

parents and volunteers whose lives have been touched by his steadfast commitment to positive youth development and his outstanding efforts as the ultimate "youth worker."

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, we need to do more to protect our environment, not less.

Last month, for the first time in six years, the House passed a water infrastructure bill. For the first time in six years, Congress authorized crucial investments in our ports and inland waterways. And for the first time in six years, we addressed flood risk management, hurricane and storm damage risk reduction, and environmental restoration.

The Water Resource Reform and Development Act will strengthen our national water transportation network to improve our competitiveness, create more jobs, and grow our economy. But unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, it came at a cost.

This vital legislation coupled investments in our nation's aging infrastructure with the further weakening of one of this nation's most important environmental protections: The National Environmental Policy Act.

For more than four decades, the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA, has provided the foundation for countless improvements in our environmental laws. It gives us cleaner water, cleaner air, and a safer and healthier environment. It provides critical checks and balances on federal planning and decision making, requiring the federal government to consider environmental impacts. And it gives the public the opportunity to voice their concerns about the impact of federal actions on their health, safety, environment, and community.

This collaborative review process engages millions of Americans along with federal and state agencies, and forces the federal government to think outside the box and consider better alternatives.

Over the years, NEPA has saved money, time, and resources. It has also protected endangered species, public lands and historical sites, all while producing better projects with more public support. For example, when the Army Corps of Engineers planned to repair existing breakwaters and replace the lock gates of Chicago's harbor, NEPA revealed a better method of repairing and extending the life of the breakwaters at a fraction of the cost. NEPA has proven that it's possible to protect the environment and save the taxpayer money at the same time.

Unfortunately, misperceptions about this foundational environmental law are driving congressional attempts to chip it away. NEPA is frequently blamed as the leading cause of project delays when, in reality, lack of funding is actually to blame. We fault NEPA, when we should be blaming ourselves.

We continue to slash funding for Army Corps construction despite the American Society of Civil Engineers' D-minus rating of our nation's inland waterways. We can eliminate

project delays and protect the environment at the same time, but a more serious investment in our infrastructure is needed to do so.

Instead the WRRDA bill passed last week alters the NEPA process, weakening environmental protections at a time when they are needed the most. This WRRDA has made it more difficult for the public to comment on environmental impacts by limiting the comment period to as little as 60 or 30 days, depending on the type of project. Environmental review statements are often hundreds of pages long and full of critical scientific research.

Many critics argue this is barely enough time to read and understand a review, let alone consult experts and submit informed public comments. These new arbitrary and unreasonably short deadlines hurt community voices in speaking out against harmful projects and penalize agencies for fulfilling their responsibility to fully deliberate on important environmental issues.

Good science takes time, and the proposed changes to the environmental review process give experts little time to adequately evaluate the impacts of a project. Environmental reviews are a crucial tool for improving transportation projects and safeguarding the environment.

An informed public engagement process produces ideas, information and even solutions the government might otherwise have overlooked. Streamlining current NEPA provisions carelessly hurts our ability to make better decisions that protect our health, our homes and our environment.

Meeting our transportation needs and protecting our environment are not mutually exclusive objectives.

NEPA, Mr. Speaker, is the solution, not the problem.

THE RETIREMENT OF JEANNE STONER

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, one of my constituents, Jeanne Stoner, is retiring this month from her position as Assistant Vice Chancellor at the University of Pittsburgh, after a long and productive career at this highly respected institution. I want to take this opportunity to recognize all the outstanding work that Jeanne has done to help the University of Pittsburgh and our community throughout her career.

Jeanne was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. She earned a number of academic degrees, including a bachelor of arts degree, summa cum laude from Clarke College in Dubuque, Iowa, a master of arts degree in English Language and Literature from the University of Maryland, College Park, and a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. After law school, Jeanne went to work as an associate attorney for the Pittsburgh law firm of Thomson, Rhodes and Cowie, and she's lived there ever since.

For the last 25 years, Jeanne has worked for the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Her first position was as the Director of Federal Government Relations for the UPMC Health System from 1989–1998. In 1999, she was appointed

to be the Corporate Secretary for UPMC. In January 2000, Jeanne moved from UPMC to Pitt to become the University's Director of Federal Government Relations, and she was subsequently named Assistant Vice Chancellor and Associate General Counsel. In each of these positions, Jeanne worked diligently on the University's behalf, addressing whatever issues came across her desk with dedication and professionalism.

