aaron Lubin, Maxwell J. Lyons II, Jack R. McCray, George E. McLeod, Carleton McMullin, Patrick D. Miller, Marc Oudin, Prosper F. Paul, Eugene M. Pfeiffer III, Ashley S. Ross Jr., Ted L. Snider, William Boyd Ward, E. Grainger Williams, George G. Worthen, Calvin D. Biggers, Ralph G. Brodie, Robert A. Callans, Joseph Thomas Clements III, Reggie A. Corbitt, Steve Michael Daugherty, John A. Festa, James F. Gadberrry, William C. Goolsby, Lynn Ray Hamilton, James E. Harris, Richard F. Hatfield, Barry D. Hyde, Greg M. Joslin, Beverly J. Lambert III, Robert M. Lyford, William Aubert Martin, Bob G. McKuin, Roger McMennamy, David F. Miller Ph.D., Walter W. Nixon III, James J. Pappas M.D., Arthur J. Pfeifer, Carl S. Rosenbaum, Elwood W. Smith, Arthur E. Squire Jr., Alfred L. Williams and Jerry C. Wilson.

SECOND INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT MA JING-JEOU

HON. ANN MARIE BUERKLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Ms. BUERKLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Taiwan on the second inauguration of President Ma Ying-jeou. In so many respects, Taiwan has come a long way in its progress. Taiwan has become one of the world's leading economic forces, despite enormous pressure and obstacles.

As a close ally and friend of Taiwan, we celebrate the rapid advancement of the island nation. Given our close ties with Taiwan—ties that include our common defense and economic cooperation—their progress as a nation is vital for American interests. I am proud to be a member of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year.

A basic element of our common economic well-being is trade. Taiwan is a major trading partner of ours and a major importer of one of our largest industries, agriculture. Taiwan imports large amounts of wheat, corn, and soybeans, mostly from the United States. Poultry and pork production is a staple of Taiwan's livestock sector and drives demand for imported corn and soybeans from the United States, Taiwan's prime supplier.

In these trying days of world economic upheaval, it is certainly gratifying to know we not only have a good friend but a good customer in Taiwan. By their continued imports of our products, Taiwan helps to provide American

jobs, which is more important than ever for the American people.

Good luck President Ma. We wish you the best in your second term.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. CHIP CRAVAACK

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4310) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes:

Mr. CRAVAACK. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment, which would express a sense of Congress that fighter wings performing the 24-hour Aerospace Control Alert missions provide an essential service in defending the sovereign airspace of the United States in the aftermath of 9/11.

Mr. Chair, the tragic events of 9/11 exposed holes in our nation's air security and reinforced the need for the U.S. military to take the steps necessary to significantly increase our ability to intercept hostile aircraft. Today, there are fighter jets placed at strategic points all across the United States, charged with the mission to provide air defense through the detection, deterrence, and if necessary, defeat of hostile air attacks. These sites, known as Aerospace Control Alert sites, have fully armed aircraft and trained personnel on 24-hour alert, 365 days a year.

One such Aerospace Control Alert site resides in my district. The 148th Fighter Wing of the Minnesota Air National Guard, also known as the "Bulldogs," operates out of Duluth, Minnesota, and provides force protection of our country's northern border between Madison, Wisconsin, and Portland, Oregon. The Bulldogs have been performing the ACA mission successfully for years and were selected for the Raytheon trophy, which is awarded for outstanding performance to an Air Force or Air National Guard fighter unit with a mission in air defense. In fact, I am proud to say that the Director of the Air National Guard, Air Force Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt III announced just this month that the 148th Fighter Wing was selected as the 2012 Air Force Association Outstanding Air National Guard Flying Unit.

Given the importance of the 24-hour Aerospace Control Alert mission to our national security, I was greatly concerned when I learned a few months ago of NORAD's proposed reduction of the 24-hour alert mission requirement at two Aerospace Control Alert (ACA) sites in the Continental United States. It is my understanding that this proposal was submitted in line with the President's budget request for FY 2013 and the U.S. Air Force's decision to make force structure changes.

