

performance by Louis Armstrong playing their theme song "What a Wonderful World." They were married shortly thereafter on January 26, 1931, and the two have remained inseparable. "Maw" and "Paw," as their family fondly calls them, begin each day in prayer. Norma claims that she's a "young 98" and continues to prove this through her love for parties and her independent trip to France only years ago. Norma has never driven a day in her life! However, Norman is not shy of his achievements adding that he drove until he was 97 and rode his first jet-ski at 92! While he's a student of politics, football and game shows, she a fan of "Lawrence Welk" and enjoys old movies. They created a livelihood together, operating a thriving catering business inspired by their Creole heritage.

They lived in New Orleans until 2005, and, to this day, they both remain deeply devoted New Orleans Saints fans! After tragically losing their home during Hurricane Katrina, the Burmahs moved to Marksville, La. At 97 years of age, Norman proudly purchased their new home where they independently live along with their prize Rooster, "Jindal."

They have been blessed with a healthy family consisting of two children, six grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

#### OHIO'S WILLIAM McCULLOCH LED THE 1964 CIVIL RIGHTS ACT 50 YEARS AGO

##### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2014*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late William Moore McCulloch, a Republican Member of Congress from Ohio, for his extraordinary work on the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Fifty years ago on February 10, 1964, the House of Representatives passed what would become the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by a vote of 290 to 130.

This landmark piece of legislation outlawed discrimination against race, ethnicity, gender, and religious minorities. I believe this was the most important piece of American domestic legislation in 20th Century America, as it protected fundamental civil rights and ensured equal opportunities for all Americans.

McCulloch was born in 1901, in Holmes County, Ohio. Despite being raised working on his family's farm and attending local rural schools, he studied at the College of Wooster before earning a law degree from Ohio State University College in 1925.

Following graduation, McCulloch moved to Florida to practice constitutional law for a year. This period of his life was crucial in developing his passion for overhauling civil rights legislation, as he saw the effect of the oppressive Jim Crow "separate but equal" racial segregation laws firsthand. This experience fueled his passion for civil rights, and his belief that the Constitution guaranteed equal rights for all Americans. In 1932, McCulloch was elected to the State House of Representatives. From here, his determination to outlaw discrimination began to manifest itself.

For example, he supported the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in its drive to end segregated seating in restaurants in Piqua. I am inspired by his work here, as this was a

risky political move in such a rural, white, middle class, and conservative region of Ohio. Nevertheless, his desire to dismantle institutionalized discrimination outweighed everything else, and African Americans and all Americans are better off for it.

In 1947, he was elected to Congress from Ohio's fourth Congressional district. It is important to note that McCulloch only had a small number of African American constituents—roughly 2.7 percent. His determination to protect American civil rights regardless of race, ethnicity, gender or religion was due to his intrinsic desire to achieve equality, and not his own political agenda. He focused purely on doing what was right for the people of the United States. I find encouragement in this, and believe more of us in Congress can learn from McCulloch's example.

However, McCulloch's work in civil rights didn't stop in Piqua, Ohio. He was the ranking Republican member of the House Judiciary Committee in the early 1960s, and used this to ensure civil rights legislation was introduced to the House. In 1963, President Kennedy called for legislation that removed discrimination, and increased protection for the right to vote. McCulloch personally met with the Kennedy Administration, and the two parties confirmed their joint commitment to a bipartisan civil rights bill. Despite his position as a Republican minority Member, he was determined to ensure the Civil Rights Act's passage through the House. He worked tirelessly with the Kennedy Administration and House Democrats for the bill. McCulloch's work was instrumental, and led to President Kennedy's declaration of "Without him, it can't be done".

The legislation passed the House on February 10, fifty years ago. Later after a 54-day filibuster, the bill passed in the Senate. The Civil Rights Act became law with President Johnson's signature. Like Kennedy, Johnson recognized McCulloch's significant involvement in the Civil Rights Act, and stated he was "the most important and powerful political force" in passing the legislation.

Despite his position as a minority Republican member in the House Judiciary Committee, McCulloch worked across party lines to pass legislation that guaranteed equal rights for all. I am inspired by this, and believe we can all learn something from McCulloch's efforts. He was willing to cooperate with the Democratic majority, including the Kennedy and Johnson Administrations, in a time when there was a desperate need for anti-discrimination legislation and positive social change. I hope we can all follow in William McCulloch's example, and commit to finding bipartisan solutions to the issues facing our country. He was a proud son of Ohio.

