

young women across the country to become strong and powerful, compassionate and wise themselves.

Those honored have helped women's rights evolve over the last century. Starting with Juliette Gordon Low, who in 1912 registered 18 girls to create the first troop of American Girl Guides, who later became the Girl Scouts.

The Girl Scout movement brought girls into the out-of-doors, and helped to develop their self-reliance and resourcefulness. Today it is still going strong, and continues to be an organization that is accepting of people from all backgrounds, with a membership that has grown to 3.7 million girls. Although she passed away in 1927, Ms. Low's efforts are still being felt today, and her memory will continue in the lives of the remarkable Girl Scouts who serve their communities.

Madeline Albright was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia, in the years right before World War II. Her family was forced to flee with the rise of Hitler, and after a number of years spent in Europe, Ms. Albright found her way to America. While raising a family she was able to earn her Ph.D. and eventually work her way up to the position of U.S. Ambassador of the United Nations.

In 1997 she was sworn in as the first female Secretary of State, and therefore became the highest ranking woman in America's history. Ms. Albright broke into a male dominated world and rose to the top. She has inspired many young women to do the same, and truer words were never spoken when she said, "Only in America can a refugee become the Secretary of State."

Toni Morrison's first novel was *The Bluest Eye*. This controversial book brought about a frank conversation on ideas of beauty in relation to race and class. These kind of issues made people uncomfortable, and it was placed on multiple banned book lists. However, Ms. Morrison understood the necessity of speaking openly about these issues in order move forwards from them. She went on to win the Nobel Prize in Literature and continues to bring important issues to the table through her writings.

Pat Summitt has won more championships than any other coach in NCAA history. Even with a recent diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease she is still coaching, claiming that the players are her "best medicine." Outside of her tremendous athletic accomplishments, every single one of her players has either graduated, or is currently on her way to a degree. She is a true teacher and inspiration to all women and those suffering from dementia alike.

Mr. Speaker, we should all be proud to be fellow citizens of these women. I would also like to recognize the great Delores Huerta, co-founder of the Farm Workers Union who also received the Medal of Freedom. I will describe her contributions and achievements later today.

The significant contributions of these extraordinary women have influenced people across the world. They have shown us that it is okay to be strong and commanding, and that a woman has as much right as a man to hold a position of power. These women have influenced generations of people with their words and actions, and they truly deserve this honor.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MOUNT WASHINGTON CRUISES ON THEIR 140TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Mount Washington Cruises on reaching your 140th Anniversary.

New Hampshire is proud to be home to some of the most beautiful sights in the Northeast. The White Mountains and Lakes Region have attracted tourists from all over the world, and the beauty and grandeur of Lake Winnepesaukee has been shared with thousands of visitors thanks to the M/S *Mount Washington*.

The M/S *Mount Washington* is truly one of New Hampshire's greatest treasures and continues to be one of the state's leading tourist attractions in the Lakes Region and for Weirs Beach. The daily in season tours give visitors the chance to view firsthand the beauty and majesty of Lake Winnepesaukee. With the ability to hold 1250 passengers, the "*Mount*" has also been a popular venue for parties, weddings and various celebrations. Today Mount Washington Cruises is owned and operated by local individuals ensuring that this fine vessel and her operations maintain in New Hampshire and are run by New Hampshire's great citizens.

I congratulate the owners, officers and crew of the Mount Washington Cruises for their continued success and their dedication to maintain the great legacy of the M/S *Mount Washington* here in the Granite State. I wish you all the best for continued success in the future.

HONORING THE AROOSTOOK MEDICAL CENTER

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Aroostook Medical Center in advance of its 100th anniversary. The City of Presque Isle has proclaimed June 9th TAMC Day to commend the medical center's outstanding work on behalf of the community.

The Aroostook Medical Center began as the Presque Isle General Hospital in 1912. Established to meet the healthcare needs of the growing Northern Maine community, the hospital has since expanded to include top services and facilities in many Aroostook communities including Presque Isle, Mars Hill, Fort Fairfield, Caribou, and Ashland. TAMC is one of the area's largest economic drivers, employing over 1000 staff members and 60 physicians. The hospital is also a member of the Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems allowing TAMC to connect its patients with specialty physicians and advanced services.

