

for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. During that time, Peter received a special commendation from the Pennsylvania Supreme Court for his service to the judicial system as a member of the Judicial Council's Committee on Judicial Security and Emergency Preparedness. He retired in 2013, after twenty years of service.

In addition to his career in government, Peter also worked as a funeral director. Peter established the Peter J. Adonizio Funeral Home in 2001 in West Pittston. As a result of flooding caused by Tropical Storm Lee in 2011, Peter relocated his funeral home to William Street in Pittston. Adonizio is a member of the Luzerne County Funeral Directors Association, Pennsylvania Funeral Directors Association, and the National Funeral Directors Association.

It is an honor to recognize Peter for all of his community and state accomplishments, and I extend my congratulations on his award. I wish him the best in all future endeavors and thank him for the contributions he has made serving his fellow Pennsylvanians.

CONGRATULATING THOMAS
QUIGLEY ON HOMETOWN HERO
AWARD

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to congratulate Thomas Clayton Quigley of Bedford, Texas, on his receipt of the City of Bedford's Hometown Hero Award for his service to our nation and outstanding citizenship in his community.

Thomas chose to enlist in the United States Army in 1942, in the midst of World War II. He graduated Officer Candidate School and became a First Lieutenant who served in Company E, 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment in the 2nd Infantry Division. After training in Scotland and England, Thomas and his unit landed on Omaha Beach on June 7, 1944, shortly after the first D-Day landings to liberate Europe from Nazi Germany. He was wounded twice in France but ultimately continued to fight, participating in the Battle of the Bulge. He recounts that, in the middle of war, he and his men were often too busy to be afraid, reflecting that, "it was our job, the one we signed up for."

After Germany surrendered, Thomas was stationed at Fort Swift in Texas, awaiting deployment to the Pacific, which was preempted by the Japanese surrender in August, 1945. While at Fort Swift, he met his wife, Barbara, when he and some friends decided to talk to some young women on a porch in Austin. He offered to help her when she brought out some water and she says "He has been helping me ever since." Together they have been married almost seventy years and have three children—Barbette, Kay, and Keith—and three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He says that surviving the war is "one of [his] greatest accomplishments" but that it is his "wonderful family that has made [him] truly blessed."

Thomas took advantage of the G.I. bill and went to study at Michigan State University, bringing his new wife with him. They returned

to Texas for the weather (Thomas says, "I survived the Bulge weather but couldn't stand the cold Michigan weather"), and he graduated from Texas Tech with a degree in agronomy. At first, like many returning veterans, finding a job in civilian life was difficult and he was a guard at the gate of a food plant. He eventually became a dispatcher for Central Freight Lines for 28 years, retiring in 1984. Even after retirement, Thomas was engaged and industrious, becoming the owner of a local 9-hole golf course and driving range.

In his later years, Thomas has also become involved in keeping the recorded memories of World War II available for the public and future generations. With two Purple Hearts and two Bronze Stars, he went with Barbara to the 40th anniversary ceremonies at Normandy in 1984. Since that experience, he has written a memoir book, *World War II, My War*, logged his oral accounts in the National World War II museum in New Orleans, Louisiana, received the French Legion of Honor medal, and been featured recounting the Battle of the Bulge on the History Channel in 2008.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Thomas Quigley on the Hometown Hero Award, honoring his valor and strong citizenship, and thanking him for his selfless sacrifice for our nation and freedom in the Second World War.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for roll call votes 519 through 520 due to congressional travel.

Had I been present, I would have voted yes on Number 519 and yes on Number 520.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EVAN H. JENKINS

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 535, due to an in-district event announcing new funding for displaced coal miners and their families to pay for job retraining and educational opportunities, I was unable to cast my vote on this bill. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

IN RECOGNITION OF GREATER
BEALLWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH'S
139TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my sincere congratulations to the congregation of Greater Beallwood Baptist Church in Columbus, Geor-

gia as they celebrate a remarkable 139 years. An anniversary celebration will be held on Sunday, October 11, 2015 at 2:30 p.m. at the church in Columbus. The event will also be an opportunity to welcome Reverend Adrian J. Chester as the church's new pastor.

Greater Beallwood Baptist Church traces its roots back to the post-Civil War era in 1876, when Beallwood Baptist Church was first organized under the leadership of Reverend Boston Miles and Deacon Albert Harper.

Over the years, the church would see many outstanding leaders but perhaps the most noteworthy were Reverend I.S.H. Allen, who served sixteen fruitful years from 1920 until his passing in 1936, and Reverend James Carter Cook, who served for four decades as the church grew and flourished tremendously.

In addition to the achievements of pastors, many laymen have also made significant contributions to the life of the church. In 1905, Deacon Eddie Borders became chairman of the Board of Deacons and served for over fifty years. The church would see many more dedicated citizen leaders, men and women, called to serve all the way into the 21st century.

In 1956, Beallwood Baptist Church became incorporated and the name was changed to Greater Beallwood Baptist Church, Inc. A growing church membership at Greater Beallwood meant pastors had a larger flock to shepherd. In 1975, Greater Beallwood began meeting in worship every Sunday morning, rather than two Sundays out of the month. The church then called upon its first assistant pastor, Reverend Billy J. Carter, to assist in growing pastoral duties.

In January 1987, the church was blessed when the Lord placed Reverend Willie L. Hill over this flock. Much was accomplished during Rev. Hill's twenty-eight years as pastor, including increased participation in the learning programs of the church, especially Sunday School and Bible Study. In 2010, Rev. Hill instituted Children's Church for children ages 5 through 12. Not only did Rev. Hill's leadership grow the congregation in number and in spirit, but it also was instrumental in the building of a new sanctuary that would accommodate the numerous church services and meetings.

In 2014, God had strategically placed Reverend Adrian J. Chester as the church's first youth pastor. After Rev. Hill's retirement in 2015, Rev. Chester became the seventeenth pastor of Greater Beallwood Baptist Church.

Today, Greater Beallwood is blessed to have numerous ministries and fellowship opportunities. Fellowship at Greater Beallwood is characterized by unconditional love, rich in relationship with God, family, and friends. The members of Greater Beallwood reflect this idea of fellowship throughout the community by serving those in need.

The story of the Greater Beallwood Baptist Church, which began as a small group of people worshipping 139 years ago and has grown into an expansive and successful church, is truly an inspiring one of the dedication and perseverance of a faithful congregation of people who put all their love and trust in the Lord.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the membership of the Greater Beallwood Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia for their long history of coming together through good and difficult times to praise and worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

104TH COMMEMORATION OF
TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY**HON. STEVE KING**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, as Taiwan approaches the 104th commemoration of the National Day of the Republic of China next October 10th, it is important that we remember a few key points. First, the Republic of China, Taiwan is an extraordinary friend and ally of the United States. This year we commemorate the 70th anniversary of the allied victory in World War II. We must not forget the critical contribution of the Republic of China to freedom's victory over the forces of fascist tyranny. Second, Mr. Speaker, Taiwan deserves to be commended for having consolidated its representative democracy in an extremely challenging regional environment. Finally, people of Taiwan are hard-working and admirable.

The current framework of U.S.-Taiwan relations has developed successfully in large part to the passage of the Taiwan Relations Act in 1979. The United States has sold defensive arms to Taiwan, allowing it to remain a respected force in the region. It is extremely important that the transfer of sophisticated defensive weapons such as Perry Class Naval vessels and other weaponry supported in the National Defense Authorization Act, take place soon.

The government of Taiwan has set forth a noteworthy peace-seeking agenda in recent years, and it has accomplished a remarkable reduction in cross-strait tensions. History will certainly note President Ma Ying-jeou's East China Sea Peace Initiative and South China Sea Peace Initiative with deep admiration for these wise and responsible proposed solutions to critically important regional challenges.

PROVISO EAST CLASS OF 1975—
40TH YEAR REUNION**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to commend and congratulate the Proviso East Class of 1975 on their 40th year reunion. As all of us know, we can take great engagement to make use of the lessons learned and skills developed while students at Proviso East.

The Class of 1975 can be proud of the heritage, accomplishments and proud of what being a Pirate has meant. The Class of 1975 can have pride in the accomplishments of the Proviso East graduates who left a great school well prepared to confront the challenges of everyday life. The families have been and continue to be role models of excellence and community engagement.

Best wishes and good luck to the Proviso East Class of 1975.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF THE
FRESNO EOC**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission as they celebrate 50 years of dedicated service to Fresno County. Fresno EOC has spent five decades investing in people and assisting them in becoming self-sufficient. Further this agency administers numerous human services and economic development programs. These programs include pre-school education, vocational training, juvenile and drug abuse counseling, treatment for serious juvenile offenders, youth recreation, and senior citizen hot meal services to name a few.

As one of the largest and most effective poverty fighting organizations in the country, Fresno EOC has touched the lives of more than 145,000 residents of Fresno County. Through programs that make real measurable differences, Fresno EOC continues to give families the immediate help they need and the long-term support that allows them to build better lives.

When Congress passed the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, the goal was to obtain equality of opportunity in education, employment, health and living conditions for every American in our Country and Fresno EOC has done an exemplary job of accomplishing these goals. Over the past 5 decades, Fresno EOC has made countless contributions to our city and the entire San Joaquin Valley. From programs ranging from Head Start, to the Local Conservation Corps, and Fresno CDFI, Fresno EOC has done so much to make our community a better place.

The results of these programs have allowed local organizations like Fresno EOC to leverage nearly \$2.20 in private capital from every dollar that the federal government invests in Community Service Block Grant (CSBG). 90 percent of CSBG funds go directly to local communities to provide critical services such as child care, job training, housing, and financial education that improve self-sufficiency.

Fresno EOC employs over 1,300 full and part time staff members committed to transforming lives. With over 30 programs to serve the community, they bridge the gaps with almost every aspect of the underserved population. There are more than 1,100 Community Action Agencies across the nation offering services every year in 99 percent of U.S. counties. These agencies serve 16 million low-income individuals, primarily members of working families and seniors, and in Fresno we are lucky to have one of the largest Community Action Agencies in the nation.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me as we celebrate Fresno EOC's 50th year of improving economic opportunities and empowering individuals in the San Joaquin Valley. This agency is making a

difference and creating better opportunities for our future generations.

CELEBRATING TAIWAN'S 104TH
NATIONAL DAY**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on October 10, Taiwan's 104th National Day will be celebrated, marking the anniversary of the Republic of China's founding. For many years, Taiwan has been a strong ally of the United States, one which shares our interests and values, including an enduring commitment to democracy and the freedom of expression. Approximately one hundred miles from communist China, Taiwan is a beacon of freedom in the Pacific, serving as an inspiration for the world's oppressed and as a model for future democratic transitions.

As we celebrate Taiwan's 104th National Day, we must also think about how we can strengthen the U.S.-Taiwan alliance. Taiwan is increasingly under pressure from an aggressive China that is attempting to assert its dominance in the Pacific and it is crucial that the United States provides the kind of assistance—politically, militarily, and economically—that will allow Taiwan to resist any type of Chinese coercion. China's military buildup, construction of artificial islands, and territorial claims, has greatly escalated tensions in the Asia-Pacific and the risk of conflict with Taiwan. Taiwan's recent successful efforts to reduce tensions in the Asia-Pacific can be used as a model to find further peaceful solutions in maritime Asia.

In order to assist Taiwan, the United States should ensure its meaningful participation in international organizations and entities that it has expressed an interest in participating, including at the United Nations. The United States should also help Taiwan upgrade its air force and its navy, including assisting in the procurement of diesel-electric submarines, so that Taiwan has the capacity to deter Chinese aggression and act as a force for peace and stability in the region. The United States should also be economically assisting Taiwan, our 10th largest trading partner, in order to help it resist China's economic pressure. By strengthening U.S.-Taiwan trade ties, we can give Taiwan the economic and political flexibility it needs to diversify, reduce its reliance on China, and resist Chinese intimidation.

Taiwan is a vibrant democratic partner and ally that the United States cannot afford to neglect. We must remember that not only is the Taiwan Relations Act the law of the land in the United States but, together with President Reagan's Six Assurances, forms the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwan relations. As Taiwanese all around the world celebrate Taiwan's National Day, we here in the United States stand with our ally, ready to ensure we are supporting her and its people to the best of our ability. Happy Double Tenth Day.