

program that is helping address unemployment around our Nation to the one place, perhaps, that needs help the most, the Northern Marianas.

The employment services the Wagner-Peyser programs provide have proven effective in facilitating the connection between the employers' demand for employees and the labor market's abundant supply of a willing workforce. That is why I ask my colleagues to support this bill.

We have to do more in this Congress for U.S. workers. This is not a new program. This is not a fundamental amendment to the intent of the Act. This bill merely offers equal treatment to the Northern Marianas in giving them the chance to access funding to support our local businesses and workers in need.

#### TRIBUTE TO PAT WOOTON

### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 18, 2013*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated employee of the U.S. House of Representatives and a staunch Kentucky Republican, Mr. Dennis Patrick Wooton, upon his retirement from my Hazard district office following six years of service as my trusted Field Representative.

Pat has been my right hand on many issues impacting constituents in the eastern half of Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District, covering 18 counties. Anytime a natural disaster occurs in our region, such as flash flooding, tornadoes and damaging mudslides, Pat immediately reaches out to local officials to offer a helping hand and evaluate the potential need for federal assistance. He has been a loyal, reliable resource in the mountains of eastern Kentucky, always offering a friendly smile, his contagious humorous attitude, and word of encouragement.

Before serving as Congressional staff, Pat bravely served our U.S. Army in the Vietnam War. He was awarded several medals for his valiant efforts, including the honorable Bronze Star. He is a life-time member of V.F.W. Post 7378 and D.A.V. Chapter 64. Upon returning home, Pat was a teacher, baseball coach, and basketball coach at Buckhorn High School in Perry County, Kentucky, where he also became one of the most beloved principals in the history of the institution. In 2007, he was elected to the Kentucky High School Baseball Coach Hall of Fame. Through his dedicated efforts in the county, Pat gained the respect of the people of Perry County, who elected him Sheriff 2003–2006.

Pat has also been a dedicated advocate for conservative Republican principals and currently serves as Chairman of the Perry County Republican Party.

Pat has a true heart of service, which is displayed by his volunteer efforts across the Kentucky River region. His long list of service includes training the Buckhorn Volunteer Fire Department, serving on the Governor's Smart Growth Task Force, the ARH Family Health Service and Community Advisory Boards, Buckhorn City Council, the Hazard Community and Technical College Board of Directors, and many more.

Please join me in congratulating Mr. Pat Wooton on his retirement, and in appreciation

of his brave military service to this nation. My wife, Cynthia, and I wish Pat and his wife, Veda, the very best in the years to come.

#### CONGRATULATING ARMSTRONG CABLE ON THEIR FIFTIETH AN- NIVERSARY

### HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 18, 2013*

Mr. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, Armstrong is proudly celebrating its fiftieth anniversary of providing loyal cable service to its customers. With 800 employees, Armstrong serves 282,000 subscribers. Armstrong was founded in 1946 by Jud and Ned Sedwick and remains a family-owned and operated business that maintains close ties with the communities it serves.

Cablefax Magazine, a leading telecommunications publication, recently awarded Armstrong the 2012 Best Customer Service Award for service excellence among independent cable operators nationwide.

I congratulate Armstrong on the 18th day of April in the year 2013. I heartily commend Armstrong for its dedication to customer service and offer best wishes for future success.

#### IN HONOR OF MICHAEL ELLENBOGEN

### HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 18, 2013*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I share this letter on behalf of a constituent of mine named Michael Ellenbogen. I hope his story helps others in a profound and positive way.

My name is Michael Ellenbogen. I am living with Alzheimer's disease. I spend almost every waking hour advocating for increased funding for research that will improve the treatment of this dreadful disease. In 2008, at the age of 49, I was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease after struggling to get a diagnosis since my first symptoms began at age 39. There are more than five million Americans now suffering from this devastating disease.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) funds research into critical and devastating diseases such as cancer and HIV/AIDS. Yet there is much neglect and discrimination regarding the allocation of funds for research into Alzheimer's and related dementias. As a person who experiences the devastating impact of Alzheimer's disease every day I hope that research will lead eventually to postponing the onset or slow the progression of this disease, if not prevention and cure.

Currently, Alzheimer's disease only receives about \$450 million for research from NIH, compared to more than \$5 billion for cancer and more than \$3 billion for HIV/AIDS. I am astonished at the lack of funding dedicated to addressing the number one health epidemic. Historically, leadership from the federal government has helped lower the number of deaths from major diseases such as HIV/AIDS, heart disease, stroke and many types of cancers. This past experience provides hope that increased efforts directed at Alzheimer's disease will be met with similar success.

