

keys to their new homes. In order to support this worthy cause, the Rocky Point VFW Post sponsors an annual Wounded Warrior Golf Outing. The proceeds benefit Long Island Home Builders Care, the Wounded Warrior Project, and honors the death of U.S. Army Sgt. Jonathan Keller, a 1998 Shoreham-Wading River High School graduate who died in 2009 of injuries he received while serving in Afghanistan.

Joe also coordinates the VFW Post's Youth Council events, which connect young people with veterans to teach the importance of service and good citizenship. He is also an active member of the Rocky Point Senior Center, where he co-founded a program for senior citizen veterans.

On behalf of the First Congressional District, I rise today to recognize a man who has spent his life recognizing others; a respected leader whose commitment to service is unyielding. I am proud to call Joe Cognitore my constituent and prouder to call him my friend.

TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY RANALLO

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Anthony Ranallo of Merrill Lynch in Des Moines, Iowa for being named a 2014 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Since 2000, *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2014 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of nearly 600 business leaders and growing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Anthony in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Ranallo for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Anthony on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2014 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

GIRLS OF STEEL ROBOTICS TEAM

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Girls of Steel robotics team on winning the Engineering Inspiration Award at the 2014 Pittsburgh Regional F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Competition.

This is the third year in a row in which they have won this prestigious award, which goes

to the team that does the most to increase appreciation for engineering in its community. I think that the remarkable accomplishment of winning this award three years running speaks volumes about the dedication these young women have to engineering as well as their considerable talent.

The Girls of Steel also won the Entrepreneurship Award at both the Buckeye Regional and the Greater Pittsburgh Regional competitions. This award recognizes a team that developed the best business plan to identify, manage, and accomplish its objectives.

F.I.R.S.T., which stands for "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology," is an organization dedicated to engaging our students in the vital fields of science, technology, math, and engineering (STEM). Hundreds of thousands of students gain practical, team-based engineering experiences through F.I.R.S.T. every year.

As a founder and co-chair of the Congressional Robotics Caucus, I believe competitions like these are incredible tools for helping our young people explore potential careers in STEM. I've witnessed firsthand the incredible economic growth and development that these fields can bring in my home district, and I strongly believe that these fields are crucial to our Nation's future prosperity. For encouraging young people in these pursuits, I want to commend organizations like F.I.R.S.T. for their important work. The F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Competition allows students to apply creativity and critical thinking in the demanding and competitive field of robotics, all while instilling a strong sense of pride in participants.

Thirty-nine young women from high schools located in and around the Pittsburgh area are members of this year's Girls of Steel, and in recognition of their hard work, intelligence, and teamwork, I would like to mention each of these inspiring ladies by name. They are Isabella Arnone, Sonia Appasamy, Arushi Bandi, Elizabeth Bianchini, Grace Brueggman, Abbey Ceraso, Rachel Cherian, Claudia Contreras, Laurel Donatelli, Samantha Eppinger, Clarisa Espinoza-Delgado, Mackenzie Ferris, Naoka Gunawardena, Heather Harrington, Rosanne Harrison, Sydney Hnat, Shoko Kanemoto, Campbell Konrad, Elizabeth Kysel, Jisue Lee, Sylvia Lee, Sophia Lee, Cheyenne Meyers, Gigi Nieson, Anne Kailin Northam, Maddie Oppelt, Simran Parwani, Korryn Resetar, Rachel Round, Kaitlyn Schaffer, Kriti Shah, Grace Schneider, Katie Shreve, Makalya Shreve, Lynn Urbina, Molly Urbina, Becca Volk, Alayna Yates, and Natalie Young.

I would also like to mention that two of the Girls of Steel, Simran Parwani of Fox Chapel High School and Sylvie Lee from Shady Side Academy, were awarded the prestigious F.I.R.S.T. Dean's List Award. This award highlights and celebrates exemplary student leaders who demonstrate and embody F.I.R.S.T.'s ideals.

Additionally, I want to convey my sincere appreciation to the staff of Carnegie Mellon University's Field Robotics Center, who have mentored the Girls of Steel since 2010. Because of their efforts, more young women can experience real-world technological challenges and learn from some of the Nation's best at solving these problems. These experiences will certainly benefit these young women in the future.

I look forward to hearing about their progress as they advance to the F.I.R.S.T.

Championship in St. Louis—the final and largest competition of its kind. This will be their fourth trip in four years and they will be competing against top teams from all over the world. I congratulate the Girls of Steel and wish them all continued success in their academic and professional endeavors.

HONORING EDYTH ANN WORTHY

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and celebrate the life and career of Edyth Ann Worthy on the occasion of her 88th birthday. On April 10, 2014, hundreds of friends and former students will gather for an appreciation reception at the Old Country Store in Jackson, Tennessee to celebrate Ms. Worthy's 37 years in education.

Edyth Ann Worthy was born and raised in Lenoir City, Tennessee and graduated with education degrees from both Tennessee Tech and George Peabody University. After two years with Tullahoma High School, Ms. Worthy moved to West Tennessee to become the physical education teacher and head girls' basketball coach at Jackson High School.

During her 35 years with the Jackson-Madison County School System, Ms. Worthy coached basketball, sponsored the cheerleaders and the Tri-Hi-Y club, was the director for the YMCA day camp, and served as the official hostess for the TSSAA Girls State Basketball Tournament held in Jackson during the 1960's and 1970's. For all of her efforts and dedication for youth sports, Ms. Worthy received the Jackson-Madison County Sports Hall of Fame Distinguished Service Award in 1995.