My concern grew when I learned of a January 2012 GAO report that reviewed NORAD's 2010 analysis on whether it could change the number and location of its fighter sites without affecting the military's ability to defend the country against airborne attack. GAO's conclusion was that this NORAD analysis did not

adequately balance risk with targeted budget reductions.

I recognize that our country's current fiscal reality necessitates the Department of Defense to tighten its belt and look for ways to do more with less.

However, I think it is imperative that decisions that directly affect our nation's ability to defend itself should be made on the basis of risk-management principles that balance risk and costs.

Therefore, I also rise today in support of Section 352 in the underlying bill, which would direct the Secretary of Defense to maintain our nation's existing eighteen ACA sites until the Secretary submits a report that shows the cost-benefit analysis and risk-based assessment of how future ACA changes would affect the DOD budget and force structure.

I would like to thank Congressman LOBIONDO for adding this important provision to the bill, and I urge the adoption of my amendment in recognition of a critical asset in our nation's defense system.

REMARKS ON THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Golden Gate Bridge—a great feat of technological and engineering mastery, a San Francisco landmark, and a national treasure. Today, it is my distinct honor and high privilege to mark its 75th birthday on the floor of the House of Representatives.

Proving that in times of hardship, America has always invested in big things, the Golden Gate Bridge was built in the midst of the Great Depression. San Franciscans were out of work and saw no end to their woes. Yet voters nonetheless approved the construction bonds to build the bridge. As collateral, San Franciscans were willing to risk their homes, their farms and their businesses—their very livelihoods, in the hope that the toll dollars would help pay back the bonds. The Golden Gate Bridge was a symbol of hope and a vision for the future.

Joseph Strauss envisioned the Bridge, which takes its name from the Golden Gateway that links the Pacific Ocean to the San Francisco Bay. It was Irving Morrow who designed the Art Deco styling and its world-famous international orange color that made the Bridge distinct and unique. The many engineers who constructed the Bridge all shared the American spirit that makes our country great. When it opened on May 27, 1937 Strauss shared his poem, "The mighty task is done" which encapsulated all that had been accomplished.

Twenty-five years ago, I had the distinct pleasure of participating in the 50th anniversary celebrations where hundreds of thousands of people crowded onto the Bridge to celebrate. The enormity of the crowd was so unexpected that the Bridge flattened under its weight. Today, the Golden Gate Bridge remains the most graceful and spectacular bridge in the world, beloved by our city and visited annually by millions of people

from around the globe. It is a beautiful welcome to the many who flock to America's shores.

Whether as a child first viewing the Golden Gate Bridge being mesmerized by its size, or as a worker whose lifework has kept the bridge strong, or as a traveler who relies on the bridge daily, it is a lasting symbol of San Francisco, of human tenacity and ingenuity, and is resplendent in the Western sun.

With great pride I join all San Franciscans in paying tribute to the Golden Gate Bridge: our constant joy, our faithful companion, and our City's pride.

KYLE QUINTRALL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

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

The dedication demonstrated by Kyle Quintrall 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 Kyle Quintrall 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 THE CALVARY BAPTIST
CHURCH OF NORTH JERSEY AT
GARFIELD

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Calvary Baptist Church. Since its founding in 1927, the church has provided a sanctuary of worship and service to the faithful of Garfield, New Jersey and the surrounding area, and I extend my sincerest congratulations as the proud congregants celebrate the church's 85th anniversary.

Under the current visionary leadership of Reverend Calvin McKinney, Calvary Baptist Church carries on the strong tradition of faith, service, and fellowship began by its original members. Its reach extends beyond to those who gather weekly within its walls to worship to all those it services through humanitarian efforts, in the North Jersey area and beyond. Its informed congregation, in matters religious, civic, and political, is a model for the community at-large.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the remarkable Calvary Baptist Church, a venerable house of worship that has touched the lives of

the faith community and all who live in the Garfield area. I join with the grateful congregants, and all of my constituents in Northern New Jersey, in celebrating the 85th anniversary of the Calvary Baptist Church of North Jersey at Garfield. I look forward to the opportunity to celebrate many more anniversaries with our friends at Calvary Baptist Church.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
VETERANS OF PIONEER HOUSE

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Pioneer House of California and its members, as they observe this Memorial Day. The Pioneer House is a non-profit retirement facility that is home to over 22 veterans and two veteran staffers. Each of them has bravely served our country, and dedicated their lives to our freedom. Their service, along with the service of all veterans, has been crucial to maintaining our liberty.

