

COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY FOR CHRISTMAS IN APRIL \* PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2013*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Christmas in April \* Prince George's County, as it marks its twenty-fifth anniversary.

Thanks to the leadership of founding Chair Cap Mona and the hard work and dedication of volunteers and sponsors, Christmas in April \* Prince George's County has improved the lives of thousands of seniors, veterans, people with disabilities, and others in our community by providing rehabilitation and critical repairs to their homes.

With nearly 75,000 volunteers and many generous sponsors, Christmas in April has helped rehabilitate 2,253 homes in Prince George's County over the past twenty-five years. I'm always inspired to see our entire community come together not only to rebuild homes, but to rebuild lives and lift spirits.

I've been proud to join the community at sites each year since Christmas in April began this critical work in 1989 to see firsthand the difference it makes for our neighbors in need. When I visit the houses in April, I often tell the volunteers that at the end of the workday they will see the results of their labors and the smiles of gratitude on the faces of the individuals and families, and that is the compensation and inspiration gained through lending their helping hands. That is the real gift of Christmas in April.

Mr. Speaker, I'm inspired to see so many people in our communities come together each year to help their neighbors in need, and I thank them for their hard work and dedication to their community. I look forward to continuing to work together, and I am confident that Christmas in April will continue to carry out its mission of rebuilding homes and bringing communities together for at least another twenty-five years and beyond.

DEBT MANAGEMENT ACT (H.R. 3579)

### HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2013*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, Americans know the national debt needs to be addressed. The current debt stands at more than 17 trillion dollars and the CBO projects that under current laws the Federal debt would climb to 25 trillion dollars by 2023.

If we continue down this path, the nation will eventually face a painful economic reckoning. We can't afford to leave our country—and our children—with such unsustainable debt.

To address these needs, I introduced the Debt Management Act. This bill requires the Administration to justify debt limit increase requests with reports on the national debt and progress on deficit reduction.

By bringing greater transparency to the national debt and our structural deficit, the Debt Management Act establishes a more credible

and consistent process to address debt limit requests.

Having a clear policy framework to address the national debt would instill much-needed discipline into the debt limit process, increase confidence in the economy, and strengthen our nation's long-term fiscal stability.

I encourage my colleagues to co-sponsor the Debt Management Act.

### HONORING CARSON DANT PFAFF

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2013*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Carson Dant Pfaff. Carson is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 303, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Carson has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Carson has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Carson attended Philmont Scout Reservation in 2012 and earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Carson has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Carson constructed four dog houses for the Friends of Parkville Animal Shelter in Parkville, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Carson Dant Pfaff for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

### TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT KEEGAN RENDER

### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2013*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Keegan Render of Troop 123 in Indianola, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained for more than a century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, Keegan worked with the Knights of Columbus of St. Thomas Aquinas Church to clean and repaint the church's parking boundaries and garage. The work ethic Keegan has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates

the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. It is an honor to represent Keegan and his family in the United States Congress. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating him on reaching the rank of Eagle Scout, and I wish him continued success in the future.

### TRIBUTE TO LARRY DIXON

### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2013*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated and compassionate leader in emergency management, Mr. Larry Dixon of Morehead, upon his retirement from Kentucky Emergency Management (KYEM).

With more than 20 years of experience as an Area Manager, including 30 presidential disaster declarations, Larry has earned the respect of his peers across the Commonwealth for his outstanding efforts to aid our communities during their darkest hours. He has guided projects in 13 counties, helped update disaster plans, trained officials, and assisted local first responders. Statewide, he served as the lead instructor for ten emergency management courses. He's the go-to guy. Yet, even with a wealth of knowledge and his tenacious ability to work through devastating circumstances, he'll tell you no storm proved more challenging than the March 2012 EF-3 tornado that ripped through West Liberty, Kentucky. Comforting families and friends in his neighboring county through the aftermath, Larry pressed forward to ensure relief efforts were prompt and thorough.

Larry has also gained recognition on the national stage. He never hesitated to lend a hand when hurricanes disrupted our southeastern seaboard, or when wildfires spread out of control in Montana. As a result of his excellence in emergency management, Larry was selected to join the Emergency Management System Compact Executive Task Force and helped craft national policy for sharing state resources during disasters.

For his remarkable work, Larry Dixon was honored as the Regional Response Manager of the Year and has been inducted into the Kentucky Emergency Management Association Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating and honoring a real hero during disasters in Kentucky, Mr. Larry Dixon on his retirement. I wish him and his wife, Tully, the very best in the years to come.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2013*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, December 3, I missed a series of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on No. 615, No. 616, and No. 617.

CONGRATULATING DR. TOM TRIGG

**HON. KEVIN YODER**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2013*

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Tom Trigg, Superintendent, Blue Valley School District, Ms. Debbie Bond, Principal, and all of the members of the "Bulldog" community of Mission Trail Elementary School.

Mission Trail Elementary School's excellence in education has been noted time and again and now officially recognized as Mission Trail Elementary School has been named a 2013 Blue Ribbon School with further honors noting them as an "Exemplary High Performing School" by the U.S. Department of Education.

