

the distinguished career of Fresno County Sheriff Deputy Christian L. Curtice, and to wish him the best of luck in his retirement.

CELEBRATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARC/MORRIS COUNTY CHAPTER

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 27, 2015*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the ARC/Morris County Chapter, located in Morris County, New Jersey as it celebrates its 60th Anniversary.

The ARC/Morris County Chapter, a non-profit organization, is Morris County's largest provider of services for people with intellectual and related developmental disabilities. ARC/Morris strives toward supporting and advancing these people and their families, and imagines a world where people with intellectual disabilities are valued by society. This organization participates in activities and projects for the purpose of helping people with intellectual disabilities achieve the highest level of self-sufficiency. With facilities in four towns, ARC/Morris is prominent in the Morris County region. By offering multiple training facilities, ARC/Morris presents convenient locations, which better serve members of the community with intellectual disabilities.

Formally incorporated as the Morris County Unit of the New Jersey Association for Retarded Children in 1954, ARC/Morris has created Boy Scout and Girl Scout Troops, Supportive Living Programs, and Supported Employment Programs. Over its 60-year history, ARC/Morris has formed a culture of assistance through the implementation of training programs. These programs, offered at ARC/Morris adult training facilities, provide adults with intellectual disabilities with the necessary skills to live independent and self-sufficient lives. Currently, over 200 individuals receive support from ARC/Morris at its several Morris County centers, while numerous families also receive assistance through ARC/Morris' After Care and Saturday Drop-Off Respite Programs. The caregiving services provided by ARC/Morris both support families in need of a helping hand. ARC/Morris currently provides individuals twenty-one years or older with housing options, including nineteen group homes, two respite group homes, and a variety of apartments and condominiums.

To serve individuals with intellectual disabilities, ARC/Morris holds various fundraising programs and events. The organization is innovative in its fundraising approach. For example, through the AmazonSmile Program, a portion of Amazon.com's profits is donated to ARC/Morris whenever an individual shops through smile.amazon.com. ARC/Morris has also implemented a Car Donation Program, where individuals can donate a car to the Charity Car Donation Center for the purposes of donating it to ARC/Morris. Volunteers are widely accepted by ARC/Morris and anyone looking to help persons with intellectual disabilities is welcome to assist in enhancing this cause.

ARC/Morris holds many events to raise awareness of its goals and achievements. Included in these events are the 26th Annual

ARC/Morris Foundation Golf Outing, the 10th Annual Wine Tasting and Fine Art Exhibit, and an upcoming webinar on Social Security benefits for parents of individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities. On September 21, 2014, ARC/Morris held the 11th Annual Foundation Walk. This walk, which serves as a way to support the programs and services ARC/Morris offers, featured over 300 walkers and raised over \$28,000. Events like these help ARC/Morris continue its mission to create a society in which acceptance of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities is the norm and not the exception.

I commend the members and the Board of Directors of the ARC/Morris County Chapter for assisting individuals with intellectual disabilities in Morris County. This organization has consistently demonstrated a dedication and commitment to ensuring that these valued residents receive proper care and sufficient training in order to live a happy and self-sufficient lifestyle.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the ARC/Morris County Chapter as it celebrates its 60th Anniversary.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN CUBA: A SQUANDERED OPPORTUNITY

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 27, 2015*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month I held a hearing to examine the state of human rights in Cuba, which is a very timely topic indeed, given the Obama administration's sea change in policy toward Cuba announced at the end of last year.

I have repeatedly asked whether in undertaking this change in policy, the Obama administration used the considerable leverage that it wields to seek to better the condition of the Cuban people, or whether, as I fear, an opportunity was squandered in its haste to achieve a diplomatic breakthrough and create a legacy for the President.

The hearing was not only about Castro regime accountability, but also Obama administration accountability, with Congress exercising its role of both oversight and as a bully pulpit for reminding the world that Cuba remains a Communist dictatorship which continues to arrest political dissidents—over 200 so far in 2015—and one whose caudillo, Raul Castro, has declared would not change, even in response to the Obama administration's concessions.

This Castro regime continues to harbor fugitives from justice such as Joanne Chesimard, who was convicted in the 1973 murder of a state trooper in my home state of New Jersey, Officer Werner Foerster. Indeed, earlier this month, we had the Assistant Secretary of State for the Western Hemisphere Roberta Jacobson appear before the full Foreign Affairs Committee. I asked her what the response of the Cuban Government was when she raised the issue of the return of Joanne Chesimard to justice. She replied that the Cuban Government stated that it was "not interested in discussing her return."

