

served as director for other organizations, including: Broadview Co-op Gin, Cal-Cot Ltd., Land Preservation Association, San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Association, Silver Creek Drainage Association, and Valley Seed Growers. Mike has also held office at Cal-West Seeds.

His work and community service were essential aspects of Mike's life; however, family was most important to him. Words cannot adequately describe how much he loved his wife, Ann; his children, Michael, and Marvin, and his beloved grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the life of Mike Perez. He will be remembered as a man who never took anything for granted and had a full appreciation and love for life.

**RECOGNIZING PATRICIA B. SALAS ON RECEIVING THE 2013 U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S FINANCIAL SERVICES CHAMPION FOR GUAM**

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 9, 2013*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Ms. Patricia B. Salas on being awarded the 2013 U.S. Small Business Administration's Financial Services Champion Award for Guam. Ms. Patricia B. Salas is the Vice President, Business Development Manager for Bank of Guam.

Ms. Salas started her banking career in 1989 as a Personal Banking Officer with the Wells Fargo Bank in San Diego, California. She was later promoted to the San Francisco branch on Market Street as the Business Banking Officer of Wells Fargo's Business Banking Group, where she managed a commercial portfolio with more than \$150 million on deposit.

Ms. Salas was born and raised on Guam and is the daughter of Ricardo P. Benito and Carmen Martinez Benito. She graduated from Academy of Our Lady of Guam in May 1983.

In 1998, Patricia moved back home to Guam and worked in a commercial loan officer position with a community bank on Guam. Within a year Patricia was promoted to Assistant Vice President and Relationship Manager responsible for developing strategies and managing a \$30 million commercial loan portfolio. In 2010, she joined Bank of Guam as a Vice President and Business Development Manager.

In addition to her professional career, Ms. Salas is an active member of our local community. She is involved in community outreach and financial literacy programs and is a member of the Rotary Club of Tumon Bay, where she has served in various leadership positions. Additionally, she is a board member and treasurer of the Guam Business Partners for Recycling.

Ms. Salas is married to Edwin "Bob" Salas and they have two daughters, Taylor and Chloe. She earned a bachelor's in Business Administration from the University of San Diego in May of 1987.

I congratulate Ms. Patricia B. Salas on receiving the 2013 U.S. Small Business Admin-

istration's Financial Services Champion Award for Guam. I join the people of Guam in commending her for her award and thanking her for her many contributions to our island and people.

**HONORING MT. VERNON HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM**

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 9, 2013*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishment of the Mount Vernon High School girls basketball team in Fortville, Indiana.

The Mt. Vernon girls varsity basketball team recently made school history by capturing the team's first state championship in their third title game appearance. The Marauders won the Indiana Class 3A State Basketball Championship 61-47 over Hamilton Heights.

Mt. Vernon was led in scoring in the title game by freshman Sydney Shelton with 29 points and in rebounds by junior Erica Moore with 15, setting a Class 3A record for title game rebounds. In addition, senior Rachel Houck was named the winner of the Patricia L. Roy Mental Attitude Award for Class 3A Girls Basketball for her demonstrated excellence in mental attitude, scholarship, leadership, and athletic ability. The team finished the championship season with a record of 23-4.

I want to congratulate this team for showing great resolve and teamwork throughout the state tournament and in the title game. I also want to commend the team for representing themselves with class throughout the season, the tournament, and the remainder of the year.

Congratulations go to starters Sydney Shelton, Shaely Duff, Rachel Houck, Erica Moore, and Ellie Balbach, along with teammates Taylor Riggs, Morgan Stricker, Jessica Grubb, Ariana Sandefur, Sadie Baugh, Maddie Walrod, Krista Shockley, Hannah Jones, and Olivia Coleman. For the leadership of this championship team, congratulations and accolades go to the head coach, Julie Shelton, and assistant coaches, Tom Kirby, Ashley Greulich, and Jeff Phares.

