

We are very proud of these champions, and cheer them on as they represent Tennessee today. Go get 'em!

# IN RECOGNITION OF KITTY LOPEZ

## HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a remarkable leader in San Mateo County, Kitty Lopez, as she leaves Samaritan House, the linchpin of nonprofit social services in central and southern San Mateo County.

For 12 years Kitty Lopez has guided Samaritan House placing it on solid footing and expanding its efforts to help those who are struggling. Under her leadership over 12,000 residents receive assistance with food, medical services, clothing, and counseling annually. Kitty shepherded the expansion of a dental clinic, and she has been equally adept at expanding the number of appointments available through the medical clinic at Samaritan House. This expansion took pressure off of the emergency room of our county hospital and delivered quality examinations to thousands.

Kitty's spirit never seems to wane. She can always be found smiling and trying to figure out a way to stretch a penny, even when it's someone else's penny. For example, Kitty forged a partnership between Samaritan House and the United Way of the Bay Area to provide tax preparation services to low income residents of our county through volunteer tax preparers. She helped residents stretch their pennies when she allowed Samaritan House to organize an online listing of apartments and shared homes. Through the leadership team at Samaritan House, these online listings are gradually becoming the go-to place for residents who struggle to find a place for themselves and their families. Of course, each day the food pantry of Samaritan House helps residents feed themselves and their children. Many who use the food pantry are elderly, and during the recession many newcomers made their way to the door's of Kitty's facility, having heard that food and dignity were offered for free within its walls.

One of the most significant undertakings of Samaritan House is the operation of our county's homeless shelter located in South San Francisco. A 90 beds facility is available nightly for persons who wish to make progress towards self-sufficiency. Kitty's dedication to sheltering the homeless is made concrete in the way in which her team runs the shelter. This homeless shelter has rules and it is safe and orderly.

All services of Samaritan House are provided free of charge to clients. Kitty insists upon accountability, and her staff tracks the outcomes of efforts to help residents find jobs, housing and to become self-sufficient. The \$9 million annual budget she has responsibility over performs the work of an \$18 million budget in any other organization, and her team of 41 full-time staff and 31 part-time, seasonal employees make every client feel welcomed. Kitty has consistently shown vision and accountability in operating this magnificent program.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Kitty Lopez, the

Executive Director of Samaritan House who leaves the helm after 12 years of energetic and creative leadership. We wish Kitty continued inspiring success as she moves on to lead First 5 San Mateo County. Her imprint on the community will only grow larger. Her legacy is therefore enduring, and this is perhaps her greatest contribution of all to the community.

# TRIBUTE TO JUDGE EDWARD HUGGINS JOHNSTONE

## HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a beloved Kentuckian, Judge Edward Huggins Johnstone, who passed away on June 26th of this year.

When people speak of "The Greatest Generation," they speak of men like Judge Johnstone. During World War II, Judge Johnstone served with honor and distinction, seeing combat in the Battle of the Bulge and returning with a Bronze Star and a Silver Star for gallantry while an infantry sergeant in Europe.

Following his return, Johnstone married, earned his law degree from the University of Kentucky College of Law, and raised four children in the small town of Princeton, Kentucky. After 27 years in private practice, he was appointed in 1976 as a state Circuit Judge, and 16 months later was nominated by President Jimmy Carter and confirmed to serve as a United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky.

Having long been woefully underserved by the federal judiciary, Judge Johnstone brought a welcome change to the Western District of Kentucky by ending the long-accepted tradition of cases being heard in Louisville. Before him, federal judges preferred to live and hear cases far away from much of the Western District which stretched from just east of Louisville all the way to Tennessee.

Judge Johnstone's dedication to public service perhaps is best exemplified by his landmark efforts to improve living conditions for inmates serving time in Kentucky prisons. In his book *Voices from a Southern Prison*, Lloyd Anderson quotes Judge Johnstone describing his philosophy, "Even in the worst of people there is a good side. If we treat them with dignity and respect it brings out the good and suppresses the bad."

