

village garage sales, blood drives, canned food drives, concerts in the park, and farmers markets.

I am proud to represent the Village of Schiller Park as it prospers today under the leadership of Mayor Barbara Piltaver.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the residents of the Village of Schiller Park on their 100th Anniversary. I am truly honored to have such an outstanding village in my district.

RECOGNIZING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT AND REPRESENTATIVE KING PU-TSUNG

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2014

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, close cooperation between Taiwan and the United States has been of critical importance since the Taiwan Relations Act was signed on April 10, 1979—35 years ago next month. With the TRA, the United States has been able to forge a strong and mutually beneficial economic, cultural, and security relationship with Taiwan while ensuring peace in the Taiwan Strait.

Taiwan remains a true friend of the United States and a partner in democracy, trade, and human rights. This anniversary is an opportunity to reflect on this successful partnership and to further strengthen the ties between our two governments.

Since the TRA was signed in 1979, Taiwan has grown into a bustling free-market economy and vital trading and investment partner to the United States. But our work is far from over. On the 35th anniversary of the TRA, I urge my fellow colleagues to join me in honoring the deep partnership and friendship between Taiwan and the United States.

It is in this spirit that we should recognize the departure of Representative King Pu-tsung who has fostered greater ties between the U.S. and Taiwan for the last 18 months as Taiwan's chief envoy to the United States. I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with Representative King and wish him all the best as he returns to Taiwan. I also look forward to working with his successor to continue to strengthen our unique relationship with Taiwan.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MAPLEWOOD NORTH LIONS CLUB

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2014

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the members of the Maplewood North Lions Club, past and present, on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Since it was founded and chartered on March 23, 1964 in Maplewood, Minnesota, members have focused on serving individuals and organizations throughout the Maplewood community and beyond.

Within seven years after the Village of Maplewood was incorporated, the Maplewood

North Lions Club was chartered by dedicated members, including Lion Dick Dean who remains a member today. The Lions and Lionesses originally met at Maplewood Bowl before constructing their own hall in Maplewood, which served as the location for meetings, fundraising events and community gatherings.

Both the Maplewood North Lions and Lionesses have established a legacy of service to local organizations throughout the community. Numerous local organizations have benefitted from the Maplewood North Lions Club's direct volunteer efforts as well as donations, including: schools, food shelves, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Special Olympics, Youth Service Bureau, Salvation Army, Union Gospel Mission, Ramsey County Care Center, Wakefield Park, and the East County Line Fire Department. The Maplewood North Lions Club may be best known for its commitment to the "gift of sight." The club has generously donated to the University of Minnesota Lions Eye Bank and currently provides thousands of pairs of eyeglasses each year to people in need around the world.

Mr. Speaker, the valuable contributions of time, talents and generous donations by members of the Maplewood North Lions Club made during the past five decades are commendable and deserve to be celebrated. In honor of the 50th anniversary of the Maplewood North Lions Club, it is a privilege to submit this statement to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

KRISTINA RUSSO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kristina Russo for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kristina Russo is a 7th grader at Oberon Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kristina Russo is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Kristina Russo for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN TRIBUTE TO FRED A. KAHN

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievements and remarkable life story of Fred A. Kahn. In addition to his 30 years of distinguished service as a federal employee, Mr. Kahn is credited

for his role as an original architect of the modern American Presidential debate and for his work to promote tolerance and understanding through Holocaust education.

Mr. Kahn was born to Jewish parents in Wiesbaden, Germany on December 19, 1932. In January 1933, when Hitler rose to power as Chancellor of Germany, Mr. Kahn's parents fled to Belgium, leaving their infant son behind in Germany in the care of his Uncle Siegfried and Aunt Rosa. On October 1, 1938, six weeks before the terror of Kristallnacht, Siegfried and Rosa arranged for six-year-old Fred's dramatic escape and successful reunification with his parents on the German-Belgian border. Following the occupation of Belgium by the Germans in May 1940, the family went into hiding until Belgium's liberation in September 1944. Sadly, Siegfried and Rosa were both murdered by the Nazis.

Mr. Kahn immigrated to the United States when he was 19, settled in Baltimore, Maryland, and was inducted into the U.S. Army on March 17, 1953. He became a naturalized U.S. citizen on November 24, 1953 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina while serving with the 82nd Airborne Division. After basic training, he was assigned to the 525th Military Intelligence Service where he worked as an intelligence analyst. In March 1954, he returned to Germany, this time as an American soldier.

After his honorable discharge from the Army in 1955, Mr. Kahn enrolled in the University of Maryland. Mr. Kahn devised an idea that would later become a revered tradition in American politics. In 1956, Mr. Kahn approached the University administration with a novel idea—a proposal for an on-campus Presidential debate. The Maryland Board of Regents rejected the proposal. However, former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt endorsed the idea. When Mr. Kahn attended the 1958 Brussels World's Fair as an employee of the U.S. Department of State, he met with Gov. Adlai Stevenson, the Democratic Party's Presidential candidate in 1952 and 1956. Governor Stevenson endorsed the idea as well. In 1960 the League of Women Voters organized the first Presidential debate between Richard Nixon and John F. Kennedy.

After graduating from the University of Maryland, Mr. Kahn was awarded a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship to the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University. He spent the next 30 years as a political economist for the U.S. government and was instrumental in the creation of the Job Corps for the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity. He later finished his career as an economist for the U.S. Department of Labor. Mr. Kahn served on the Board of the National Council of the American Society of Public Administration (ASPA), the Board of Editors of the Public Administration Review, and the Board of Directors of the Society of Government Economists. He was awarded a Distinguished Career Service Award by the U.S. Secretary of Labor.

