

Additionally, I wish to congratulate and thank the following men and women who have agreed to assume additional responsibilities as officers and board members for 2014:

Chief: Roger Waller
 President: Gary Moore
 Vice President: Sean Bhatti
 Treasurer: Ronald Waller
 Secretary: Diana Phan
 Directors: Shirley Binsky, Michael Hassan, and Peter Snitzer

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2013 award recipients and in commending the Annandale Volunteer Fire Department for 73 years of service. I thank the brave volunteers whose dedication to public safety is deserving of our highest praise, and to each of these men and women I say: "Stay safe."

IN HONOR OF THE SALINAS SCHOOL OF DANCE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Salinas School of Dance, which is celebrating its seventy-fifth year of excellence in dance instruction in Salinas, California.

The Salinas School of Dance was founded in 1938 by professional dancer Mr. Ramon Renov, who brought his world class dance experience to the small farming town of Salinas. He performed in the esteemed Ballets Russes de Monte Carlo in Europe and the United States. Mr. Renov retired in 1980 and bestowed ownership to Lisa Eisemann. She has continued a reputation of excellence, maintaining high standards in curriculum and teaching, and constant upgrades to make the studio the heart of the City of Salinas. Ms. Eisemann continues to teach Russian Vaganova style ballet to students of all ages.

The Salinas School of Dance studio is now home to two structured companies; the Salinas Valley Civic Ballet Company and the Spirit of Salinas Irish Dancers. Ballet, tap, jazz, Irish dance and Tappin' Dad classes are taught five days a week. The Spirit of the Irish Dancers is a high performance group that has performed at many local and international events. Two years ago, they performed for the Lord Mayor of Drogheda, Ireland who invited them to visit Ireland and told the Mayor of Salinas that the dance group's skills supersede that of his own country's Irish Dancers.

Every child is welcome to learn and dance at the Salinas School of Dance. Currently, they have children with serious learning disabilities and one young man that has a prosthetic leg and one arm. His parents recently commented that being in ballet has given him confidence that nothing else has provided. He is ten years old and it's his second year at the studio. It is because of Ms. Eisemann's ability to connect with the community and her leadership skills that many of its dance classes remain full year round throughout Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties.

For seventy-five years, the Salinas School of Dance has been a positive fixture in the community. With structure, personal responsibility, respect, and commitment forming the foundation of the dance program, it is no won-

der that the Salinas School of Dance has endured and become one of the oldest businesses in Salinas.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Salinas School of Dance on its seventy-five years of excellence and wish you many more years of continued success.

CONGRATULATING UNC-TV FOR BEING HONORED AS AN AMERICAN GRADUATE CHAMPION

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate UNC-TV and WTVI-PBS Charlotte for being honored by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) as an American Graduate Champion.

The American Graduate Champion award is presented by the CPB to public media outlets which demonstrate commitment to help increase awareness of the perils of dropping out of high school and to help communities implement solutions to the problem. UNC-TV has exhibited a wide variety of programming focused on improving educational outcomes for students throughout North Carolina including airing a weekly series titled "Black Issues Forum," hosting a panel discussion before a live audience called "Bridge to Success" at Union Independent School in Durham, North Carolina, and participating in the "virtual teacher town hall" project with other groups throughout the country.

I was honored to participate in UNC-TV's recognition of "American Graduate Day" on September 28, 2013. The valuable programming on UNC-TV has helped connect communities and identify practical solutions to educational challenges facing students, parents, teachers, and schools across North Carolina's First Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, I commend UNC-TV for its contributions to students and families throughout North Carolina. Encouraging students to stay in school has never been more important because a high school degree is a critical building block to success in today's competitive global economy. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating UNC-TV's great achievement by being recognized as an American Graduate Champion.

Thank you very much.

SHARING STORIES IN SUPPORT OF COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

HON. JOE GARCIA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, the following is one additional story of yet another individual affected by our nation's broken immigration system:

My parents came here 12 years ago from Mexico. I am an American citizen, but right now I am suffering a lot because my dad is detained in an immigration jail. I have three brothers and we all miss my dad very much.

Mr. Speaker, these stories represent but a small cross-section of those suffering as a result of our nation's outdated immigration laws. Millions more remain in the shadows. They all have waited long enough for Congress to act. The time for reform is now.

HONORING THE LEWISTON FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lewiston Firefighters Association for its service to Maine's children through its partnership with Operation Warm.

