

streams and communities from mining waste contamination.

In 1983, in order to protect ground and surface water, the Reagan Administration implemented a rule that said mountaintop mining operations could not dump their waste too close to streams. Today's bill would require states to replace those existing protections with a 2008 rewrite of the rule that would weaken standards and fail to safeguard water resources from the impacts of mining waste. States would not be permitted to enact stronger standards to shield their drinking water from contamination. I offered an amendment with my colleagues Representatives CARTWRIGHT and LOWENTHAL to ensure States have the right to take additional action if they find it necessary, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

This legislation is particularly egregious because just last month, the DC Circuit Court vacated the 2008 rule because the Bush Administration failed to consider the impact of waste dumping on threatened and endangered species. Not only would this bill write that illegally-drafted rule into statute, it would set a five-year moratorium on any new rules to protect streams from coal mining waste.

The Interior Department is currently in the process of developing new rules to reflect advances in mining practices and mitigate environmental and health impacts from mining operations. Rather than forcing implementation of a rule so flawed that it's been tossed out by the courts, we should allow this process to go forward to safeguard Appalachian communities. I urge a no vote on the bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 149, 150, 151, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for votes on Tuesday, April 1, 2014.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 149, "yea" on rollcall vote 150, and "yea" on rollcall vote 151.

I was also absent for the following votes on Friday, April 4, 2014. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 157, "nay" on roll call vote 158, "yea" on rollcall vote 159, and "yea" on rollcall vote 160, "yea" on roll call vote 161, "yea" on rollcall vote 162, "yea" on rollcall vote 163, and "nay" on rollcall vote 164.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MR. ALBERT L. NELLUM

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Mr. Albert L. Nellum. Al transitioned peacefully on March 1, 2014. His impact on this city and our country may not be as well known, but it is indelible. Al was a pioneer consultant, businessman, and activist in his own way.

Al was born in the heart of the Deep South: Greenville, Mississippi and later grew up in Chicago, Illinois as well. He, like a number of us, arrived to a Washington that now barely resembles its former self. And yet, he set out to change it for the better. Opportunities were scarce for African Americans, and Al paved the way for the presence of future black consultants in the District. During the height of the Civil Rights Movement in 1964, he established A.L. Nellum and Associates Inc., the oldest black-owned management consultant firm in the United States.

He also supported and worked with us in forming what would become the Congressional Black Caucus. We relied on Al's expertise and advice over the years, and welcomed his input at various stages. He helped to organize the first CBC Foundation dinner as well as the scholarship program, which he and fellow business leaders spearheaded. Al also worked with Rep. Parren Mitchell on the first CBCF Braintrust on Black Business.

Al's activism was not limited to the U.S., but his impact can be felt internationally. His efforts against anti-black racism in Japan are a testament to his commitment to making the world a better place. He organized a full page ad to oppose Japanese racism and advocated for the fair depiction of blacks. He even traveled to Japan and met with its leaders at his own expense, to protest these offensive products and derisive images. Al's ties to Japan stretched back to the 1950s when he was a serviceman in the U.S. Army there.

I salute Al Nellum, and extend my deepest condolences to his family and loved ones. May the memories of him sustain all of us at this time.

RECOGNIZING JAKE CRAIN AND THE PEARLAND OILERS BASEBALL TEAM

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jake Crain of Pearland High School. This young man pitched an impressive no-hitter on Tuesday, March 25 when the Pearland Oilers defeated the Pasadena Memorial Mavericks. Crain led the Oilers to an 8-1 victory, improving their overall record to 5-0 in district play.

Professional pitchers play their entire careers without pitching a no-hitter, and Jake achieved this as a senior in high school. The contributions of his teammates were also inte-

gral to Jake's achievement. He relied on his defense to back him up and the Oilers offense to put runs on the board. This was a team effort. Great athletes are an extension of great teams.