As public servants we all strive to make our communities and our country a better place. Judge Johnstone certainly demonstrated that desire and managed to revitalize the Kentucky prison system along the way.

"Big Ed" Johnstone's size 14 shoes will be hard to fill, but with a long line of people he has influenced both inside and outside of the legal profession, and with the example of a life lived well and with the highest integrity to guide many more, I am sure Judge Johnstone would agree that the goodness of Man will continue to shine through.

# INDIA REGULATIONS HURT AMERICAN BUSINESS

## HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, over the last year, the Indian Government has taken troubling actions which have come at the expense of American jobs and Indian consumers. India in an important strategic partner and that's why what has happened of late has been so concerning.

India has not only imposed regulations that prevent many American businesses from entering the Indian market but has failed to respect internationally recognized intellectual property rights.

These policies hinder a growing trade relationship that holds significant potential. For Washington, goods exports to India reached \$1.3 billion in 2012. If current barriers to trade are removed, this number would be much higher.

India represents a great opportunity, but investment cannot come at such a high cost to American businesses, farmers, and workers.

A level playing field is truly in the best interest of both of our economies.

# IT'S TIME TO FIND COMMON GROUND IN CYPRUS

## HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring renewed attention to the ongoing difficulties taking place on the island of Cyprus.

This decades-long struggle to find common ground for an agreement between the two people on the island—Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots—has frustrated many in the United States and the international community. Cyprus occupies an important geo-political, economic and strategic region for the United States.

As a member of the European Union, the island of Cyprus remains divided. This is in spite of the Turkish Cypriots approving 3 to 1, and the Greek Cypriots defeating by a similar margin, the United Nations Peace Plan of 2004—which foresaw a comprehensive settlement to the decades-old dispute through a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation based on the political equality of both sides. Instead of a fair and prosperous agreement for both sides, the Turkish Cypriots remain isolated from the international community.

Almost ten years have elapsed. And leaders on both sides of the island offer promising hope for serious and substantial talks to take place. Although previous talks were outlined with difficulties, and a major push for peace failed in 2004, we must not let this deter our will to resolve an issue that is so important to American interests.

An agreement will take political courage from both sides. But the United States should do—everything it can—to support both sides in this process. The Eastern Mediterranean is a region of key strategic importance to U.S. interests, and a settlement in Cyprus with active

American involvement and contribution will no doubt set a long-deserved example of peaceful relations and economic cooperation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker on rollcall No. 431, I was unavoidably detained at a personal doctor's appointment.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no".

#### A TRIBUTE TO LAURA JACKSON

### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Laura Jackson for being named a 2013 Women of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Each year, Business Record undertakes an exhaustive review to identify a standout group of women in the Greater Des Moines area who, as the publication notes, "have made a difference." An impressive group of inspiring female leaders are selected annually for this prestigious distinction, which is based on combined criteria of community involvement, career success, and being a role model for other women to emulate. The 2013 Women of Influence honorees join an impressive roster of more than 130 women who have changed and are continuing to change our communities for the better.

Laura Jackson is motivated by the responsibility of other people counting on her. As Executive Vice President of Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield, she takes this attitude with her every day on the job while also focusing on being the best team player she can be. At each stage of her thriving career, Mrs. Jackson can think of key advice from mentors that guided her own decisions—which in turn has helped her guide others as a human resources professional. She currently chairs the Wellness Council of Iowa and co-chairs the Capital Crossroads Wellness Capital working group. She also serves on the boards of the Iowa Healthcare Collaborative, the Healthiest State Initiative and the YMCA of Greater Des Moines.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Laura Jackson in the United States Congress, and I am pleased to recognize her for working to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating her on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Women of Influence class continued success.

#### IRS EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2013

### HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss my bill, the IRS Employee Responsibility Act of 2013, which requires IRS employees who violate the law to be personally responsible for their own legal fees and personally responsible for any legal judgment awarded. The hard-working American taxpayer should not be responsible for the cost of defending IRS employees who break the law and are shouldn't be responsible for any legal judgment awarded in a civil suit.

