

However, OSC cannot keep up with the influx of claims and respond to them in a timely and responsible manner. The funding increase will provide the additional staff and related expenses necessary to support ongoing investigations of misconduct and whistleblower reprisal. It will promote accountability and better administration of the VA.

I thank Chairman ROGERS for his work to help cleanup the problems at the VA through increased funding of the OSC in section 124 of H.J. Res. 124.

HONORING COMMANDER AUNDREA E. TAPLIN

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Commander Aundrea E. Taplin who is retiring after 21 years of faithful service to our nation in the United States Navy.

Commander Taplin began her dedicated career in public service after graduating from the United States Naval Academy in 1993. Already a distinguished Officer, over the course of the next 21 years, Commander Taplin served the Navy in a wide variety of roles, travelling throughout the country and overseas.

Her assignments included Naval Air Station Sigonella; Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light 47; Naval Legal Service Office Southwest; Commander, Naval Surface Forces, Submarine Group Nine, USS *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74); the Office of the Judge Advocate General and the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs.

Throughout her career, Commander Taplin has demonstrated a commitment to self-improvement, re-dedicating herself to her education at various points. In 1999, she earned her Juris Doctor from the University of San Diego and in 2009 she earned her LLM in Environmental Law from George Washington University.

Commander Taplin has also earned a variety of awards for her outstanding service to our country. Her personal awards include four Meritorious Service Medals, three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, and two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals.

I commend Commander Taplin for her commitment to our country and the sacrifices she has made on our behalf. On the occasion of her retirement, I thank her and her family for over two decades' honorable service to our nation and wish her fair winds and following seas as she concludes a distinguished career.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR FLIGHT OF OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50 World War II veterans from Oregon who will be visiting their memorial today in Washington, DC through Honor Flight of Oregon. On behalf of a grateful state and coun-

try, we welcome these heroes to the nation's capital.

The veterans on this flight from Oregon are as follows: Albert Azar, Army; Clarence Brace, Army; Howard Christopherson, Army; Jacob Egger, Army; Theodore Flaiz, Army; Henry Krebs, Army; Loyal Lee, Army; Richard Lovett, Army; Eddie Morris, Army; Henry Nelsen, Army; Lewellyn Renville, Army; Robert Strick, Army; Henry Tiano, Army; James Rose, Army Air Corps; Richard Smith, Army Air Corps; Frederick Parish, Army Air Force; Ray Burgess, Coast Guard; Helen Hansen, Coast Guard; Richard Shettler, Coast Guard; Marvin Adams, Navy; Robert Bigler, Navy; Harold Candal, Navy; Paul Clayton, Navy; Byron Dougan, Navy; Joseph Fahey, Navy; John Faust, Navy; John Ferguson, Navy; Troy Grimshaw, Navy; Herman Hansen, Navy; Cecil Hector, Navy; Imer Henry, Navy; Richard Higgins, Navy; Marvin Johnson, Navy; Glenn Lewis, Navy; Robert Montgomery, Navy; Bob Moore, Navy; James Stangland, Navy; Gordon Stone, Navy; Neil Swarthout, Navy; Paul Swenson, Navy; Arthur Tooze, Navy; Gilbert Turner, Navy; Harold Wakefield, Navy; George Yates, Navy; Robert Ganson, USMC; Edward Kimball, USMC; Richard Mann, USMC; Harold Reeves, USMC; Albert Riney, USMC; Thomas Teela, USMC.

These 50 heroes join more than 98,000 veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have journeyed from their home states to Washington, DC to reflect at the memorials built in honor of our Nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, each of us is humbled by the courage of these soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country. I especially want to recognize and thank Dick Tobaison for his tireless work as president of Honor Flight of Oregon and trip leaders Erik Tobaison and Pam Kelsay for their efforts.

HONORING THE ANACOSTIA WATERSHED SOCIETY ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the Anacostia Watershed Society, a nonprofit organization based in Maryland and Washington, DC tasked with restoring the Anacostia River for the health and enjoyment of its watershed communities, is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. Since its founding, it has been cleaning the water, recovering the shores, and honoring the heritage of the Anacostia River for the benefit of all who live in its watershed and for visitors.

