

awarded the Oliver Hill Award for Social Activism by the National Black Law Students Association for her efforts in battling against social injustices.

On behalf of the Judiciary Committee, its staff, and this distinguished body, I would like to thank Michelle for her exemplary work, generosity, sense of humor, and loyalty over the past five years. She will be sorely missed as a colleague, advisor, and friend. We wish her the best of luck and extend to her our deepest gratitude.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H. RES. 567, ESTABLISHING
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
BENGHAZI

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the rule for H. Res. 567, which establishes a Select Committee on the Events Surrounding the 2012 Terrorist Attack in Benghazi.

I oppose this resolution because it is a distraction, intended by the House Republicans to divert public attention from their failure to address the problems Americans care about like creating jobs, raising the minimum wage, passing immigration reform, and extending unemployment insurance benefits to the long-term unemployed.

Mr. Speaker, instead of working with Democrats to address the priorities of the American people, Republican leaders are gearing up to exploit the tragic attacks in Benghazi with another deeply partisan review.

There have already been seven reviews of that terrible attack: one by the State Department Accountability Review Board, two bipartisan reviews in the Senate, and four reviews in the House—producing more than 25,000 documents and dozens of interviews with high-level officials throughout the government.

Mr. Speaker, responding to endless, repetitive and partisan congressional requests has cost the Department of Defense and other agencies thousands of man-hours and expenses running “into the millions of dollars,” according to Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs Elizabeth King.

Throughout these reviews, Republican Members have made numerous accusations in public that have turned out to be untrue after further investigation, undermining the credibility of their investigations and the House.

Mr. Speaker, our colleagues across the aisle have shown no interest in making the Select Committee on Benghazi any different from the extreme and counter-productive partisanship that has defined their previous investigations into the Fast and Furious and the IRS, and their dogged efforts to hold the Attorney General in contempt of Congress.

For example, in the resolution establishing the committee, Republicans stack the committee with seven Republicans to Democrats’ five, and explicitly exempt the new committee from adopting written rules.

From the pointless vote to hold former IRS official, Lois Lerner, in contempt, to the latest committee on Benghazi, it is clear that Repub-

licans will do anything to divert attention away from their do-nothing record.

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better. They want and deserve for us to work together to solve the real problems facing our country.

I urge my colleagues to reject this rule and vote against the underlying resolution.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JENNIFER
PETT-RIDGE

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exemplary scientist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) in Livermore, California.

The Department of Energy’s (DOE) Office of Science has selected Dr. Jennifer Pett-Ridge to receive funding as part of the Department’s Early Career Research Program (ECRP). Her project, entitled “Microbial Carbon Transformations in Wet Tropical Soils: The Importance of Redox Fluctuations,” was selected by the Office of Biological & Environmental Research.

The ECRP is crucial to our ability to maintain American leadership in science. It was created to support the development of individual research programs of outstanding scientists early in their careers and stimulates research careers in the disciplines supported by the DOE Office of Science.

Dr. Pett-Ridge is the lead scientist of LLNL’s Genomic Science Biofuels Scientific Focus Area and is a Deputy Group Leader of the Isotopic Signatures Group within LLNL’s Chemical Sciences Division. She received her B.A. in biology and environmental studies and her M.S. in forest sciences from Yale. Her Ph.D. in soil microbial ecology from the University of California at Berkeley was earned in 2005.

Awardees were selected from a large pool of university and national laboratory-based applicants. Selection was based on peer review by outside scientific experts.

I am privileged to represent LLNL and its brilliant scientists like Dr. Pett-Ridge. Their hard work and skill are what keeps America secure and at the forefront of scientific innovation. I want to congratulate Dr. Pett-Ridge and wish her well in her work with ECRP.

SUCCESS AND OPPORTUNITY
THROUGH QUALITY CHARTER
SCHOOLS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 10) to amend the Charter School Program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the Success and Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools Act, a bill that strengthens the existing charter schools pro-

gram while including important reforms for accountability and access.

