

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 1ST ANNUAL TRI-CITY LATINO FESTIVAL IN COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the start of a new tradition in Columbus, Georgia, the 1st Annual Tri-City Latino Festival, which will be held on Saturday, September 21, 2013 at the South Commons at 400 4th Street in Columbus, Georgia. The festival is being supported by the tri-city area of Columbus, Georgia, Fort Benning, Georgia and Phenix City, Alabama. The festival will celebrate diversity within the Latino cultures found in the tri-city communities.

The Tri-City Latino Festival came about from a vision to unite people from all walks of life for one unique purpose. This dream was shared by Harold "Lefty" Encarnacion and Evelyn "Mimi" Woodson and together, they began working to make it a reality. They brought on Carlos Huertas and created a board of members to form a plan of action. Unfortunately, a number of difficulties arose and the board faded out of existence. But the original members were persistent. After overcoming these obstacles, they formed a new group and consulted with Columbus Mayor Teresa Tomlinson, who was enthusiastic about supporting the event.

Unfortunately, another obstacle presented itself and the event had to be cancelled again. However, the group brought on Roberto "Tito" Aron to contribute his talents and expertise. The group consulted with the Panamanian Association of Columbus, Georgia, who was thrilled to sponsor the event, and the planning continued in full force, culminating in this magnificent occasion.

The Tri-City Latino Festival will kick off with a 5k Run at 10 a.m. There will be an opening ceremony at noon, followed by a Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu tournament, Señorita beauty contest, Zumba demonstration and dominoes tournament. There will also be art displays by local high schools and a Kid's Zone for children. In the evening, there will be a main show by an international recording artist, followed by cultural dances, a dance contest, and performances by local and international musical groups. It is sure to be a day filled with innovative, vibrant and enjoyable displays of Latino art, talent and culture.

The tri-city area has long had an exigent need for an event such as this. A large number of Hispanic countries are represented in the tri-city area, and this is a great opportunity to educate the community about them and celebrate the vibrant and diverse cultures.

Our nation is struggling today because of inefficient and ineffective laws from the past, a disagreement about how to address the consequences, and a divided interest in what is best for the future of America. These incongruities have a harsh effect on the lives of millions of people every day. A mother worries she will be separated from her children, a father puts in long, grueling hours of hard labor just to put food on the table, a high school graduate is denied the chance to go to college, all because they are unable to become citizens or legal residents of the country they call home.

In the past year, our nation has taken a step forward in trying to repair our immigration system and lay the groundwork for a prosperous future. We cannot afford to lose the momentum we've gained and many working immigrant families cannot afford to continue to live in uncertainty. It is imperative that we continue working to keep the American dream in reach for all those who seek it.

A Spanish proverb often cited says, "A mal tiempo, buena cara" or "in bad weather, a head held high." I believe this proverb is very accurate of the Latino people here in our area. In the face of adversity, they keep their good spirits and work harder, push longer, and believe greater.

I am proud to be a part of an area that thrives on its diversity and unites members of the community to honor the struggle, sacrifice and success of their ancestors from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. This partnership between Columbus, Phenix City and Fort Benning has fostered the spirit of community that is so deeply anchored in these ancestral roots.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting the residents of Columbus and Fort Benning, Georgia and Phenix City, Alabama as they come together to celebrate the first Annual Tri-City Latino Festival. This spirited celebration is sure to be the beginning of a great tradition that brings people of all walks of life together to celebrate diversity, to rejoice at how far we have come as a society, and to reflect upon how far we have yet to go.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,738,503,812,337.79. We've added \$6,111,626,763,424.71 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

**IN HONOR OF HOOSIER HERO,
OFFICER ROD BRADWAY**

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2013

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a heavy heart, as I grieve with the City of Indianapolis and the entire law enforcement community. Last Friday, we lost a man of valor.

While responding to a domestic call, Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department Officer Rod Bradway was tragically killed. When Officer Bradway heard a desperate cry for help, he acted without hesitation or fear to save a life, and in so doing, he sacrificed his own.

