

educated in the public school system. After graduating from high school, he joined the U.S. Army and served during the Korean War.

After serving in the military, Mr. Ramírez moved to New York City where he worked while continuing his education during the evenings. Mr. Ramírez attended John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY, and graduated from Saint Francis College, Brooklyn, NY in 1980, with a degree in Criminal Justice and Political Science. He took several civil service examinations and became a police officer in New York City. Mr. Ramírez believes now, as he did then, that working as a police officer was a mission, not just a career in public service.

During Mr. Ramírez's 30-year career as a law enforcement officer in New York City, he served in rackets and fraud investigations while assigned to the District Attorney's office in New York City. He worked in the organized crime, homicide, narcotics, major cases, political corruption, economic crime, and sex crimes bureaus.

Mr. Ramírez is currently the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Osceola County. He was elected on November 6, 2012 by an overwhelming majority. He is the first Hispanic to hold this position in the state of Florida.

In his capacity as Clerk, Mr. Ramírez responds to constituent concerns of wrongdoing. Currently, he is conducting a forensic examination of alleged fraudulent foreclosure documents submitted by banks to Osceola County courts.

I am happy to recognize Armando Ramírez, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his service to the United States and the Central Florida community.

RECOGNIZING DR. BINDUKUMAR KANSUPADA

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Bindukumar Kansupada of Yardley, Bucks County and a resident of Pennsylvania's 8th Congressional District. As a cardiologist, successful business man and faithful community servant, Dr. Kansupada has been an incredible asset for the health and well-being to the families that call the Delaware Valley home. As a member on both of my physician's advisory and Indian American committees, Dr. Kansupada's talents and experience have been a vital part of my legislative and outreach efforts as we work together to provide Bucks County families with the type of patient centered healthcare solutions that keep our communities happy and healthy. I am honored to call Dr. Kansupada a personal friend and I look forward to partnering with him in the future so that Bucks County continues to be a great place to live, work and raise a family.

HONORING TAMMIE SCHNITZER

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a courageous American who took a stand against hate and intolerance in her hometown of Billings, Montana.

On a cold winter night in December a little more than 20 years ago, members of a local hate group threw a brick through the window of her young son's room. It was just the latest, but one of the most brazen and ominous, acts of hate committed against not just the local Jewish community but other minority groups as well, including Native Americans. Fortunately, Schnitzer's son, Isaac, was not injured, but Tammie knew this attack on her family—and on her community—required a very public response.

Her first step was to go to the editor of the local newspaper and ask that the attack on her family and her faith be a front page story. It was, and it led to the paper and the entire community rallying around the Schnitzer's, with paper menorah's soon festooning some 10,000 homes and businesses in Billings. The response of the people of Billings to this and other acts of hate didn't simply stymie the purveyors of such hate in and around Billings—it started a national movement that has spawned the "Not In Our Town" nonprofit group that fights acts of hate all across America.

I'm pleased that Hadassah and several of its New Jersey chapters, including the Alissa and Monroe Township Hadassah chapters in my Congressional district, will be honoring Tammie Schnitzer on September 21st. My best wishes to them and my deepest thanks to Tammie Schnitzer for her courage to public service.

CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RANDOLPH YMCA

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Randolph YMCA, located in Randolph, Morris County, New Jersey, as it celebrates its 125th Anniversary.

The Randolph YMCA was founded in 1889 in Dover. The First Methodist Episcopal Church in Dover served as the first home of the YMCA, reaching beyond the Dover area and attracting nearly 200 people per day. In 1908, the YMCA expanded its territory to include Chester, Long Valley, Rockaway, Succasunna, Wharton, and Whippany.

From 1908–1950 the YMCA occupied various locations around Blackwell Street in Dover. In 1951, the need for a more permanent facility was recognized. And, as membership had drastically increased since the end of World War II, so did the need for a headquarters facility. The YMCA then opened a new facility on the corner of Route 46 and North Bergen Street.

In 1976 the name West Morris Area YMCA was established. The name was chosen to re-

flect the expanding service area, including Randolph Township. Due to the vast increase in membership, the Dover building would require an addition, but there was not enough property for both an expansion and parking. In 1977, the Y decided to build a new facility in Randolph Township.

The new facility on Dover Chester Road, Randolph, was officially opened in 1979. The building included a gymnasium, racquetball courts, a pool, fitness equipment, and program space. A childcare center was added in March 1999, which now serves as a shared space with the Randolph School District. In 2009 the late Mr. Clyde Utz donated a second pool, along with 7,500 sq. ft. of additional program space. In 2011, the YMCA received the "Best of Aquatics Award" from Aquatics International.