Providing access to quality health care in rural areas like Maine can be a challenge for many health providers, yet TAMC continues to thrive in Aroostook County. The hospital was recognized nationally last year for the positive feedback it received from patient satisfaction

surveys. After receiving the award, TAMC went back to work on finding new ways to improve patient comfort.

On June 9, 2012, the State of Maine will express its thanks to TAMC for its many years of tremendous service. I am pleased to share in the celebration of TAMC Day and the 100th anniversary of the hospital's establishment.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating The Aroostook Medical Center on its outstanding service to the people of Maine.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF CAROLINE OTTEN SHEA

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the tragically abbreviated life of an extraordinary woman, Caroline Otten Shea, who passed on May 11, 2012, at the age of 63. She was a loving wife, a devoted mother, a doting grandmother, a beloved sister, a teacher, and a community leader. She will be missed by every person who had the good fortune to know her, and I count myself among those so blessed.

Caroline Shea, a fourth generation San Franciscan, was raised on Potrero Hill and attended St. Theresa's Elementary School and Presentation High School. Caroline was a stalwart in her Millbrae community. Her door was always open to the children she loved so much and to so many others who were made to feel that her home was their own. Caroline was named Millbrae's Woman of the Year in 2004; served on the Millbrae School Board since 1993; was President of the Mills Booster Club; and the Mills PTA. She also served on the Board of the Meadows Swim Club where she spent her summers. She loved spending time at the beach with her family. She also served capably as Banquet Manager at Kokkari Estiatorio in San Francisco.

Her family wrote of Caroline "She was our diamond; the strongest and brightest rock in every situation, making sure everything went smoothly for those around her." This captures Caroline, and it is an eloquent statement about the loving, caring, selfless woman she was. Caroline said, "Remember, whether you are a teacher, secretary custodial staff, instructional aide, anyone who works with children—you do make a difference."

Caroline is survived by her loving husband James, her children Tracy Montserrat (Paul), Kevin (Christie), and Brian. Caroline lost her beloved daughter Kelly Gallo 8 years ago, and in her honor established the Kelly Shea Gallo Foundation. Caroline is survived by her adored grandchildren Mia, Chloe, Alyssa, Thomas, Claire and Kiley. She will be sorely missed by her sister Judy (George) and brother Pete. She also leaves nieces Jennifer, Mary Jane, Demetra, and Alexandria and nephews John and Mike.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our most sincere sympathy to Caroline Shea's entire family and to the many who were part of her large Millbrae community of friends. Caroline Otten Shea's life was one of an exceptional citizen. As she strengthened her community in countless ways, she strengthened our country as well.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM EXTENSION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the National Flood Insurance Program Extension Act.

I support this bill because any extension is better than no extension. We really owe our constituents more than a 60 day extension and we must pass a long-term reauthorization the NFIP. Last year, the House completed their work on a reauthorization. I supported that bill and wish it was the one we could consider today.

In our district, in Houston and East Harris County, Texas, the flood insurance program is critically important. Many of our constituents are required to carry flood insurance. The flood plain in our district covers thousands of houses and because of the topography of the land, the flood insurance program is the only way building and living here is practical. Without it, no policies could be written and no one would want to buy or live with such financial risk hanging over their heads.

I also hope that when we revisit flood insurance that we include provisions that provide a five year phase-in of flood insurance premiums for low-income homeowners or renters whose primary residence is placed within a flood plain through an updating of flood insurance program maps. This language, which was in the bill we passed last July, homes can be valued at no more than 75% of the median home value for the state in which the property is located. The Harris County Flood Control District implements new flood control measures by maintaining bayous, building retention basins, and implementing drainage features, but even the best flood control can be overrun by a particularly bad storm. This language should be included in the final bill that is sent to the President.