There are many more Americans living with Alzheimer's than HIV; more funding is desperately needed. If we do not act now this disease has the potential to bankrupt this country. Money allocated today will have an enormous return on investment if it leads to the kind of successes obtained for other diseases.

If you have not yet been touched by this devastating and debilitating disease it's just a matter of time. I hope that my advocacy will help prevent future generations having to suffer my fate and that of many others. You can help by increasing NIH funding for research on Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

I appeal to members of the House of Representatives, the Senate and the respective appropriations committees: Make the hard choices; increase funding for Alzheimer's disease. Do everything necessary to ensure that Alzheimer's disease gets the exposure, commitment and funding necessary to change the course of the disease before millions more Americans are affected.

My work as an advocate has provided opportunities to share my story on a national platform. I have provided public comment during meetings of the Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care and Services in addition to having my personal essay about overcoming the stigma of the disease featured in the Alzheimer's disease World Report 2012. I have also become a member of the Alzheimer's Association National Early-Stage Advisory Group, helping to raise awareness of the disease and provide insights on the most appropriate programs and services for individuals in the early stage of Alzheimer's and other dementias.

I hope that what I am doing now will allow me to leave this world knowing that I have done everything possible to make generations to come have a fighting chance. Do not forget these people or the future generations who will develop this disease. We face dying in the worst possible way.

Regards,

MICHAEL ELLENBOGEN.

#### TRIBUTE TO GEE'S BEND QUILT ARTISTS MARY LEE BENDOLPH AND LORETTA PETTWAY BEN- NETT

### HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 18, 2013*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two of my talented and distinguished constituents—Mary Lee Bendolph and Loretta Pettway Bennett. Both ladies are renowned quilt artists from Gee's Bend, Alabama. The beautiful work of these honorees and the group of women quilters from Gee's Bend has gained international recognition and is source of great pride to my district and the state of Alabama.

Gee's Bend is a beloved rural community—geographically isolated on a peninsula at a deep bend in the Alabama River, just southeast of my hometown of Selma. For nearly 200 years the women of Gee's Bend have been creating quilt art. These local women use available materials, in patterns of their own creative design. They have received widespread, critical acclaim and their work has been compared to the most valuable pieces of modern abstract art.

Mary Lee Bendolph, the seventh of 17 children, descends from generations of accomplished quilt makers in Gee's Bend. She

learned to quilt from her mother, Aolar Mosely, and she worked over the years in a variety of textile-related jobs. Mary Lee gathers design ideas for her quilt art by looking at the world around her. Anything—from people's clothes at church, to her barn, to quilts hanging on clotheslines in front yards, to how the land looks when she's high above it in an airplane—can inspire her.

Mary Lee Bendolph has worked to promote greater understanding of her community and its unique art form. She has appeared on numerous television and radio programs, and figured prominently in the PBS documentary "The Quiltmakers of Gee's Bend." In 1999, Mary Lee's life was profiled in *The Los Angeles Times* by J.R. Moehringer in "Crossing Over: Mary Lee's Vision," which was awarded a Pulitzer Prize. Additionally, the main character Sadie Pettway in Elyzabeth Wilder's play "Gee's Bend," currently on tour, is based on the life of Mary Lee Bendolph.

Loretta Pettway Bennett is a fifth-generation quilter from Gee's Bend, Alabama and one of the youngest to continue handstitching quilts in the renowned Gee's Bend style. She is the second of eight children and oldest daughter of Tom O. and Quinnie Elizabeth Pettway Jr. Loretta's ancestry traces back to Dinah Miller, a great-great-grandmother who, according to folklore and family history, was one of the first slaves to have arrived in Gee's Bend. Loretta has over two dozen additional relatives among the initial group of quilters, establishing her as a bona fide member of what could be considered America's quilting royalty.

Loretta has stated that she came full circle, back to her Gee's Bend roots, when she made a quilt in honor of her mother Quinnie Pettway, who taught her to sew and quilt, and her cousin Arlonzia Pettway. "After that quilt, I went into a zone where I was inspired to use really bold colors and different types of materials together just like the generations of relatives before me, because they used what they had. I added something else that my family especially loves, music and dancing. I was finally there, using different shapes, sizes, colors and textures. Just like my family, imperfect but still a family."

Most recently, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts featured the Gee's Bend Jazz Symphony in February 2013. During Black History Month 2013, the history of the community of Gee's Bend, and the spirit of the women of the Gee's Bend quilt art, was brought to the nation by jazz pianist Jason Moran, using music to help animate history and interpret museum collections.