Now known as the Randolph YMCA, the organization offers a variety of health and wellness programs for all ages. The Randolph YMCA also offers numerous Youth Programs, including: Summer Day Camp, Progressive Swim Lessons, After School Child Care, and Youth Fitness and Conditioning.

The Randolph YMCA continues as a charitable non-profit organization that provides social, physical, and education programs to the community in order to help develop the mind, body, and spirit of all ages. The employees and volunteers at the Randolph YMCA remain focused on growing and improving the foundation to meet the needs of the community, today, and in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Randolph YMCA, its members, trustees, and many supporters, as it celebrates its 125th Anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE DUMFRIES-TRIANGLE-QUANTICO LITTLE LEAGUE ALL-STAR TEAMS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the tremendous performance and accomplishments of local players in the Dumfries-Triangle-Quantico (DTQ) Little League. During this past summer, the Junior, Senior, and Big League All-Star Teams won both the District 9 and Virginia State championships.

The Big League All-Stars have won the District 9 title for three years running, and this marked their third overall state title. The Senior All-Stars have won the District 9 title seven years-in-a-row and the state title four years-in-a-row. The Seniors went on to win the Southeast Regional Championship, securing a spot in the Senior League World Series. They advanced to the semifinal game, where they came up just short in a 3–2 loss to Latin America. The Junior All-Stars have now won four consecutive District 9 titles and their second state title during that period. The Juniors, many of whom have been playing together since they were 10 years old, advanced to the Southeast Regional semifinal game, where they were narrowly edged out in a 9–8 loss to Florida.

My office is proud to support little leagues throughout the community. The friendships

and experiences these athletes gain from participating in little league—learning the value of playing fair, working hard, making friends, showing good sportsmanship, and most of all, having fun—will benefit them throughout their lives. In addition to commending the players and coaches, I also want to recognize the efforts of Mel Barlow, who has been the DTQ Little League president for the past 13 years. It is thanks to the commitment of parents and volunteers like Mel that little leagues across our community and the country continue to thrive.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the players, coaches, and their families on these wonderful achievements. It is my pleasure to submit the names of the players and coaches of the Junior, Senior, and Big League All-Star Teams from the DTQ Little League into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

DTQ JUNIOR LEAGUE ALL STAR TEAM

Team Manager—Tim Jabs; Coaches—Rick Gatewood and Perry Peloquin; Daniel Hupart, #20; Robbie Stoss, #22; Anthony Stehlin, #12; Ethan Semones, #2; Carson Arguin, #9; Blake Gatewood, #5; Tommy Wells, #14; Tristan Thorgersen, #17; Darien Porter, #11; Jack Dumoulin, #18; Bennet Peloquin, #25; Connor Pedersen, #29; Jeremiah Rodriguez, #7.

DTQ SENIOR LEAGUE ALL STAR TEAM

Team Manager—Brendon Hanafin; Coaches—Bob Morrissey and Brian Blanton; Christian Colangelo, #9; Fox Semones, #2; Chris Redmon, #14; Thomas Thorgersen, #20; David Kelsey, #1; Liam Kelly, #11; Michael Morrissey, #00; Jared Bhatti, #8; Matthew Nickles, #18; Michael Nickles, #29; Patrick Hanafin, #12; Braxton Boone, #16; Daniel Shookster, #4; Riley O'Buck, #24; Ben Marotske, #10.

DTQ BIG LEAGUE ALL STAR TEAM

Team Manager—Shawn Boyce; Coaches—Ted Bridis and Jim Spellman; Kyle Adams, #23; Corbin Attreed, #12; Tyler Bailey, #29; Trey Bridis, #3; Tyler Feldman, #15; Sam Fuson, #10; Michael Hanafin, #20; Luke Harmon, #7; Chris Kennelly, #1; Stephen Laitinen, #11; Jake Moore, #34; Danny Morrissey, #2; Shawn Nickles, #18; Jacob Spellman, #14; Jake Blevins, #24.

HONORING THE 227TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DRAFTING OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 227th anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention.

It is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to this magnificent document and this memorable anniversary; and to the patriotic celebrations commemorating the occasion.

Within its very body is the framework that has allowed our great nation to prosper. The Constitution has guided us through both challenging and prosperous times as a nation, and has united us in defining the values of America.

