

RECOGNIZING PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS JUAN TAIJERON ON RECEIVING COAST GUARD SECTOR GUAM'S RESERVE ENLISTED PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Petty Officer 2nd Class Juan Taijeron on being named Coast Guard Sector Guam's Reserve Enlisted Person of the Year.

Petty Officer Taijeron is a boatswains mate currently assigned to Station Apra Harbor Guam, and was chosen as the Sector Guam's Reserve Enlisted Person of the Year by the U.S. Coast Guard. He serves as a tactical coxswain and engineer on the 45 ft. Response Boat—Medium (RB-M) and 25 ft. Response Boat—(RB-S). His duties include: boarding team member instructor, boat crew member instructor, and Weapons Petty Officer.

The U.S. Coast Guard awarded Officer Taijeron this distinguished honor for successfully achieving the highest underway hours for certified engineers, executing 385 hours underway, many of which were performed outside of his rating specialty as a boat engineer, through 141 missions.

Born and raised on Guam, Petty Officer Taijeron entered the U.S. Coast Guard Reserves in 2008. After graduating high school in 1997, he attended leadership and management school. He has been a civilian dive boat captain and dive master for 15 years. The knowledge he has of Guam is invaluable when training new members of Station Apra Harbor.

His major awards and decorations include: Coast Guard Commandant Letter of Commendation; Coast Guard Meritorious Team with Bronze Star; Coast Guard Special Operations Service Ribbon; Coast Guard Overseas Ribbon; Coast Guard Reserve Good Conduct; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Device; National Defense Service Medal; and Coast Guard Pistol Expert Medal.

He is also an active member of our island community, as he volunteered more than 100 hours of liberty time to help set up 12 static displays to provide education to the public about the Coast Guard operations as well as volunteering at the Angel Tree Project for underprivileged children during the holiday season.

Petty Officer Taijeron embodies the Coast Guard's core values: honor, respect, and devotion to duty.

I congratulate Petty Officer 2nd Class Juan Taijeron on being named Coast Guard Sector Guam's Reserve Enlisted Person of the Year. I join the people of Guam in commending him and thanking him for his contributions to our community. I wish him the best of luck as he competes for national honors with his peers from other Coast Guard Districts across the nation.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEE TAX ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2013

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition H.R. 249, the Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act.

Failure to pay taxes is a serious offense and should be treated as such. Unfortunately, this bill is not a serious attempt to address that very complicated issue. Instead of being a good faith effort, this bill is being used as a political stunt and appears to be an attack on public employees.

During Oversight and Government Reform Committee markup on this bill, a series of questions were raised about the Internal Revenue Service procedures related to tax delinquency. These questions include what steps may be taken to resolve a delinquency, when enforced collection action may be used, how repayment schedules are established, among others. Addressing these types of questions and concerns is what the Committee process is for. Chairman ISSA and Ranking Member CUMMINGS wrote a letter to Steven Miller, Acting Commissioner at the IRS, to better understand these processes. The majority pledged to consider these responses and to amend this measure accordingly. Instead of waiting even two weeks for a reply, H.R. 9 was brought to the floor without amendment. The Chairman refused to wait for the answer to his own letter.

I am also concerned that this bill does not make sufficient allowances for the dispute process to do its work. Americans have the right to appeal IRS collection actions. While exemptions are provided when a hearing has been scheduled under Collection Due Process, appeals to that ruling or under the Collection Appeals Program are not. Punishing anyone while they are still in the process of pursuing the normal IRS dispute process is wrong.

Americans around the country are paying their taxes today. None of them should be fired while pursuing their legal rights to appeal or dispute IRS action. I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing H.R. 249.

RECOGNIZING THE 23RD ANNUAL DC BLACK PRIDE CELEBRATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, as the Supreme Court considers two historic marriage equality cases, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the 23rd annual DC Black Pride celebration, to be held in Washington, DC on May 24–26, 2013.

The DC Black Pride celebration is a multi-day festival featuring a reception, films, a poetry slam, a church service, educational workshops, community town hall meetings, a basketball tournament, and a health and wellness expo, among other events. We in the District

of Columbia are pleased and proud that the DC Black Pride celebration is widely considered to be one of the world's preeminent Black Pride celebrations, drawing more than 30,000 people to the nation's capital from across the United States as well as from Canada, the Caribbean, South Africa, Great Britain, France, Germany, and the Netherlands.

