

life, among refugees fleeing the fighting that still raged in northern Italy.

After the war, Dr. Levi-Montalcini joined Hamburger at Washington University in St. Louis. There began her collaboration with Dr. Stanley Cohen with whom she shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1986. Together they studied the biochemistry of nerve growth and revolutionized the study of cell growth and development. She flourished at Washington University but always maintained close ties to Italy and to a new generation of Italian scientists. She helped found the Institute of Cell Biology in Rome and became its first director. She died in Rome on December 30 at the age of 103. She continues to inspire us, and we do well to remember her brave advice, "Above all, do not fear difficult moments. The best comes from them."

IN HONOR OF CAROL WALTER

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Carol Walter of the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness (CCEH). A tireless advocate for our State's most vulnerable citizens, Carol passed away on Thursday, December 27th.

Carol's dedication to people and service was apparent in her extensive achievements and contributions to our State. She began her career working in shelters in many of the largest communities across the State. Displaying a knack for leadership and an entrepreneurial spirit, Carol moved on to the Connecticut Aids Resource Coalition where she founded the National Working Positive Coalition. She became director of CCEH in 2006.

While heading the Coalition, she helped institute greater coordination of services among nonprofits, managed the annual Point-In-Time homeless census, and led the State in rapid re-housing and shelter diversion strategies. Carol's years of dedication and tireless hard work impacted countless lives across our State. Due in large degree to Carol's leadership statewide, there has been historic progress made in the effort to combat homelessness in Connecticut's Second Congressional District.

Carol's passing marks an irreplaceable loss for our community, for the fight against homelessness, and the battle to provide justice for underserved communities. Carol leaves behind a lasting legacy of passionate service to those in need. I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Carol's life and accomplishments.

HONORING COLONEL SAMI D. SAID

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Sami D. Said for his many years of dedication and service to the United States. After almost two years of serving as Commander for the 144th Fighter Wing, Cali-

fornia Air National Guard, Colonel Said will be promoted to the rank of Brigadier General and will serve a tour in Afghanistan.

Colonel Said has devoted his life to serving the United States. He began his career in 1991 at the 159th Fighter Squadron in Jacksonville, Florida where he was a Pilot Trainee and then an F-16 Fighter Pilot. Colonel Said held other duties at the 159th Fighter Squadron, including Chief of Standardization and Evaluation, Instructor Pilot, Weapons Officer, and Squadron Operations Officer.

In June 2003, Colonel Said completed his time with the 159th Fighter Squadron and went on to become the Commander of the 125th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. He was also the Wing Special Projects Officer (ORI) and the Chief of Wing Operations for the 125th Fighter Wing. After spending two years with the 125th Fighter Wing, Colonel Said served as a National Security Fellow at Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Colonel Said worked in Washington, DC, for three years serving at the Pentagon from 2008 to 2011. He worked in the Office of the Secretary of Defense as a Military Assistant to the Department of Defense Transition Team and Chief of Staff/Senior Military Assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense, Acquisition, Technology and Logistics.

Along with his vast experience and knowledge, Colonel Said has received numerous awards and decorations. These include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Combat Readiness Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

In April 2011, Colonel Said became the Commander for the 144th Fighter Wing in Fresno, California. While he was in Fresno for a short period of time, our community benefited from his time here. We will be sad to see him go. As he moves on to proudly serve our country overseas in Afghanistan, Colonel Said's expertise and many years of experience will be greatly missed at the 144th Fighter Wing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Colonel Sami Said on his upcoming promotion to the rank of Brigadier General and wish him well in his next tour of service. Our country will always be gracious for his hard work and unwavering service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICK MULVANEY

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. MULVANEY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 5, I missed rollcall No. 5 on January 3, 2013. I was with my family and unable to make it to the floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

TRIBUTE TO DR. SHELDON KAPEN

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to the memory of a

great citizen of the State of Michigan, the late Dr. Sheldon Kopen. Sadly, Dr. Kopen passed away on Thanksgiving Day at the age of 77.

He was the longtime Chairman of the Department of Neurology at the John V. Dingell Veterans Administration Hospital in Detroit and a leading figure in the field of sleep disorders research who made many outstanding discoveries and contributions. The plaque which honors him at the VA hospital calls Dr. Kopen "A Physician, a teacher, a scientist, a leader, and a friend".

