

That we must not fail to hold to account those responsible for gross human rights violations. If we fail to remember horrific acts like the Armenian Genocide, we doom ourselves to repeat the most tragic chapters of history.

Accordingly, during my time in Congress, I have cosponsored House resolutions that have clearly stated the U.S. record regarding the true nature of the Armenian Genocide—an officially orchestrated ethnic execution of innocent men, women and children.

In closing, I respectfully request that all my colleagues join me today in honoring the victims and survivors of the Armenian Genocide.

#### HONORING APRIL GREEN

### HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2014

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my constituent, April Green.

Born April Smith, Ms. Green was born in Clarksburg, West Virginia to Janet Smith Thomas on April 12, 1969. Raised by Janet and Daniel Thomas in Jacksonville, Florida, she was educated in the public school system, graduating from Sandlewood High School in 1987. Upon completion of high school she attended Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, Georgia where she majored in biology and played on the basketball team. April then enlisted in the Air Force Reserve, and shortly after enlisting was deployed to the Middle East in support of Operation Desert Storm, where she served in the Medivac Unit as a medical assistant.

After serving her country and completing college at Georgia Southern she returned to Jacksonville, Florida and began a career in banking. After many years at Barnett Bank of Florida, reaching the position of Vice President of Loans, April was called upon to serve in a different capacity. In 2003 she was contacted by her pastor, Bishop Rudolph McKissick, Sr. to provide leadership in the role as the church administrator and chief financial officer. At Bethel Baptist Institutional Church, April oversees the day to day operation of the church staff, finances and development. Bethel is the oldest African American Church in the State of Florida with a membership of approximately 11,000.

Always wanting to give back to the community and having a passion to assist kids with their quest to attend college and further their education, April started the Jacksonville Pistons, a non-profit organization that would accomplish that goal. She created a traveling basketball organization for boys and girls between the ages of 8–17 with an emphasis on academic achievement and personal growth. To date she has mentored over 200 kids whom attended college.

As she celebrates her 45th birthday, I speak for the entire Fifth District in thanking April Green for all her hard work serving the Jacksonville Community.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2014

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Chair, yesterday, I missed the House's vote on Mr. MULVANEY's Substitute Amendment to H. Con. Res. 96. The Substitute Amendment that Mr. MULVANEY called for was the President's Budget for Fiscal Years 2015 through 2024.

I was unfortunately not present while the voting occurred. However, I would like the RECORD to reflect that it was my intention to vote "no" on the President's Budget.

#### NATIONAL FAIR HOUSING ALLIANCE COMPLAINT AGAINST SAFEGUARD PROPERTIES

### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2014

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the National Fair Housing Alliance and the Toledo Fair Housing Center filed a Federal housing discrimination complaint with the Department of Housing and Urban Development against Safeguard Properties headquartered in Ohio. Safeguard is the Nation's largest privately held mortgage field services property preservations company. Their business model involves maintaining and marketing bank owned, foreclosed homes (REO properties). The National Fair Housing Alliance and its member organizations have recently gathered evidence that shows that companies like Safeguard are neglecting and failing to maintain foreclosed homes in minority and low income neighborhoods.

In Toledo, Dayton, Baton Rouge, New Orleans and Memphis, Safeguard has failed to prevent blight from entering into the neighborhoods that are most venerable in our country. In an Office of the Inspector General report they were named as one of the preservation companies that would provide inaccurate information and would manipulate photos of foreclosed properties that it managed in their reports to Fannie Mae. We cannot allow these big corporations to continue taking advantage of the American people. I would encourage more States and representatives to investigate situations like this and send a message to these companies that we will not sit back and allow them to profit off of the suffering of the American people any more.

#### HONORING IOWA SECONDARY PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR AIDDY PHOMVISAY

### HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2014

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Aiddy Phomvisay on being selected as the Iowa Secondary Principal of the year. Aiddy serves as the principal at Marshalltown High School which is in my

district. Aiddy was selected because of his work in creating a culture of high expectations for all learners.

Mr. Phomvisay began his career as a ninth and tenth-grade teacher for the Ames Community School District. In 2008 he came to Marshalltown to serve as the principal. He received his bachelor's degree, master's degrees in curriculum and instruction and educational leadership, and his superintendent certification from Iowa State University.