The following men and women are members of the Pioneer House and have bravely served our country: Milo Chun, Jack Cochrane, Helen Lee, George Newhall, George Schmidt, Jeanne Kelly, Arnold Lee, Rod Rasmussen, Thomas McCauley, Nolan Jones, Ted Lochowski, Eddie Rose, Leonard Watson, John Saville, Ninus Harris, Lionel Holmes, Fred O'Shea, John Dierking, James Shields, Lou Adam, Gene Tarr, and George Sleep. Staffers Carolyn Keesor and David Armstrong not only served our country, but provide key support to the facility. As Memorial Day approaches, I would like to personally thank each and every one of them for their service, commitment, and dedication to our country.

Mr. Speaker, as the members of the Pioneer House gather for Memorial Day to honor their fellow veterans, I ask all my colleagues to join me in saluting these fine individuals for their excellent work and commitment to our nation.

HONORING HARVEY MILK

HON. ADAM E. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Harvey Milk in recognition of the third annual Harvey Milk Day which will be celebrated on May 22nd. As we come together, let us remember that this day is not only a celebration of this incredible leader, it is also a day to recognize every American who believes in Harvey's visionary fight for equality in this great nation.

Harvey entered politics late in life, after becoming frustrated with San Francisco politics and widespread discrimination against gay individuals. In 1977, Harvey won a seat on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, marking the first time an openly gay man had been elected to public office in California. He quickly became one of the world's most high profile

openly gay elected officials, and used his influence to encourage and support the LGBT and minority communities around him. Harvey was dedicated to building support for real change, and to ensuring that no group was unrepresented or unheard. Although Harvey was only in office for less than a year, his tenure had a massive and lasting influence on thousands of lives both inside and outside of San Francisco. His life became an example of the difference one committed individual can make in their community, and Harvey's was a welcome turning point for LGBT individuals in San Francisco and beyond.

Today, we have many more opportunities to follow Harvey's example. But first, we must reaffirm our commitment to LGBT rights, and the right of every American citizen to be a free and equal member of our society.

Recently, we have taken great strides towards this goal. We have increased protection against hate crimes motivated by a person's sexual orientation, fought against employment discrimination against LGBT individuals, increased funding for HIV/AIDS research and prevention, and repealed the discriminatory "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. With President Obama's courageous endorsement last week, we are beginning to take small yet certain steps towards the legalization of same-sex marriage. Despite these small victories, there are still many more battles to fight, individuals to inspire and groups to educate.

Anna Kronenberg, Harvey's final campaign manager, wrote "What set Harvey apart from you or me was that he was a visionary. He imagined a righteous world inside his head and then he set about it to create it for real, for all of us." Each one of us has an obligation to finish the work which Harvey started. This struggle for equality is too important to avoid, and too desperately needed to put off any longer. I urge my colleagues and every American to join me in my fight for equality as we honor and remember Harvey Milk.

HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICERS

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, the scriptures tell us there is no greater love than one who would lay down his life for a friend. Each day, our families, friends, colleagues, and neighbors live in safety because there are those willing to lay down their lives to protect their communities. Law enforcement officers not only protect and defend; they are a beacon of light for this country and our towns are made better by their valiant service.

Their service is not without sacrifice. Often their families and friends carry their burdens as the law enforcement officers carry ours. Too often, some who wake every morning in service to their communities do not make it home. This year, there will be five more names added to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice while protecting and defending the great state of Tennessee. I join with those gathered, and the families of those lost, to honor Patrolman II Timothy Warren, Deputy Sheriff Richard Bellar, Trooper Andrew Wall, Captain Ralph Braden, and Sergeant James Tim Chapin.