#### CONGRATULATING RICHARD ROBB ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

##### HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2014*

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Richard Robb on his 90th birthday, which he celebrated on January 19th, and to thank him for his tireless service to our nation.

During World War II, Mr. Robb served in the U.S. Navy at Iwo Jima, Okinawa, and the Mar-

shall Islands. He was a crew member on the USS *Stockton*, a destroyer that sunk the Japanese I-8 submarine which was responsible for numerous war crimes and atrocities.

Following his military service, Mr. Robb continued to devote himself to defending the lives of others. He served 22 years as a sergeant and later a detective in the Sarasota Police Department in Sarasota, Florida.

Since moving to Western North Carolina, Mr. Robb and his wife, Cate, have been active participants in the Macon County Republican Party. They still attend every event and have served crucial roles in Election Day operations to serve the voters of the 11th District. In 2012, they received the "Golden Elephant" award for their exemplary lives of service.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire 11th District of North Carolina, I congratulate Mr. Robb on his milestone 90th birthday and thank him for his service to Western North Carolina and our nation.

#### SPORTSMEN'S HERITAGE AND RECREATIONAL ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

##### HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 4, 2014*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3590) to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes:

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the amendment offered by Chairman HASTINGS. This important amendment includes a provision protecting the hunting, fishing and related treaty rights of all federally recognized tribes with respect to the provisions of H.R. 3590.

Treaties are at the foundation of the government-to-government relationship between the United States and Indian tribes. Throughout the history of this country, tribal governments signed hundreds of treaties with the United States, often ceding significant portions of their homelands. Many of these treaties included provisions in which the United States made solemn promises to secure and protect the important hunting and fishing rights as well as other rights to sustain Indian people. As we pass laws that affect federal lands, it is important that we ensure the continued treaty rights of all federally recognized Indian tribes.

Rights emanating from treaties between Indian tribes and the United States apply to all federally recognized tribes, whether they were recognized by treaty, an act of Congress, administratively or through a court settlement. This amendment to H.R. 3590 would make it clear in the legislation that the treaty rights, including treaty hunting and fishing rights, and other rights of all federally recognized tribes are preserved and not affected by the other provisions of this legislation. I urge your support for this amendment.

RECOGNIZING GRADUATING SENIOR BUFFALO STATE BENGALS BASKETBALL PLAYERS, CHRIS CASTREN AND JUSTIN MITCHELL

### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2014*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two members of the senior class at Buffalo State College, Chris Castren and Justin Mitchell. Both students are members of the men's varsity basketball team at Buffalo State and will graduate this spring. I commend Chris and Justin for their dedication to academics and athletics and congratulate them at the culmination of their college careers.

Chris Castren hails from Voorheesville, New York, where he attended the regional public high school. Upon graduation, Chris will have earned a degree in Elementary Education. On the basketball team, he excelled playing guard.

Justin Mitchell is a native of Buffalo, and graduated from Bishop Timon-St. Jude High School in South Buffalo, New York. At Buffalo State, he pursued a degree in Sociology and held the position of forward on the team.

Participating in collegiate athletics while enrolled as a full time student is notoriously demanding. In spite of the unique challenges faced by student athletes, Chris and Justin have excelled during their time at Buffalo State. They have shown extreme discipline in balancing both commitments and are leaders to their peers and teammates. As an alumnus of Buffalo State, I will be proud to call them fellow alumni.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing my colleagues to join me in recognizing these exceptional Buffalo State Bengals and in congratulating them as they obtain their undergraduate degrees. Their work ethic, determination, and spirit will ensure their success, and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

### PUBLIC ACCESS AND LANDS IMPROVEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 6, 2014*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2954) to authorize Escambia County, Florida, to convey certain property that was formerly part of Santa Rosa Island National Monument and that was conveyed to Escambia County subject to restrictions on use and reconveyance:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2954, the so-called "Public Access and Lands Improvement Act." While there are some provisions in this bill that I think many of us could support, most of its titles include unacceptable waivers of environmental law and giveaways to private interests.

The bill bypasses carefully balanced processes for transferring federal lands while protecting access and value for taxpayers, reverses a scientifically-based land management

decision, and waives environmental protections and local consultation for certain land for timber harvests and grazing.

