

store in Long Beach, and the renovation of Downey's Reagan Banquet and Conference Center, named in loving memory of Bennie and Annie Reagan.

The organization marked another milestone this past March, when it celebrated its 20th Annual Arc Walk for Independence. The Walk is a yearly opportunity for thousands of people from surrounding communities to gather in support of independence for individuals with developmental disabilities.

I hope my colleagues will join me in celebrating the 60th anniversary of The Arc Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Its decades-long record of service and success is a powerful reminder that wonderful things can happen when we offer help and hope to our fellow Americans. Thanks to its strong partnerships with local agencies, leaders, and businesses, I have no doubt that it will continue to evolve as a leading community organization.

CULVER CITY CENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, the City of Culver City kicks off a year of festivities this Saturday that will culminate in celebration of the 100th anniversary of its incorporation on September 20, 1917. Real estate developer and promoter Harry Culver saw a huge opportunity in the former Rancho La Ballona, and bought 93 acres of barley fields nestled at the foot of the Baldwin Hills. His plot was conveniently located at the junction of three major transportation routes on the Pacific Red Car as they traveled between burgeoning downtown Los Angeles and the new resort developments at the beach, and early advertising claimed that "all roads lead to Culver City."

The city seal proclaims Culver City "The Heart of Screenland," and many movies attributed to Hollywood were actually filmed there, going all the way back to the Triangle Motion Picture Company in 1915, Thomas Ince Studio in 1918, and Hal Roach Studios in 1919.

Over the years, those same movie lots have been home to Metro-Goldwin-Mayer, DeMille Studios, RKO-Pathé, Desilu and other well-known production companies. Sony Pictures Studios, among others, now carries on the tradition of over a century of continuous movie-making.

In addition to film and television business, Culver City has played host to a variety of industries and entrepreneurs, whose products ranged from stoves to macaroni in the early years, to the famous Helms Bakery, whose former home still attracts business as a design hub. Howard Hughes opened Hughes Aircraft there in 1941, and the city is currently home to many thriving enterprises, including Symantec, Beats by Dre, NFL Media and NPR West.

Culver City's residents are justifiably proud of their schools, parks, museums and theatres, and their small-town feel within the metropolis of Los Angeles. Economically prosperous, environmentally conscious, education-minded and civically engaged, the people of Culver City have much to celebrate. I would like to wish all the best to Mayor Jim Clarke

and the other members of the City Council, to the city's staff, and to its entire population as they embark on the city's next century.

TRIBUTE TO RAY MABBITT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Ray Mabbitt of Council Bluffs, Iowa on his recent retirement as a Captain with the Council Bluffs Police Department after 33 years of service. He joined the Council Bluffs Police Department on January 24, 1983.

Ray Mabbitt served as a uniform patrolman, detective, polygraph examiner, internal affairs, and officer in the criminal investigation units. He also served as the interim police chief after the retirement of Police Chief Ralph O'Donnell. Ray said, "Joining the police force was something I had wanted to do since high school." He said he enjoyed coming to work every day because he always did something different. Ray said that he will miss his co-workers and city residents who have shown their support for him and the police department.

Mr. Speaker, Ray Mabbitt made a difference by helping and serving others. It is with great honor that I recognize him today. I know that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives will join me in recognizing his accomplishments. I thank him for his service to the City of Council Bluffs and wish him all the best in the future.

H.R. 3471, THE VETERANS
MOBILITY SAFETY ACT

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concerns about certain aspects of the Veterans Mobility Safety Act (H.R. 3471) as reported from the Veterans Affairs Committee. Thousands of disabled veterans each month are provided exterior vehicle lifts for their motorized scooters or wheelchairs and/or fully modified vehicles, depending on the degree of their mobility limitations. These serve as essential tools to ensuring that veterans have the freedom they deserve and help them live their lives to the fullest. While it is important to ensure that vehicles are operating safely after they receive VA-funded accessibility benefits, this legislation, which creates a new regulatory regime for the VA to implement, would benefit from some minor improvements.