After his 1992 retirement from federal service, Mr. Kahn continued to serve his community as a teacher of Holocaust history, promoting tolerance and understanding. In 2005 Maryland Governor Robert Ehrlich appointed Mr. Kahn to his Task Force to Implement Holocaust, Genocide, Human Rights and Tolerance Education. Today, he moderates an online Holocaust remembrance group of over 300 members worldwide and is an active member of the Maryland-Washington, D.C.

chapter of the World Federation of Child Survivors of the Holocaust.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the extraordinary life and achievements of Fred A. Kahn. Throughout his life, Mr. Kahn has worked tirelessly to make our world more tolerant and compassionate. He has made outstanding contributions to our government, our country, and our community, and I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our appreciation for his service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2014

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 120 regarding the "Conyers Amendment." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 121 regarding the "Nadler Amendment." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 122 regarding the "Jackson Lee Amendment." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 123 regarding the "Motion to Recommit H.R. 4138." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 124 regarding the "ENFORCE the Law Act of 2014." Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,501,576,037,738.02. We've added \$6,874,698,988,824.94 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

LILIANA MERAZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Liliana Meraz for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Liliana Meraz is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Liliana Meraz is exemplary of the type of achieve-

ment that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Liliana Meraz for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PATIENT SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK AND THE NATIONAL PATIENT SAFETY FOUNDATION

HON. ANN KIRKPATRICK

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2014

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, this week is Patient Safety Awareness Week, and today I'd like to recognize the National Patient Safety Foundation and the Organizations in my district that work to promote and improve patient safety.

In Arizona's District One, we have several facilities that are committed to patient safety, including Oro Valley Hospital, Flagstaff Medical Center, and Ventana Medical Systems.

Oro Valley Hospital has been nationally recognized for its efforts, which include daily safety huddles and employee empowerment. At Flagstaff Medical Center, their patient safety program also encourages employee collaboration.

My district is home to Ventana Medical Systems, a world leader in developing solutions for tissue-based diagnoses. Ventana has a new advisory board that brings together experts to review patient safety.

I applaud the National Patient Safety Foundation and the hospitals and companies in my district and nationwide who are leading the way to keep patient safety as a top priority.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2014

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to describe the unique opportunity for the United States to meet a number of national goals through the utilization of nuclear energy.

The nuclear industry has played an instrumental role in promoting economic growth and energy security in America. I have witnessed firsthand the benefits of nuclear energy back home in Western Pennsylvania, where the Westinghouse Electric Company employs thousands of hardworking Americans. Founded in 1886 by American entrepreneur and engineer Thomas Westinghouse, the company was initially known for helping to bring electricity to homes throughout our country. Today, nearly 50 percent of the nuclear power plants in operation worldwide, including nearly 60 percent in the United States, are based on Westinghouse technology.

These positive impacts on our domestic economy are only a part of nuclear energy's

overall benefits. The U.S. commercial nuclear energy sector yields enormous influence over global nonproliferation policy. The sector is also responsible for assuring international nuclear safety through the exportation of U.S. advanced reactor designs and America's operational expertise. Thus, by exporting U.S. nuclear technology, we ensure the highest levels of plant safety and influence over nonproliferation policies throughout the globe.

Mr. Speaker, a successful nuclear trade and export policy is paramount to international nuclear nonproliferation and power plant safety. I urge my colleagues to recognize the benefits of our nation's participation in the expanding global market for nuclear energy technologies.

NORTHERN IRELAND: INSUFFICIENT ATTEMPTS TO DEAL WITH THE PAST

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, I convened a hearing that inquired into the Northern Ireland peace process, particularly that aspect of it which is called "dealing with the past."

Sadly, much of what we heard about amounts to failures to deal with the past, as in the rejection of the recent proposal made by Dr. Richard Haass. Dr. Haass served as Chair of the Panel of Parties in the Northern Ireland Executive—that is, he was asked to assist in brokering an agreement to move the peace process forward. In that capacity Dr. Haass spent months consulting and formulating a proposal. In the end, the proposal was not accepted by all of the parties, though it clarified where progress can be made and where sticking points remain.

One of the most important questions that Dr. Haass and the parties dealt with is what will be done with the Historical Enquiries Team (HET) and the Police Ombudsman of Northern Ireland (PONI)—two key bodies established by the Good Friday agreement to investigate unsolved murders.

We discussed Dr. Haass' proposal to replace the HET and PONI with a Historical Investigations Unit and Baroness O'Loan's suggestion to replace them with a rather different Investigative Commission during the hearing. For now I want to underline this: both agree that the status quo way of dealing with Troubles crimes should be replaced. Likewise the parties in the Northern Ireland executive reportedly agreed with this aspect of Dr. Haass' proposal. So the agreement is broad on this point. It's time to move to a better system.

As Dr. Haass' proposal stated: "The multiplicity of institutions and vehicles for justice in respect of conflict-related incidents, however, creates confusion and places enormous burdens on the police. The HET, PONI, and inquests also suffer from the perception that they have proceeded too slowly."

The facts alone tell this story: of the more than 3,000 Troubles-related deaths that occurred between 1968 and 1998, the HET has yet to review some 600 cases, involving 800 deaths.

Dr. Haass' proposed Historical Investigations Unit has much to say for it—by establishing a single unit with full investigative