

work with APIA leaders to overcome the ongoing challenges that face all our communities. Together, we can make the American dream a reality for all Americans.

CONGRATULATING LAUREN
ZUMBACH

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate a remarkable young woman from my district, Lauren Zumbach, who was just announced as a 2009 Presidential Scholar. The Presidential Scholar program annually recognizes 141 of the nation's most exemplary high school seniors, students who have demonstrated outstanding academic performance, as well as exemplary leadership, citizenship and community service.

Lauren embodies all of these traits. A poised and confident young woman, Lauren is a leader both in and out of the classroom. As a student-athlete at Hinsdale Central High School, Lauren has been a straight "A" student while contributing to her state championship cross-country team. Her accomplishments do not end here.

Outside the classroom, Lauren has organized workdays to improve local forest preserves. She assisted in raising \$18,000 to help cure parasite-afflicted children in Haiti. She has worked with my office and local law enforcement to instruct area school children about safe online behavior. And just last fall, Lauren was the impetus behind "Trot for the Troops," a 5k race that raised money for the Illinois chapter of Operation Homefront, an organization benefitting our men and women in uniform as well as their families.

In a few weeks, Lauren will graduate from Hinsdale Central High School; this fall she'll attend Princeton, which, I have no doubt, will be better for her being there. I am so proud of Lauren for her achievement and congratulate her on receiving the 2009 Presidential Scholar Award.

THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER
WELCOMES ITS ONE MILLIONTH
VISITOR

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge an important milestone. At some point early this afternoon, the Capitol Visitor Center will welcome its one millionth visitor. While the specific individual will not be identified, that person will represent the millions of annual visitors who journey to the United States Capitol Complex to witness firsthand our democracy at work. These schoolchildren, senior citizens, families and international visitors hopefully depart with a greater understanding of the unique and extraordinary nature of our system of government and the history of this great nation.

Officially opened on December 3, 2008, the Capitol Visitor Center serves as the gateway

to the United States Capitol Complex. With the opening of the Visitor Center and renewed interest in government, we are seeing more than twice as many visitors as we did before. The Visitor Center's one million visitors compares to 467,800 visitors during the same five-month period just one year ago. That represents a 114-percent increase in the number of people visiting the Capitol.

During the 12 days of the Cherry Blossom Festival, the Capitol Visitor Center welcomed 187,000 people—an average of 15,500 visitors a day. More than 90 percent of the visitors during this period had reserved their tours through their Members of Congress.

Since its opening, the CVC's peak day was Monday, April 20th when 19,500 people visited the Capitol. I am told that, in past years, that many visitors would have led to a four-hour wait time. The current average wait time is six to ten minutes.

With all of these accomplishments, I am most proud to confirm that, as promised, we continue to offer staff-led tours! And in its first few months of operations, the Visitor Center staff has made many adjustments to ensure that the Visitor Center provides flexibility to Members of Congress in serving their constituents.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to the CEO of the Capitol Visitor Center, Ms. Terrie Rouse, and to her team of professionals who are often the first individuals to greet our constituents during their Capitol visits. I offer special thanks to the tour guides, visitor assistants, Capitol Police, gift shop and restaurant staffs and the many, many others who ensure that visitors have an informative and inspirational visit. I would also like to thank my colleagues and the various staff members who have taken the time to offer their input and work with the CVC staff to improve the visitor experience.

We thank you for your service and look forward to welcoming the next one million visitors.

CONGRATULATING TAIWAN FOR
ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE
WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, the World Health Organization (WHO) recently approved Taiwan's request to participate in the 62nd annual World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva later this month. Taiwan is a longtime ally of the United States, and we applaud the WHO's decision to include Taiwan in the WHA.

While the threat of a pandemic outbreak pales the countless other world health concerns, preparing, planning and responding to an outbreak requires the participation of every country. Asia is an area of great concern because of its large concentration of people, history of viral outbreaks and the inexplicable refusal of some countries not to comply with pleas for cooperation by international health experts. This refusal is a threat to the world's safety and cannot be ignored.

For its part, Taiwan has done an excellent job assisting and preparing for a future health emergency. Its medical system has been de-

scribed as "robust, solidly established and well resourced" and it participates in disease prevention efforts in other countries throughout the world. Now that Taiwan has a role at the WHA, it can partner with world health leaders to generate support from some of the recalcitrant countries that have ignored the WHA in the past.

