

of wave energy, mitigating some of the most costly aspects of severe storms. Coastal storms account for 71% of annual disaster losses. Healthy reef systems may protect an estimated \$47,000 of property value for every meter of reef during severe weather events.

Today, however, various pressures on the world's reefs threaten to destroy them and the numerous ecosystem services, valued at over \$8 billion, which they provide. Unless the United States acts in conjunction with the global community to support focused, prolonged action on coral reef education, research, and management, the condition of our coral reefs will continue to degrade.

Since its enactment in 2000, the Coral Reef Conservation Act has stimulated a greater commitment to protect, conserve, and restore coral reef resources within jurisdictional waters of the United States. As a result, we now have a much better grasp of the condition of our coral reefs, and more focused management capability than at any time in our history. The Coral Reef Conservation Act Reauthorization and Enhancement Amendments of 2016 expands emergency response mechanisms, establishes a new community-based planning grants program, promotes international cooperation, and recognizes the important contributions of the U.S. Department of the Interior in coral reef management and conservation efforts.

This bill would also codify the United States Coral Reef Task Force established in 1998 by President Clinton through Executive Order 13089. The work of the Task Force and its mission to coordinate the efforts of the United States in promoting conservation and the sustainable use of coral reefs internationally is vital to our interests. Since 1998, the Task Force has acted to facilitate and support better management and conservation of coral reef resources at the local level. Many beneficial efforts, such as the development and implementation of local action strategies to address threats to our reefs, are underway thanks to the work of the Task Force and its member agencies.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to advance this legislation to enhance our capacity for the conservation and restoration of healthy and diverse coral reef ecosystems.

CONGRESSWOMAN DINGELL CALLS FOR ACTION ON THE NATION'S MOST PRESSING CHALLENGES

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the House of Representatives prepares to leave Washington for seven weeks—52 days—without addressing some of the most critical issues we face.

Instead of working together—Republicans and Democrats—toward meaningful solutions to protect the American people, Congress spent this week debating a bunch of bills that will never become law.

Meanwhile, we have failed to meaningfully respond to the Flint water crisis, which has left families in my home state of Michigan reeling for months.

We have failed to provide critical resources to respond to the Zika health crisis.

And we have failed to come together around reasonable solutions to the gun violence epidemic plaguing this country.

I am embarrassed to be a Member of this body.

We need to do the job the American people elected us to do.

We need to come together to find solutions to the biggest problems we face.

That's what we were sent here to do. That's what the American people expect and it's what they deserve.

Let's do our job.

RECOGNIZING 2016 "PAUL BUNYAN SERVICE ABOVE SELF AWARD" WINNER CLARE JANTY

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before you today to recognize Ms. Clare Janty of Cumberland, Wisconsin for her unprecedented dedication in serving our community.

Ms. Janty is the recipient of the Wisconsin 7th Congressional District's 2016 "Paul Bunyan Service Above Self Award," which recognizes a constituent who goes above and beyond when serving their community.

Ms. Janty has served as a Physician Assistant for over 35 years in Barron County, and continues to give back to her community through her work in healthcare and wellness.

In 2004 she was a founding board member of Pink Ribbon Advocacy Inc.—a non-profit focused on supporting uninsured expenses related to breast gynecological cancers—and has served as their medical advisor since. Ms. Janty is also the president of the board of the Rice Lake Area Free Clinic, and routinely provides patient services.

Ms. Janty has offered her skills by successfully co-authoring several grant applications that have helped provide the needed funds for poverty and health care organizations in Barron County. In addition, she has worked with local law enforcement to create a Children's Safety Fair. She has been a member of the Healthier Cumberland Project—a non-profit organization focused on community health—since 2007. Ms. Janty also regularly visits local schools to provide youth with personal health and safety information.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in recognizing and thanking Ms. Janty for her exceptional service to her community.

HONORING MIO HYDRO FOR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize 100 years of service from the Mio Hydro facility, named after the adjacent town of Mio and located on the lower Au Sable River. During that time it has provided reliable

power to thousands of families and businesses in Oscoda County, Michigan.

In the early 1900's, Consumers Energy founders, William A. and James B. Foote sought out to harness the energy of the Au Sable River to power the mills and growing cities of the surrounding area. Between 1911 and 1924, six hydroelectric dams were constructed.

Mio Hydro was the fourth dam constructed and was completed in 1916. This facility was unique in that it was the first hydroelectric dam to utilize an under-sluice spillway. Invented and patented by Consumers civil engineer, William W. Tefft, the design allows excess water to flow through conduits built into the foundation of the powerhouse instead of through an above ground gated spillway. This new design was proven to lower construction costs and increased the plant's power production.

This year I am pleased to join all the Consumers Energy employees and retirees to commemorate 100 years of clean, reliable and renewable energy generated by this facility. A century of service is a testament to the dedicated men and women that have kept watch over Mio and supplied power to generations of Michiganders.

Congratulations on this great achievement.

COMMEMORATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WILLIAM EDWARD BONTEMPS

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commemorate William Edward Bontemps on his recent retirement from Goodwill Industries of Central Illinois, Inc.

Bill Bontemps was born and raised in West Peoria and is known for his active role in the community, his service to our country during the Vietnam War, and his successful career at Goodwill Industries. Bill graduated from Peoria High School and earned a Bachelor of Science in business from Bradley University. After college, Bill served in the U.S. Army infantry in Vietnam and later served as a combat photographer for the 1st Battalion, 50th Infantry. In recognition of his service to the United States, Bill was honored with the Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Vietnam Service Medal.