As with many of the bills we've seen on the Floor this week, H.R. 2954 makes sweeping and unnecessary changes to existing law that disrupt the balance necessary to manage our public lands in the best interest of American taxpayers. By waiving scientific review and local consultation, this cobbled-together omnibus makes ill-considered decisions about the future of public resources. I urge a no vote.

### A TRIBUTE TO HANNAH BLYTH AND THE UNI-CAPITOL WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2014*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, for decades the United States has worked closely with Australia on issues of great importance to our two nations. Australia has stood stalwartly as a friend of the United States and remains one of our closest allies today. Last year I worked with the Department of Commerce to organize a trade mission of Connecticut companies to Australia. As part of the trip planning, I was pleased to work closely with Australia's Ambassador to the United States, Kim Beazley, who joined me on a visit to Connecticut last spring. As Australia and the United States increase export and defense collaboration in the coming years, we must continue to strengthen our bilateral relationship with Australia.

Fifteen years ago, a program launched to place Australian students in offices in our Nation's Capital. Since that time, the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program has delivered to the United States some of Australia's best and brightest to serve as interns in a variety of federal agencies, congressional offices, and committees.

During my first term in Congress, I was privileged to welcome Anthony Bremmer to my office, and since then my office has hosted Jehane Sharah and Niall O'Shea. When the opportunity arose again to participate in the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program, I immediately agreed to welcome another Australian "ambassador." Once again, my office and I have been pleased with the positive contributions of Hannah Blyth, who was placed in our office. She has attended meetings and briefings, assisted my staff with various research initiatives, and helped serve my constituents of the Second District of Connecticut. Prior to coming to the United States, Hannah worked for the Parliament of New South Wales as a Policy and Project Officer. With an avid interest in American politics and international relations, Hannah hopes to grow her experience and knowledge of the American political landscape during her time in my office. Hannah is truly an exceptional ambassador for the people of Australia.

Hannah's participation in this program has provided her with new opportunities and experiences that only the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program could provide. While in the program Hannah has attended events at the Australian Embassy, met with State Department and USAID officials, and toured the United Nations headquarters in New York with

the Australian Mission to the U.N. A well-rounded graduate student, Hannah will be receiving a Master's degree in U.S. Studies from the University of Sydney's United States Studies Centre when she graduates later this year.

Many of my colleagues have also been privileged to welcome students like Hannah to their offices. This year, 14 students from 10 Australian universities all across Australia are serving in offices in Washington, helping foster a new generation of understanding and shared experiences between our two nations. Launched by former Congressional staffer Eric Federling, the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship program has now delivered 156 Australian student interns over the past 15 years.

Mr. Speaker, I would encourage all of my colleagues to open their doors to students from around the world so that they can share in our great democracy. Similarly, I would encourage American university students to seek established and creative ways to connect with their counterparts around the globe. I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the contributions of the Uni-Capitol Internship Program and to once more thank Hannah Blyth for her dedication and hard work.

H.R. 3590, H.R. 2954 AND H.R. 3964

### HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2014*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, last week, I voted against three bills designed to weaken important environmental laws and roll back protections for our wilderness areas, parks, and wildlife.

Many of my constituents love Oregon's public lands and use them for hiking, hunting and fishing. They value efforts to conserve and responsibly manage these lands. H.R. 3590, the "Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement Act," will not, however, ensure responsible management and access. Rather, it contained measures to roll back important environmental laws, to curb public engagement in management decisions and limit the Environmental Protection Agency's ability to appropriately regulate toxic lead in ammunition.

I joined a number of my colleagues in offering an amendment to H.R. 3590 to ensure the Secretary of the Interior maintains the authority to consider climate change when making decisions regarding conservation and recreational activities on public lands. I was disappointed that this amendment failed, and I will continue to use every opportunity to elevate the importance of climate change.

H.R. 2954, the misleadingly named "Public Access and Lands Improvement Act," also weakens protections for wildlife conservation at treasured places like Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Tetons and Cape Hatteras.

Finally, H.R. 3964, the "Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Emergency Water Delivery Act," will do nothing to help with serious drought conditions in California and overrides state and federal protections for wildlife and water quality. The bill sets a dangerous precedent by favoring certain water interests over others, disrupting the State's ongoing efforts to bring people together to find long-term, science-based solutions to manage this severe water crisis.