Mr. Phomvisay was selected for this award by a committee of Iowa secondary principals, and he is now a candidate for National High School Principal of the Year. Aiddy has proven that he is a leader at his school and throughout the Marshalltown community. I'm proud to call him a constituent, and congratulate him on all of his success.

#### TRIBUTE TO JULIE VANDE HOEF

### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Julie Vande Hoef of Clive, 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 600 business leaders and growing.

Julie Vande Hoef currently serves as Policy Advisor to Iowa Governor Terry Branstad and Lieutenant Governor Kim Reynolds. She maintains a wide breadth of expertise on several policy issues including agriculture, natural resources, financial services, insurance, cultural affairs, and trade. Growing up on a family farm in Jackson County, Julie's family endured and survived the 1980s farm crisis. Since then, Mrs. Vande Hoef has immersed herself in government service to promote policies that benefit the people of Iowa. Before working for the Office of the Governor, Julie served Iowa Congressman Jim Leach as a Legislative Assistant, directed government affairs for Policy Works, and was a member of the Greater Des Moines Partnership's government affairs committee. Mrs. Vande Hoef has also donned a bulletproof vest in Iraq as she represented the United States and instructed women and minorities on the merits of democracy. Amidst all her impressive accomplishments and continued service to our state, Julie's top priority remains being the best wife and mother she can be to her husband Dustin and their son Tyson. In all aspects of her life, Mrs. Vande Hoef is an example of service, hard work, and Iowa values that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Julie in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mrs. Vande Hoef 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 Julie 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.

HONORING REV. DR. ALBERT LOUIS PATTERSON, JR. OF HOUSTON, TEXAS, SENIOR PASTOR OF MOUNT CORINTH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, COMMUNITY LEADER, AND GODFATHER OF EXPOSITORY PREACHING

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 10, 2014*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the late Rev. Dr. Albert Louis Patterson, Jr., an amazing leader who touched and changed the lives of thousands for the better through his pastorship of the Mount Corinth Missionary Baptist Church in Houston, which he led for 36 years. This beloved man of God was requested to join our Lord on Wednesday, April 9, 2014.

The Rev. Dr. Albert Louis Patterson, Jr., or "Dr. Pat" as he was affectionately known by many, trained and mentored hundreds of preachers of the gospel. Among his peers, he was regarded as the acknowledged master and 'Godfather of Expository Preaching.' One of his proteges, the Rev. Robert Earl Houston, put it best:

He wasn't just an expository preacher. He was a preaching lyricist of the highest order. To hear Dr. Patterson was to hear gumbo-lyric preaching—he hit you with the text, oratory, poetry, interrogative statements, engagement, tenacity for the truths of the text, humor and truth. You would leave a preaching moment with Dr. Patterson in awe.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to share just a few of the highlights of the remarkable career of this extraordinary preacher, pastor, theologian, husband and a father of three children.

His traveling companion was his beloved wife, Melba and he had three children—Anthony, Albert III, Alan, and Alette.

Rev. Patterson was recognized three times by his peers as a "Living Legend." He taught and preached at the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. and lectured for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, for the Promise Keepers, and the Preachers Division, National Baptist Congress.

Rev. Patterson was named by Ebony Magazine as one of America's greatest black preachers and was inducted into the Morehouse College Hall of Preachers. Rev. Patterson pastored congregations in California and Texas and was the author of three books: "Joy For the Journey"; "Wisdom in Strange Places"; and "Prerequisites for a Good Journey."

Mr. Speaker, the Rev. Dr. Albert Louis Patterson lectured at the Morehouse College of Religion, the American Baptist College in Nashville, Tennessee and the Mid-American Theological Seminary. He conducted revivals in more than 25 cities and preached more than 100 sermons and lectures in the National Baptist Convention.

The Rev. Dr. Albert Louis Patterson lived a consequential life in the service of his community, his family, and our country. He has gone on to receive his great reward, a place in the Lord's loving arms.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family and loved ones.

I ask that a moment of silence be observed in memory of the Rev. Dr. Albert Louis Patterson, Jr., of Houston, Texas.