Public charter schools are an important testing ground for new ideas and innovative practices that can benefit our entire school system. Today’s bill supports the expansion of high quality charter schools while making vital improvements to the program to increase oversight and access. While current law requires charter schools to be open to all students, this bill would encourage enrollment and retention of underserved populations like students with disabilities and English language learners. It also enhances charter authorizing practices to include quality controls for student achievement and management.

I applaud the Education and Workforce Committee for working in a bipartisan fashion to bring this legislation to the Floor. I hope that we can apply that same spirit of cooperation to fully reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and improve education for all students in every public school.

IN RECOGNITION OF TAMARAC
CITY COMMISSIONER DIANE
GLASSER

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my dear friend Diane Glasser, who currently serves on the City Commission for Tamarac, Florida. I have been lucky to work with Diane for many years to make Florida a better place for all Floridians, but, for over 40 years, I have been even luckier to call Diane a friend. It is a 40-plus year friendship that has meant the world to me, and I thank her for it.

Diane hails from Mill Basin in Brooklyn, New York. She went to high school and college in New York, but then in 1973, we in Florida were lucky enough to entice her down our way—getting to avoid those New York winters probably helped us look like a good place to live too. Diane moved to Florida with her husband who was a 100 percent disabled veteran having served bravely in World War II. Diane’s husband, due to the injuries he suffered fighting for his country, was unable to work, but this did not stop him from being a tireless advocate for veterans. I think Diane would agree that her husband’s advocacy helped in part in laying the ground work for her future successes as an advocate for the members of our community.

After working in the construction industry for 12 years, Diane was ready for something new. Mr. Speaker, my friend Diane turned her tremendous energy and insight to helping the members of her community by volunteering for her local Democratic Party. Of course, Diane was not going to volunteer here and there. No, instead, Diane, through dedicated effort, went from starting as a volunteer and worked her way to First Vice Chair of the Florida Democratic Party. In addition, she was elected to the Democratic National Convention as a National Committeewoman, and was appointed to the Electoral College.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all Floridians and members of the Democratic Party, I would like to thank Diane for her tireless work in pursuit

of justice for not only all Floridians, but all Americans. She is an inspiration to all of us who strive to make our communities a better place to live.

TRIBUTE TO THE SOUTHEASTERN
PENNSYLVANIA SOCCER HALL
OF FAME 2014 HONOREES

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 2014 inductees of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Soccer Hall of Fame. The inductions will be held on May 10, 2014 during the 67th Annual Hall of Fame Banquet.

Dating back to 1947, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Soccer Hall of Fame recognizes the best of our region's soccer community. Through hard work and dedication, the inductees and award winners have achieved both on and off the field.

The banquet is an opportunity to gather in celebration and recognition of the area's soccer community. This being the 67th banquet is a testament to the strength and standing of the Hall of Fame within the soccer community. As the world of soccer has evolved, so has this organization, ensuring that future generations will have the chance to participate in this great game. I congratulate and thank all of those honored for their important contributions.

The Southeastern Pennsylvania Soccer Hall of Fame also deserves special recognition for their Coats for Chester event. Since 2010, the Hall of Fame along with many dedicated volunteers collected over 4,800 winter coats to donate to needy families in Chester, PA.

I invite you and all of my colleagues to join in congratulating the Southeastern Pennsylvania Soccer Hall of Fame and those being honored at the 67th Hall of Fame Banquet.

COMMENDING SALVE REGINA ON
RECEIVING A 2014 ARTHUR ROSS
AWARD

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to congratulate Salve Regina University, in my home state of Rhode Island, on receiving the 2014 Arthur Ross Award for Stewardship. Given by the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art, the Arthur Ross Awards celebrate achievements in the classical tradition. According to the ICAA, "In protecting the architectural legacy of its campus, the university has commissioned new buildings that harmonize with its historic structures." My time on the campus has only confirmed Salve's success in preserving Newport's rich architectural and cultural heritage.

Since the donation of Ochre Court, the second largest mansion in the city, to the University in 1947, Salve has had a unique relationship with its buildings. Located on seven contiguous estates from Newport's gilded age, bordering the famous Cliff Walk, the natural

beauty of the grounds (some of which were designed by the Olmstead brothers) is only enhanced by the magnificence of the architecture. Beyond Ochre Court, Salve also counts McAuley Hall, the former estate of tobacco heiress Catherine Lorillard Wolfe; Conley Hall, once known as Faxon Lodge; and the National Historic Landmark, the William Watts Sherman House, among its many facilities.