My sincerest condolences go out to his family. I would like to place into the RECORD an article from the VA Hospital bulletin on the occasion of the naming of the Sheldon Kopen Sleep Laboratory last year as well as an obituary that appeared in the Wayne State University newspaper.

DETROIT VAMC SLEEP CLINIC HONORS DR. KOPEN

(By Alysse Mengason)

This fall, the Detroit VAMC staff and patients paid tribute to one of its long-time physicians, hanging a plaque in his honor in the sleep clinic.

Dr. Sheldon Kopen's legacy is represented in the sleep lab, which he founded in 1985, when he took over a new 2 bed unit in the old Detroit VAMC in Allen Park. Dr. Kopen started the first sleep lab in any VA facility. Dr. Kopen achieved many successes over the years. Among the grants he won, Dr. Kopen received a VA Research Grant to study stroke and sleep.

When the Detroit VA Medical Center moved to Detroit and became the John D. Dingell VA Medical Center, Dr. Kopen was able to expand the clinic into a new 8 bed facility with state of the art equipment and more staff.

Dr. Kopen's sleep medicine and laboratory was the first VA sleep lab to be accredited, and approximately the 20th in the nation (there are now about 1,000 accredited sleep labs in the U.S.). He also had the first VA-based accredited fellowship program in 1989 (the 4th overall in the country) and it has also been reaccredited multiple times.

In his more than 30 years with the VA, Dr. Kopen has trained dozens of physicians, and continues to train and supervise sleep fellows from Wayne State University.

(Nov. 26, 2012)

DR. SHELDON KOPEN, LONGTIME NEUROLOGY FACULTY MEMBER, DIES

Dr. Sheldon Kopen, M.D., 77, of West Bloomfield, Mich., died Nov. 22.

Dr. Kopen was a longtime member of the Wayne State University Department of Neurology and chief of Neurology at the John Dingell Veterans Administration Hospital for 25 years until his retirement in November 2011.

"Sheldon Kopen was an important contributor to the academic and clinical missions of the Department of Neurology and the Veterans Administration hospital for many years," said Robert Lisak, M.D., professor and former chair of Neurology. "He was a pioneer in the study of and treatment of disorders of sleep. For that reason the sleep laboratory at the John Dingell VA Hospital was recently named in his honor. Shelly was a dedicated physician and a person of integrity. He will be missed."

The funeral was held Nov. 23 at the Ira Kaufman Chapel, 18325 W. Nine Mile Road, Southfield.

The family of Dr. Kopen will gather through the evening of Nov. 26 at 4564 Fairway Ridge Court, West Bloomfield, for friends to call. The phone number is 248-626-

2907. Religious services will be held Monday evening.

Dr. Kapen is survived by his wife, Rachel; children Gilead (Karen) Kapen, Alon (Amal) Kapen, Ehud (Debra) Kapen and Avi Kapen; grandchildren Rome, Michaela, Alia, Matan, Simon, Caleb and Kayla Kapen and Leah Schloss; and sister Nessa (Alfred) Bertel.

The family suggests contributions in memory of Dr. Kapen be made to the Holocaust Memorial Center, 28123 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48334.

STOP SINGLING OUT FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, as the 113th Congress begins, I strongly believe that no Member of Congress should have his or her salary increased. It is critical that this nation's elected leaders lead by example in the quest to reduce our debt and put this nation on sound financial footing. Responsible, accountable leadership is required in Washington if this train of fiscal disaster is ever going to get rerouted onto a track toward prosperity and economic growth. That is why I am a cosponsor of legislation that would halt the pay increase for Members of Congress under the President's December 27, 2012 Executive Order and legislation to stop the automatic pay increase for members of Congress.

However, I also want to make absolutely clear my opposition to any efforts to unfairly target our civilian federal workforce for deficit reduction purposes. America's First District is full of hardworking and dedicated citizens who serve the people of this nation every day, such as on the front lines of the War on Terror or in support roles for our military. Still others provide valuable service at places like VA hospitals, cancer research laboratories, and the FBI. And yet since 2010, federal civilian employees have seen their pay frozen and their benefits reduced on multiple occasions. I voted against the initial two-year pay freeze in December of 2010, and on the first day of 2013, I voted against H.R. 6726, which would have extended this pay freeze for an additional year. I am fully ready and willing to cut my own salary, benefits, and office budget, but we must stop singling out federal employees simply because Congress fails to address the out-of-control spending.