The Pearland Oilers baseball team is full of great teammates. I wish the Pearland Oilers the best of luck this season. On behalf of all residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I congratulate Jake Crain and all of his Oiler teammates on recording a no-hitter.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 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 \$17,585,625,829,197.83. We've added \$6,958,748,780,284.75 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.9 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

CHAIRMAN JIMMY R. NEWTON, JR. TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Chairman Jimmy R. Newton, Jr., of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe in Colorado. Chairman Newton, after over 10 years of service to his tribe, passed away on April 1, 2014, at the age of 37.

Beginning his service in politics at the age of 26, Chairman Newton served as a Tribal Council member, Vice Chairman, and Acting Chairman before becoming permanent Chairman in 2012. Though he spent much of his life in public service, he earned a degree in Visual Graphic Design from Al Collins Graphic Design School in Arizona, after which he worked as a reporter & photographer for the tribal newspaper, the Southern Ute Drum. Chairman Newton frequently sang at tribal ceremonies, exemplifying the love of his culture. He also used his voice as a dedicated servant of the Southern Ute people, working to ensure his tribe's wellbeing in every level of government.

Chairman Newton's commitment to the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and the State of Colorado has been a blessing to many communities, families, and individuals, and he will be greatly missed. He is survived by his wife, Flora Murphy-Newton and daughter, Maylon K. Newton. I extend my deepest sympathies and prayers to his family and friends during this difficult time.

Mr. Speaker, though his life was tragically short, Chairman Newton maximized his time leading with strength and an exemplary heart. It is an honor and a privilege to recognize Chairman Jimmy R. Newton, Jr. for his many accomplishments and distinguished service.

CELEBRATING THE CENTER FOR VOLUNTEER AND NONPROFIT EXCELLENCE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Excellence on the occasion of the organization's 50th Anniversary Celebration on April 5, 2014.

For the last five decades, the Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership (CVNL) has advanced nonprofits and volunteerism by strengthening leadership, encouraging innovation and empowering individuals to develop a vital and engaged community. CVNL is committed to creating a stronger nonprofit sector and a more engaged community by offering comprehensive leadership programs, organizing community fundraisers, coordinating volunteer opportunities, and providing many other resources and services.

The Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership is a community treasure, and Marin County has benefitted greatly from this organization's many years of fostering volunteerism and supporting the nonprofit sector. Please join me in expressing deep appreciation to CVNL, and congratulations on fifty years of service.

RECOGNIZING THE SYRACUSE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL B. MAFFEI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Mr. MAFFEI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Syracuse Housing Authority, celebrating its 75th Anniversary in providing quality, affordable housing to the residents of Syracuse.

Established as one of the first housing authorities in the nation, the Syracuse Housing Authority opened the doors to its first development, Pioneer Homes, in 1938. This development began the continued success of the Syracuse Housing Authority, which now owns and manages 15 housing developments and over 2,500 apartments throughout the City of Syracuse.

The Syracuse Housing Authority provides a home to over 15,000 individuals and families, while also supporting the health and well-being of its residents. Opportunities are available for residents of the Syracuse Housing Authority for education, medical services and homeownership.

Under the leadership of Director Bill Simmons, the Syracuse Housing Authority cares deeply about its role as a leader in the City of Syracuse and provides safe, affordable housing to many members in our community, from young families to those neighbors who are elderly or living with disabilities.

Aside from a place to call home, the Syracuse Housing Authority also offers a variety of programs to its residents to promote educational achievement, economic independence

and job training. The Syracuse Housing Authority assists residents pursue their ambitions, building a stronger community for us all.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize and commend the Syracuse Housing Authority on its 75th Anniversary of public service to our community. I look forward to its continued legacy and the exciting things yet to come from this outstanding organization.

IN HONOR OF CAPTAIN GERRAL K. DAVID

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend a distinguished career of public service. On April 4, 2014 Captain Gerral K. David will relinquish his command of the Naval Support Activity Monterey and retire from the Navy later this year.