Jeanne also served on many committees for various higher education professional organizations including the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities and the Association of American Universities. In 2009, in recognition of her many contributions to higher education, Jeanne was awarded the Carolyn Cross Distinguished Service Award from the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities' Council on Government Affairs.

Jeanne and her husband Bill have 4 children and 7 grandchildren, and she is an active member of the St. Thomas More Parish in Bethel Park, Pennsylvania.

I have known and worked with Jeanne for most of her time at Pitt and UPMC on a number of public policy and community-related issues. Consequently, I can say from personal experience what a warm, gracious, intelligent, and skilled professional she is. She always had Pittsburgh's best interests at heart. It's been a great pleasure to work with her over the years, and her retirement will put a big dent in the University's institutional memory.

I have been privileged to know Jeanne and work with her over the many years that I've served in Congress. She has applied great intelligence, energy, and dedication on behalf of both Pitt and Pittsburgh. I want to thank her for her many contributions to our community, congratulate her on the occasion of her retirement, and wish her the best as she begins the next phase of her life.

HONORING THE MARTIN GUITAR COMPANY

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Congressman Matt Cartwright (PA–17) to honor the Martin Guitar Company in Nazareth, Pennsylvania, on the occasion of their 180th anniversary. For nearly two centuries, Martin Guitar has contributed to the musical culture of America by producing some of the finest acoustic instruments on the market.

The story of Martin Guitar's beginning is uniquely American. The company's founder, Christian Frederick Martin, Sr., was born in Markneukirchen, Saxony (now Germany) on 31 January 1796. He became an apprentice guitar maker at the age of 15, and after showing much promise in his early years, opened his own shop. After struggling to run a successful business among Europe's warring trade guilds, Martin determined to seek his fortune in the United States. In 1883, he set up a modest shop in New York City. After five years of hard work, Martin was able to sell his humble store and purchase eight acres of land in Nazareth, Pennsylvania, where the company continues to grow and thrive today.

The Martin brand and production line grew steadily through the latter half of the 19th century, during which Martin was responsible for numerous advancements in guitar design, such as a bracing system for guitar stops that is still widely used today. The marriage of innovation and craftsmanship was responsible for creating instruments that would become synonymous with quality among professional and amateur musicians alike.

When C.F. Martin, Sr., passed away in 1873 he left the business to his son, Christian Frederick Martin, Jr. This was the beginning of a proud tradition of family leadership that has continued to this day, with C.F. Martin IV, being the sixth member of his family to run the business. As a 21st century company, Martin Guitar has made a concerted effort to source wood in an environmentally sustainable manner, leading the industry in the acceptance of alternative wood species. Although times have changed, Martin Guitar's commitment to producing outstanding musical instruments has not. Today, Martin Guitar is a pillar of the Lehigh Valley in Pennsylvania, a major employer in the region, and a shining example of American workmanship.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, we would like to extend our sincerest congratulations to the Martin Guitar Company and the Martin Family on 180 years of excellence and wish them all the best in the years ahead.

HONORING THE LIFE OF COLONEL TOM NETTLING

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a true American hero, Colonel Tom Nettling. Colonel Nettling had a distinguished military career with the U.S. Army that spanned twenty-five years before passing away after a courageous battle with cancer on August 29, 2013.

Colonel Nettling was a 1960 graduate of Central Dauphin High School before completing his Bachelor's degree at Shippensburg University in 1964. Less than ten years later, he completed his Master's from the University of Southern California. Colonel Nettling has the rare distinction of joining the U.S. Army as a private and retiring as a full Colonel. He was well respected among his peers as a combat war veteran of the Vietnam War and was ultimately given the honor of leading at both the company and battalion levels.

In addition to his advancement through the Army, Colonel Nettling was the recipient of numerous awards and decorations including the Bronze Star on three separate occasions, a Purple Heart, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge to name a few.

Additionally, Colonel Nettling was a lifelong member of the Army War College Foundation and a proud member of the American Legion, the Elks Club, and the NRA. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, golfing, and spending time with his family. Colonel Nettling leaves behind his wife of forty-five years, Linda, two children, four grandchildren, and many more close family members.