There is no question that our nation must get its spending in order, and federal employees are certainly eager to do their part to help in this effort. Their daily contributions to their fellow citizens and to the cause of freedom are simply innumerable, and yet during the deficit reduction debate over the last few years, federal employees have been asked to contribute more than their fair share.

Our federal civilian employees live a life of selfless service, and they deserve our appreciation. I am hopeful that deficit reduction efforts going forward will focus more realistically on addressing the true drivers of our debt, rather than targeting those who are trying simply to serve their nation each and every day.

INTRODUCTION OF H. RES. XX, EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE SENATE SHOULD RATIFY THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the sense of the House of Representatives that the Senate should ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). I am proud to be joined in this effort by my friend and colleague Congresswoman JAN SCHAKOWSKY.

This bipartisan House Resolution urges the Senate to vote to ratify CEDAW, a landmark international agreement that mandates governments to take positive steps to ensure the full development and advancement of women, and their equal enjoyment of human rights, and that they change or eradicate discriminatory laws, customs, and practices.

Despite 187 countries ratifying CEDAW, we are the only western country in the world that has not ratified the treaty, although its fundamental principles of equality and non-discrimination are central to our constitutions. Other nations that have not ratified CEDAW include Somalia and Iran.

Most importantly, CEDAW is non-self executing, meaning that any legislation the United States might adopt to comply with the treaty would have to go through the normal congressional process.

Ratification of CEDAW would continue our nation's proud bipartisan tradition of promoting and protecting human rights. The Senate's ratification of CEDAW would strengthen our standing as a global leader for the rights of women and girls.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICK MULVANEY

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. MULVANEY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 6, I missed rollcall number 6 on January 3, 2013. I was with my family and unable to make it to the floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

IN HONOR OF BARBARA PALMER OF APTOS, CA AS THE 2012 PRESIDENT OF THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY, CA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the commitments and accomplishments of Barbara Palmer, 2012 President of the

Santa Cruz County Association of Realtors. I have known Barbara for two decades and she is a dedicated professional with an abiding commitment to helping homeowners and making a lasting difference in her community. I am honored to call her a friend.

Barbara has served as the Federal District Coordinator for the tri-county area that includes Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Benito Counties, representing the California Association of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors. I was pleased to work with Barbara when she was the Chair of the Local Government Relations Committee of the Santa Cruz County Association of Realtors from 2005–2007. She has provided unparalleled leadership on local and federal real estate issues.

Building community is the mission of every successful Realtor and Barbara has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life in Aptos with particular attention to bringing widespread awareness to the needs of public education to her community of Aptos and beyond. In 1999, she was awarded Woman of the Millennium by the Aptos Chamber of Commerce. The Santa Cruz County Association of Realtors awarded Barbara Palmer the Realtor of the Year in 2008. Barbara has spearheaded community projects and fundraisers throughout the years that bring attention to the needs of the diverse Santa Cruz County and its coastal environment.

Barbara Palmer has been a resident of Aptos, CA since 1978, with her husband Bob and sons Grant and Brad.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House as I commend Barbara Palmer of Aptos, CA for helping countless clients on the Central Coast of California achieve the American Dream—homeownership.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CAROL WALTER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CONNECTICUT COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 4, 2013

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Carol Walter, a fierce advocate for the homeless in Connecticut, who passed away on December 27, 2012. Carol served as the Executive Director of the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness and dedicated her life's work to fighting homelessness and its contributing causes.

Her passion, energy, and persistent focus on finding solutions helped countless individuals and families across our State. For all those who knew her, worked with her, and benefited from her good works—we are saddened by this loss and offer our deepest condolences to her family.

While many in the community will pay tribute to Carol Walter, I would like to submit the following article from The Hartford Courant that captures her dynamic spirit:

VIBRANT ADVOCATE FOR THE HOMELESS,
CAROL WALTER, DIES AT 53

(By Jenna Carlesso)

[From the Hartford Courant, Dec. 28, 2012] Carol Walter, the executive director of Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness,