

Utah and the Bay Area over these next few years.

Mr. Speaker and members, one of the highest compliments that we can pay to anyone leaving public life is to say that they served with honor. Jim Hardy did so. He was honest and fair in his dealings with the public, patient with his councils and dutiful towards their directions, mindful of his employees and their needs and conscious of setting the highest personal standard of propriety. There are no statues erected or brilliant orchestral compositions written to commemorate the ending of a distinguished career in local government. However, there are fond memories. Jim leaves thousands of these as he exits public service. These fond memories are themselves a type of ode to a life well led, and as enduring as any statue that we might erect. Now is the time to say thank you to Jim Hardy, a man called father, grandfather, leader and friend.

HONORING BARBARA HARRIS

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Barbara Ann Poland Harris of West Palm Beach, Florida, who turned 84 years old on June 29th, 2015.

Barbara, who was born in Steubenville, Ohio, is a lifelong educator, member of the Alpha Xi Delta sorority, and loving mother of two sons. Barbara moved to Florida in 1954 to teach and coach basketball at St. Patrick's Catholic School in Miami Beach. She went on to teach at Watkin B. Duncan Middle School in 1965, where she taught until her retirement in 1995. While teaching at the middle school, Barbara was named teacher of the month, had a yearbook dedication in her name, and was a tennis coach and avid sports supporter. After her retirement Barbara traveled extensively across Europe and Asia.

I am proud to represent Barbara in Florida's 22nd District. I join with her friends and family in celebrating her birthday. I wish her good health and continued success in the coming years.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASSAGE OF THE "OLDER AMERICANS ACT"

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Older Americans Act of 1965.

Passed by the historic 89th Congress, the "Older Americans Act" was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson on July 14, 1965 in response to the growing national consensus that the level of community social services available for older Americans was simply inadequate.

The original legislation established the authority for grants to states for community planning and other social services.

These services included funding for vital research and development of projects, and personnel training to assist our aging citizens.

This legislation authorized the creation of a wide array of programs through a national network of 56 state agencies that specialize in aging.

The legislation also led to the creation of 629 area agencies on aging, nearly 20,000 service providers, 244 Tribal organizations, and 2 Native Hawaiian organizations representing 400 Tribes throughout our country.

The Older Americans Act also assisted in the creation of community service employment for low-income elder Americans.

These community services included implementation of job training for our aging community; along with focusing on the protection of the rights of vulnerable Americans.

Every year, an estimated 2.1 million older Americans are victims of elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

In 2013 alone, over 4.2 million elder Americans were below the poverty level.

Today, an estimated 65.7 million Americans, or nearly 30 percent of the general population, provide care for an older adult, or someone living with illness or disability.

The Older Americans Act has led to the creation of vital programs such as the National Meals on Wheels of America, which provide meals to our ever growing elderly community.

According to the United States Census Bureau, 9 percent of the residents of my congressional district, which is centered in Houston, Texas, are over the age of 65.

These older citizens in the city of Houston utilize services provided by the Harris County Area Agency on Aging Family Caregiver Support Network.

Without the passage of significant legislation such as the "Older Americans Act" of 1965, older American citizens throughout our country would never know of the positive impact that a professional caregiver can provide them.

Older women are more than likely to be living alone at the age of 75, and a caregiver will provide them the necessary assistance to live a healthy life in their own home.

The issues facing our seniors grow every day with the increasing pace of the world around us.

The services that the Older Americans Act generated have assisted countless elder Americans in the half century since the law was enacted.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the passage of the "Older Americans Act" of 1965 and to recognize its remarkable contributions to the quality of life enjoyed by older Americans and in making our country a better and sweeter place to live.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

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 \$18,151,981,262,337.43. We've added \$7,525,104,213,424.35 to our debt in 6

years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, it recently has come to my attention that the last vote I intended to cast during the vote series on May 12, 2015, was not recorded. I would have recorded my vote as Yes on H.R. 2146, the Defending Public Safety Employees Retirement Act.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MORRIE SANCHEZ

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember Morrie Sanchez, a longtime Angeleno, onetime union organizer, avid dancer, and family friend. Morrie passed away quietly on June 16, 2015, in Monrovia, California, at the age of 97.

Born on June 25, 1917, in Jerome, Arizona, to Victoria Balderamos and Angel Gonzalez, Morrie was from an old California family whose roots in the state predated the Mexican Revolution and its becoming part of the United States. She had two sisters, Vera and Margarita.

Her grandfather, Zeferino Balderamos, was born in San Luis Obispo in the early 1800s, and her grandmother, Modesta Rodriguez, was from Sonora, Mexico.

When Morrie moved to Los Angeles, California, she lived and raised her three eldest daughters—Dolores, Rose Marie, and Carol—in the city's downtown core, in an area known as Bunker Hill. She later moved to Pico-Union, where she raised her youngest daughter, Sylvia.

Morrie was a stalwart of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU), serving as a union organizer, as a shop steward, and multiple terms as local chapter president between 1950 and the late 1980s.

A longtime community activist, Morrie worked diligently in many political campaigns. These included the first election of my father, former Congressman Edward R. Roybal, to his earlier position as the first Latino in the 20th century to be elected to the Los Angeles City Council.

For many years, she volunteered with the City of Hope and White Memorial Hospital, and with many other local nonprofit groups.

Morrie did not let retirement slow her down a bit. Instead, she used her "free time" to support senior citizen causes, and could often be seen dancing the afternoon away at one of the many local senior centers, including the International Institute in Boyle Heights, the Highland Park Senior Center, and Salazar Park in East Los Angeles.

In 1990, the International Institute named her “Mother of the Year.” Morrie was the matriarch of six generations living in Southern California at the time of her death.

The Roybal family is fortunate to have known Morrie Sanchez as a supporter and friend.

