

health status of low-income women and children. These federal programs include Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grants, Medicaid, and Healthy Start. Local organizations and clinics like Bright Beginnings of Prince George's County, Mary's Center, Anne Arundel County Department of Health, and Storks Nest in Anne Arundel County, and Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services and SMILE in Montgomery County offer a number of approaches to reduce infant mortality and help mothers and children live long and healthy lives.

I will continue to support and bring awareness to programs that improve access to health care and increase the quality of prenatal and newborn care to prevent the causes of infant mortality. Communities can play an important role in this endeavor by encouraging women to seek care before they become pregnant and during their first trimester. Also, we can all share information about some of the factors that affect infant mortality including smoking, substance abuse, poor nutrition, lack of prenatal care, and sudden infant death syndrome. We must ensure that our babies get a healthy start, to celebrate their first birthday and beyond, and bring much needed attention and awareness to the importance of reducing our infant mortality rate.

THE AMERICAN AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY AND THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the three million Americans whose jobs are directly or indirectly connected to our nation's domestic automotive industry and the importance of our trade negotiators to address longstanding concerns with Japan's closed auto market.

This spring, the government of Japan announced it was going to join the United States and ten other Pacific Rim nations in negotiations in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), a proposed comprehensive and high-standard free trade agreement with the aim of liberalizing nearly all goods and services within the member countries.

I am a strong proponent of increasing American exports. Exports are vital to expanding our economy, providing new opportunities for our nation's industries and entrepreneurs, and growing the number of well-paying, middle class jobs that are the backbone of our nation's strength.

Nevertheless, I have very strong reservations with Japan's longstanding barriers for auto exporters into its market. Japan has the third largest auto market in the world. At the same time, it ranks last among all advanced economies in terms of auto market import penetration at under six percent.

The barriers Japan places on auto imports are many and longstanding, including currency manipulation, onerous certification and regulatory standards, and anti-competitive networks between Japanese automakers, dealers, and parts suppliers, better known as the kieretsu system.

It is imperative that the Administration and this Congress take action to ensure that Japan

will open its auto market to American-made cars and trucks before lowering our tariffs and opening our market even more to Japanese auto imports.

There are several protections our negotiators should secure from our Japanese allies before finalizing this trade deal, including strong and enforceable currency disciplines aimed at preventing TPP countries from using currency to gain a competitive advantage, seeing to it that Japanese automakers fully honor internationally recognized labor standards and allow workers to organize and collectively bargain, and apply strong and effective tariff "snapbacks" that will come into force in the event of a trade violation.

Congress should also act by passing the Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act, which I have proudly co-sponsored for the past three Congresses, and would give the Treasury Department and other federal agencies additional tools to combat currency manipulation.

I fear that our domestic auto manufacturers and the hundreds of thousands of American families whose livelihoods rely on our auto industry will be gravely harmed if the Administration and Congress allow our tariffs on Japanese autos to be lowered even further without giving equal access to American-made cars and trucks.

The well-respected Center for Automotive Research found last year that Japan's inclusion in TPP, combined with the on-going currency manipulation Japan has been doing, would result in the loss of 225,000 cars and trucks being made in the U.S. and the loss of nearly 100,000 American jobs.

Failing to open Japan's auto market will only increase our trade deficit, which now stands at \$76 billion a year, with \$53 billion of the deficit comes from autos alone.

Mr. Speaker, it is our duty, as the elected representatives of the American people, to make sure that trade with Japan is truly two-way and Japan will open its markets to American products as we've opened our markets to their imports.

THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMPTON

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a legacy of faith in Virginia's Third Congressional District. This year, First Baptist Church of Hampton is celebrating its 150th anniversary, and I would like to take a moment to reflect on the history of this esteemed institution and its contributions to the greater Hampton Roads community.

The history of many African American churches in existence today developed from a small band of worshippers who sat in the "designated section" of a white church. In this respect, First Baptist Church of Hampton is no exception and was borne out of worshippers at the Hampton Baptist Church located a short distance away from the present church site. With Reverend Zechariah Evans as its first pastor, First Baptist Church of Hampton came into its own and built its own building to house services.