Confronting danger to protect all of us was nothing new for Officer Bradway, who had already received the department's Medal of

Bravery and who also served as a firefighter and EMT. We should all aspire to Officer Bradway's level of courage and heroism.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending prayers to Officer Bradway's wife and family and ask that they honor his life by remembering to always uplift their local law enforcement officers and give gratitude for their sacrifices.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN C. CARNEY, JR.

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2013

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to clarify my position on a vote cast on September 18, 2013. The vote was on passage of H.R. 761, the National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act.

On rollcall vote No. 471, I did not vote. It was my intention to vote "no."

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 24, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's record.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 25

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine reauthorizing the "Terrorism Risk Insurance Act" (TRIA), focusing on the state of the terrorism risk insurance market.

SD-538

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the need to invest in America's infrastructure and preserve Federal transportation funding.

SD-406

2:15 p.m.

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine the state of the American senior, focusing on the changing retirement landscape for baby boomers.

SD-562

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Subcommittee on National Security and International Trade and Finance

To hold hearings to examine assessing the investment climate and improving market access in financial services in India.

SD-538

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Philip S. Goldberg, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Philippines, Robert O. Blake, Jr., of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia, Karen Clark Stanton, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, and Amy Jane Hyatt, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Palau, all of the Department of State.

SD-419

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Carol Waller Pope, of the District of Columbia, Ernest W. Dubester, of Virginia, and Patrick Pizzella, of Virginia, all to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Carolyn B. McHugh, of Utah, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, Pamela L. Reeves, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee, Vince Girdhari Chhabria, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, and James Maxwell Moody, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas.

SD-226

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control

To hold hearings to examine dangerous synthetic drugs.

SD-138

SEPTEMBER 26

10 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Rose Eilene Gottemoeller, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security, Frank A. Rose, of Massachusetts, to be Assistant Secretary for Verification and Compliance, and

Adam M. Scheinman, of Virginia, to be Special Representative of the President for Nuclear Nonproliferation, with the rank of Ambassador, all of the Department of State.

SH-216

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Subcommittee on Children and Families

To hold hearings to examine how newborn screening saves lives, focusing on the past, present, and future of the newborn screening system.

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine reforming and renewing the postal service, part II, focusing on promoting a 21st century workforce.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 42, to provide anti-retaliation protections for antitrust whistleblowers, S. 822, to protect crime victims' rights, to eliminate the substantial backlog of DNA samples collected from crime scenes and convicted offenders, to improve and expand the DNA testing capacity of Federal, State, and local crime laboratories, to increase research and development of new DNA testing technologies, to develop new training programs regarding the collection and use of DNA evidence, to provide post conviction testing of DNA evidence to exonerate the innocent, to improve the performance of counsel in State capital cases, and the nominations of Robert Leon Wilkins, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Brian J. Davis, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, Timothy L. Brooks, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas, James Donato, and Beth Labson Freeman, both to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, Pedro A. Delgado Hernandez, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico, Patricia M. Wald, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, and Zachary Thomas Fardon, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, Department of Justice.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Timothy M. Broas, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Donald Lu, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Albania, and Robert A. Sherman, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Portuguese Republic, all of the Department of State.

SD-419

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold hearings to examine Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) legislation.

SH-216

SEPTEMBER 30

Time to be announced

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Stevan Eaton Bunnell, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel, and Suzanne Eleanor Spaulding, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary, both of the Department of Homeland Security.

S-216

OCTOBER 1

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 812, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to take actions to implement the Agreement between the United States of America and the United Mexican States Concerning Transboundary Hydrocarbon Reservoirs in the Gulf of Mexico, and H.R. 1613, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to provide for the proper Federal management and oversight of transboundary hydrocarbon reservoirs.

SD-366

POSTPONEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 26

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security

To hold hearings to examine the United States aviation industry and jobs, focusing on keeping American manufacturing competitive.

SR-253