### THE WORLD WAR II MERCHANT MARINER SERVICE ACT

### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 10, 2014*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of this Congress matter of utmost importance—The World War II Merchant Mariner Service Act, which was included in the omnibus veteran's bill, FIR 2189. The bill passed the House on October 28th, 2013.

The World War II Merchant Mariner Service Act directed the Secretary of Homeland Security to accept additional documentation when considering the application for Veterans status of an individual who performed service in the Merchant Marines during World War II.

The Merchant Marine is a civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Navy, but not a uniformed service, except in times of war when, in accordance with the Merchant Marine Act of 1936, Mariners are considered military personnel. In an effort to support the American war effort during World War II, they became an auxiliary to the United States Navy. Their mission was to transport bulk war materials including food, clothing, and weapons, as well as troops to all areas of conflict as well as domestic coastal installations.

During their missions in open waters, Merchant Marines often encountered the enemy and took hostile fire. Almost 250,000 Merchant Marines served during World War II and approximately 10,000 were killed while serving and protecting the United States.

In 1977 President Jimmy Carter signed into law the GI Bill Improvement Act of 1977. This bill granted authorization to the Secretary of Defense to determine the service performed by an "organized group of citizens" to be considered "active service" for purposes of Veterans benefits and established the Department of Defense Civilian/Military Service Review Board and Advisory panel. In 1988, President Reagan signed a bill into law granting veteran status to merchant mariners who served in war. Moreover, the Veterans Programs Enhancement Act of 1998 expanded Merchant Marine Veteran benefits to include burial in a National Cemetery.

I am proud that the Borough of Manhattan Community College is working on a documentary titled "The Sea of My Brother" about my constituent Gabriel Frank, an 85-year-old veteran of the World War II and Korea, who served in the merchant marine for 23 years, and whom I had the honor and privilege to meet.

The film follows the fight of Gabriel and others for the passage of a bill in Congress, H.R. 1936—Honoring Our WWII Merchant Mariners Act of 2013, to provide a benefit to veterans who served in the US Merchant Marine during

1941–1946. From rallying his fellow veterans to meeting with politicians, Gabriel and his comrades passionately fight to win this dignity for their community.

Today, elderly veterans continue their fight for this recognition. Their strong, positive and fighting spirit will not let them give up as they choose to advocate for their fellow veterans, leaving a legacy of inspiration for all.

I am urging the Senate to act on their Omnibus Bill so this important legislation can be acted into law.

### HONORING NEW MEXICO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

### HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 10, 2014*

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker: I rise today to honor 32 high school students from Highland High School and Moriarty High School that will represent New Mexico this month in the We the People National Finals, a three-day academic national civics competition on the U.S. Constitution. During the competition these exceptional students will have the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of constitutional principles in simulated congressional hearings before panels of judges.

The We The People program of constitutional study was initiated in 1987 and since its inception more the 30 million students have benefited from the program. The program divides students into teams where they are able to learn together and challenge each other. Surveys have shown that these students are more civic minded, politically active and have a better understanding of how the government functions.

Highland High School was the winner of the New Mexico We the People state competition and Moriarty High School is a wild card entry. I commend these students and their dedicated teachers and coaches for participating in this instructional program that fosters attitudes that students need in order to participate as effective, responsible citizens.

School: Highland High School; Teacher: Bob M. Coffey; Students: Ethan Alley; Ezra Geilin Baldwin; Dakson Byle; Kathryn Cook; Giuseppe DeLeers-Certo; Diana Garcia; Hannah Glasgow; Brendan Heath; Rachel Lentz; Angelina Malagodi; Pilar Martinez; Gabriel Pereira De Medeiros; Morgan Roberts; Alexandra Shomaker; Sahleah Tubbeh; Francisco Viramontes; Rosemary White.

School: Moriarty High School; Teacher: Amy Page; Students: Arianna Abrams; Peter BrownShelbee Geyer; Mason Howells; Tyler Cruzz Howse; Brian Landes; Emily Montano; Alexander Neverdousky; Allison New; Alicia Page; Rachel Pozzi; Jenna Purpura; Tony Ramirez; James Saunders; Cassandra Scott; Griffin Woolery; Donzlynn Worthington.

I congratulate these outstanding students and thank them for their contributions to New Mexico.