Mr. Speaker, I am beyond honored to represent the community of Gee's Bend and these two extraordinary artists. I look forward to many more appearances in our nation's capital by these highly talented artists.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS ABOLITION AND ECONOMIC AND ENERGY CONVERSION ACT OF 2013

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 18, 2013*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Nuclear Weapons Abolition and

Economic and Energy Conversion Act of 2013, a version of which I have introduced since 1994, after working with the District of Columbia residents who were responsible for the Nuclear Disarmament and Economic Conversion ballot initiative passed by DC voters in 1993. This version of the bill now requires the United States to negotiate an international agreement to disable and dismantle its nuclear weapons by 2020 and provides for strict control of fissile material and radioactive waste and for use of nuclear-free energy. The bill continues to provide that the funds used for nuclear weapons programs be redirected to human and infrastructure needs, such as housing, health care, Social Security and the environment, and it would take effect when the President certifies to Congress that all countries possessing nuclear weapons have eliminated such weapons. The bill is particularly timely as Congress continues to make cuts to important human and infrastructure programs and as the world confronts concerns about nuclear proliferation to Iran and North Korea.

Following years of dangerous increases in U.S. nuclear capacity during the George W. Bush administration, President Barack Obama has begun to rebuild U.S. credibility with his goal of taking the necessary steps to achieve a world without nuclear weapons. The president's strong push for the New START treaty in 2010, when Republicans seemed adamant on delaying it, resulted in ratification by the Senate. The treaty requires the two major nuclear powers, Russia and the United States, to continue to reduce nuclear weapons by mutually reducing their nuclear warheads by half and their number of intercontinental ballistic missiles and missile launchers, and, within 60 days of the treaty taking effect, on February 5, 2011, submit to on-site inspections of strategic nuclear weapons facilities by the weapons experts of the other country.

Today, our country has a long list of urgent domestic needs that have been put on the back burner even though millions of Americans have lost their homes and jobs and sequestration has started. As the only nation that has used nuclear weapons in war, and that still possesses the largest nuclear weapons arsenal, I urge support for my bill to help the United States lead the world in redirecting funds that would otherwise go to nuclear weapons to be available for urgent domestic needs.

#### CYBER INTELLIGENCE SHARING AND PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2013*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 624) to provide for the sharing of certain cyber threat intelligence and cyber threat information between the intelligence community and cybersecurity entities, and for other purposes:

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Chair, cybersecurity experts in government and the private sector agree that the biggest impediments to strengthening cybersecurity are obstacles that prevent the sharing of cyber threat informa-

tion. The intent of the bill before the House, H.R. 624, the Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act (CISPA) is laudable in that it eliminates some of those obstacles. Security and privacy, however, should not be mutually exclusive and CISPA does not go far enough to protect privacy. This is the bottom line for me, my constituents, and I hope the Obama Administration, and why I oppose this legislation.

#### INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT FOR THE SMALL BUSINESS DISASTER RELIEF AND RECOVERY ACT

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 18, 2013*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill that would exempt loans from the credit union member business lending cap that are made after federally-declared natural disasters, injecting much-needed funds into local communities when they need it most.

Superstorm Sandy caused enormous destruction throughout the Northeast, and wildfires, hurricanes, and tornados have wreaked similar havoc across the country. Federal disaster assistance that flows after each declaration of a disaster is essential but not sufficient to get a region back on its feet. I've heard from many small businesses about their struggle to recover from Sandy. Counties in eleven states and the District of Columbia were declared major disaster areas by the President during the storm.

That is why this bill is so important. It will exempt credit union 'member business loans' from the normal lending cap for a period of up to five years after a natural disaster declaration. This will enable credit unions to temporarily lend above their cap in any area where there had been a federal declaration of disaster.

Exempting these loans from the cap will open up a new source of credit for struggling small businesses and untie the hands of credit unions that want to provide that assistance. Credit unions are key members of the communities they serve and want to be there for small businesses who need assistance recovering from natural disasters. This bill will provide businesses a source of capital to help them rebuild and recover.

Currently, under federal regulations, Federal Credit Unions are each subject to a ceiling of 12.25% of their assets in business loans to their members. As many credit unions approach that cap, they are unable to provide needed capital to their communities.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation to help areas that so badly need access to capital to help them recover.

#### HONORING THE WAYNE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S 90TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 18, 2013*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Wayne Public Library, located in the Township of Wayne, Passaic