My legislation simply requires IRS employees to take responsibility for their actions in the same manner any private employee has to when they are sued in civil court.

Mr. Speaker, despite what the President has said, the targeting of conservative organizations for extra scrutiny is a real scandal and is simply reprehensible. The thin line of trust between the individual and their government has been broken and we must work to rebuild it. I am strongly urging Congress to continue its investigation into the IRS and to make sure those responsibly are held accountable to the fullest extent of the law. I am also joining other Members of Congress calling on Treasury Secretary Jack Lew to investigate the actions of the IRS. I am committed to making sure the IRS is never again used as a political weapon against any group, conservative or otherwise and my bill will ensure that if any employees violate the law they are personally responsible for their own legal fees and any judgment.

It is unfortunate that we have seen very little action from the Administration to punish these employees with at least one on paid leave. This body must Act to ensure this never happens again.

Simply put, I believe when IRS employees are on the hook for their actions and know there are real consequences, they make better decisions. As a farmer and owner of a business, I am responsible for my own actions and work to ensure I am following the law. It's time the IRS does the same.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House (and Senate) to support me in passing the IRS Employee Responsibility Act of 2013 in order to ensure American families and taxpayers have trust in their government.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF LARRY BUCKMASTER

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Larry Buckmaster who is retiring as the President and CEO of the Redwood City-San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce after 30 years of outstanding service to our community.

Larry is the type of person who creates a community through performing multiple acts of stewardship each and every day—he has done so for decades. Let me give you just a few examples.

When Larry Buckmaster took over the Redwood City-San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce it had a deficit and membership lagged. He almost immediately turned it around and led the board to boost both membership and participation by members in various chamber events.

Second, America needs leaders. It's tough to find them. Leadership means putting your neck on the line and exposing yourself to criticism. Larry Buckmaster knew that Redwood City and the San Francisco Peninsula needed a new generation of leadership. He founded the Leadership Redwood City/San Carlos/Belmont program so that business and government professionals would learn from each other and hear from current leaders about issues that are shaping the community. Most importantly, Larry Buckmaster wanted students to be inspired to step up and become community leaders in their own right. The proof of Larry's wisdom and his success is around us each day. Over 800 students have heard from state legislators, members of Congress, city council members, as well as the staff of local and state governments. Many members of city councils, commissions, the Board of Supervisors and the State Legislature were first inspired to public service by the leadership class created by Larry Buckmaster.

Leadership by example is Larry Buckmaster's creed. Kainos is a non-profit dedicated to helping those with developmental disabilities, and Larry's leadership is exemplified by the \$750,000 raised over the years through a golfing tournament held annually to benefit Kainos. Larry, an avid golfer with a hole in one to his credit, brought his love of people and his skill as a golfer together to create this community benefit event.

The Progress Seminar is an annual event at which community leaders spend a weekend together thinking and talking about the major issues impacting our region. Larry Buckmaster has grown this seminar into a sold-out event for many years, and ideas that sprout from the seminar often become solutions via city council and other activities, both public and private.

Mr. Speaker and members, Larry Buckmaster has his quirks. He loves reading his emails and rarely responds. His filing system is a mess yet he can find everything. He is an avid reader who consumes one book per week, often military histories. Unfortunately, Larry roots for the Chicago Bears. We in the San Francisco Bay Area adore Larry so much that we will forgive his choice of football teams. It's only explicable when you realize that Larry was raised in Illinois and thus never really understood our wonderful 49ers until it was too late in life to surgically correct his unfortunate allegiance to a different team. Thankfully, Larry has shown great judgment in other matters, eschewing party politics, petty politics and self-aggrandizement. In fact, Larry Buckmaster always points to the accomplishments of his staff rather than to his own, demonstrating that he really is a great leader even if he is a poor judge of quality football teams.

Larry Buckmaster is a natural athlete and has coached over 500 children in softball and soccer. He is proud when one of the former players says that Larry saw something great in them as a child and that this turned around the life of the child. Larry and Joan, his wife of 48 years, have three children and six grandchildren. It is said that his grandchildren turn him to mush, not too surprising given his love of children.