

dedication of its leadership, volunteers, and staff, including nurses, social workers, home health aides, clergy, and therapists. Northwest Indiana is not only grateful, but proud to have had the organization's support and help during the past 30 years.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating the VNA of Porter County Hospice Program on their 30th anniversary. For their remarkable leadership, commitment, and compassion shown through their service to so many in need throughout Northwest Indiana, they are worthy of the highest praise.

HONORING DR. STEVEN BREM

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 2013

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Steven Brem and all those who have come to America, worked hard and embraced this great country as their own. We are truly a nation of immigrants and many of us have a story to tell about how our families came here, some dating back to the discovery and settlement of the continent and others more recent, but all are proud of the day they or their ancestors were welcomed as citizens and finally called themselves Americans. The process can be hard, and the journey difficult, but the stories of immigrants like Steven and his family continue to enrich our country and exemplify what so many seek to achieve when they come here.

Dr. Steven Brem was born Szmul Szaja Brem, in a displaced persons camp in Germany following World War II. His parents were survivors of the Holocaust and, in 1949, the family traveled to the United States on a troop support boat. The Brem family embraced this country as their own and they were grateful for the opportunities they were provided, especially the access to an education, which was denied in the concentration camps. His parents instilled the value of education in Steven and maintained that in America success would come to those willing to work hard to achieve their goals. Steven took his parents philosophy to heart and, upon deciding he wanted to pursue a degree in medicine, worked hard, and received his degree from Harvard Medical School in 1972.

I first met Steven when he was helping one of my employees fight a brain tumor. He was serving as the Chair of Neuro-Oncology at Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa and proved an invaluable resource during that difficult time. Although she ultimately lost her battle, Steven was there for her during her struggle, exemplifying all the traits one could wish for in a doctor. His kindness and caring for his patients made a lasting impression, and our families have become good friends. Steven has since moved to Pennsylvania and is now serving in the Department of Neurosurgery at Penn Medicine as Professor of Neurosurgery, Chief of Surgical Neuro-oncology and Co-Director of the Penn Brain Tumor Center. He is recognized as one of the preeminent doctors for the treatment of brain tumors, recently receiving the Joel A. Gingras, Jr. award from the American Brain Tumor Association for his work to advance the understanding and treatment of brain tumors.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the story of the Brem family is one of the most positive stories of the American experience I have ever heard. As Steven has said to me many times "we want to make a stronger, more beautiful America by passing down from generation to generation the love of learning and service to our fellow man." I am proud to call Steven my friend and ask my colleagues to join with me today in recognizing the contribution he and his family have made to our great nation.

SPENCER WEST SUMMIT
ANNIVERSARY

HON. CYNTHIA M. LUMMIS

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 2013

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the anniversary of Spencer West's summit of Mount Kilimanjaro. A man of many talents: relentless climber, accomplished speaker, motivating author, thriving philanthropist and activist. This Wyoming native from Rock Springs is a man who is inspiring the world to follow in his path and redefine possible.

"Redefining Possible" is the phrase that West has chosen to embody his life. At age of 5, he was diagnosed with sacral agenesis, a genetic disorder which led to the amputation of both his legs. The 32 years old man today is an inspiration, proving no handicap can hold you back from changing the world.

Just one year ago, West climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, the highest peak in Africa on his hands and in his wheelchair. West's climb was dedicated to the fundraising campaign for Free the Children's sustainable water initiative, which raised more than half a million dollars committed to create clean water programs in Kenya. He now shares with audiences the struggles he has overcome. His motivational speeches have reached over 150,000 people where he captures audiences with his charismatic and dynamic personality.

His powerful message continued to reach a larger audience when West teamed up with Nelly Furtado in her lyrical video for her single titled Spirit Indestructible. Furtado's video chronicles West's astonishing journey during his week-long climb to the summit of one of the world's most famous mountains.

Since his climb, West has not slowed down in his efforts to raise awareness and additional funds for the clean water project in Kenya. He recently finished a 300 kilometer trek between Edmonton and Calgary in Alberta, Canada. He completed the journey in 11 days, undertaking nearly an entire marathon every day.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating Spencer West for his inspiring achievements for powerful social change. Through his determined work and optimism, he has demonstrated that the impossible is indeed possible.

JOSEPH A. PIERANGELI, FORMER
UNICO PRESIDENT

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 2013

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Joseph A. Pierangeli, the former president of the UNICO Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania Chapter.

Mr. Pierangeli has served as a member of UNICO for 10 years. UNICO is the largest Italian American organization in the United States. Members seek to improve their communities by providing assistance to area and national charities through fundraisers and donations. Additionally, they strive to honor and educate others about their Italian culture and ethnic heritage.

Currently, Mr. Pierangeli serves as the Chief Executive Officer of United Rehabilitation Services in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. A graduate of Penn State University, Mr. Pierangeli is a proud husband and father who plays an active role in many civic organizations throughout Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties.

Mr. Speaker, for his dedicated service to both his Italian heritage and our community, I commend Joseph A. Pierangeli, former president of the UNICO Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania Chapter.

A TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN
JOHN D. DINGELL JR.

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, on June 7, 2013, Congressman JOHN DINGELL became the longest-serving Member of Congress in the history of our country.

To put Congressman DINGELL's tenure into perspective mathematically, one would need a calculator. The Washington Post reported that since the American Revolution, Congressman DINGELL has been a Member of Congress for 24 percent of that time. That's over 20,000 days.

I measure his tenure in far greater terms . . . his contributions to our country.

Nearly every major law one can point to today bears the imprint of Congressman DINGELL. From fighting for civil rights and clean water, to improving labor laws and health care, JOHN DINGELL is the epitome of effective service to our country.

He has seen Popes pass and Presidents elected, wars won and wars lost, championship sports teams and the first email.