As firefighters, the members of the Lewiston Firefighters Association are committed to putting the safety and interests of the community before themselves, and their partnership with Operation Warm is a continuation of this tradition of selfless service. Throughout the fall, the Lewiston Firefighters Association engaged in a community outreach effort to raise funds to keep our children warm during Maine's harsh winter months. As a result of their outreach efforts, the Lewiston Firefighters Association will be donating one hundred, brand new winter coats to the children of Androscoggin Head Start and Child Care.

Since 1998, Operation Warm has partnered with organizations like the Lewiston Firefighters Association to provide winter coats to more than one million children in need. Especially in a state like Maine, where winter temperatures routinely fall far below freezing, our children are highly susceptible to illness, jeopardizing their health and education. By keeping our children warm and healthy, these coats minimize the chance that they will have to miss school.

On Tuesday, November 26, 2013, the Lewiston Firefighters Association will donate one hundred coats to the children of Androscoggin Head Start and Child Care at the Lewiston Central Fire Station in Lewiston, Maine. Through their commitment to service, these firefighters serve as exemplary role models for our children and truly represent the strong community spirit of the people of Maine.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in recognizing the Lewiston Firefighters Association for its partnership with Operation Warm and efforts on behalf of Maine's neediest children.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CORINNE CLAIBORNE "LINDY" BOGGS

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, with great affection at this Thanksgiving season, to honor, remember, and celebrate the life of Representative "Lindy" Marie Corinne Morrison Claiborne Boggs, of New Orleans, Louisiana, who passed from this life earlier this year on July 27, 2013, but whose accomplishments and legacy continue to inspire her family, her constituency, her colleagues, and all whose lives she so generously influenced.

"Lindy" was born in Pointe Coupee Roads, Louisiana, on March 13, 1916. She was the only child of Roland Claiborne, a wealthy sugarcane plantation owner and prominent lawyer, and Corinne Morrison. Her nurse nicknamed her "Rolindy" because she thought Lindy resembled her father more than her mother.

Following her father's death when she was only two years old, Lindy and her mother went to live in New Orleans with her maternal grandparents. The Morrison family's roots can be traced back to the Mayflower. Lindy's grandmother Morrison had a great influence on her and lived to be ninety-seven, as did Lindy.

Her mother remarried when Lindy was six to a man who owned a cotton plantation. This is where Lindy said she was introduced to politics, as the plantations controlled much of the politics of the state.

This is also where Lindy was introduced to enduring, gracious, hard-working women. She said, "The women on plantations were absolutely remarkable. They had an autonomous situation. They had to do everything in the house . . . and everything had to be done in time for a huge mid-day dinner. Then, in the afternoon . . . they created their own cultural environment. They had musicals, and they had book reviews . . . it all occurred within those houses." With no work these women weren't willing to do, it never occurred to Lindy that women couldn't accomplish whatever they set their mind to.

Lindy matriculated at Newcomb College in New Orleans, the first women's college in Louisiana and the sister school to Tulane University, where she majored in history and education. During her freshman year at Newcomb, she met Thomas Hale Boggs, who was the editor of the Tulane University newspaper where Lindy served as women's editor.

In January 1938, at age twenty-one, she married Hale and, through university connections, Hale and Lindy embarked on a political career as part of the grass-roots reform movement that took place in Louisiana in the late 1930s. With Lindy's indefatigable support and help, Hale was elected to Congress in 1941, eventually rising to majority leader.

When Hale's plane tragically crashed in 1972 on a campaign trip in Alaska, not only did Lindy find herself raising their three children alone, but she also found herself running for his vacant seat, saying, "I woke up and just found myself running one morning; I never made a conscious decision to run."

Later, she would reflect: "When the various people were trying to persuade me to run . . . Lady Bird Johnson [wife of President Lyndon B. Johnson] . . . called and talked to me for a long time about how I had an obligation and all of these things. Then when she thought maybe she had convinced me, she said 'But darling, do you think you can do it without a wife?' I've told her many times, it was very hard without a wife."

In March 1973, Lindy Boggs was elected to the House of Representatives in a special election. Her victory made her the first woman to represent Louisiana in the House and the first Catholic elected from a State that had never elected a Catholic to any major state office.

Lindy was at first appointed to the Banking and Currency Committee, where she played a key role during the markup of the Equal Credit

Opportunity Act of 1974. She cited her experience as a newly widowed woman seeking credit as her motivation to add "sex or marital status" to the provision barring discrimination on the basis of "race and age, and their status as veterans." Without informing the other committee members, Lindy added those words and made copies of the revision for her colleagues, saying, "Knowing the Members composing this committee as well as I do, I'm sure it was just an oversight that we didn't have 'sex' or 'marital status' included." The bill passed unanimously.

