

Fiscal Year 2013: Bangor Savings Bank, Overall Top Performing SBA lender; Katahdin Trust Company, Top 7(a) Dollar Volume Lender; People's United Bank, Top Performing 3rd Party Lender; Granite State Economic Development Corp., Top Performing 504 Lender; NorState Federal Credit Union, Top Performing Credit Union; CEI, Top Performing Microlender; and Eastern Maine Development Corp., Top Community Advantage Lender.

These recipients are among the best that Maine and New England have to offer. Through their leadership and incredible commitment to their communities, Maine and New England are better places in which to live and do business.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the honorees of the Small Business Administration's Annual Awards Luncheon on their outstanding service and achievement.

RECOGNIZING DIA DE PORTUGAL

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues Mr. NUNES of California, Mr. CICILLINE of Rhode Island, Mr. VALADAO of California, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Ms. LOFGREN of California, and Mr. HONDA of California to recognize Dia de Portugal. On this day, we celebrate the heritage of the Portuguese people and underscore the importance of the strong relationship between the United States and Portugal.

From California to Massachusetts and Rhode Island to Hawaii, Portuguese Americans have made positive contributions to our communities for many years. According to the U.S. Census, more than one million individuals living in the United States are of Portuguese ancestry. These vibrant Portuguese communities are a reflection of the ties that bind our two nations.

Since the founding of our nation, the United States has had few allies as reliable as Portugal, which was among the first countries to recognize the United States following the Revolutionary War. The oldest continuously operating U.S. Consulate in the world is located in Ponta Delgada on the island of Sao Miguel in the Azores. U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry recently said, "The strong partnership between our two countries is more vital than ever." We wholeheartedly agree.

Mr. Speaker, on this Dia de Portugal, we reaffirm our commitment to strengthening the economic, cultural, and security relationship between Portugal and the United States, and we join with the people of Portugal and our Portuguese American constituents in wishing everyone a joyous Dia de Portugal.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "BUSINESS SUPPLY CHAIN TRANSPARENCY ON TRAFFICKING AND SLAVERY ACT OF 2014"

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce bipar-

tisan legislation along with my colleagues on the Human Trafficking Caucus, Rep. CHRIS SMITH.

Very few Americans are aware that many of the goods they use everyday are tainted by human trafficking or the worst forms of child labor. According to the U.S. Department of Labor's 2012 List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor, 134 goods from 74 countries were made by forced and child labor. This bill will increase transparency in supply chains in order to remove slavery from business operations and products.

The Business Supply Chain Transparency on Trafficking and Slavery Act doesn't tell businesses what to do, but rather to tell consumers what they are doing to end human slavery.

This bill will give consumers the tools they need to know where and how their goods are being made. While there are good actors, there are businesses operating in parts of the world that rely on enslaved humans to produce their products. We believe American consumers have a right to know who these companies are.

This legislation creates a market-based solution rather than relying on prescriptive action by the federal government. Large global companies already reporting to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) simply need to include what they are doing to rid their supply chains of human slavery. This information will then be posted on the company, SEC, and Department of Labor (DOL) websites for easy public access. Consumers will be able to research a company and determine their purchasing decisions based on the information provided. Very simply, this bill creates competition to improve practices to end slavery by providing the public with information about what companies are doing to address slavery.

Human trafficking is the 21st century slavery. It is estimated that over 20 million people are working in some form of forced labor worldwide. We must use every tool available to help men, women, and children around the world who fall victim to the scourge of human trafficking, forced labor, and the worst forms of child labor.

HONORING MARTI MICHAEL

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the Riverdale YM-YWHA is fortunate to have had Marti Michael at its helm. Deeply rooted in Jewish culture, the Riverdale Y is open to all within the community and promotes an environment of inclusion and diversity.

Marti's involvement with the Riverdale Y started long before she became its Executive Director and even before the first bricks were laid. While working at UJA-Federation in the early 1980s, Marti worked with the Riverdale community to raise the necessary capital to build the Y.

Marti has worked for the Riverdale Y for 28 years, and since taking the helm as Executive Director, she oversees a thriving community center that offers athletic, artistic and enrichment for children, adults and seniors. The Riverdale Y also offers after-school programs at

PS24 and Kinneret, and Marti wants to expand that scope even farther.

The Riverdale Rising Stars' Broadway Gala will honor Marti for all that she has done at the Riverdale Y, particularly her dedication to the performing arts. There is something magical about the theater. Audiences become enraptured by the performances as actors make their characters come to life.

Children and teens who participate in theater programs through the Riverdale Y grow too. Marti enjoys watching once-shy children and timid teens develop greater confidence in themselves. There is indeed magic in the theater and all that Marti does to encourage our youth to flourish.

Her devotion to the Riverdale Y and the greater community is inspiring. I am pleased to have the opportunity to recognize Marti Michael's leadership and achievements. We are saddened that she is leaving but I wanted this opportunity to thank her for all that she has done and continues to do in our beloved community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 10th, 2014, I mistakenly voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 277. I meant to vote "aye" on the Nadler Amendment to H.R. 4745 to increase funding for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS program (HOPWA) by \$29.1 million. HOPWA is a program that I have supported throughout my tenure in Congress. HOPWA provides much needed housing assistance to low-income persons with HIV/AIDS in my Congressional District and throughout the Country. I will continue to work with my colleagues as this bill moves through the Senate and onto the Conference process to advocate for increased funding for HOPWA.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF MR. BYRON PIGG

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for the House's attention today to recognize Byron Pigg who is retiring from the position of Public Safety Director with the East Alabama Water, Sewer and Fire Protection District.