I ask the entire 6th Congressional District to join me in congratulating the Mount Vernon High School girls varsity basketball team for their dedication, execution, and excellence this season.

**ERICA SIMPSON**

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 9, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Erica Simpson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Erica Simpson is an 11th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Erica Simpson is exemplary of the type of achievement

that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Erica Simpson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

**HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PARK TOOL**

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 9, 2013*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Park Tool in Oakdale, Minnesota, on the occasion of the company's 50th anniversary. Park Tool is a Minnesota success story, growing from a small family owned company to the world's leading manufacturer of bicycle tools exporting American made products around the globe.

Necessity breeds invention, and the need for good and reliable bicycle repair tools forged the beginnings of Park Tool. In 1963, two bike shop owners, Howard Hawkins and Art Engstrom, lacked adequate equipment to make repairs in their shop so they started inventing their own tools. Their creativity and innovation produced the tools that helped to transform the bicycle repair industry. One of their first inventions was a stand to allow easier access to complete repairs, which was awarded a patent in 1976. Park Tool quickly expanded, and many patents later, began building wheel truing stands, repair stands and consumer tools. By the early 1980's the retail shops that started the company were sold to concentrate on manufacturing tools. Park Tool continues to help define the industry and its success has led to the opening of its new factory and headquarters, which is opening this month in Oakdale, Minnesota.

It is fitting that Minnesota is home of Park Tool, because it is one of the most bike friendly states in the nation. The American Trails organization named Minnesota the "Best Trails State," because of our state's leadership in development of a major system of bike trails, paths and commuter routes on roads—not to mention our abundance of beautiful lakes, rivers and parks. As more Minnesotans and more Americans rely on bikes for transportation to work and for enjoyment, many in our community and across our state and country depend on Park Tool to produce the high quality tools that keep their bikes in top shape.

Park Tool is a company that shares its success by giving back to people and communities. The company has supported "Ride 2 Recovery" which helps veterans with cycling based rehabilitation programs, as well as with programs that promote safe and fun cycling around the United States. The "Earn-A-Bike" program and "Bike Shop at School" teaches students the mechanical fundamentals of bicycle assembly and repair while fostering environmental stewardship and healthy living. The company has also partnered with "Trips for Kids" which helps at-risk youth by organizing mountain bike rides in their 80 chapter communities around the United States, Canada, and Israel.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to in honor the dedicated employees of Park Tool in celebration of 50 years of commitment to providing high quality tools and equipment for cyclists around the world.

### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 9, 2013*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,802,515,751,907.61. We've added \$6,175,638,702,994.53 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

### ON SONJA NESBIT MOVING TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 9, 2013*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize one of the finest committee staff members to have worked for me, the Ways and Means Committee and the U.S. House of Representatives. Sonja Nesbit joined the House staff over 11 years ago and has made an enormous difference for millions of Americans since the day she arrived. Now she is moving on to the Department of Health and Human Services to continue her work on behalf of the nation's poor, and I want to thank her for her accomplishments, her ongoing dedication to this institution, and for her service to the American people.

In Congress Sonja was at the center of our efforts to restructure the national foster care system, a reform that has helped innumerable young people get a better shot at finding a good family and personal and professional success. Sonja also worked tirelessly on the creation of the home visitation program in the Affordable Care Act that promotes home visits for at-risk children.

Sonja is a leading expert in her field and is, really, the ideal public servant. She gave thoughtful advice and counsel, helping myself and other members do the right thing for the poor and needy in this country. She was patient, helpful, and always looking for policy that would reflect the values of justice and equality. This is what the American people need in a public servant and in congressional staff.

Now Sonja is moving on to work in the Department of Health and Human Services where she'll continue her work on making the country's social safety net just and strong.

We will all miss her. I congratulate Sonja on her new position, thank her for her good work, and wish her the best of luck at HHS.