I look forward to working with my colleagues so that the next time we consider flood insurance we are reauthorizing and not extending it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, on May 30, I attended a family event and missed rollcall votes Nos. 294, 295, and 296. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on each of these votes. Specifically, I believe that rollcall vote 294, the Prescription Drug User Fee Amendments of 2012 is critical to the health and safety of all Americans. It ensures that people have access to crucial medicines and medical devices, improves access to new and innovative medicines and devices, helps prevent and mitigate drug shortages, and reduces drug costs for consumers by speeding the approval of lower-cost generic drugs. Very importantly, the bill includes important provisions to help prevent and mitigate drug shortages

which have become too frequent and with dire consequences. These provisions include:

Require manufacturers of critical or life-saving drugs to notify the agency within six months, or as soon as possible, of an interruption or permanent stop in manufacturing;

Require FDA to expedite the review and approval of manufacturing changes that could help mitigate or prevent a shortage;

Require FDA to maintain a public updated list of drugs experiencing shortages.

RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF DUBLIN'S DESIGNATION AS AN "ALL-AMERICA CITY"

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the city of Dublin for its designation as a 2011 "All-America City" by the National Civic League (NCL).

The NCL established the All-America City Award in 1949. Each year, the NCL presents this award to 10 cities that effectively work to find solutions to local challenges. Dublin was the only city from California to receive this prestigious award in 2011.

Dublin was recognized for its tireless work to address the challenges its residents face. The city improved its educational system by supporting the School of Imagination, which is a non-profit preschool that serves children with special needs. Dublin also focused on establishing new sustainability programs and implementing effective affordable housing policies. I commend Dublin's resourcefulness in finding ways to solve problems in the community.

Dublin serves as an excellent example to the rest of the Nation of what can be accomplished when communities come together to address common issues. It is my privilege to serve the residents of this great city. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dublin for receiving the All-America City Award.

CONGRATULATIONS F.A. "ANDY" LOWREY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on June 6, 2012, F.A. "Andy" Lowrey will retire from his position as chief executive officer of AgFirst Farm Credit Bank in Columbia, South Carolina, a wholesale bank and operations center serving nineteen retail lenders in the AgFirst territory. AgFirst Bank holds assets of \$29.5 billion dollars, making it the most well-capitalized bank headquartered in the Columbia area. Due to his outstanding leadership, I would like to recognize Andy for his hard work and dedication over the past fourteen years.

In addition to serving on the Board of Directors of the Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation, Andy remains very active within the Columbia and Midlands communities. He serves on the Board of Trustees for the Business Partnership Foundation and resides as

Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Education Foundation at the University of South Carolina. Additionally, he is a member of the Board of Directors for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Columbia. Andy is also a recipient of the Honorary American FFA Degree and serves as chairman of the Finance Committee for the National 4-H Council.

Andy Lowrey graduated in 1974 from the University of Georgia with a Bachelor of Business in Accounting and received a Master of Business Administration from the Moore School of Business at the University of South Carolina in 1990. He and his wife Jan Cromer have three daughters. I wish Andy and the rest of his family best wishes in the future.

PREPARING FOR WEATHER EMERGENCIES

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, the devastating tornadoes that struck my home state of Alabama on April 27, 2011 taught all of us important lessons about emergency preparedness. Countless lives were saved because of the early warnings provided to citizens and the availability of community storm shelters. Our broadcasters performed a great public service by providing early and accurate forecasts about the coming storms. We have been working together to further expand this warning system through the greater use of weather radios and the development of technology to deliver mobile alerts by cell phone. In addition, we are working cooperatively to try to ensure that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) can deploy the next generation of enhanced weather satellite technology in a timely manner. In Alabama, as in many other states, there will be tornadoes and severe storms. But with good preparation and emergency planning, lives can be saved and damage minimized when a natural disaster strikes. We cannot afford to be complacent and should never be afraid to ask the question, "What can we do better?"

HONORING THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE GREAT SWAMP WILDLIFE REFUGE FOR 150,000 VOLUNTEER HOURS

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hundreds of volunteers at the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, who are celebrating the milestone of logging 150,000 volunteer service hours in aiding the Refuge since 1982.

The volunteers of the Great Swamp, through their dedicated hard work, have made the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, a vibrant source of pride and activity for the local community. Although the volunteer program was formally founded in 1982, volunteers have been helping preserve the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge since it was