She is survived by daughters Dolores Sanchez, Rose Marie Barron, Carol Limon, and Sylvia Sanchez; sons-in-law Jonathan Sanchez and Gilbert Limon; 17 grandchildren; 41 great-grandchildren; 29 great-great-grandchildren; and one great-great-great grandchild. She was laid to rest on June 25, 2015, at Calvary Cemetery in East Los Angeles.

TRIBUTE TO GORDON AND PATRICIA SCHOENING

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Gordon and Patricia Schoening of Glenwood, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary.

Gordon and Patricia’s lifelong commitment to each other, their children Suzanne, Bruce, and Jodi, their seven grandchildren, and their six great-grandchildren embodies true Iowa values. I applaud this devoted couple on their 70th year together and I wish them many more years of happiness. I know my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion. I wish them and their family all the best moving forward.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF AUBREY WILLIAM “BILL” FRENCH

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and contributions of Mr. Aubrey William “Bill” French for his commitment to the betterment of Ypsilanti, MI, and service to his community. Bill French’s passion for business stimulated the local economy and instilled a confidence in other entrepreneurs to invest in Washtenaw County.

Mr. French’s business career started in 1972 when he and his wife, Sandee French, opened Aubree’s Pizzeria in Depot Town. The business became the foundation for Depot Town and it has been a special establishment in Washtenaw County since 1972. Aubree’s continues to operate after 43 years, and it has grown to include 8 separate locations.

Mr. French was known as a passionate restaurant owner who worked hard to develop a strong rapport with his staff. He helped his team develop a strong work ethic, and supported their academic and professional goals. His skills as a mentor not only developed a restaurant; he built a family.

In addition to being a restaurant owner, Mr. French was the first president of the Depot Downtown Development Authority, and served on the Ypsilanti Economic Development Cor-

poration. For his service to his community, Mr. French received many awards throughout his life, such as the Small Business Person of the Year Award in 1994, and the Distinguished Service Award from the Ypsilanti Area Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor the memory of Mr. Aubrey William “Bill” French for his dedication to business, the City of Ypsilanti, and Washtenaw County.

RECOGNIZING BILL PRESS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Bill Press for his outstanding contributions to political commentary in the District of Columbia and across the country, and in congratulating him on the occasion of his 10th anniversary as host of the nationally syndicated The Bill Press Show, heard on the radio and seen on FreeSpeech TV. With offices located right here in Ward 6 of the nation’s capital, Bill Press has remained consistent in informing Americans about our congressional legislation for statehood and voting rights, and D.C.’s fight to achieve equal citizenship.

Ten years ago, The Bill Press Show began as a nationally syndicated talk radio program. Today, the program is seen and heard nationally on radio, television, and on the internet. For more than four decades, Bill has made himself a go-to, reliable political pundit on radio and on television. Bill has covered both the Democratic and Republican national conventions in his time as host of The Bill Press Show and regularly covers the White House. As a former co-host of MSNBC’s Buchanan and Press, CNN’s Crossfire and The Spin Room, Bill Press built a national reputation for thought-provoking and humorous insights on American politics.

Bill Press is also the author of five books and writes a nationally syndicated newspaper column, distributed by Tribune Media Services. He is also a featured columnist for The Hill newspaper in Washington, D.C.

During Bill’s storied career, he has received numerous awards for his work, including four Emmys and a Golden Mike Award. In 1992, the Associated Press named him Best Commentator of the Year.

Bill Press got experience many commentators lack when he chaired the California Democratic Party from 1993 to 1996 and served as chief of staff to California State Senator Peter Behr (R). He also served as director of the California Office of Planning and Research under Governor Jerry Brown.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Bill Press and his entire team at The Bill Press Show, including his Executive Producer, Peter Ogburn, and his business partner, Paul Woodhull for their 10 years of outstanding service to the field of political commentary and their continued commitment to providing information and analysis to the American people.

HONORING THE GREAT SALT BAY COMMUNITY SCHOOL IN DAMARISCOTTA, MAINE

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I’m proud to be from a state with a lasting tradition of supporting arts education. From Winslow Homer to Andrew Wyeth, Maine artists have long been recognized for their extraordinary talent. This is in no small part due to the emphasis that Maine schools have put on arts education. I’m so grateful for the many educators who have made teaching our youth about the arts a priority.

This year, the Great Salt Bay Community School in Damariscotta, Maine won the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation’s SupportMusic Merit Award for the exceptional quality of its music program. They have led our state in arts education, and I am confident that their program serves as an inspiration to schools across the country that are looking to better educate their students about the arts.

Winning the SupportMusic Merit Award is a prestigious honor, and the entire Damariscotta community should be proud. This achievement belongs to the administration, teachers, students, families, and town as a whole. I am so proud to have this excellent school in my district. This award is a testament to its teachers’ dedication and commitment to their students as well as to the tremendous talent that is required to motivate and properly educate students about music.

It gives me great pleasure to offer the Great Salt Bay Community School—along with its teachers, staff and students—my sincerest congratulations on this prestigious award, and my best wishes for the years to come.

COMMEMORATING THE PASSAGE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION ACT OF 1947

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the passage of the “Presidential Succession Act of 1947.”

Passed by the 80th Congress, the “Presidential Succession Act” was signed into law by President Harry S Truman on July 18, 1947, in response to the sudden death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the 32nd President of the United States.

The death of President Roosevelt was felt throughout the country, because FDR had held the office for over twelve years and seen the country through the Great Depression, the surprise attack by Japan on Pearl Harbor, and World War II.

When President Roosevelt died, Vice President Harry Truman was immediately sworn in as President; the position of Vice President remained vacant for the duration of the term, from April 1945 to January 1949.

President Truman prevailed upon the Congress to pass legislation that would correct the