

trusted ally of the United States and shares with us the ideals of freedom and democracy. I still remember in 1996, when I first came to Congress, Taiwan held its first democratic presidential election in history. Today, Taiwan has emerged as a beacon of democracy and free enterprise in East Asia and our peoples have enjoyed a close friendship forged by our political, economic, cultural, and strategic ties.

The U.S. Congress has continuously played a unique and important role in supporting U.S.-Taiwan Relations. The Taiwan Relations Act passed by Congress in 1979, remains to be the cornerstone of our bilateral relations. It codifies America's commitment to support the people of Taiwan as they seek a safe and secure place in the world. Earlier this year, Congress passed a bill (H.R. 1151) in support of Taiwan's participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). Subsequently, Taiwan has been invited as a guest to the ICAO assembly this year.

Looking forward, I believe that our government should further strengthen this important partnership by sending Cabinet level officials to Taiwan, as well as welcoming high-level officials from Taiwan to meet with their American counterparts, so that the Administration can witness first-hand the strategic and economic benefits this relationship has produced.

I am confident that our relations with Taiwan will continue to grow and flourish, and I heartily congratulate the people of Taiwan on their 102nd anniversary.

HONORING LISA MAKI

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Lisa Maki, who will be honored with the 2013 Inspiration and Impact Award presented by Imagine LA.

Imagine LA's unique program pairs individuals exiting out of homelessness with mentors to provide critical support as these people enter the next chapter of their lives. As a board member with a personal experience overcoming homelessness, Lisa has taken a leadership role to ensure Imagine LA achieves its mission—to empower families to transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency.

Immediately after being admitted to the California State Bar in 1992, Lisa opened her own legal practice dedicated to protecting consumers and enforcing our State's civil rights law. Lisa currently serves as the President of the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles (CAALA) because of her unceasing advocacy to protect our citizens' rights.

For her tireless work, Lisa has received countless awards and titles that highlight her expertise and character and further emphasize her prominent standing among top attorneys across the State. Her accolades include the 2006 Orange County Trial Lawyers' Association's Employment Lawyer of the Year, the Consumer Attorneys of California's first ever "Street Fighter" Award and nominee as Trial Lawyer of the Year by the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles for four consecutive years.

I am delighted to congratulate my friend Lisa, on this most recent accomplishment as

the recipient of the 2013 Inspiration and Impact Award. I am confident that she will continue to be an active and effective leader in the discourse of civil rights and a champion in the struggle to combat homelessness in California.

ON RECOGNITION OF THE WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE TO ITS COMMUNITY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to once again recognize the West Bloomfield Township Public Library, this time on the occasion of its Seventy-fifth Anniversary of service to the residents of the Greater West Bloomfield community. Just two years ago, I was honored to recognize the Library as it was awarded a National Medal for Museum and Library Service from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, an award given to only five libraries each year and which is the top honor that can be bestowed upon a public library.

The residents of West Bloomfield Township and its neighboring cities are fortunate to have access to this great educational and community resource. What began as a small project by the Keego-Cass Women's Club in 1934 has grown into a library system with a 63,000 square foot state-of-the-art main branch and a satellite branch in the Westacres subdivision that serves residents in the northern area of the township.

Public libraries occupy a vital function in our communities; they equalize the access to information, making it accessible to everyone in the areas they serve. The West Bloomfield Township Public Library is an exemplary institution that embodies this important role—providing computers to assist residents with job searches, helping seniors with Internet access, implementing outreach programs that provide residents with opportunities to build important life skills, and creating programs that foster a lifetime of literacy and love of reading in our children.

For the Greater West Bloomfield community, its library has been an important part of its residents' lives—providing programs that help them attain the American Dream. For children, the Library has created its Grow Up Reading program, which works with youth from birth to the elementary school years and partners them with a family member, childcare providers or educators to cultivate literacy skills that will assist them later in life as they grow and join the American workforce. As part of its commitment to the newcomers to our nation, the Library offers English as a Second Language discussion groups that assist them on their journey to become Americans. For students, the library assists them with preparation for SAT, ACT and AP exams by providing physical and electronic study materials. And to help all residents, the Library offers career empowerment classes that help them hone their job skills and increase their ability to obtain employment.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly proud to celebrate and recognize this award-winning community

institution that continues to make a positive impact on the lives of all residents in the Greater West Bloomfield community. Seventy-five years is a great milestone in the Library's service to its community and I congratulate its staff and trustees on all of the accomplishments they have made in fulfillment of its mission. I know their passion, their advocacy and their determination to will continue to result in future generations of West Bloomfield residents that possess a lifelong love of reading and I wish them success in the Library's future endeavors.

