

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JAZZ  
MASTER GERALD WILSON

## HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2014*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, losing a great jazz artist is always hard for those of us who love the art form. The joy these musicians bring into our lives—the technical skill and virtuosity they allow each of us to witness—is never easily replaced. But it is especially hard when we lose someone who we not only admired as an artist, but who we were fortunate enough to call our friend. This past week we lost Mr. Gerald Wilson, who I had known for many years, and who had just turned 96 on September 4, 2014.

Mr. Gerald Wilson was to me not only an icon in the Jazz community—having served as a National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master—he was a fellow Detroit. His penultimate masterpiece, *Detroit*, captured in all its glory the vibrant spirit of the town that made the 20th Century possible, as well as the promise the future holds for our great city.

For seven decades, Gerald Wilson was a force on the jazz circuit where he played, conducted, and arranged with his own band and with names we all know: Duke Ellington, Dizzy Gillespie, Benny Carter, and Ella Fitzgerald. In addition to his talent as a performer and composer, he served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, taught for many years at universities in California, and most importantly—was a loving husband and father.

Just a few years ago, he was the headliner at a concert I promoted as part of an annual leadership conference held in Washington, D.C., where we celebrated his 92nd birthday. Though I am heartbroken to see him go, I know that I am—and we all are—fortunate to have had the chance to know him, see him, and hear him.

WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES  
REGULATORY OVERREACH PROTECTION ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

## HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 9, 2014*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5078) to preserve existing rights and responsibilities with respect to waters of the United States, and for other purposes:

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chair, I rise today in favor of H.R. 5078, the Waters of the U.S. Regulatory Overreach Protection Act.

Over the last five years, we have seen attempt after attempt to add layers of environmental red tape to any economic development that our states, counties, and cities may undertake. The new “Waters of the United States” proposal is no different. With this, the EPA seeks to gain jurisdiction over most of the country by claiming authority to regulate dry beds, ditches, pipes, farmland ponds and anywhere water could conceivably run. They would require local communities, businesses

and individuals to navigate the costly and time-consuming process of obtaining additional permits for activities around these waters, making it harder to mine coal, to construct roads and shopping centers, and even to build homes. This is one of the largest federal power grabs we have ever witnessed in this country, and there is no question that the economic impact would be profound.

In my home state of Kentucky, mining permits have ground to a halt and onerous regulations are shuttering power plants, threatening the fossil energy industries that have been the backbone of our energy security for decades. I am dismayed at efforts that this Administration has undertaken with the express purpose of eliminating coal from our nation’s energy supply, despite the fact that this fuel provides a cheap, abundant source of energy that keeps energy costs down and productivity up. With this bill, we stand firm against the latest attempt by the EPA to put up road blocks for those working to create jobs. These efforts are fruitless attempts to legislate through regulation, and the Congress must exercise its prerogative to prevent this kind of bureaucratic overreach that would be crippling for the U.S. economy. H.R. 5078 will uphold the federal-state partnership to regulate the Nation’s waters, allowing states to continue regulating certain waters within their individual boundaries, and providing farmers, construction companies, energy suppliers, and manufacturers with much needed certainty as they work to create jobs and grow the economy.

I urge a “yes” vote on H.R. 5078.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF LOS CHANGUITOS FEOS  
DE TUCSON

## HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2014*

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize an Arizona youth mariachi group, Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

Established in Tucson in 1964 by a Catholic priest to learn mariachi music as a means to keep parish youth occupied over the summer, Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson has grown to be a cultural icon—not only in the Southwest, but all over the world. The group was the first of its kind and has become a youth mariachi model for dozens of similar groups created since.

In 1971, Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson incorporated as a secular nonprofit organization with a community board of directors.

Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson has had the distinguished honor of performing at three presidential inaugurations and has also accompanied many internationally known celebrities and entertainers. The Changuitos have recorded five albums and have had the privilege to play on network television.

Young Latino musicians in middle and high school dedicate themselves to perfecting their talent under the guidance of skilled music teachers to learn the intricacies of the mariachi musical form, a type of music referred to as a world cultural treasure by UNESCO.

While they hone their musical skills and provide entertainment to the larger community,

mariachi performers with Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson are eligible for college scholarships to the school of their choice. More than \$480,000 in scholarships has been disbursed to former Changuitos who are pursuing a post-secondary degree to this day. Often former members of Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson are the first in their family to receive a college degree.