Founded in 1989 by Robert Boone, the Anacostia Watershed Society overcame early challenges as it sought to raise awareness of the deteriorating health of the river and its watershed after nearly two hundred years of

urban settlement and industrial activity. Mr. Boone worked with local activists and attorneys to take steps to turn the situation around by working to relocate plans to build a new football stadium away from the river, to stop the Navy Yard from dumping toxic waste into the water, and to end the flow of sewage into the river—a project that will be completed in 2022 with the opening of underground tunnels built to capture and treat sewage overflows.

During this time, Mr. Boone and program manager Jim Connolly were also working to raise consciousness in the local community about the river. Mr. Boone and Mr. Connolly hosted trash clean-ups, tree plantings, and numerous public events to get Marylanders and Washingtonians engaged with the river and to promote it as a source of outdoor recreation. The programs and events they developed in the early days of the Anacostia Watershed Society set the stage for the many important activities the organization undertakes today.

Over the next twenty-five years, the Anacostia Watershed Society grew to become a powerful advocate for the river, its watershed, and the communities it benefits. The organization has expanded to include four departments essential to its success: Stewardship, Education, Advocacy, and Recreation. The Anacostia Watershed Society engages local residents of all ages in the cleanup and restoration of the river while involving the community in advocating for policies to reduce and regulate the pollutants entering its waters.

I have been proud to serve as an advocate for the Anacostia and its watershed throughout my time in Congress. My first association with the Anacostia Watershed Society was as a co-sponsor of an Earth Day boat tour of the river, aimed at gaining attention in Congress for the Society's advocacy efforts. Later, I was proud to work in Congress to promote policies authorizing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to help restore the Anacostia. Throughout my involvement with the Anacostia Watershed Society, I have met many engaged and energized local activists who are deeply concerned about the future not only of the river but of our region as a sustainable place to raise healthy families.

The Anacostia Watershed Society's vision for the future includes a river that is fishable and swimmable—as per the Clean Water Act—and serves as an urban oasis and destination for those in Maryland, Washington, DC, and visitors from around the country. I congratulate its members on twenty-five years of service to the communities of our region, and I look forward to continue to work with them to advance the Society's mission for many years to come.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR THE EL RIO COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER OF TUCSON, ARIZONA IN RECOGNITION OF THE OPENING OF ITS NEW CONGRESS HEALTH CENTER

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition and celebration of the El Rio Community Health Center of Tucson, Arizona,

which is celebrating the opening of its new Congress Health Center.

The El Rio Community Health Center is one of the largest non-profit community health centers in the United States. Founded in 1970 by Tucsonans committed to bringing accessible and affordable health care to all, the El Rio Community Health Center serves over 900 people each day, more than three-fourths of whom live at or below the federal poverty level.

El Rio's brand new, 54,000 square foot facility makes state-of-the-art healthcare accessible to all residents of southeastern Arizona's largest city. The new facility will help El Rio serve an additional six thousand patients each year, as well as creating numerous new health care jobs and helping our local economy thrive.

I congratulate the El Rio Community Health Center and support its continued efforts to make sure all people are able to access the health services they need.

CELEBRATING THE NORTH BAY CHILDREN'S CENTER 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the North Bay Children's Center on the occasion of the organization's 25th Anniversary Celebration, which will take place on November 8, 2014.

Incorporated in 1986, the North Bay Children's Center was founded on the fundamental belief that every child should have equal access to quality care and early education. Over the last 25 years, the Center has continually met this expectation and become an invaluable asset to the local community. Each year, new programs are added as the Center's staff continues to create positive change by locally addressing key national priorities, such as promoting early literacy, combating childhood obesity and reducing poverty.

The Center serves over 100,000 nutritious meals annually to children in California's Second Congressional District. By teaching families about nutrition, incorporating local gardens to enhance early education, and encouraging childhood literacy, the North Bay Children's Center promotes parent engagement and works to ensure that every child is ready to succeed in school and life from an early age.

Please join me in congratulating the North Bay Children's Center on 25 years of outstanding service to the children and families of Marin and Sonoma counties and wish them many years of future success.

RECOGNIZING HEART OF FLORIDA UNITED WAY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize Heart of Florida United Way as they celebrate 75 years of service in

Central Florida. Heart of Florida United Way is the largest provider of funds to nonprofit agencies in Central Florida. These agencies provide critical services including job training, financial literacy classes, healthcare and educational opportunities. This year, Heart of Florida United Way committed more than \$9.2 million in funding over three years to nonprofit partner agencies in Central Florida.