The Church continued to grow and prosper, but in September 1944, a catastrophic fire destroyed the church building. Members of the community and sister churches rallied to support First Baptist Church. With generous support from the Hampton Baptist Church and other supporters in the community, the sanctuary was restored and the facility was improved and expanded.

Over the years the Church grew in its capacity, its membership, and its mission. Community outreach became an integral part of the work of the Church. The accomplishments of First Baptist Church of Hampton are far too many to list, but among them are the founding of the People's Building and Loan Association under Reverend Richard Spiller and the organization of the Big Brothers of America in Hampton under the leadership of Reverend Seymour J. Gaines.

On July 6, 2006, First Baptist Church officially elected Reverend Dr. Richard W. Wills, Sr. as its tenth and current pastor and he has continued to lead the church in its strong tradition, dedicated to fellowship and social action.

Over the years, the First Baptist community has continued to grow and flourish. The church now offers programs to increase healthy living through its Health Ministry program, hosts voter registration drives, provides housing for the homeless through "A Night's Welcome," and remains steadfast in providing for the least of these, through its efforts in meal service and food distribution.

On Saturday, October 26th, I was honored to join Reverend Wills and everyone at First Baptist for their anniversary celebration banquet, which featured Reverend Al Sharpton and many other luminaries from across the Commonwealth of Virginia and across the country. President Barack Obama also provided a celebratory letter commemorating the church's rich history and its 150th anniversary. The banquet was truly an event to remember and offered a chance for the celebration, reflection, and hope that such a monumental anniversary invokes.

As First Baptist Church of Hampton continues to celebrate this historic milestone, the church can truly remember its past, celebrate its present, and focus on its future as "[a] place on the harbor where haven meets heaven." I would like to congratulate Reverend Wills and all of the members of First Baptist Church of Hampton on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary. I wish them many more years of dedicated service to the community.

RECOGNIZING MOHAMED ALI, RECIPIENT OF THE CHAMPION OF CHANGE AWARD

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mohamed Ali from Federal Way, Washington, who serves as Co-Chair of the King County Somali Health Board and Program Coordinator for the Hepatitis B Coalition of Washington at WithinReach. Mohamed was recently honored by the White House as a Champion of Change.

The White House presented Ali with the Champion of Change Award for his heroic efforts during a winter storm in the Puget Sound

region last year. Mr. Ali's proactive approach to the dangers of carbon monoxide within his community helped save lives and protect vulnerable families trying to heat their homes in the winter.

By acting as a liaison between King County Public Health and the local Somali community, Mohamed ensured that safety warnings for carbon monoxide were translated for individuals who do not speak English and that the community was informed about the risks of burning fuel indoors during power outages.

In addition, Mohamed worked with volunteers at a local mosque to establish a hotline for the community to ask questions about the storm and request aid. He was also instrumental in coordinating the establishment of a nearby aid station that offered heat and hot meals. As a result of Ali's and others' efforts, King County reported zero deaths and ninety percent fewer hospitalizations than during the region's last major winter storm.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate Mohamed Ali for being honored with the Champion of Change award and recognize his service to the King County community.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF SERGEANT WALTER CRENSHAW, THE OLDEST LIVING TUSKEGEE AIRMAN

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I salute and congratulate Sergeant Walter Crenshaw, a fellow veteran, on reaching this milestone celebrating his 104th birthday. As the oldest living Tuskegee Airman, he has lived a truly inspiring life and for that I commend him.

From Mr. Crenshaw's induction into the United States Army Air Corps in October 1942 where he ultimately attained the rank of Sergeant, until now, he has been an example of what hard-work and devotion can do. I am particularly thankful for his dedication to our country in the face of strife racism, paving the way for myself and fellow African-American and minority servicemen. Mr. Crenshaw and the Tuskegee Airmen persevered through racial, military, and political barriers to become the first African American military aviators in the United States Armed Forces, showing that there is strength in unity and support.

A leader is one who knows the way, follows that path, and shows others the course to take. Walter Crenshaw's life is a demonstration of true leadership, and as he celebrates 104 years of life may he take pride in the contributions he has made through his service.

OBAMACARE

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, the Affordable Care Act is more than a website. That's the comforting assurance President Obama is giving to the American people as the con-

tinuing train wreck of the law's implementation grinds on.