Much in the world has changed since Congressman DINGELL was first elected in 1955, but he has been the "constant" in Congress to count on. He fights for what's right, putting his constituents first and politics second. He sets his sights on his goals and relentlessly pursues them. He is a prudent and wise man.

So thank you, Mr. DINGELL. Thank you for inspiring us, and thank you for all you've done for our country.

It's an honor to serve with you.

RECOGNIZING THE 148TH ANNIVERSARY OF JUNETEENTH AND THE 20TH CELEBRATION OF THE JUNETEENTH FREEDOM & HERITAGE FESTIVAL IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 2013

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 148th anniversary of the observance of Juneteenth in the United States. Even though the Emancipation Proclamation was signed by President Abraham Lincoln in September 1862, it was not until June 19, 1865, that Union Soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger granted freedom to the last slaves in Galveston, Texas. This year also marks the 20th annual Juneteenth Freedom and Heritage Festival in Memphis. To commemorate this day in our history and the contributions of many African-Americans to our nation, this year the festival has chosen the theme, "Honoring African-American Medical Doctors."

Over the course of history, there have been many obstacles in the path to success for African-Americans in many fields, and the medical field is no exception. In fact, the nation's first African-American doctor, Dr. James McCune Smith was barred from attending medical school in New York City, where he lived, so he attended medical school in Scotland and obtained his degree in 1837. He then returned to New York, set up a medical practice in lower Manhattan, and became the resident physician at an orphanage. In addition to his medical practice, Dr. Smith served as a schoolteacher, a prolific writer and a strong abolitionist. The bravery of Dr. Smith paved the way for more African-American doctors to climb the ranks to prominence.

Because Memphis is a medical center, the city has seen its own share of African-American doctors who have made a difference in the lives of their patients and left their respective marks on the medical community. Dr. Edward Reed was the first black general surgeon to set up practice in Memphis and to integrate the surgical staffs of Memphis hospitals during the 1960s. Dr. Lawrence Seymour was a pioneer in the fight against prostate cancer, developing several new treatments for the disease, including one that shrinks the prostate gland before surgery. Dr. Linkwood Williams moved to Memphis, after his tenure training many of the 450 pilots who served in the 332nd Fighter Group at Tuskegee University, and began an OB-GYN practice, becoming the first African-American OB-GYN in the city. Dr. Vasco Smith, a civil rights leader and the first African-American elected to the Shelby County Commission, also served the medical community as a well-respected dentist and an instrumental founder of the Regional Medical Center at Memphis. Dr. Ethelyn Williams-Neal worked to become one of the first black pediatricians in Memphis, and she continues to serve as a prominent pediatrician in the Memphis community.

Mr. Speaker, it is in the spirit of these great medical professionals that I ask my colleagues to join me in observing our nation's 148th anniversary of Juneteenth and the celebrations in Memphis. This is a time to reflect upon the

end of slavery in America and to recognize the many contributions of African-American citizens. As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, the Emancipation Proclamation "came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of their captivity."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 2013

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from votes in the House on Friday afternoon, June 14th, due to attending a family funeral out of town. The House considered amendments to H.R. 1960, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014. Had I been present, I would have voted: "aye" on rollcall No. 230 (Holt amendment); "aye" on rollcall No. 231 (McCollum amendment); "aye" on rollcall No. 232 (Nolan amendment); "aye" on rollcall No. 233 (Larsen amendment); "aye" on rollcall No. 234 (Gibson amendment); "aye" on rollcall No. 235 (Coffman amendment); "aye" on rollcall No. 237 (Smith amendment); "aye" on rollcall No. 238 (Polis amendment); "aye" on rollcall No. 239 (Polis amendment); "aye" on rollcall No. 240 (Van Hollen amendment); "aye" on rollcall No. 241 (Blumenauer amendment); "aye" on rollcall No. 242 (DeLauro amendment); "aye" on rollcall No. 243 (Motion to Recommit H.R. 1960 with Instructions); "no" on rollcall No. 229 (Turner amendment); "no" on rollcall No. 236 (Walorski amendment); and "no" on rollcall No. 244 (final passage of H.R. 1960).

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, June 20, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's record.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 24

3 p.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine curbing drug abuse in Medicare.

SD-342

5:30 p.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Howard A. Shelanski, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, and Daniel M. Tangherlini, of the District of Columbia, to be Administrator of General Services.

S-216

JUNE 25

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine private student loans, focusing on regulatory perspectives.

SD-538

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the challenges and opportunities for improving forest management on Federal lands.

SD-366

Committee on Finance

To hold an oversight hearing to examine recovery audit contractors, focusing on program integrity.

SD-215

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Subcommittee on Emergency Management, Intergovernmental Relations, and the District of Columbia

To hold hearings to examine measuring the impact of preparedness grants since 9/11.

SD-342

12 noon

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

Business meeting to markup proposed legislation making appropriations for fiscal year 2014 for Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies.

SD-124

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 718, to create jobs in the United States by increasing United States exports to Africa by at least 200 percent in real dollar value within 10 years, S. 559, to establish a fund to make payments to the Americans held hostage in Iran, and to members of their families, who are identified as members of the proposed class in case number 1:08-CV-00487 (EGS) of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, S. Res. 144, concerning the ongoing conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the need for international efforts supporting long-term peace, stability, and observance of human rights, S. Res. 167, reaffirming the strong support of the United States for the peaceful resolution of territorial, sovereignty, and jurisdictional disputes in the Asia-Pacific maritime domains, S. Res. 165, calling for the release from prison of former Prime Minister of Ukraine Yulia Tymoshenko in light of the recent European Court of Human Rights ruling, S. Res. 166, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and commending its successor, the African Union, and any pending nominations.

S-116