Additionally, Heart of Florida United Way provides direct services that aid the homeless, connect individuals with volunteer opportunities and ensure accessibility of lifesaving medications. Their dedicated work to engage many aspects of the community has undoubtedly made Central Florida a better place to live and work. I thank Heart of Florida United Way for their dedicated work, and I congratulate them on 75 years of remarkable contributions to our community.

CONGRATULATING JAY WOLVOVSKY

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate my friend Jay Wolovovsky on his 30 years of outstanding service to the residents of the greater Baltimore community. At the end of this month, Jay will retire from his position as CEO of the Baltimore Medical System (BMS), a position he has held since he founded BMS in 1984. Under Jay's stewardship, BMS has grown into Maryland's largest Federally Qualified Health Center system. Since taking over the operation of four East Baltimore clinics from the Baltimore City Health Department in 1984, BMS has expanded to thirteen health centers reaching the whole city and even Baltimore County, including eight school-based health centers that provide essential medical care to more than 1,000 children each year. When struggling communities have faced the loss of healthcare providers, BMS has stepped in, absorbing practices and patients from the Baltimore neighborhoods of Highlandtown and O'Donnell Heights. All told, BMS provides medical care to over 45,000 underserved patients each year.

I consider myself lucky to have worked with Jay for many years. He has had an enormous impact on the Baltimore region and he has changed the lives of countless families in the State of Maryland and beyond. His compassion and dedication to give back to his community and to bring medical care to those who could not otherwise receive it has been the driving force behind BMS' incredible success over the past three decades. His keen eye for innovation, whether in working with the Baltimore City Health Department to provide seniors with pharmacy services 20 years before Medicare Part D, or in building relationships and partnerships with local foundations and national groups to expand BMS' reach, has been an invaluable asset to the organization. Jay has been a true friend to the Baltimore community and to me; I thank him for all he has accomplished and congratulate him on his well-earned retirement.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HISPANIC READING ROOM OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, October 12, 2014, marks the 75th anniversary of the Hispanic Reading Room of the Library of Congress which is located in the Jefferson Building. Since 1939, the Hispanic Division has been systematically acquiring books, journals, newspapers, photographs, prints, maps, posters, sound recordings, and other materials from and about the greater Hispanic world. Today with more than 13 million items, the Library of Congress possesses the most extensive collection in the world on the history and culture of Latin America, the Caribbean, Iberia, and U.S. Hispanics/Latinos.

Hispanic Division specialists assist scholars from all over the United States and indeed around the world with information about materials in all formats in the Library's collections. The reading room's website [www.http://loc.gov/rr/hispanic](http://loc.gov/rr/hispanic) which can be accessed in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, is an important resource for students as well as the wider public for finding books, maps, images, audio-visual materials, music, and many other sources to learn about the history and culture of the greater Hispanic world. The website is visited more than 100,000 times per month.

The recently issued Hispanic American Members of Congress, 1922–2013, published by the Government Printing Office and available online, was compiled by the Office of the Historian of the Clerk of the House, with help from specialists in the Hispanic Division who provided expertise and access to the vast collections of the Library of Congress. The first and much smaller edition of this directory was prepared in the Hispanic Division in 1994 and published in 1995 by the GPO.

The Hispanic Division's major annual publication is the *Handbook of Latin American Studies*, an annotated bibliography providing an indispensable guide to publication about Latin America. Compiled and annotated in the Hispanic Division since 1939 and currently published by the University of Texas Press, the *Handbook* is a collaborative effort drawing on the knowledge and expertise of a network of contributing U.S.-based scholars who volunteer their efforts to the project. Available in print and searchable through an online database www.loc.gov/hlas the *Handbook* lists and describes the most important scholarly publications in the humanities and social sciences from and about Latin America and the Caribbean.

A unique resource in the Hispanic Division is the *Archive of Hispanic Literature on Tape*, begun in 1943, which holds audio recordings by more than 700 multi-lingual poets and prose writers from the U.S., Hispanic areas, and the Caribbean, including Haiti and Suriname. Richard Blanco, the poet who read at President Obama's second inauguration, recorded in 2013, and Octavio Paz is one of nine Nobel laureates in the archive.

Two years ago the Hispanic Division inaugurated a bilingual portal "Distant Neighbors: The United States and the Mexican Revolution, 1910–1917," which contains photographs, manuscripts, maps, and other rare