This is unacceptable. I received a statement from Christopher J. Burgos, the President of

the State Troopers Fraternal Organization of New Jersey, wherein he states on behalf of our Jersey State Troopers that "We are shocked and very disappointed that returning a convicted killer of a State Trooper was not already demanded and accomplished in the context of the steps announced by the White House regarding this despotic dictatorship."

We had with us three very brave and uniquely qualified witnesses to the brutality of the Cuban dictatorship, three human rights activists who at great personal cost to themselves and their families stood up for human dignity.

We heard about the deplorable state of human rights in Cuba, how Afro-Cubans in particular face discrimination on a day-to-day basis, and the brutality with which human rights activists, including women, are treated. We heard of murders sanctioned by the government, of beatings, of arrests and re-arrests.

And I would also like to point out that after testifying here, in public, two of our witnesses returned to Cuba. They know that one day the regime will exact a price against them for their temerity. Yet they insisted on appearing, so that they can share the truth of what is happening in their beloved isle. What bravery!

I therefore would like to dedicate the hearing I held to the Cuban people, who have suffered for so many decades under the brutal regime of the Castro brothers, and to thank our witnesses for testifying. I also would like to thank in particular my dear friend and colleague, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, for her leadership day-in-and-day-out, in good weather and in bad, on behalf of the people of not only Cuba, but in countries such as Venezuela, China, and Vietnam, where the people continue to suffer under oppressive rulers. Thank you, ILEANA, for your leadership and moral clarity.

It is thus my belief that there should be no easing of the pressure until Cuba has met definitive and concrete human rights and democratic milestones. Among these milestones are the release of all political prisoners, the end of harassment and a policy of releasing and then re-jailing, the ending of restrictions on freedom of speech and the press, and on the rights of Assembly. Moreover, the Church must be allowed to conduct its affairs fully and freely without government interference.

And, finally, the Castro regime must be held to account for their harboring of some seventy fugitives from justice, including Joanne Chesimard, who is on the FBI's Most Wanted Terrorist list.

To that end, I would like to state that I intend to introduce legislation that will complement our existing legislation on Cuba, in particular Helms-Burton, making sure that important human rights milestones are met before our government makes concessions that are effectively unilateral, squandering leverage.

HONORING DAVID GOUDY

**HON. PETER WELCH**

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 27, 2015*

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, David Goudy has made the Montshire Museum of Science in Norwich his life's work. Over the three decades of his vigorous and enlightened service,

David has led the Montshire Museum from a fledgling enterprise to a nationally recognized center for science learning.

Under David's leadership Montshire Museum has developed their capacity for high-quality science education. He helped form the Montshire School Partnership Initiative that supports science education in the region's rural K-8 schools by building capacity and infrastructure for high-quality science programs. Montshire Museum has become a national model, attracting research and program support from numerous private foundations and federal agencies including the National Science Foundation (NSF), Department of Education (DOE), National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA), National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

As Montshire's executive director, David was instrumental in creating the partnership between Dartmouth College and the Montshire Museum, known as the Dartmouth-Montshire Institute for Science Education, a collaborative effort drawing upon the resources of these two leading institutions to better serve the educational needs of Vermont and New Hampshire. During David's tenure, Montshire became an official interpretive site for the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge in 1995.

David's leadership extends beyond the Montshire Museum. He currently serves on the executive committee of the New England Museum Association and key committees of the Association of Science and Technology Centers. He serves as an evaluator for the Museum Assessment Program of the American Alliance of Museums. David has been recognized with the first annual New Hampshire Corporate Fund Award for Excellence in Nonprofit Management, and represented Montshire at a White House reception with President Clinton recognizing Montshire as the first recipient of the National Award for Museum Service.