I am pleased that the Veterans Affairs Committee stated that in approving this legislation, Congress intends for the VA to preserve access to residential installations and service of exterior vehicle lifts, which is essential for our veterans. Veterans with limited mobility, as opposed to no mobility, often have an exterior lift installed on their vehicles via a standard trailer hitch that allows for the transport of a scooter or power wheelchair. Currently, the vast ma-

jority of these lifts are installed in the driveway of the veteran's home in as little as 30 minutes, as opposed to an equipment dealer's place of business, which is far more convenient for veterans and their families. These simple modifications significantly differ from modifications to the structure or controls of a vehicle, which are not done at a veteran's home and can take days or even weeks.

And while the bill would permit manufacturers of vehicle lifts to continue to certify dealers and their employees as compliant with safety requirements, I would like to have seen a more robust conflict of interest provision related to the use of a third party certification organization for the new safety standards. The bill should also have explained more clearly how the new regulatory regime should differentiate between simple modifications, such as the addition of an exterior lift, and complex modifications, which affect the structure and/or operation of the vehicle. These simple changes to the bill could increase veterans' safety while ensuring against unintended consequences that could limit choices and access for our veterans.

H.R. 3471 authorizes the VA to allow third party organizations (other than manufacturers) to certify that vendors are meeting the standards created by this bill but only instructs VA to "minimize" conflicts of interest. I am troubled because even a "minimal" conflict of interest could give segments of the automotive adaptive market a competitive advantage. I am particularly concerned that a trade group, which is dominated by and representative of a fraction of the industry, is seeking to become a certifying organization and could be in a position to certify (or not) the competitors of its members. Accordingly, I am pleased that the Committee Report notes that Congress "expects VA to take all appropriate steps to minimize the potential for conflicts of interest, particularly if a third party organization who stands to unreasonably gain from designating quality standards high enough so that only the organization itself can certify providers of modification equipment is selected as a certifying body."

NATIONAL DAY OF TAIWAN

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the upcoming National Day of Taiwan, which falls on October 10, and is referred to on Taiwan as Double Ten Day. I extend my best wishes to the people of Taiwan as they prepare for this important day, and also offer my best wishes for the day itself.

As a Member of Congress, I am proud of the actions we have taken through the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) and the Six Assurances in helping to make it possible for the people of Taiwan to build the strong, prosperous, and democratic society they enjoy today. I would also note the excitement generated by the election of the first woman to the Taiwan's presidency, whom I had the honor of meeting recently. Our bilateral relationship is as strong as ever, and I am confident it will continue to be in the years to come under President Tsai's leadership.

In May Congress passed H. Con. Res. 88, reaffirming the TRA and the Six Assurances as the linchpin of our relationship and earlier in the 114th Congress, the House passed legislation regarding Taiwan's participation at the World Health Assembly and INTERPOL. With the passage of H. Con. Res. 88, the people of Taiwan may be assured that Congress will continue to develop and grow our prosperous relationship.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in a message of continuing friendship to the people of Taiwan, and in wishing them a Happy Double Ten Day.

IN HONOR OF LOUDOUN FIRST
RESPONDERS

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the tremendous work of some of my constituents at the Loudoun First Responders. The Loudoun First Responders exemplify the very best of the traditions of public service to their community. Their dedication to a high standard of conduct allows them to remain fearless while making a positive impact in the lives of their neighbors.

Becoming a First Responder takes unwavering devotion. The Loudoun First Responders answer the calls of their neighbors in need with a limited amount of equipment, all while providing efficient and immediate care to ill and injured patients. These individuals are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, and the environment. They constantly adapt to function in uncommon situations in order to keep my constituents safe.

Within the Loudoun First Responders, the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office, the Leesburg Police Department, the Middleburg Police Department, the Purcellville Police Department, the Department of Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Management, our healthcare providers, as well as 16 volunteer fire-rescue corporations operating out of 19 stations all work tirelessly to protect our citizens. These individuals' dedication and skills greatly impact the community in which they serve. We readily commend them for their hard work and sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, I now ask that my colleagues join me in thanking the Loudoun First Responders for the outstanding service they have provided, and continue to provide, to our great Commonwealth. I wish them the best as they continue to serve and protect all in Virginia's 10th Congressional District.