Former Changuitos who have sought careers in the music industry have won Grammy Awards, while others have used the scholarships to become physicians, lawyers, engineers, business owners, entrepreneurs, and community leaders.

Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson is the quintessential example of the impact discipline and dedication could have on deepening cultural appreciation by perfecting local talent, while encouraging leadership growth and youth empowerment through community service.

And finally, we must acknowledge the dedicated parents of the Changuitos who support their childrens’ efforts. Without them, Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson could never have become the respected and revered cultural and musical icon that it is today.

Congratulations and best wishes to Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson as we join them to celebrate on August 23, 2014 for its 50th Anniversary with a reunion and concert. I thank this youth organization for their longstanding tradition of perseverance and setting an example to all Tucson youth.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

## HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2014*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 485, I was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

On rollcall Nos. 486, 487, and 488, I was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “no” on all three.

On rollcall No. 489, I was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

RECOGNIZING THE DESIGNATION  
OF NEPHROLOGY NURSES WEEK

## HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2014*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the American Nephrology Nurses Association, an organization that works to advance quality care to Americans with kidney disease. These nurses function as educators, direct caregivers, and coordinators to help patients manage their lives while effectively dealing with their health issues. The number of new patients diagnosed with kidney disease has doubled in each of the last two decades; as a result, the demand for nephrology nurses continues to expand. The Keystone Chapter 110 of The American Nephrology Nurses’ Association has declared the week of September 14th through the 20th as Nephrology Nurses Week with the theme “Cherishing the Treasures of Our Specialty” to celebrate and honor

the unselfish work that each nurse performs each day to maintain the health of thousands. Today I honor these nephrology nurses from Bensalem and congratulate them for their dedicated service to the community.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2014*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 481–489.

Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on No. 481, “yes” on No. 482, “yes” on No. 483, “no” on No. 484, “no” on No. 485, “yes” on No. 486, “yes” on No. 487, “yes” on No. 488, and “no” on No. 489.

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HONORING EAGLES LANDING  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

**HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2014*

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Eagles Landing Middle School, which has been named a National PTA School of Excellence for its achievement in building effective family-school partnerships. As a parent and a congressman, I understand the need for a strong family commitment to ensure the educational success of our children and am so

proud of Eagles Landing for receiving this prestigious award.

The National PTA School of Excellence program recognizes schools whose families feel welcomed and empowered to support student success. Eagles Landing Middle School is a community-based school that engages families through programming that brings them together for a common purpose. Through constant communication between parents and teachers, structured family nights like STEM Night and Literacy Night, and a centrally-located community garden that is incorporated into the curriculum as an outdoor learning center, families are encouraged to work and have fun together with other members of their school and community. Eagles Landing is the only middle school in the state of Florida and only one of ten schools in the state to receive this designation.

I would like to recognize Eagles Landing Principal Cindy Chiapetta and PTSA President Kendra Palumbo for their hard work in putting in place strong practices that involve families in the education of their children. The partnership between Eagles Landing School and Eagles Landing Middle School PTSA is an inspiring example of what can be accomplished when schools and families work together.

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TRIBUTE TO THE TRIPLE NICKELS

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2014*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, there are those who offer their vocations to their com-

munity, their family, and their country. Then there are those who blaze such a trail of dedication and service that all who follow behind cannot help but to offer gratitude and great thanks. I rise today to celebrate and honor the men of the 555th Parachute Infantry Company as they are remembered in a ceremony fitting their legacy.

The men who comprised the Triple Nickels broke through barriers, jumped out of planes, and showed up for battle. What began with 20 young African-American enlisted men in 1943 ended, in name only, in 1947. The 555th would become the 3rd Battalion, 505th Infantry regiment, 82nd Airborne Division and would be the first African-American unit in history to become a part of an American combat division. The legacy of mighty soldiers that began with these men continued into the 188th Airborne Infantry Regiment, the 11th Airborne Division, and the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team.

I join with all those gathered to dedicate a monument to the Triple Nickels Association in offering my profound thanks. In overcoming great obstacles, the men of the 555th became more than paratroopers. Their legacy lives on today in a military free of racial barriers and in the hearts and minds of all who seek freedom. I ask my colleagues to join with me in celebrating and remembering the men of the 555th Parachute Infantry Company.