Mr. Speaker, David has provided the Montshire Museum with many years of remarkable service and his lasting legacy is immediately clear to anyone who visits the museum. While we will miss his exemplary leadership, the Board of Trustees is fully committed to maintaining the high standards that he has established for the Montshire's educational programs, exhibits, facilities and visitor services.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAYOR  
MICHAEL B. RYAN

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 27, 2015*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Honorable Michael B. Ryan on his retirement as Mayor of Lake Como, New Jersey. As a mayor, union member, and United States Army Veteran, Mayor Ryan embodies the American spirit and his contributions are truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Mayor Ryan has been an outstanding public servant and labor advocate for both New Jer-

sey and his home state of California. Mayor Ryan's introduction to labor and politics began in his native California, but he continued his efforts upon moving to New Jersey after marrying his wife, Marlene Brown. Mayor Ryan dedicated many years to leading his community as a council member, council president and mayor. Although retiring from elected office, Mayor Ryan remains active in local and state politics. For nearly 20 years, he has been Democratic Municipal Chairman of South Belmar and Lake Como. He has also been elected to the New Jersey State Democratic Committee and previously served as President of the South Belmar Democratic Club. Mayor Ryan is also committed to protecting labor rights, currently serving as Secretary Treasurer of the Monmouth and Ocean Counties Central Labor Council AFL-CIO and as a member of Teamsters-GCIU 612M.

In addition to his work in the public and labor sectors, Mayor Ryan is an Account Representative at Dimensional Management Corporation and is an active member of the community, volunteering at Camp Zehnder YMCA, serving as an usher at St. Rose Church and as a member of the Friendly Sons of the Shil-lagh of the Jersey Shore and the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Mayor Michael Ryan on his retirement. It is my hope that my colleagues will join me in thanking him for his leadership and service to the Borough of Lake Como.

DETECTIVE SERGEANT THOMAS  
TROMMELEN

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 27, 2015*

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Detective Sergeant Thomas Trommelen who, after 30 years of service to the City of Paterson as Supervisor of the Paterson Police Department's Special Investigations Unit, is being honored for his retirement celebration tonight on Friday, February 27, 2015.

A native son of Paterson, Detective Sergeant Trommelen has devoted his career to serving the community that raised him, most notably serving as Detective Sergeant in the Special Investigations Unit.

A graduate of Paterson's Don Bosco Technical High School, Detective Sergeant Trommelen first pursued his passion for public service as an emergency medical technician for Paterson's Fire Department. After displaying exemplary valor serving those in critical need, Detective Sergeant Trommelen was appointed as a Patrolman for the Passaic County Park Police Department and then, on November 4, 1985, found his true calling as a Patrolman with the Paterson Police Department.

During his time as a Patrolman for the Paterson Police Department, Detective Sergeant Trommelen strived to uphold the department's mission, which is, "to preserve the peace and to protect and serve all who live or work in, as well as those who travel through,

our city and in so doing, make a meaningful contribution to the quality of life in our community." Detective Sergeant Trommelen's enthusiasm for public service and extraordinary work ethic in the Patrol Division prompted him to be assigned a permanent position to Paterson's Narcotics Division, a move that would greatly benefit the City of Paterson over the next three decades. Tasked with addressing the city's vice issues, Detective Sergeant Trommelen proved to be a formidable force within the department, receiving commendations, awards and respect amongst his colleagues and peers alike. He has also served at the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office as an 'Expert Witness' in the area of narcotics enforcement working with the DEA, FBI and other Federal Agencies in combating the plague of narcotics in and around the City of Paterson.

Residing in Clifton, Detective Sergeant Trommelen has been married to this wife Joann for 25 years and they have two adult children, Alyssa and Tommy. Detective Sergeant Trommelen and his family sustained a life changing event in December of 1997 when he lost his older brother John, a Port Authority Police Officer, to a heart attack. However, he took tragedy and turned it into a positive force through serving his community, the Knights of Columbus and St. Phillips the Apostle Parish, for many years. Just in the past few years, he has solicited the donation, managed the collection of and organized the distribution of thousands of jackets and pairs of shoes for Paterson's children.

As Co-Chair of the Congressional Law Enforcement Caucus, I am honored to acknowledge Detective Sergeant Trommelen who has been a tremendous leader, mentor, and public servant in my hometown of Paterson. There is no doubt, in the minds of his family, friends and colleagues that the civic minded Detective Sergeant Trommelen will continue to 'Serve & Protect' for many years to come.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating the achievements of individuals such as Detective Sergeant Thomas Trommelen.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Sgt. Trommelen's coworkers, family and friends, all those whose lives he has touched, and me, in recognizing the career of Detective Sergeant Thomas Trommelen.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 27, 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 \$18,133,356,358,144.49. We've added \$7,506,479,309,231.41 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.