It was this persistence and skill at indirect pressure that marked Lindy's style as a progressive southern woman working to advance the cause of humanity, acting as a champion of civil rights in her diverse district.

In 1976, she became the first woman to preside over a national political convention. In 1977, she was elected to the House Committee on Appropriations. At her retirement she remained the longest serving female member of that committee after serving 12 years. That same year, she helped to co-found the Congressional Women's Caucus, later serving as its secretary. When Lindy was elected to Congress, only 16 women were serving in the House out of 435 members; by her retirement, there were 29.

In the early 1980's, Lindy helped create, and served as a member of, the Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families. From 1985 to 1989, she served as the chair of the Bicentenary of the U.S. House of Representatives.

In January 1991, at age 75 and after 18 years of service, Lindy Boggs retired from Congress to care for her daughter Barbara who was dying of cancer. In July of the same year, the House named a room off the Rotunda in her honor: The Lindy Claiborne Boggs Congressional Women's Reading Room.

In retirement, Lindy remained politically active, writing her autobiography *Washington Through a Purple Veil* in 1994. In 1997, President Clinton appointed the 81 year old as the first woman U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican, a position she proudly served until 2001.

Of the accomplishments she was most proud of, she cited bills she co-sponsored on behalf of minorities, women, and children; her efforts to improve education from the elementary to the college level; her work on the children's task force on crisis intervention; her efforts to open the National Museum of African Art in Washington, D.C.; establishing the Office of Historian of the House of Representatives; and achieving Margaret Chase Smith's dream of making the rose the national flower.

Lindy Boggs's gracious southern charm, strong faith, sense of humor, quiet persistence, deep social conscience, and firm belief in what's right made her one of the most influential and extraordinary women of our time. She is dearly missed by all who knew her, and by all who have benefited from her extraordinary work.

Personally, I hold many wonderful memories of Lindy and her unending kindness. When I was first elected to the Appropriations Committee, as the only other woman on her side of the aisle, she made sure I sat next to her to coach me on the unique rules of the Committee. She always took the time to say hello and give an encouraging word. She offered Members rides home, she invited them to par-

ticipate in Caucus functions of which she was a part, and she worked hard to bring people together across the aisle in every way she could. She made the House a more human place.

May her surviving children—Cokie Roberts and Thomas Hale Boggs—as well as their spouses, children, grandchildren, family and friends draw strength at this time of bereavement from her incredible life and accomplishments. Truly, this was a woman for all seasons, a woman of extraordinary measure. Personally, she endured the loss of her father and husband, and then two of their children, Barbara Boggs Sigmund, who had been elected Mayor of Princeton, New Jersey, and infant William Robertson Boggs. Always, Lindy kept her eyes on the horizon and endured. She assumed responsibility after her husband's passing for continuing their brilliant partnership as progressive, elected Representatives from the State of Louisiana during times of enormous social change and broadened civil and human rights. And, she raised her young children on her own. Lindy's ascension to key Congressional Committees, often as the lone woman, carved a swath forward for gender equity in our nation. Her appointment as the first woman Ambassador to the Vatican in the last quarter of her life mark her total service to the people of the United States as one of the longest and most generous in the history of our nation, extending well over half a century. She was a patriot of the first order. Her legacy will live on in the legislation she passed and in the inspiration and encouragement she imparted to all those whose lives she touched so selflessly. May God bless her and place her among the stars that shine from the highest points in the cosmos. And to her family, a most sincere thank you for sharing her with the nation, and with the Congress, these many decades.

SHARING STORIES IN SUPPORT OF COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

HON. JOE GARCIA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share the stories of 65 Floridians whose lives have been profoundly impacted by this House's lack of action on immigration reform. The vast majority of Floridians, like the vast majority of Americans, support comprehensive immigration reform that creates a path to citizenship, secures our borders, and grows our economy.

These stories, collected by the ACLU of Florida, the Florida Immigrant Coalition, and other coalition groups from the "Say Yes" to Citizenship Campaign, were originally in Spanish, have been edited for length, and have had the names removed so that individuals who had been afraid to speak up could speak freely.

Whether we consider H.R. 15, which I introduced, or another vehicle, we cannot afford to wait any longer. I urge my colleagues to listen to these stories and recognize the real human consequences of our inaction.

Story 1: I met my husband in Colombia. He was on vacation and he was American. We fell in love and we married in Colombia.