We are particularly proud that the DC Black Pride was the very first Black Pride celebration and fostered the beginning of the Center for Black Equity (formerly known as the International Federation of Black Prides, Inc. (IFBP)) and the "Black Pride Movement," which now consists of 40 Black Prides on four continents.

Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day, Inc., the celebration's organizing body, has chosen "Step Up and Be Heard" as the theme for this year's celebration. This theme reflects the connectedness of the Black Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) community and its commitment to fulfilling the mission of DC Black Pride, which is to increase awareness of and pride in the diversity of the Black LGBT community. Moreover, the theme expresses the resolve of the African-American LGBT community and its allies to come together to: fight for LGBT equality; celebrate its heritage and culture as members of both the Black and LGBT communities; and promote health and wellness for the community.

We congratulate the DC Black Pride board of directors, coordinator of the annual event and smaller events throughout the year: Andrea Woody-Macko; Derrick Dunning; Earl Fowlkes, Jr; June Spence; Kenneth Hopson; Kenya Hutton; Lauren Morris; Leandrea Gilliam; Marc Morgan; and Robert "Harold" Dinkins.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in welcoming all attending the 23rd annual DC Black Pride celebration in Washington, D.C., and I take this opportunity to remind the celebrants that the American citizens who reside in Washington, D.C. are taxed without full voting representation in Congress.

A TRIBUTE TO NYLA ARSLANIAN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District.

I would like to recognize an exceptional woman, Nyla Arslanian of Los Feliz, California, who is one of the strongest advocates for the arts in the city of Los Angeles, as well as a pioneer in the cultural tourism movement in the city.

Ms. Arslanian is the editor of Discover Hollywood Magazine, now in its 27th year, whose mission is to inform visitors and residents alike, about the unique culture and lore of Hollywood. Nyla is married to Oscar Arslanian, who is her partner in their entertainment management and publishing firm, Arslanian & Associates, Inc. In addition to publishing Discover Hollywood Magazine, they represent

performers Chris Montez, Fabian, Johnny Tillotson and Kathy Young.

Since 1984, Nyla has served as the President of the Hollywood Arts Council, creating several programs such as the Children's Festival of the Arts and the Charlie Awards Luncheon, which is held annually. Through her unparalleled leadership, the Council has brought the arts to more than 15,000 elementary school children, and over 70,000 people who have attended the Children's Festival, which is also an annual event.

Nyla has served on numerous boards including the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council, the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, and now serves on the board of the Los Feliz Improvement Association. She has received many well-deserved honors, including the Buddy Collette Award, the Award of Excellence by the Women's Club of Hollywood, and the Hollywood Star Award, which she received with her husband.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Nyla Arslanian, for her exceptional service to the community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF R.D.
"DAN" MUSSER

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the life of R.D. "Dan" Musser, owner of the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, who passed on at the age of 80 on April 13, 2013.

Born in Circleville, Ohio in 1932, Mr. Musser graduated from Dartmouth College and served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. After returning in 1951, Mr. Musser went to work at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, Michigan, which was owned by his family. In order not to show favoritism, his uncle W. Stewart Woodfill, who was the hotel's owner, had Mr. Musser work twice the number of hours other employees did while learning about the operations of the hotel.

Mr. Musser became the manager of the hotel in 1960, when he doubled the number of rooms in the establishment and extended the hours of the hotel during the summer season. Mr. and Mrs. Musser purchased the hotel from W. Stewart Woodfill in 1979.

During the Musser's ownership of the hotel, Mr. Musser worked to run the large hotel with an impeccable attention to detail and a level of personal service found in much smaller establishments. Mr. Musser often wrote over 50 handwritten notes to employees of the Grand Hotel a day regarding items needing attention. During his tenure as owner, the Grand Hotel became a National Historical Landmark in 1989.