Mr. Speaker, I agree with the President. The law is more than a website. Unfortunately, that means its flaws extend past the website as well. Simply put, its bad technology mixed with bad policy.

From broken websites to broken promises this law is taking on water and sinking fast, taking hardworking Americans with it.

Last Friday, I spoke with a self-employed father of two in my district who is feeling the harmful effects of the ACA head on. He received a notice in the mail that said his insurance—which he liked—was going to triple. The same plan, just hundreds more. I think he put it best when he said, "the President guaranteed, 'If you like your plan you can keep it'. Well the fact is, I can keep my plan, I just can't afford my plan now . . ."

News reports now say that over two million people will lose the health plan they currently have, even after hearing the President's promise for three years.

This is unacceptable.

That's why I am supporting legislation that actually allows people to keep their coverage under the ACA—even as the President's new regulations and mandates try and take it away.

Furthermore, I will continue in joining members from both parties in both chambers, in asking the President to delay the individual mandate of the ACA. President Obama said he would negotiate once government was fully funded and operational—now is the time for him to address bipartisan ideas for improvement that help out the American people.

HONORING BILL DAVIS

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Indiana State Representative Bill Davis. After serving House District 33 for 9 years, State Representative Davis will begin the next chapter of his career, serving the State as the Executive Director of the Office of Community and Rural Affairs.

During his time in the State legislature, Bill Davis served on the House Ways and Means Committee, where he helped craft balanced budgets that included no tax increases for Hoosiers. As a legislator, Bill Davis was committed to efficient government that used the taxpayers' money wisely. Bill served as Chairman of the Committee on Public Policy and was a leader on issues affecting Hoosier farmers and teachers.

Bill's leadership in business and government will greatly benefit Hoosiers as he serves as the Executive Director of the Office of Community and Rural Affairs. On a personal note, Bill and I served together in the Indiana General Assembly. He was a great colleague and an even better friend.

I ask the entire 6th Congressional District to join me in honoring Bill Davis for his years of service in the Indiana General Assembly and in congratulating him on his next role as Executive Director of the Office of Community and Rural Affairs.

HONORING THE VETERANS OF THE OCTOBER 31, 2013 HONOR FLIGHT OF THE QUAD CITIES

HON. DAVID LOEBSACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, over 90 Iowa veterans of World War II and the Korean War will travel to our Nation's capital. For many of these veterans, tomorrow will be the first time they will see the National World War II Memorial and the Korean War Veterans Memorial that were built in their honor.

They will travel to Washington as part of an Honor Flight. These flights demonstrate that we as a State and as a country will never forget the debt we owe those who have worn our Nation's uniform.

We truly owe these heroes a debt of gratitude for their selfless service to our great Nation. On the eve of their visit, I rise to humbly thank these Iowa and American heroes for their service to our country.

Their sacrifices and determination in the face of great threats to our way of life are truly humbling and continue to inspire us today. Their generations and our country did not seek to be tested. But, when called upon to do so, they defended our Nation abroad and rebuilt our Nation here at home to make it even stronger. They rose to defend not just our Nation, but the freedoms, democracy, and values that make our country the greatest Nation on earth.

Their patriotism, service, and sacrifice not only defined their generation—they stand as a testament to the fortitude of our Nation and the American people. Their legacy endures today.

I am tremendously proud to welcome the Honor Flight of the Quad Cities and Iowa's veterans of World War II and the Korean War to our Nation's capital. On behalf of every Iowan I represent, I thank them for their service to our great Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF BARBARA ARO-VALLE

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Barbara Aro-Valle of Hayward, California, who recently left her position as the Executive Director for New Haven Schools Foundation. Barbara will be honored for her outstanding service to the foundation during a luncheon November 14, 2013.

Barbara was born and raised in Hayward, California, where she graduated from James Logan High School. Barbara and her husband, Richard, married in 1979 and together they have two children, Monica and Andrew.

After high school, Barbara worked for ten years as a dental assistant before taking a job at California State University Hayward (CSU-H) as the Director of Facilities Reservations and Special Events. While working full time and caring for her children, Barbara earned a bachelor's degree in human development from CSU-H, now called California State University East Bay.