

Brendan was also intellectually brilliant. He was an enthusiastic reader, with particular interest in philosophy, history, physics, and comparative religion. His collection of unusual tattoos included the Fibonacci sequence on his arm. His creativity and humor led to unique inventions; on one occasion, Brendan created what he called a "Scrabbanjelo," a playable banjo which he constructed from the wooden box of a Scrabble set—a game at which he was renowned as unbeatable.

At the time of his passing, he was looking forward to his doctoral work at King's College in London. His studies were to focus on the little-told story of the town of Fiumi on the Italy-Croatia border, which formed its own independent state in World War I in defiance of the warring countries around it.

Brendan's 6' 6" physical presence was the outer manifestation of an unusually humble, sensitive, self-deprecating person, whose generosity, kindness, and compassion for friends and family alike will never be forgotten. His beloved dog, Anastasia, is the physical embodiment of that kindness. Brendan had encountered a group of drug dealers about to shoot a young puppy for which they had no use. He persuaded them to let him adopt her in exchange for what little money he had in his pocket, a meager five dollars. For more than a decade, Anastasia has been a cherished member of the McKay family, displaying a level of emotional intelligence that is extraordinary to find in an animal.

Brendan was not immune to accidents, and indeed had scars going back to toddlerhood. But he always stood up, brushed himself off, and went at life again, charging boldly at every experience the world could offer. His enthusiasm for adventure inspired all who knew him.

Brendan is survived by his parents, Bernard and Mary, his two brothers, Patrick and Conor, his sister, Rosemary, sister-in-law Nora, and his beloved, Camilla Valeriano. He will be sorely missed.

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HONORING WORLD WAR II  
VETERAN ARTHUR NAGLER

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a decorated World War II veteran, Mr. Arthur Nagler, who lives in my Congressional district, and to point out a serious flaw in the ability of veterans to obtain medals they deserve for the service they gave to our country.

Arthur served our country in some of the fiercest battles of World War II. After his arrival in France following the Normandy invasion, he was a medic with the 170th General Hospital where he saved the lives of many of his fellow soldiers. In recognition of his service, he was awarded several medals, including the Legion of Honor by the Republic of France.

I am so very proud of Arthur, as we all should be. I want to highlight a point of supreme irony in his case, however. During one battle, as Mr. Nagler worked in his hospital tent saving the lives of wounded soldiers, an enemy bomb landed nearby, seriously wound-

ing him from shrapnel and knocking him unconscious.

Because of the critical need for doctors, Mr. Nagler was revived, his wounds were "stitched up," as he puts it, and he was sent on with his fellow medics to continue saving other soldiers' lives. Unfortunately, any records of his wounds apparently do not exist. He concedes that, in the confusion, the records of his injuries may not have been recorded or the records may have been lost as the hospital was hurriedly moved to the next battlefield. However, there is a distinct possibility that a record was made of his injury and it was destroyed in the great fire that swept through a section of the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis in 1973. The fire destroyed nearly 50 years worth of records of those who served our nation in uniform from 1912–1959.

That is why I rise today, Mr. Speaker. In my 21 years in Congress, I have been contacted many times by veterans seeking not just medals, but the records they need to prove their eligibility for disability benefits and pensions. I do not fault the army, as they must work with what records they have to give veterans everything they deserve. Still, after sacrificing so much for our nation and its freedoms, I feel there must be some way to correct this situation. After 60 years of trying, Arthur Nagler has given up hope of ever getting the Purple Heart that he rightly deserves. Everyone should consider the supreme irony of a man who spent World War II saving the lives of other wounded American soldiers, is then wounded himself, and has not been awarded a Purple Heart.

I respectfully ask that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle work together to fix this absurd situation, not just for Arthur Nagler, but for all veterans in similar situations. Let us give these brave men and women the respect they deserve.

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RECOGNIZING THE 2014 HONOREES  
OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY  
BRANCH OF THE NAACP

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2014 Honorees of the Fairfax County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). The Fairfax Branch is recognized as the NAACP's first rural chapter. In 1915, a few brave African American citizens in Falls Church, Virginia, fought a proposed ordinance that would have segregated housing. They called themselves the Colored Citizens Protective League (CCPL) and the group evolved to become the Fairfax County Branch of the NAACP.