Even after her official retirement, Ms. Worthy's love for education continued as she worked part-time at Union University's Music Department. For her unwavering devotion to education, sports, and the children of Jackson-Madison County, Ms. Worthy certainly deserves the appreciation and recognition from her students, friends, and our whole community. On behalf of Tennessee's 8th Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Edyth Ann Worthy.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CARBONDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the Carbondale Public Library, which will celebrate its 140th anniversary on May 9, 2014. The library was founded in the winter of 1873 by the Principal of Schools, E. Francis, and incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth in 1875. In 1983, it became part of the Library System managed by Lackawanna County. In 1996, the Carbondale Public Library moved into a new facility next to Carbondale City Hall.

Today, the library is an active learning hub in the community—featuring events and educational workshops—and a fantastic resource

for those interested in local history and the genealogy of Carbondale residents. The Alice Ahern Lynady Room is home to a collection of microfilms containing local periodicals from as early as the 1830s and Carbondale directories dating back to 1900. The library's wide-ranging collection also includes cemetery records, photographic histories, books and documentaries about Carbondale and the surrounding regions, and subscriptions to genealogy software services.

It is an honor to commemorate such a valuable and long-standing institution like the Carbondale Public Library. This invaluable resource brings the Carbondale community together to learn and explore. I hope that it continues this tradition of scholasticism and unity throughout the 21st Century.

TRIBUTE TO ANNE PHAM

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Anne Pham of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for being named a 2014 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Since 2000, *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2014 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of nearly 600 business leaders and growing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Anne in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Ms. Pham for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Anne on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2014 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H. Con. Res. 96) establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2015 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2016 through 2024:

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, a number of political pundits have asked why House Repub-

licans are advancing a budget this year considering the House and Senate have already agreed upon a top-level budgetary baseline for the upcoming fiscal year. Apparently, Senate Democrats agree with these pundits and have announced that they will not produce a budget. Clearly, these pundits and Senate Democrats have been in Washington for far too long.

The American people did not send us to Congress to look for shortcuts and to find the easy way out. Last year's budget agreement did not magically solve our fiscal challenges, so we need to roll up our sleeves and get to work.

Thankfully, under the leadership of Budget Committee Chairman PAUL RYAN, House Republicans are doing just that. Our budget makes the tough decisions necessary to grow our economy by curbing the growth of federal spending and making critical reforms to our entitlement programs.

Critics of the Republican budget call our spending cuts draconian. On the current path, spending will grow, on average, by 5.2 percent a year over the next decade. Under this budget, spending will grow, on average, by 3.5 percent a year. That's not austerity, that's responsibility.

Our budget does cut \$5.1 trillion in spending and balances over the next ten years—without raising taxes. On the other hand, the Democrat's budget raises taxes by \$1.8 trillion, increases spending by \$740 billion more than current policy, while growing our annual deficit to \$637 billion in 2024.

While the differences between our budgetary priorities are clear, it is essential that both sides of the aisle work together and build upon last year's budget agreement. Moving back to regular order of approving a budget and advancing the annual individual appropriations bills is the best form of governance possible. Every year, our federal agencies and programs need to be closely examined so that we can remove any waste, fraud, abuse or inefficiencies.

Mr. Chair, the budget before us is an important step towards establishing a responsible fiscal foundation for the next fiscal year as well as the years to come. I look forward to working with my colleagues on the House Budget Committee and Appropriations Committee in executing the vision and priorities laid out in this budget.

I once again want to thank Chairman RYAN for his thoughtful, dedicated work on this budget, which will be his last as Chairman, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

HONORING KALEB BEHEE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kaleb Behee. Kaleb is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1138, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kaleb has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kaleb has been involved with

scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Kaleb has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Kaleb built a set of heavy-duty tables for the Blue Springs High School Golden Regiment Marching Band in Blue Springs, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kaleb Behee for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT AFFIRMATION AND NAVAL VESSEL TRANSFER ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, this morning, I had the honor of taking part in a video conference with President of Taiwan, Mr. Ma Ying-jeou, at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. President Ma offered his insights on the U.S.-Taiwan bilateral relationship, especially timely given the 35th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act. President Ma's speech follows below:

OPENING REMARKS

I would first like to extend my appreciation to the Center for Strategic and International Studies for organizing this video-conference for the third time. I believe this is the second time Dr. Hamre has hosted this event, and I want to thank him wholeheartedly. On the eve of the 35th anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA), a landmark piece of legislation that has laid the cornerstone of the robust relationship between the Republic of China and the United States, I am especially pleased to have this opportunity to discuss the unique partnership between our two countries with such a distinguished audience.

A STRONG AND LONG-STANDING FRIENDSHIP

The friendship between the Republic of China and the U.S. dates back over one century. It all began with a desire for mutual understanding. The Boxer Indemnity Scholarship Program was established by the U.S. in 1909 with an endowment of 10.8 million U.S. dollars. The scholarship allowed Chinese students to study in the U.S., and in 1911 helped establish the forerunner of the prestigious National Tsing Hua University, which has educated generations of young talent in mainland China and Taiwan, including three Nobel laureates. My hat is off to my American friends for having the foresight to initiate such a beneficial scholarship program. The idea behind it was the American vision to provide educational opportunities for a vast but poor and backward Asian country surrounded by insatiable imperialist powers.

During the first half-century of our partnership, the United States played a vital role in ensuring the Republic of China's survival and development. In August 1941, for instance, four months before the Pearl Harbor attack, the U.S. dispatched the Flying Tigers to help in China's difficult war against Japan. They shot down more than 200 Japanese military aircraft during the first seven months after their arrival in China.