Taiwan's ascension into the WHA is well deserved and should be recognized by the United States. Having a cohesive and efficient international health monitoring and response system is in everyone's interest. Ultimately, the American people, who are deeply invested in the international health community, will benefit from Taiwan's success.

HONORING THE JORDAN FAMILY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the lives of Hanabul "Bud" Jordan, Lowel Jordan and the generosity of Dee Jordan for their tremendous support of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology at California State University, Fresno and furthermore the support of agriculture in the Central Valley. The Jordan's will be honored at California State University, Fresno on Thursday, May 14, 2009 when the university will rename the agricultural college to the "Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology."

The Jordan family is from the East Bay area, where Bud owned and operated a construction business headquartered in Hayward, California. Lowell lived on the family ranch in the near-by city of Dublin, where he tended the family's cattle. Bud passed away at the age of eighty-two on April 29, 2002; his brother Lowell passed away at the age of eighty-one in July 2005 and Bud's wife Dee continues to live in Hayward. The Jordan family became involved with CSU Fresno's College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (CAST) through the Ag One Foundation in November 1995.

Bob Glim, professor emeritus of agricultural economics and an advisor to the Ag One board, worked at CSU Fresno from 1948 to 1978. He and his wife first met Mr. and Mrs. Jordan at a GMC motor home rally. Mr. Glim organized a rally get-together to speak about CSU Fresno's agricultural program, Ag One and to share CSU Fresno's farm grown products. The Jordan's immediately began supporting the program by providing scholarships for agricultural students; although they had never visited the campus. Their initial gift was \$20,000 to Ag One. This gift along with subsequent gifts, fund the Ag One-Lowell A. Jordan and Jordan Family Endowment. Over the years, the Jordan family has contributed \$130,000 to the endowment, supporting six to seven students each year with \$1,000 scholarships.

Since the 1995 gift, Ag One and CAST have maintained a great relationship with the Jordan's, including representatives traveling to Hayward to visit the family and bring them news from the school regarding the students, campus and products. Since Mr. Jordan passed away, Mrs. Jordan has visited the

campus numerous times to meet with Jordan scholars, tour the campus agriculture facilities and to attend Ag One and athletic events. With the generosity of the family over the past fourteen years the most recent gift has exceeded all expectations. Earlier this year, the Jordan family sold their Dublin farm and gave \$29 million to CAST; the largest single cash gift in the entire California State University system.

This tremendous gift will be used for research and facilities for CAST. In great appreciation of this gift CSU Fresno will build upon the Jordan family legacy by renaming CAST to the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Jordan family for the remarkable impact that they have had on agriculture for CSU Fresno, the Central Valley and the State of California through their multiple gifts. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring the Jordan family.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FORT SMITH RIFLE TEAM

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Lion Rifles Team from the University of Arkansas Fort Smith for its well deserved rank as the fifth-best collegiate team in the country in the National Rifle Association's Intercollegiate International Air Rifle standings.

For the past two years the UA Fort Smith Air Rifle Team has proven itself by placing in the top five teams in the nation. A small school like UAFS can be proud to see its team ranked among major universities like Penn State, Clemson, Illinois State and Michigan State. This team provides a great opportunity for many college students to become well-rounded. These students serve as good examples for others, as they accomplish their academic goals while achieving success on the rifle range. These members should be proud of the reward they experience from their hard work.

Members of the team who deserve credit for this high ranking are Elizabeth Garris, Tom Nguyen, J.D. Peronia, Morgan Welch and John Wozniak. These sharp shooters are led by Roy Hill, who works hard to equip each individual to succeed. I congratulate each member of the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith Air Rifle Team on their success and wish them the best of luck in future competitions.

BERG'S TRUE VALUE'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, throughout the month of May, the city of Bridgeport has been celebrating the 75th anniversary of a family business which is more of an institution than a store.

I want to thank Jack and Dee Berg for their commitment and their dedication to their community. They should serve as an inspiration for us all.