Each year, the Fairfax County NAACP honors several deserving individuals and organizations that have shown extraordinary support of the Branch or the community. I am honored to submit the names of the following 2014 Community Service Award winners:

Fairfax County Democratic Committee Election Law and Voter Protection Committee. The Election Law and Voter Protection (ELVP) Committee strives to make sure every vote is counted and that proposed legislation and pro-

cedures affecting voting rights are fair and appropriate. Every election, ELVP members monitor voting precincts and help make sure each citizen can fully and fairly exercise his or her right to vote, regardless of political preferences.

Jill Turner—Program Manager, Intel Computer Clubhouse, Gum Springs Community Center. Ms. Turner works to change the mindset of young people who come from economically disadvantaged families. She teaches creative writing, computer skills, etiquette, poetry writing, and has formed a book club. Through her leadership, some teens have become leaders and have formed additional clubs, specializing in their own interests. Ms. Turner recently established a mentoring program. Participants discuss issues such as domestic violence, HIV/AIDS, homelessness, drugs, and other issues facing our youth.

Danielle Blunt—Girls Inspired and Ready to Lead, Inc. (GIRL). Founded by Ms. Blunt in 2010, GIRL is a nonprofit organization dedicated to mentoring and empowering today's girls for future success through academic excellence, leadership skills, community service, a healthy lifestyle, and self-esteem. In 2014, Ms. Blunt partnered with George Mason University's College of Science STEM Accelerator Program to create a STEM summer camp for middle school girls of color and one for elementary school boys and girls. It also gives me great pleasure to recognize the following recipients of this year's President's Awards: Supervisor John Cook, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (Braddock District); Captain Everett A. Lewis, U.S. Air Force (Ret.), Executive Committee, Alexandria NAACP; Colonel Ed Roessler, Chief, Fairfax County Police Department.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2014 honorees of the Fairfax County NAACP and thanking them for their tremendous contributions to our youth and our community.

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CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS  
RESOLUTION, 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. PAUL RYAN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 16, 2014*

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, this continuing resolution (H.J. Res. 124) ensures that there will be no government shutdown and that the men and women of America's armed forces and diplomatic service will have the resources they need in Afghanistan and beyond to protect the nation from the dangers of terrorism. This resolution continues funding on a temporary basis at fiscal year 2014 levels, but it does not provide the final, full-year spending levels for the government. For war-related spending, the resolution provides for an interim rate of spending that is over \$26 billion more than the President's June 26, 2014 amended request for these purposes for fiscal year 2015. At this stage, there is a great deal of uncertainty about the precise needs for these activities.

The Budget Committee has jurisdiction over the use of the statutory authority that permits for spending in excess of the discretionary caps for funding designated for Overseas

Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism. On a bipartisan basis, the Budget Committee has expressed concern that the OCO/GWOT budget has been misused by both this Administration and the previous Administration. In addition, Congress has generally gone along with using these funds for purposes outside of OCO/GWOT requirements. The Committee highlighted this concern in the report accompanying the FY 2015 budget resolution.

While I support this interim funding measure and want to ensure our armed forces have the resources they need for these purposes, together with the Committee's ranking Democratic member Mr. VAN HOLLEN, I will work to ensure that the final full-year appropriation for these purposes funds only those requirements that are closely related to the incremental, non-enduring costs of our overseas engagement in Afghanistan and the broader Middle East.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE ELECTRIC CHARGING ADVANCEMENT REFORM ACT

**HON. JANICE HAHN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, my home of Los Angeles unfortunately is the nation's smoggiest region of the country. We are surrounded by mountains and have the highest per capita ownership of cars. The Los Angeles region has made great improvements in our air quality. In the last 15 years, the number of dirty air days has dropped by 38 percent. Still—we have the worst air quality in the nation. The American Lung Association ranks the Los Angeles region as number one in the nation for ozone pollution and in the top five for particulate matter pollution.

This results in many health issues including higher numbers of children with asthma and significant lung function problems in normal, healthy people.

We do love our cars in Los Angeles, and the pollution from these cars is a key cause of our air quality problems. Los Angeles could drastically improve its air quality if more of those cars were plug in vehicles. However there are simply not enough charging stations available for this to be feasible.

As an owner of an all-electric Nissan Leaf, I know all too well that there is a lack of charging stations. I have personally experienced range anxiety. There have been times when driving home I have had to turn off the lights, radio, and air conditioning to ensure that I can make it home because there were no charging stations nearby. Los Angeles is one of the largest consumers of electric vehicles in the country. But, I believe people would buy more electric vehicles if charging stations were readily available.