I urge all citizens to reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787 by vigilantly protecting the freedoms guaranteed

to us through this guardian of our liberties, remembering that lost rights may never be regained.

HONORING KARL BRITTON ON HIS 30TH ANNIVERSARY AS A U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF MEMBER

HON. WILLIAM L. ENYART

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Karl Britton who today, September 17, 2014, celebrates his 30th anniversary as a staff member in the U.S. House of Representatives.

As an incoming freshman Member at the beginning of the 113th Congress, I, like all freshman Members, was faced with the challenge of setting up offices while also learning the workings of Congress and my role as a Member. I was extremely fortunate that Karl Britton joined my DC office staff, where his 28 years of experience and knowledge of working on the Hill were invaluable assets.

Karl Britton, a native of West Virginia, began working on the Hill on September 17, 1984, as a staff member for his Congressman, Harley Staggers, Jr., from the West Virginia 2nd Congressional District. Karl would serve on Congressman Staggers' staff until June of 1990 when he went to work for Congressman Jerry Costello, who was in his first full term representing the Illinois 21st District. Karl would work for Congressman Costello until the end of the 112th Congress when Costello decided not to run for re-election. Karl joined my staff at the beginning of the 113th Congress.

Karl has worked for three Members of Congress in his 30 years but has served during the terms of five Presidents, starting with Ronald Reagan, and seven Speakers of the House, starting with Tip O'Neill.

To understand the scope of Karl's popularity on the Hill, one only needs to walk with him anywhere within the crowded corridors of the Capitol complex. You cannot go more than 10 feet without someone calling out to Karl and everyone seems to be his friend. Karl knows someone in just about every office. He knows how to get things done and who to ask for any information. Karl has conducted countless tours for constituents and has provided assistance for dignitaries, all with the same professional courtesy.

Karl has two children, a son, Andrew, 24, and a daughter Aliyah, 14.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Karl Britton on his 30th anniversary of congressional service and wishing him all the best for many more years to come.

FEDERAL RESERVE TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2014

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 24, a bill that would under-

mine the Federal Reserve's independence and politicize its monetary policy decision making.

Mr. Speaker, this so called "Federal Reserve Transparency Act" has little to do with bringing transparency and accountability to the Federal Reserve. The truth is—this bill is nothing more than an effort to pressure and discourage the Fed from ever again being able to take the extraordinary action it has taken in recent years—action which has lowered unemployment, stabilized prices, and kept our economy from entering a second Great Depression.

Mr. Speaker, the Federal Reserve is already subject to extensive transparency, oversight and disclosure requirements, including regular audits with limited exemptions.

The fact is, since 1982 the Government Accountability Office has had the authority to audit the books of the Federal Reserve Board and the Federal Reserve Banks. And in 2009, as part of the Dodd-Frank Act, Congress required GAO to audit the emergency lending facilities created in response to the financial crisis. This has already been accomplished and the results of the audit are posted on the Federal Reserve's website.

If that wasn't enough, the Board's financial statements are audited on an annual basis by an outside auditor—and the results are published in the Board's Annual Report.

In addition to audits of its financial statements and emergency lending programs, the Federal Reserve provides comprehensive communication on monetary policy deliberations—releasing statements, publishing minutes and issuing transcripts following the completion of Federal Open Market Committee Meetings.

Furthermore, since 2011 the Chairman of the Federal Reserve has held regular press conferences to discuss the outlook for the economy and explain the rationale for its Federal Reserve policy decisions.

I find it baffling that we are here debating whether the Federal Reserve should be more open and transparent—even as Janet Yellen is scheduled to hold a press conference to discuss the outlook for monetary policy tomorrow afternoon.

While the Fed's decisions are—and must continue to be—transparent, it is also imperative that monetary policy decision making remain insulated from short-term political pressures—in order to promote economic growth and keep inflation in check.

But Mr. Speaker, this legislation would empower the GAO to investigate any and all policy decisions made by members of the Federal Reserve's rate setting committee, including decisions about when, and how, to unwind the Federal Reserve's ongoing stimulus program.

Doing so would wipe out all of the statutory protections that ensure deliberations, decisions, and actions on monetary policy matters are shielded from second guessing.

By empowering the GAO to challenge the decisions of Fed policy experts, and make legislative or administrative recommendations to the Congress, this measure aims to inject political pressure into monetary policy decisions—something that would undermine Fed's ability to make the tough—and sometimes unpopular—decisions that are necessary for the good of the economy.

But this is not the Republican Majority's first politically motivated assault on the Federal