This remarkable achievement has spanned two generations of Bergs and thirteen presidents. The family business—first a Gamble's Department Store before becoming Berg's True Value—served Bridgeport through two World Wars, good economic times and bad, and has strengthened western Nebraska for decades.

The store remains in its original location, but has grown from 1,000 to 10,500 square feet. As it grew, it changed with the times—stocking everything from clothing to furniture.

It is still the best place to get Husker gear.

I want to congratulate the Bergs as they continue to their anniversary celebration. May they find continued success in the years to come.

GAO STUDY OF CIVIL AIR PATROL IN HOMELAND SECURITY MISSIONS

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 1178, legislation that would direct the Comptroller General to conduct a study on the use of Civil Air Patrol personnel to support homeland security missions.

Since its inception in 1941, the Civil Air Patrol has been vital in emergency services and disaster relief operations across the United States. As the official civilian auxiliary to the United States Air Force, the Civil Air Patrol contains over 56,000 of America's finest volunteers and owns several thousand aircraft and vehicles to complete its missions.

Furthermore, the Civil Air Patrol has provided the nation's youth and general public with aerospace education and created numerous cadet programs for young people ages 12–18. These cadet programs help supply the necessary skills and resources for our nation's future leaders. Two such leaders, Barry and Christiana Loudermilk, reside in the 11th District of Georgia, which it has been an honor and privilege to represent for the last six years in this great body.

Despite a very busy and demanding career as both a State Legislator and a businessman, Barry Loudermilk is an active officer in the Rome Civil Air Patrol Squadron. He also serves as the Squadron Commander of the Georgia Civil Air Patrol Legislative Squadron and is a Government Affairs Officer for the Georgia Wing Civil Air Patrol. Additionally, Barry has been active in his community as a Volunteer Search and Rescue Ground Team Leader and a Volunteer Search and Rescue Pilot.

His daughter, Christiana, has distinguished herself as a leader throughout her career in the Civil Air Patrol. Christiana holds the rank of Cadet Captain and is a certified ground search and rescue specialist. She served as the Cadet Commander of the Rome Composite Squadron and attended the 2007 Cadet Officers School at Maxwell Air Force Base.

For her tireless efforts, Christiana has received the Georgia Air Wing Commander's "Coin of Excellence," and was awarded the Civil Air Patrol's "Community Service Award" for her volunteer works in a local hospital.

In 2008, Christiana served as the Alpha Flight Commander at the Georgia Wing encampment and her flight was named the encampment's "Honor Flight." In addition to serving as Alpha Flight Commander, she was selected to attend the "Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Course" at Columbus Air Force Base in Columbus, Mississippi. I want to publicly thank Christiana for her service and thank the Civil Air Patrol for providing this type of quality leadership training to our young people.

Madam Speaker, it is my firm belief that the Civil Air Patrol will provide an extraordinary addition to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) if the Comptroller General finds it worthwhile for such an endeavor. The Civil Air Patrol has displayed volunteer leadership for over 60 years in working with the United States Air Force, and it is a leader for developing our nation's youth. I applaud both Barry and Christiana Loudermilk for their accomplishments in this organization, and I support expanding the mission of the Civil Air Patrol so that they can assist DHS in defending the United States. We must use every resource necessary to keep America safe, and I am positive that the Civil Air Patrol will add to and continue the remarkable job our military has provided in defending our nation at home and abroad.

21ST CENTURY GREEN HIGH-PERFORMING PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ANN KIRKPATRICK

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2187) to direct the Secretary of Education to make grants to State educational agencies for the modernization, renovation, or repair of public school facilities, and for other purposes:

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona. Mr. Chair, I want to thank Chairman Miller for adopting my amendment in his Manager's amendment to the 21st Century Green High-Performing Public School Facilities Act. My proposal will double the funding available to improve tribal and outlying school infrastructure.

With this bill, we recognize that our children need a modern, well-maintained learning environment to get the education it takes to compete in the global economy. We have allowed far too many of the schools that serve our Native American communities to fall short of that standard, and this is a great opportunity to get them on the right track.

My mother was a schoolteacher on tribal lands in eastern Arizona and my district is home to 11 tribes, so I have seen firsthand the challenges Indian Country's schools face. Less than half of Native American students graduate high school, and less than 14 percent get the college degree that is becoming more and more important to getting jobs in the