As an "Exemplary High Performing School" they have been acclaimed for their continued hard work and the results which they have achieved through that work.

This prestigious honor is received by less than 300 of the best schools across the Nation. I am proud to represent a school who achieves so highly, preparing tomorrow's generation to be the leaders in America and the world.

The diligence of students, teachers, administration, parents, and the community as a whole contributes to this great achievement. Mission Trail Elementary School truly is a model to be upheld for education throughout our Nation.

CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE  
ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC  
CONFERENCE

**HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2013*

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, as the United States continues to improve relations with the Islamic world, partnership with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation has become indispensable in creating mutual respect and progressive reform that has served as a bulwark against extremism, conflict, and suffering around the world.

Comprised of 57 states, the OIC specifically has been identified by the previous and current U.S. administrations as a key partner in changing the dynamic between the U.S. and the worldwide Muslim community through ongoing cultural dialogue and extensive humanitarian efforts.

Joint initiatives between the U.S. and the OIC have helped to eradicate polio and promote maternal health in Mali, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, and Nigeria.

This partnership has also facilitated discussions on creating economic opportunity worldwide as a permanent solution to extremist recruitment endeavors, which continually seek out the most disadvantaged in society.

Interfaith and intercultural discourse focusing on promoting religious respect and the modernization of the Muslim world have provided the means to produce new, lasting foundations of cooperation, which will be fundamental in ensuring American interests and international stability in the future.

The continued support of the OIC and its efforts to promote peace, security, and fundamental rights should be of paramount importance in U.S. foreign policy.

It is through relationships such as these that the United States will remain a consistent engine of positive international change.

HOLY NAME JETS PONY  
FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

**HON. LOU BARLETTA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2013*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Holy Name Jets Pony Football Team from Dauphin County, Pennsylvania for winning the 2013 CFA Super Bowl Championship.

On Sunday, November 10, 2013 the players of the Holy Name Jets Pony Football Team were crowned the CFA Super Bowl Champions after defeating the Red Land Patriots 22-0. The CFA Football League consists of 30 football associations in Dauphin, Cumberland, Juniata, Perry, Adams, and York Counties. Led by Head Coach Tim Madden and Assistant Coaches Sean Fasick, Joe Mosey, Buck Nye, Dave Madeira, George Connor and Dean Shields, the Jets, made up of local middle school students, finished the regular season with an 8-1 record. Before their win in the Super Bowl, Holy Name defeated both the Paxton Panthers and the Harrisburg Broncos in play-off games.

Mr. Speaker, for their victory in the CFA Super Bowl Championship, I congratulate the coaches and players of the Holy Name Jets Pony Football Team and commend them for their hard work and dedication.

HONORING TYLER SCOTT KOCH

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2013*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Tyler Scott Koch. Tyler is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 303, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Tyler has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Tyler has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Tyler attended Philmont Scout Reservation in 2012 and earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Tyler has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Tyler constructed a bridge for the Platte Falls Conservation Area in Platte County, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Tyler Scott Koch for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RETIREMENT OF SUSAN SCANLAN

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2013*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. I rise today to honor my dear friend Susan Scanlan upon her retirement as the president of the Women's Research and Education Institute (WREI) and chair of the National Council of Women's Organizations (NCWO) at the end of this year. For four decades, Susan's leadership has brought together women's advocacy groups, helped expand women's roles in military combat, and shed light on gender disparities in the media, education, and the workforce.

A third generation Washingtonian, Susan has been advancing women's standing in government since joining the office of U.S. Representative Charlie Wilson (1972-1977), where she coauthored legislation to designate March as National Women's History Month and to admit women to the U.S. military service academies. In 1977, she helped found and direct the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, as well as the Caucus' research arm, the Women's Research and Education Institute. Following a seven year adventure in China with her husband Jared Cameron, Susan took over as president of WREI in 2000. A few years later Susan took on the additional role of chair of NCWO, a coalition of 240 progressive women's groups representing 12 million American women.

Susan's most enduring legacy will continue long after her retirement through the women she has placed throughout the halls of Congress with WREI's congressional fellowship program. Over more than 30 years, this program has positioned more than 350 women on Capitol Hill, and Susan takes great pride in each one of them. Through meetings with women leaders in all fields, Susan has exposed these fellows to the important work already done and yet to be done on behalf of women in America and around the world. Her contributions to women's advancement and empowerment are felt throughout the sectors these fellows occupy, including state legislators and legislative staff, the business and nonprofit communities, and academia and think tanks.

My office and I have benefitted from her efforts to help women enter the legislative pipeline, including hosting fellows for 14 years. These women have brought their expertise and enthusiasm to my office in countless ways, such as advocating for women's rights in Afghanistan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, advancing legislation that would stop human trafficking and end obstetric fistula, and creating reports to make the public aware of how votes in Congress affect women. Like their classmates, the "Maloney Fellows" have gone on to work as women's advocates, academics, and architects of change both here in the nation's capital and around the country. In fact, two of my current staff came to me through Susan.

Through the Women's Research and Education Institute and the National Council of Women's Organizations, we have worked together on so many issues important to women, such as the Equal Rights Amendment, the National Women's History Museum,