In addition to his work at the Grand Hotel, Mr. Musser served as Chairman of the Michigan Travel Commission, Chairman of the Mackinac Island Public Works Commission, and was remembered as a civic pillar. When not working to improve the Grand Hotel and Mackinac Island, Mr. and Mrs. Musser also enjoyed raising show dogs, his Scottish terrier, Sadie earned the prestigious "Best in Show" at the 2010 American Kennel Club Dog Show.

Survived by his wife, three children, and seven grandchildren, Musser's great legacy in-

cludes building the Grand Hotel into what it is today and working to share Northern Michigan hospitality and beautiful summers with all citizens. On behalf of all residents of the First Congressional District of Michigan, I wish to express my condolences to the Musser family and salute R.D. Musser's contribution to our state and country.

THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, the Taiwan Relations Act, signed into law more than 34 years ago on April 10, 1979 by President Jimmy Carter, officially recognizes the unique relationship between Taiwan and the United States.

Taiwan acknowledges and represents the many liberties and freedoms the United States holds dear, and is a dependable ally and friend in the Western Pacific.

Our countries share a strategic partnership. The United States should continue to support the ideals of Democracy and strengthen our relationship with Taiwan, a reliable partner in a very strategic part of the world.

HONORING THE COLLEGE OF CENTRAL FLORIDA'S MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE NJCAA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. RICHARD B. NUGENT

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Mr. NUGENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor College of Central Florida men's basketball team for their heroic win in the NJCAA National Championship.

On March 23, 2013, the College of Central Florida Patriots faced Northwest Florida State in the NJCAA national championship game. Early on, the Patriots built a 15-point lead and managed to fend off a late charge by their opponents to bring back the school's first ever national championship in men's basketball.

During the game, Eugene McCrory scored 23 points and earned the Most Valuable Player award. Rasham Suarez also earned all-tournament honors for the school and Central Florida Coach Tim Ryan won the award for the tournament's best coach.

The win makes the Patriots the third team from Florida to win the national championship and it is the first such win for a Florida team in almost twenty years.

This historic win is a testament to what can be accomplished when sound leadership and hard work combine to pursue a specific goal. The win is a true credit to Coach Ryan and the entire CF community who rallied around these young men and helped them through till the final whistle.

The team has made our community very proud and I know that it is a sign of more good things to come in the years ahead.

A TRIBUTE TO HEIDI SHINK

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District.

I would like to recognize an exceptional woman, Heidi Shink of West Hollywood, California, who for many years has been an avid community leader and political activist.

Heidi is an Advocacy Board Member for the National Council of Jewish Women, Vice President of Communications for the Stonewall Democratic Club, a Commissioner for Human Services in the City of West Hollywood, a liaison to West Hollywood's Women's Advisory Board, and Board Member of Liberty Hill's Community Funding Board, Victory Fund's Campaign Board, Democrats For Israel, and the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. In 2013, Heidi ran as a candidate and was elected to the California Democratic Party's State Central Committee.

Heidi Shink has had a dynamic and multi-dimensional professional career. After graduating from New York University, she landed a record deal with her band, Ceremony. She performed for audiences worldwide, as a co-lead singer, along with Chaz Bono. After working with the band for a decade, she became a Senior Producer at the E! Entertainment Network. Heidi has also co-authored a health book titled 3 Minutes to a Pain-Free Life (Simon & Schuster, 2006) and a wine guide titled Wineology (Globe Pequot Press, 2012). Heidi is a writer for the Huffington Post Gay Voices and hosts "The Shink Tank: Politics for the People" on CBS radio and LATALKLIVE.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring a truly remarkable woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Heidi Shink.

JANEICE LONGORIA—A SPECIAL ADVOCATE FOR OUR PORTS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the newest Chairman of the Port of Houston Commission, the first woman ever appointed to the position, Janeice Longoria. In my role as the Co-Founder and Co-Chair of the Congressional PORTS Caucus, I have enjoyed working with the Port of Houston and was delighted to learn of Janeice's appointment back in January. Since she first joined the Port Commission in 2002, Janeice has been an effective advocate for the port. She has also been a strong voice for businesses along the ship channel and within port-related industries.

Just a few weeks ago, Chairman Longoria joined me and several Texas-based companies at a roundtable event that I hosted at the Port of Houston to help raise awareness about the need for Custom and Border Protection