Public service careers are often measured by either their long duration or some particularly distinguished accomplishment. The measure of Captain David's career invariably involves both. His Navy career will extend to thirty years by the time he retires. And each of those years was marked by distinguished service.

Captain David grew up in Conroe, Texas. In 1984, he graduated from the Naval Academy and began his Naval career as a flight officer. His early career took him many places, including deployments to Sigonella, Sicily, Bermuda, as well as numerous Special Project detachments throughout the Atlantic Fleet. He later served aboard the USS *Kitty Hawk* during various deployments in the Pacific that included the support of operations in Somalia and Iraq. Other flight assignments took him to Diego Garcia, and Japan. In 2002, Captain David assumed command of Patrol Squadron 46, based in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. Under Captain David's command, the "Golden Swordsmen," won numerous unit awards and commendations, as well as deploying after 2003, to help support the U.S. war efforts in Iraq.

Interspersed with his flight commands, Captain David took on various shore duties. Early on, he served as a recruitment officer in Houston. In 1997, he assumed duties as the Flag Secretary for the Superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy. In 2007, Captain David took command of Naval Air Station Whidbey Island. Under Captain David's command, the Navy recognized Team Whidbey as the top Naval Air Station three years in a row and awarded it with a Meritorious Unit Commendation.

Then in 2010, Captain David took command of the Naval Support Activity Monterey. In essence, he became the city manager for the naval facilities that house the Naval Postgraduate School, the Navy's Fleet meteorology forecasting and research center, and a variety of other U.S. Navy shore functions. And it is in this capacity that I have come to know Captain David. He has helped steer several significant new construction projects to completion and has deftly managed his facilities relationship with the surrounding communities. He never fails to combine an understanding of the issue at hand with a deft personal diplomacy.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in extending our most sincere gratitude

for Captain David's service to our Nation. The United States is a more secure and fruitful place as a consequence of his efforts. I want to wish Captain David and his wife Anne all the best as they transition from active duty to continued public service in what will surely be an active and fruitful retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BELOVED COMMISSIONER JIM WILLIAMSON

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to today to recognize the life and service of Northwest Florida's beloved Commissioner Jim Williamson, who passed away on April 2, 2014. Throughout his long and distinguished career in public service, Jim served as a mentor and an inspiration to countless individuals. All those who have been blessed by his presence mourn the loss of a great man and accomplished public servant.

A life-long native resident of Santa Rosa County, Florida, Jim graduated from Milton High School in 1964. He enjoyed a four-year professional baseball career with the St. Louis Cardinals, before establishing his own business, Williamson Electrical Co., Inc., in Northwest Florida.

In 1977, Jim began his career in public service when he was elected as a member of the Milton City Council, where he served until 1985. He then continued his dedicated service to the community when he won a seat on the Santa Rosa County Board of Commissioners in 1996. Thanks to his leadership and strong work ethic, Jim achieved rapid success, and he was re-elected without opposition in 2000. He then went on to serve as Chairman of the Santa Rosa County Board of Commissioners until his recent retirement just days ago.

Jim served Santa Rosa County with the utmost integrity. During his time in office, he contributed greatly to the growth of Santa Rosa County and worked tirelessly to promote economic and cultural growth as well as fiscal accountability. His efforts included streamlining the building permit and inspection process, enhancing recreational opportunities for Santa Rosa County residents, constructing county buildings, and implementing safety improvements at Peter Prince Airport. His achievements did not go unrecognized, as he received several accolades, most notably the God in Government award and Santa Rosa County Chamber Leader of the Year. Aside from his leadership in Santa Rosa County, Jim was actively involved in many other aspects of the community, including coaching youth athletics and worshipping the Lord at Immanuel Baptist Church.

Throughout his life, Jim served his community with humility. For more than twenty years, I have had the privilege of working closely with him on a bevy of issues that affected Santa Rosa County and the entire Florida Gulf Coast. Jim represented everything that is great about Santa Rosa County. There is no question he will be remembered as a man of unquestionable character, unwavering resolve and unmatched determination. To his family