In addition to acquiring and preserving these architectural gems, Salve has also commissioned buildings that promote and enhance the overall campus aesthetic. Two recent additions, the Rodgers Recreation Center and Our Lady of Mercy Chapel, both designed by internationally renowned architect Robert A.M. Stern, are stunning examples of Shingle style American architecture that mesh perfectly with their hundred year-old neighbors.

My favorite building on campus might be the Antone Academic Center, which originally served as the stables and carriage house for Chateau-sur-Mer, the oldest of the Bellevue Avenue mansions. The Antone Center is the home of Salve's Cultural and Historic Preservation Department, and it houses labs where students and professors develop new ways to protect our country's artistic legacy. By taking advantage of the natural resource that Rhode Island's rich architectural heritage represents, Salve has made important contributions to the Ocean State while training the next generation of preservationists.

In 2002, Salve became the first New England school to receive a Getty Grant to develop a campus heritage preservation plan. Barely a decade later, I am thrilled to see their hard work rewarded and highlighted on the national stage. Congratulations to University President Sister Jane Gerety and all of the Salve community for this honor!

HENDERSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, on May 17, 2014 the citizens of Henderson County, Texas will observe the 100th year anniversary of the current county courthouse in Athens, Texas. While Henderson County has had three previous Courthouse buildings, the one that stands today has passed the century mark.

Henderson County, established in 1846 by the Texas Legislature, was carved from Nacogdoches and Houston Counties and named for Texas' first Governor, J. Pinckney Henderson.

The Henderson County Commissioners Court approved the building of the current courthouse on June 12, 1913. They authorized L.R. Wright & Company to erect the structure for the cost of \$113,500. The L.L. Thurmon Architectural firm of Dallas designed the courthouse in the "Classical Revival" style, the dominant type of architecture for Texas courthouses in the early 1900s. A marble cornerstone and time capsule on the northeast corner commemorates the structure's construction. In early 1914 the new courthouse opened for operations.

The courthouse today stands in the square of Athens, Texas. Its entrances face the four

cardinal points of the compass at the intersections of State Highway 19 and 31 and US Highway 175. In the beginning, this building housed county and district offices, auto and property tax offices, and courtrooms. Throughout the years, many improvements were made to the building. Major renovations were completed during the year of 1965 with the addition of an elevator, new windows, and improvements to the stairs. Other renovations were made in 1986. The courthouse today still serves as the heartbeat to the county operations and community events.

IN HONOR OF LIGHTHOUSE
MINISTRIES

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Lighthouse Ministries for a decade of serving men, women and children in central and eastern Kentucky.

Lighthouse Ministries is a non-profit, faith-based organization dedicated to reaching the low- and moderate-income population of Lexington, and the Fayette County area, by providing free meals for people in need, and also by providing housing and support for men who are disadvantaged, whether due to recent imprisonment, drug-related issues, or poverty.

Lighthouse Ministries also provides educational and psychological support for people who are in need of drug, alcohol and vocational rehabilitation.

Since 2004, Lighthouse Ministries has served more than 330,000 meals—each accompanied by a Bible message, individual prayer if requested, and clothing and toiletries when needed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating Lighthouse Ministries' decade of service. I would also like to extend my personal gratitude to this organization for all that they do to better our community and our Commonwealth.

BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I seek to mark the start of Building Safety Month. Each May, we recognize the importance of building safety and the leadership of the International Code Council (ICC) that develops and publishes the model building safety and energy efficiency codes. These codes are used in my home state of Vermont, and throughout the United States, as well as in many other nations.

Building codes are the foundation for safety, stability and performance in buildings. Without strong building codes, flood would lead to increased damage, earthquakes would flatten communities, and countless lives would be lost. Strong model building codes also ensure our buildings are high performing and energy efficient.

So I want to congratulate the leaders of the ICC, who sponsor Building Safety Month, celebrated in May every year for over 30 years.