Mr. Pigg is retiring after 33 years and 10 months of service. Prior to his service as a full-time employee, Byron served as a volunteer firefighter. He served as fire chief for 25 years of his full-time employment.

During his tenure as fire chief, Byron worked to significantly upgrade the fire department. In 2005, he oversaw the construction of a new headquarters fire station. He received over \$1 million in grant money to help improve the fire department. He also has served in numerous local, regional and statewide organizations.

Mr. Speaker, we join his family and friends in celebrating Mr. Pigg's retirement and wish him the very best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following remarks regarding my absence from votes which occurred on June 9, 2014 and June 10, 2014 as I participated in a primary election on June 10th. Listed below is how I would have voted had been present.

Roll Number 272—H.R. 4412—To authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and for other purposes—“aye.”

Roll Number 273—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Broun of Georgia Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 274—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Chabot of Ohio Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 276—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Gohmert of Texas Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 277—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Nadler of New York Amendment—“nay.”

Roll Number 278—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Capito of West Virginia Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 279—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Broun of Georgia First Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 280—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Broun of Georgia Second Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 281—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Broun of Georgia Third Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 282—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Hartzler of Missouri Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 283—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Daines of Montana Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 284—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Gosar of Arizona First Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 285—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Gosar of Arizona Second Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 286—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Fleming of Louisiana Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 287—H.R. 4810—To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts for the provision of hospital care and medical services at non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities for Department of Veterans Affairs patients with extended waiting times for appointments at Department facilities and for other purposes—“aye.”

Roll Number 288—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Denham of California Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 289—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Blackburn of Tennessee Amendment No. 1—“aye.”

Roll Number 290—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Schock of Illinois Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 291—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Gosar of Arizona First Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 292—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Gosar of Arizona Second Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 293—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Schiff of California Amendment—“nay.”

Roll Number 294—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Sessions of Texas Amendment—“aye.”

Roll Number 295—H.R. 4745 on agreeing to the Gingrey of Georgia Amendment No. 29—“aye.”

Roll Number 296—H.R. 4745 on Motion to Recommit with Instructions—“nay.”

Roll Number 297—H.R. 4745—Making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes—“aye.”

HONORING AL AND DEE DELBELLO

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, countless communities across our great nation thrive thanks in part to the selfless service and dedicated commitment of individuals like Al and Dee DelBello. The DelBellos epitomize the very meaning of the words “public service.”

I have known Al and Dee for many years. Al is a distinguished public servant who represented our community with dignity and integrity. His record of hard work and commitment to ensuring that government serves all is truly remarkable; he's a leader whom I have strived to emulate.

Al started serving our country in the National Guard after graduating from Fordham Law School. He returned to New York once he completed his service, and later ran for City Council in Yonkers. His sense of civic duty did not end there. He was elected as Mayor of Yonkers in 1970, served as the Westchester County Executive for three consecutive terms, and then became Lieutenant Governor in 1982.

While serving in public office, Al worked together with those on both sides of the aisle to the benefit of his constituents. Al was fundamental in building a medical center in Westchester, creating the first State Office for the Disabled and an Office for Women, and establishing a countywide bus system, among other things. Al continues to serve his fellow New Yorkers as the Chairman Emeritus of the Westchester County Association.

Dee DelBello joins her husband in being an exemplary public servant, dedicating her life to lend a helping hand. Dee received her Master's Degree from Seton Hall University, and while her husband was in office, she advanced the cultural aspects of Westchester County through her amazing work advocating for the arts.

Dee impressively served as Commissioner of the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct for 17 years, and continuously breaks the glass ceiling for women with her service on the advisory board of The Women's Business Development Center, her membership in The National Association for Female Executives, and as a co-founder of Women in Communications.

Al and Dee DelBello have both won numerous awards throughout the years for their immense work on behalf of all New Yorkers, and I want to continue recognizing them by expressing my gratitude and appreciation for all of the contributions they have made.

HONORING ANDY AND BETTY BECKSTOFFER

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Andy and Betty Beckstoffer, the recipients of the Land Trust of Napa County's Acre by Acre Award. Andy and Betty have dedicated their lives to the preservation and conservation of land in Napa County, which is both honorable and deserving of recognition.

Andy is the founder and owner of Beckstoffer Vineyards and its subsidiaries, which own approximately 1,000 acres of vineyard land in Napa County, 1,000 acres in Mendocino County, and 1,000 acres in Lake County. Andy and Betty have permanently preserved over 400 acres of Napa County land by placing nine separate properties in conservation easements with the Land Trust. From the 44-acre Carneros Creek and Las Amigas conservation easements, which protect rural viewshed and watershed areas in the Carneros area, to 181 acres of their Georges III vineyard in prime Agricultural Preserve area, the Beckstoffers have provided us with outstanding examples of the use of conservation easements to preserve the natural values of land. Andy once said of his work, “we started as farmers, then became grape growers, and now are stewards of the land.”

Andy and Betty Beckstoffer are the recipients of numerous awards for their grapegrowing, including Grower of the Year from Napa Valley Grapegrowers and Agriculturist of the Year from the Napa County Farm Bureau. They were also awarded the Award for Wine Industry Leadership by the U.S. Congressional Wine Caucus, and the Wine Award from Copia, the American Center for Food, Wine and the Arts. Andy and Betty Beckstoffer have five children together, David, Dana, Tuck, Kristin, and Steven.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor and thank Andy and Betty Beckstoffer for their commitment to our community and to preserving our beautiful lands. Their unyielding dedication to philanthropy and land conservation is inspirational and a testament that two people can make a significant difference in our community.

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4745) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition of the proposed cuts to the Transportation Infrastructure