FARM BILL

HON. TED S. YOHO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, farmers and ranchers all over this country need certainty. Each year, farmers put their property on the line in order to feed our nation and the rest of the world.

Agriculture is a unique enterprise, affected by both market and weather conditions. That is why we need to pass a 5 year farm bill and we need to pass it before the year is out.

I represent the 3rd district of Florida, with thousands of acres of farmland with millions worth of production each year. This farm bill will ensure that those farmers can continue to produce the safest, most affordable food source in the world.

Let us not forget, that a nation is not truly a nation unless it has a secure and abundant food supply—that has been the reason for the existence of the farm bill since the 1930s and it is still the reason we need a farm bill today.

I urge all my colleagues in the House and the Senate to begin a conference so that American farmers and ranchers have the security they need for the next 5 years.

RECOGNIZING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, PHOENIXVILLE, CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Phoenixville, Chester County, Pennsylvania, on the occasion of its 175th anniversary.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, boasting a rich history stretching back to February of 1838, is part of the Phoenixville Historic District and is particularly famous for its 19th Century Gothic Revival architecture. St. Peter's is also well-known for providing a home for The Clinic, a free-service medical facility for the uninsured located in the former rectory next to the Church. The St. Peter's Food Pantry, sponsored by Church volunteers, feeds more than 80 people every other week from its Prospect Street entrance. These are just two programs sponsored by St. Peter's that have had an enduring, positive impact on the Phoenixville community. Since the day the

Church doors opened 175 years ago, St. Peter's has always been a place that the Phoenixville community could look to for support and assistance in times of need.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of its 175th anniversary, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Phoenixville, Chester County, Pennsylvania, and its long and storied heritage of worship, fellowship, and community service.

IN TRIBUTE TO HAROLD SHARP

HON. DAVID SCHWEIKERT

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Harold Sharp for his 44 years and 3 months of dedicated government service. Arizona is in sincere gratitude for the assistance, guidance, and leadership you have provided for the Federal Aviation Administration for so many years.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NATIONAL DAY OF TAIWAN

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of 102nd anniversary of National Day for the Republic of China, commonly known as Taiwan.

October 10th, or Double Ten Day, as it is better known in Taiwan, commemorates the first day of the Chinese Revolution, which overthrew the Qing Dynasty and led to the founding of the Republic of China on January 1, 1912.

National Day is celebrated throughout the island of Taiwan and in many Chinese-American communities here in the U.S., including in my hometown of Houston, Texas. National Day is commonly celebrated with large parades, entertainment and folk performances, fireworks, and recognition of Sun Yat-sen, the first president and founding father of the Republic of China.

It is important that this chamber and American people join the Republic of China and the Chinese-American community in celebrating this day. The Republic of China was an important ally to the United States in World War II and the Cold War and has continued to be one of our country's biggest partners in peace and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Today, Taiwan and the United States enjoy a dynamic trading relationship in both goods and services. Taiwan was the 11th largest U.S. trading partner in 2012 and is a major innovator and producer of information technology products. Taiwan is an important market for our Nation's agriculture, chemicals, and semiconductor industries.

In 1996, Taiwan became the first Chinese democracy in the world when it held its first direct presidential elections and had held successful presidential elections every four years since then and acts as an important example that democracy can flourish for the Chinese people on both sides of the Taiwan Straits.

America should continue its strong support for the people of Taiwan and we can do this by supporting Taiwan's entrance into international and multilateral organizations and agreements. Earlier this year, this House passed legislation supporting Taiwan's entrance into the International Civil Aviation Organization. Mr. Speaker, I encourage this chamber to continue to vote on similar legislation, voice the American people's support for a prosperous and democratic Taiwan, and congratulate Taiwan on its National Day.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF I.C. NORCOM HIGH SCHOOL IN PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Centennial Celebration of I.C. Norcom High School, located in Portsmouth, Virginia. This weekend, members of the I.C. Norcom High School Alumni Association, Inc. are gathering for a parade and banquet celebration honoring their alma mater's 100th anniversary.

