

Million Minds (CAMM) initiative designed to inspire the next generation of problem solvers by connecting young people to the wonders of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) outside of the classroom.

Time Warner Cable's campaign includes original public service announcements and programming, millions of dollars in grants to support non-profit organizations that introduce students to STEM in fun and informal settings and the creation of "The Connector," a one-of-a-kind resource that allows parents to find kid-centric STEM learning opportunities in their own backyard. CAMM also encourages Time Warner Cable employees to volunteer at science fairs, robotics competitions and local Connect a Million Minds events.

In this time of increased global competition and rapid technological change, STEM fields have become increasingly important for the development and maintenance of America's high standard of living. Unfortunately U.S. students' performance in STEM subjects has fallen behind their international peers. As of 2009, the average math literacy score for a 15-year old in the United States is lower than 17 other Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) member countries, and is lower than 12 other OECD countries on science literacy. Perhaps most troubling, data found that only one out of every five households had access to STEM extracurricular activities. Meanwhile, even in school, students today spend less time studying science than they did just 15–20 years ago.

Today, employers report that they are having a difficult time finding qualified applicants for STEM jobs, which, on average, pay \$77,880, versus an average of only \$43,460 for non-STEM jobs. This is a problem which will only worsen without serious effort and focus, as it is estimated that jobs in STEM fields will grow 17 percent by 2018, almost double the rate of non-STEM jobs. Given these figures, it is difficult to understate the importance of STEM education for both our nation's collective economic future and the future of our nation's students.

In one program in New York, beginning in early February of this year, students will have a chance to see professionals at the BluePearl Veterinary Partners working in the field and help them using real equipment. Through their many programs they give students from low income families the chance to learn science through scuba diving, receiving tutoring, and going on field trips with STEM professionals. I am looking forward to working with them on programs in my Congressional District.

The CAMM program has not only focused resources in New York City, but also in cities, towns and states. With increased attention and support from community figures and lead-

ers in the industries that will someday hire students in STEM fields, CAMM looks to be a tremendous success. In closing, I congratulate Time Warner Cable for its CAMM initiative; and I hope my colleagues understand the importance of such initiatives for all of our communities.

RECOGNIZING RANDAL MESSER AS THE 2012–2013 WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA, EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2013*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Randal Messer as the 2012–2013 Walton County Educational Support Professional of the Year. I am honored to recognize his achievements and dedication to the students and teachers of Northwest Florida.

Mr. Messer has spent more than 25 years working to help better the lives of Northwest Florida school children, including 22 years at West DeFuniak Elementary, where he currently serves as the School Plant Manager and Technical Contact. In his role at West DeFuniak, Mr. Messer is responsible for ensuring that the students, faculty and staff of the school have a comfortable, clean and safe environment to pursue their work. He is also responsible for maintaining the facilities and technological equipment.

Mr. Messer has an unwavering commitment to carrying out his responsibilities, and he has voluntarily pursued various certifications and additional training to improve the facilities of West DeFuniak Elementary. He has completed comprehensive plant manager training through the Walton County School District, as well as additional training in energy conservation. Mr. Messer also understands the need for proper safety training. He is both CPR and AED certified, has undergone training as part of the Crisis Intervention Team at West DeFuniak, and received FEMA certification for his completion of coursework on Incident Command Systems.

Outside of his work responsibilities, Mr. Messer is also a committed and integral community leader. In 2012, he was recognized by a local radio station, WZEP, and earned the Good Neighbor Award. Mr. Mercer also has a firm commitment to serving the Lord, and he has served as a Deacon at the Community Holiness Church of DeFuniak Springs since 2008.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Randal

Messer as the Walton County Educational Support Professional of the Year. His passion for the students of Walton County is laudable and his dedication to his profession is exemplary. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Mr. Messer, and we wish him all the best.

HONORING HEIDI McNALLY-DIAL

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2013*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Ms. Heidi McNally-Dial, Economic Development/Redevelopment Manager for the City of Turlock, who has retired after many years of outstanding service.

Heidi started with the City of Turlock in December of 2006. As part of a Council-approved reorganization to make economic development and redevelopment more visible and active in the community, she had numerous responsibilities. Those responsibilities included implementation of the Westside Industrial Specific Plan (WISP), management of the redevelopment agency, implementation and management of the Turlock Enterprise Zone in cooperation with the Alliance, and acting as the business liaison to assist with expansions, attraction, and retention. In addition, she was asked to represent Turlock on a variety of city and county-wide boards and organizations related to economic development.

Mrs. McNally-Dial has almost 30 years of experience working in local, regional, and state governmental agencies—primarily in the fields of planning, redevelopment, and economic development. Heidi previously worked for Stanislaus County, the City of Modesto, the City of Ceres, and Cal Trans.

Her family moved to Turlock in 1973, when her father chose Castle Air Force Base as his last duty station before retirement. Heidi stayed local and received a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration in 1980 and a Master's of Public Administration in 1983 from California State University, Stanislaus (CSUS).

Heidi has been married for 33 years to Gary Dial, a retired CPA. Together, they have a 25-year-old son, and they enjoy traveling, reading, cooking and brewing beer. Heidi and Gary are also Giants season-ticket holders and sports fans.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending Mrs. Heidi McNally-Dial for her numerous years of selfless service to the betterment of our community.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, February 28, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## MARCH 5

9:30 a.m.

## Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of General James N. Mattis, USMC, Commander, U.S. Central Command, and Admiral William H. McRaven, USN, Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SH-216

10 a.m.

## Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine a legislative presentation of Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

SD-G50

10:30 a.m.

## Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine reducing the deficit by eliminating wasteful spending in the tax code.

SD-608

2:30 p.m.

## Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

## MARCH 6

9:30 a.m.

## Committee on the Judiciary

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Justice.

SD-226

10 a.m.

## Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine a legislative presentation of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Vietnam Veterans of America, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Fleet Reserve Association, Gold Star Wives, Air Force Sergeants Association, and AMVETS.

CHOB-345

10 a.m.

## Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Homeland Security at 10 years, focusing on a progress report on management.

SD-342

## MARCH 7

9:30 a.m.

## Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the U.S. Africa Command and U.S. Transportation Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-106

10 a.m.

## Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Sarah Jewell, of Washington, to be Secretary of the Interior.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

## Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

## MARCH 12

9:30 a.m.

## Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the U.S. Strategic Command and U.S. Cyber Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed

session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-G50

## MARCH 13

10 a.m.

## Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine fulfilling the promise of open government five years after the "OPEN Government Act".

SD-226

## Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine Veterans' Affairs (VA) claims process, focusing on a review of Veterans' Affairs transformation efforts.

SR-418

## MARCH 19

10 a.m.

## Committee on the Judiciary

## Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights

To hold hearings to examine the American Airlines/US Airways merger, focusing on consolidation, competition, and consumers.

SD-226

## APRIL 11

9:30 a.m.

## Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-G50

## APRIL 25

9:30 a.m.

## Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-106