TRIBUTE TO JOYCE AND DEAN
OLSON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Joyce and Dean Olson of Minden, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on July 16, 1966 at the United Church of Christ in Minden, Iowa.

Joyce and Dean's lifelong commitment to each other and their children, Bonnie, Pam, and Dee, and six grandchildren, truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

OGDENSBURG INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT GRAND OPENING

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the Ogdensburg International Airport located in St. Lawrence County, New York. The airport is owned by the Ogdensburg Bridge & Port Authority and has undergone a major expansion project.

The sizeable expansion of the Ogdensburg International Airport is impressive in its scope and the time within which the project was completed. The runway of the airport has been extended to accommodate larger planes, and the terminal and parking lot have been modernized and expanded for increased use and traffic. These additions and improvements have allowed the Ogdensburg International Airport to partner with new airlines and offer additional flights, and will strengthen both the direct and indirect economic impact of the facility on the community.

This expansion project will enable airlines partnering with the Ogdensburg International Airport to offer low cost airfare, making travel to the North Country easier and more convenient. It is my hope that this airport will act as a signal to investors, both in and out of the area, that Ogdensburg can support growing industries and expanding businesses. These improvements will provide returns on investments for the future, and will help establish a North Country presence beyond upstate New York.

Congratulations to St. Lawrence County, the City of Ogdensburg, the Ogdensburg Bridge & Port Authority, and the Ogdensburg International Airport. I wish you all the best for continued success in the future.

US-UK TRADE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in the days leading up to the Brexit referendum, the President told our friend, Britain that if they were to leave the European Union, they would end up at the "back of the queue" for a trade deal. What an absurd statement to make to our most important ally. Throughout history we have worked side by side with the U.K. to

overcome global crises. After the disastrous foreign policy for the last eight years, America has few true friends left in this world. A free trade agreement between the U.S. and the U.K. should not be at the back of the line, but at the front.

The U.S. and Britain share a common heritage and values. We also have a deep and longstanding trade relationship grounded in our complimentary economies. The U.S. exported over \$76 billion in planes, helicopters, spacecraft, and aircraft parts to the U.K. in 2014. Our inability to work towards a trade agreement with the U.K. will negatively affect more than 40 Aerospace companies in Texas alone. We are Britain's most important trading partner. The U.S. imports over \$56 billion in goods every year from Britain and 20 percent of our exports bound for the EU end up in the U.K. market. We are also a major investor in the British economy, with U.S. foreign direct investment nearing \$588 billion in 2014. Unlike the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), a trade deal with the U.K. would be simple to broker. It could be as easy as expanding NAFTA to include the U.K., or creating a new model for more simplified trade agreements with individual countries in the future. A trade agreement with the U.K. would not only deepen our close friendship, but would also chip away at non-tariff regulatory barriers that are being built around the European Union, such as the different requirements for testing the safety of cars and drugs. A more streamlined and efficient trading relationship would reap benefits for both Washington and London.

Britain's exit from the EU should be looked at as an American opportunity. The prospect of a bilateral U.S.-U.K. trade agreement is exciting; such an agreement would promote economic freedom, champion national sovereignty, and create a new model for other bilateral trade agreements.

We have entered a strange time in politics—one in which free trade has never been more unpopular. Brexit presents a unique opportunity to demonstrate the positive impacts of free trade with one of our closest allies. We have already seen what can happen to global markets if the U.K. appears isolated: in the wake of the Brexit referendum the British pound plummeted by 7.6 percent against the dollar. Britain's continued seclusion will only cause more harm than good for the rest of us. And it doesn't end there. Economic disaster in London will translate into a reassessment of military and diplomatic relations in Washington. For the Administration to ignore both these risks and opportunities is a disservice to both our interests and those of our friends across the pond.

And that's just the way it is.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE U.S. DIS-
TRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN
DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California. Fifty years ago on September 18, the