I.C. Norcom High School was founded as the High Street School in 1913 as the first high school for black students in Portsmouth. The school was originally located in the True Reformers Building at 915 High Street and graduated its first class of just nine students in June 1915. After the end of World War I, the school was relocated to a facility at the corner of Chestnut and South Street and again in 1920 to the corner of Chestnut and Clifford Street. In 1937, the school relocated to a larger building nearby, sharing the facility with George Peabody Elementary School. Sixteen years later in 1953, a new facility was built at the cost of 2 million dollars on Turnpike Road, to honor the legacy of its first supervising principal, Israel Charles Norcom. In 1998, the school relocated to its present location, a new, state-of-the-art facility located at 1801 London Boulevard.

The school carries the name of the pioneer educator Israel Charles ("I.C.") Norcom, who was born in Edenton, North Carolina on September 21, 1856. Norcom attended Yale Preparatory School in Connecticut, graduated from Andover Preparatory School in Massachusetts, and studied at both Yale and Harvard Universities. He also took courses at Howard University, Hampton Institute (now Hampton University) and the University of Virginia. Norcom taught for several years in Bedford County, Virginia before relocating to Portsmouth in the 1880s. Norcom served as a teacher and supervising principal until his death in 1916. Norcom was described as a pioneer educator, civic leader, churchman, businessman, fraternalist, guidance counselor and an outstanding citizen. It has been said that Norcom guided with unmatched intelligence, wisdom and greatly expanded the educational opportunities for young African Americans in Portsmouth.

Norcom's successors have faithfully carried on his tradition. William E. Riddick served as principal of the High Street School until 1942. William E. Waters followed Mr. Riddick as

principal from 1942 to 1966. Mr. Waters built on Norcom's educational methods and tailored the school's operations to meet the special needs of its students. Waters was so proud of I.C. Norcom High School that he often claimed that it was the best high school in the South. Albert T. Edwards succeeded Waters as principal in 1966 for 14 years. By then the school's total enrollment exceeded 1,900 students for a facility built to only accommodate 1,400 students. Since Edwards' retirement, many more have committed themselves to enhancing the educational opportunities of I.C. Norcom's students. These principals include Mr. Eugene Blair, Mr. Lindell Wallace, Mr. Vernon Randall, Dr. DeWayne F. Jeter, Jr., Mr. Walter Taylor, Jr., Mr. Timothy E. Johnson (acting) and Ms. Lynn F. Briley. It was under the tenure of Ms. Briley that I.C. Norcom's basketball team won both the 2010 and 2011 AAA Virginia state championship—something I remember fondly having personally attended many of those games. Today, Dr. Rosalynn Sanderlin serves as principal of I.C. Norcom High School and continues the tradition of excellence set by her predecessors.

The world has changed dramatically since I.C. Norcom High School's founding in 1913. But one thing has not, and that is the commitment of the faculty and staff to ensuring that every student that enters the doors of I.C. Norcom has every opportunity to succeed, graduate and go onto college or into the workforce. I commend the Mighty Greyhounds on their Centennial Celebration and 100 years of educating the young men and women of Portsmouth. They have so much to be proud of and so much to celebrate.

HONORING AN AMERICAN HERO: SFC CEDRIC KING

HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of North Carolina's most heroic sons: Airborne Ranger SFC Cedric King of The United States Army.

On July 25, while out on patrol during his third tour, SFC King nearly lost his life in an IED explosion in Azickzia Afghanistan. After losing both of his legs and sustaining numerous other life-threatening injuries, Cedric has in so many ways come back from the dead. In just a few months, he has come so far and so fast it is beyond words. With the help of his lovely wife Khieda, and his two beautiful daughters Amari and Khamya, he charges forward each day towards recovery. He is also an instructor and pathfinder graduate Ranger.

Mr. Speaker, I submit this poem, penned in his honor by Albert Carey Caswell.

IF I WERE KING

(By Albert Carey Caswell)

If . . . I were King . . .
I'd be one splendid thing!
I'd be the one to freedom bring!
If I were King!
I'd wear that uniform . . .
of such brave hearts who walk with hearts so
very bold and warm!
Who are Airborne!
And I'd be a Ranger who freedom so forms!
As over the enemy I so swarm!
If I were King . . .