I can state with great pride that Colonel Nettling was interred at Arlington National Ceme-

tary will full military honors on November 6, 2013. It is but a small token of our appreciation for a man who admirably served our nation over such a long and distinguished career.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTRE LIONS CLUB

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to honor a proud and accomplished organization in my district, the Centre Lions Club. This year, the organization has celebrated their 75th Anniversary of serving Cherokee County.

The Centre Lions Club was chartered on February 20, 1938. It is the fourth oldest club in Lions District 34-A, which is composed of 50 clubs throughout North Alabama. For 75 years, members of the Centre Lions Club have dedicated their time and effort to serving the community, county and state. The club holds a luncheon meeting twice a month. During these meetings, there are educational programs and project planning. Their goals and projects closely align with International Lionism.

One of the club's main objectives is to provide eye examinations and eyeglasses for almost 100 needy students and adults each year. To do this, the Centre Lions Club cooperates with local and area optometrists. Club members also contribute funds for services by and equipment for the Alabama Lions Sight Conservation Association. Other projects include a Radio Day, Christmas Child adoptions, the John L. Ellis Sr. Youth Leadership Forum, college scholarship funds, Pancake Days, Leo Club sponsorships at local high schools, Food Pantry donations, assistance to domestic violence prevention programs, disaster relief projects, dementia patients' programs and numerous more charitable activities.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and the rest of East Alabama in thanking the Centre Lions Club for 75 years of outstanding service in the community. We wish them many, many more.

SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL BLADDER HEALTH WEEK, NOVEMBER 11-15, 2013

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for National Bladder Health Week, November 11-15, 2013. Since 1995, the second week in November has been designated as a time to encourage individuals to talk to their friends, loved ones, and health care professionals about bladder health and pelvic floor disorders (PFDs).

An article in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) demonstrated that nearly one-quarter of all women and more

than one-third of older women reported symptoms of at least one PFD. As the population of older women increases, the national burden related to PFDs in terms of health care costs, lost productivity, and decreased quality of life will be substantial.

It is critical to educate women about PFDs now. PFDs will impact one in three women at some point during their lives, yet most Americans underestimate or are unsure about their prevalence. The lack of awareness continues to affect the millions of women who remain undiagnosed, untreated and whose quality of life remains negatively impacted by these common disorders.

Women need to understand the facts about PFDs and to feel empowered with information on how to pursue individualized solutions for improved quality of life. Unfortunately, we may not realize that someone we know—a sister, mother, daughter, aunt, or another loved one—is suffering in silence not realizing their condition is treatable. This week is the time to raise awareness and begin talking about pelvic floor disorders. Please join me in supporting National Bladder Health Week.

HONORING HOLT INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S SERVICES DURING NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, on July 27, 2013 we celebrated the 60th anniversary of the end of the Korean War. By signing the armistice agreement, the border between the Koreas near the 38th Parallel was established. It was in the wake of this armistice that Holt International Children's Services first began its compassionate work, and today continues to be a leader in the field of adoption and child welfare issues.

Harry and Bertha Holt of Eugene, Oregon were from humble means—Harry a lumberjack and a farmer and Bertha a nurse. In 1954, the Holts went to a small high school auditorium to view a film about Amerasian children living in South Korean orphanages. Moved by the film, their faith and a firm belief that all children deserve permanent, loving homes, the Holts began their lifelong mission in 1955 to revolutionize intercountry adoption.

At the time, there were no laws allowing children to immigrate from one country to another for the purpose of adoption. Overcoming legal and cultural barriers, Mr. and Mrs. Holt sought families for children orphaned by the Korean War. The Holts persuaded Oregon United States Senator Richard Neuberger to introduce legislation titled "The Relief of Certain Korean War Orphans." The legislation became law on August 11, 1955, enabling the Holts to adopt eight Korean War orphans: Joseph Han, Mary Chae, Helen Chan, Paul Kim, Betty Rhee, Robert Chae, Christine Lee and Nathaniel Chae. With this act of love and the founding of their agency, Holt International Children's Services, two farmers from rural Oregon pioneered international adoption.

Today, Holt International strives to uphold Harry and Bertha's vision to find loving homes for children regardless of race, religion, ethnicity or gender. Holt is committed to finding