EMMA BLOSENCO

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 9, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Emma Bloenco for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Emma Bloenco is an 8th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Emma Bloenco is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Emma Bloenco for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 9, 2013*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, during the week of March 18th, I missed roll Nos. 76 through 89 due to cataract surgery. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on roll Nos. 76, 79, 80, 81, 82, 88, and 89. I would have voted "yea" on roll Nos. 77, 78, 83, 84, 85, and 87. I would have voted "present" on roll No. 86.

### FEAR THE RAVEN, SOMETHING TO RAVE ABOUT!

#### HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 9, 2013*

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit this poem on behalf of a constituent in my district honoring the Baltimore Ravens for their Super Bowl XLVII win.

### FEAR THE RAVEN, SOMETHING TO RAVE ABOUT!

(By Albert Carey Caswell)

The . . . The Fire . . . The Unforgettable Fire!

When, hearts and souls, and bodies and minds, so meet for but one desire!

But, for one goal to so take them all higher! For no other team sport, has such passion and such fire!

Or so depends upon their Band of Brothers, to so fashion victory from within themselves to be so inspired!

Well, maybe when a great leader says he's going to retire!

Feel The Fire!

As a child a time ago, stepping out upon those fields of green as so . . .

As a dream few of us will know!

To play in The Super Bowl!

And to stand on that National stage, as all around you this war is waged!

Is but Something To Rave About!

For it was in those long hot days of summer, that this great bond was so formed as they encumbered!

As against all odds they fought on, young and old, the rookies and Pros . . .

As all around them, the smell of fear in the air stood close!

For only a few on opening day, in that uniform shall so be clothed!

As its competition at its very height, that which so makes their great hearts shine so bright!

And now as it all so comes down to this, 60 minutes, either heartache or bliss!

To wear that Super Bowl ring, and hold that Lombardi Trophy up high and sing!

"And shine bright like a diamond, shine bright like a diamond in the sky," with but tears in your eyes . . .

And to be one of football's aluminate, one of its highest of all society!

Is But Something To Rave About, as down upon you the confetti flies . . .

As you want to "scream and shout," and "let it all out," singing "oh we oh" we are Super Bowl Champs, now That's Something To Rave About!

For this is HARBAUGH, and this is WAR!

As it's Brother VS Brother as so for sure!

Going Coastal, East meets West!

Who Will Be The Best?

As it was but only a year ago, when in that end zone our dreams died so!

But, The Ravens took that memory . . . and built upon it and would not let go!

Something like "remember The Alamo"! UNFINISHED BUSINESS, YO . . . HUNT IT . . . HUNT IT!!!

But, the word on the street, was that Baltimore could not so compete!

Surely, Peyton would have his way . . . and Brady in the Super Bowl was meant to play!

And how could Baltimore stake a claim, and beat the 'Niners on this day?

But, this is a team of destiny and faith, whether it's Ray Ray or General Brigrance leading the way!

Or a guy up in Heaven named Art who was with them on every play . . .

And the Big "B" Bisciotti, because excellence is his way!

FEAR THE RAVENS . . .

IT'S JUDGEMENT DAY!

And now they were ready to make the 'Niners pay, and show em how the west was lost this day!

Prospecting for more Super Bowl gold, The Forty-Niners came into town looking for number 6 to hold, but the Steelers said woeeeee!

Armed with a Pistol O so profound, making even Dirty Harry say WOW!

And the Ravens, These Mighty Birds of Prey, with their Beastie Boys on defense leading the way!

That would even make Edgar Allen Poe, so shuttle and whence in his grave!

Led by their leader T4 Ray Ray with his Tell Tale Heart, instilling such fire and faith his work of art!

As Mr. Bisciotti said,

"'Niners you're going to Fear The Raven today!"

Just look at what my coaches, and front office put together, THEY!

The Wizard of Ozzie Neusome, he's real who's whosome!

Because, he knows how to choose 'em!

And Pollard who will put the collar on you every play!

And Suggs who likes you to mugs, and sizzles any one in his way!

And Ayanbadejo, who acts so crazed so!