Today, I am introducing the Electric Charging Advancement Reform Act to encourage more electric vehicles on our roads, which will result in clean air improvements and energy independence. This is an act integral to revolutionizing the accessibility of plug-in electric vehicles (PEVs) to potential drivers. My bill would reauthorize the electric vehicle recharging property credit and make available to

both consumers and businesses a tax credit of up to \$100,000 for the installation of charging stations.

No one driving a gas-powered car has to worry about finding a gas station before they get to their destination. Let us make sure that electric charging stations are just as easily accessible and convenient as the gas stations that are at every major intersection in our cities and off our major freeways.

#### HONORING MARY BETTY MINERO

**HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of New Mexico resident Mary Betty Minero, who passed away on July 15, 2014.

Betty was a lifelong resident of Barelás and a regular at Barelás Coffee House, which is where I first met her during my campaign for Congress in 2012. Betty had an oversized personality and an exuberant joy for life. She and I made a connection the instant she approached me, clutching her Betty Boo lunch pail, for a hug. Betty made me feel special, the same way she treated dozens of New Mexicans she embraced with equal enthusiasm each day. Neighbors, business leaders and government workers were always greeted by Betty as she worked the crowd before settling in at table 9A with a spoon in hand and half-and-half ready for her coffee.

Betty loved to dance. When she wasn't dancing with customers in the tight entryway at the coffee house, Betty could be found each Tuesday at Ned's, where her daughter, Geri Lucero, would take her for a night of dancing and local music.

Betty loved her close-knit family that included her husband, Ambrosio Minero, and their three daughters: Geri Lucero, Gloria Gutierrez and Betty Jo Martin. She also treasured her encounters with everyone she met. Her daughter said Betty never considered anyone a stranger, and if you talked to her long enough, she concluded you were probably related. She liked to tell people she thought she was 21 years old—before looking into the mirror and realizing she was really a young 89.

She was a parishioner at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Barelás and she was known to pray for the people she met, particularly those who were sick. Shortly before her death, Betty mourned the untimely death of her great-grandson, Jacob Gutierrez, a football star at Del Norte High School.

Betty's sincerity and genuine appreciation for others has had a profound effect on everyone who was fortunate enough to enjoy Betty's company and her spirit lives on in our community. My thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends. May the memory of Betty live on in our hearts.

RECOGNIZING THE ANNIVERSARIES OF THE SHIDOGAKUIN MARTIAL ARTS DOJO AND THE SHIDOGAKUIN WASHINGTON KENDO DOJO

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Shidogakuin Martial Arts Dojo on the occasion of its 30th anniversary and the Shidogakuin Washington Kendo Dojo (Washinkan) on its 20th Anniversary.

Kendo, meaning "Way of the sword," is a Japanese martial art derived from 16th Century traditional swordsmanship, using bamboo swords and protective armor for training. This sport is widely practiced throughout Japan, the United States, and many other nations around the world. Kendo is a physically and mentally challenging activity that combines martial arts practices and values with strenuous physical activity. It is great exercise, but it also is much more than a sport. The purpose of practicing Kendo is to mold the mind and body, to cultivate a vigorous spirit, and, through correct and rigid training, to strive for improvement in both technique and personal development.

In 1984, Mr. Shozo Kato established the Shidogakuin Kendo training school in New York City where both students and teachers were taught to learn and grow. In 1993 James Yan and Hiroaki Suzuki, with guidance from Shozo Kato, expanded Shidogakuin to the Washington, DC region by establishing a Kendo dojo at the National Institutes of Health to teach adults and children. The Shidogakuin Washington Kendo Dojo (Washinkan) is now based in Herndon, Virginia, in the 11th Congressional District.

The goal of the Washinkan Dojo is to provide teachers with necessary technical skills and teaching strategies; to implement the protocols to create an environment of professional courtesy, honor, and mutual respect; to provide the facilities necessary to learn and practice; to create a safe, friendly, family-oriented atmosphere; to inform the community that there is an opportunity to learn and practice the sword martial arts; to prepare students for practice, competition and advancement testing; and to prepare students for leadership in the dojo and the larger community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Shidogakuin Kendo Dojo and Shozo Kato on its 30th anniversary and the Washinkan Dojo and James Yan on its 20th anniversary and in thanking them for their service to the youth in our community.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WILLIAM J. DIAZ HERMANDEZ

**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize William J. Diaz. A native of Cumana, Venezuela, William was raised in Caracas. From a young age, William naturally cultivated