Following his decorated military career, Bill continued to serve others by becoming the Director of Vocational Services for Goodwill Industries in 2009. In his role with Goodwill, he supported various programs including Goodwill's Veteran Employment Services, Youth Services, job preparation and employment programs, and the General Wayne A. Downing Veteran's Home. Bill used his marketing background and photography skills learned in the military to promote these programs by assisting in the creation of flyers, signs, brochures, and calendars. His service to the community extended beyond Goodwill, as he served on the Board for the Continuum of Care and Senator Kirk's Veterans Advisory Board.

Bill retired on July 8, 2016 after a long career of selfless service to the 18th District. I want to congratulate Bill for his commitment to our community and wish him and his wife, Patty, a relaxing retirement.

CELEBRATING AXALTA'S 150TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, for 150 years, Axalta has been a leader in the coatings industry. Congresswoman BARBARA COMSTOCK and I extend our congratulations to Axalta on its 150th year in business. Since its founding in 1866, Axalta has evolved to meet ever-changing industry demands and to fully utilize today's innovative technology. Axalta now does business in over 130 countries and employs more than 12,800 people. However, what has remained constant during this time is Axalta's commitment to quality and to its many customers across the globe.

In Virginia, Axalta's Front Royal Plant is celebrating 35 years of operation. The Front Royal Plant, located near the border between the Sixth and Tenth Congressional Districts, employs many of our constituents and is a valued member of the community.

The Front Royal Plant manufactures and distributes high quality paint products primarily in small container packaging for the "Low Bake" customers in the Refinish and Industrial markets with more than 12 million gallons produced annually. Constructed in 1980 with the first batch of paint produced in March 1981, the facility is nine acres under roof and includes a finished product warehouse that serves as a critical Regional Service Center for the business. There are more than 325 full-time Axalta employees in Front Royal and approximately 80 additional contractor employees onsite.

We thank Axalta for their commitment to providing employment and driving economic growth in the Northern Shenandoah Valley. Congratulations again on reaching this milestone. We look forward to the next 150 years and Axalta's continued presence in Virginia.

TRIBUTE TO SERGIO SANCHEZ

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, Sergio Sanchez was born on October 9th, 1969 in McAllen, Texas to Samuel and Luisa Sosa Sanchez. At the age of 9, he moved from Reynosa, Mexico to Houston, Texas where he learned English and attended elementary school. Mr. Sanchez graduated from the South Houston High School in 1987 and went on to attend San Jacinto College where he entered the music and civilian airline pilot programs. In 1990, he moved to McAllen, Texas and enrolled in Pan American University.

Mr. Sanchez began his broadcasting career as a part time news reader at News Talk 710 KURV in Edinburg, Texas while working full time nights at the McAllen Post Office. In 1997, he was hired full time at KURV as an anchor and reporter. He eventually became KURV news manager, running both the morning and evening news reports. Later on in his career, Mr. Sanchez created the KURV "Drive Home Show," an evening talk show. In the spring of 1999, he entered radio advertising and successfully sold sports radio and KURV news radio while broadcasting the morning show. He then launched his own weekend talk show, "Saturday Open Phones," in 2009. Mr. Sanchez currently serves as the KURV Program Director and host of the KURV Morning News, which he has hosted for 20 years.

Throughout his 20 years of radio broadcasting, Sergio Sanchez has received more than 20 awards from the Texas Associated Press Broadcasters including Best News Anchor, Best Reporter, Best Investigative Report, and Best Editorial. Press associations in Dallas and Houston have also recognized him for his accomplishments as a broadcaster. Along with these accomplishments and awards he is a fundraiser for the Salvation Army's annual Angel Tree program. He has also been recognized as the top fundraiser in the Rio Grande Valley for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation of Texas.

In addition to his impressive career as a celebrated radio broadcaster, Sergio Sanchez is a devoted husband to his wife, Delia, and father to their children, Noah and Elim. The family resides in McAllen, Texas. Mr. Sanchez also recently entered politics, becoming Chairman of the Hidalgo County Republican office in 2014. Additionally, he serves as Chairman-Elect of the board of the academically respected Idea Public Charter School System in Texas.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE
AND LEGACY OF DICK VAN RANSOM

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a treasured member of the San Diego family. On June 3, 2016 Richard (Dick) B. Van Ransom-Magana, the founder of Mariposa Ice Cream, passed away.

Dick was an inspiration to his family, friends and the patrons of his ice cream parlor. He was a beloved member of the Normal Heights community and a respected Adams Avenue business owner. His dynamic personality left a lasting impression on all those who knew him, even for just a fleeting moment, as they passed through to order ice cream.

Like many, the Navy originally brought Dick to San Diego, but he chose to make San Diego his home. His grandfather taught him ice cream making, and with his wife Anna he became a fixture in Normal Heights sharing ice cream and conversation with everyone who passed through his store.

During a packed memorial mass at St. Didacus Catholic Church on June 24th, he

was called a light to others and a source of goodness and inspiration. Person after person remarked on his warmth, love for his family, and his great contributions to the Normal Heights community.

While we grieve Dick's loss, we take comfort in the legacy he has left behind. You cannot walk Adams Avenue without feeling Dick's presence. It's bittersweet to be in the summer season and not have Dick here, but Mariposa Ice Cream is still open and thriving and carrying on just as Dick would want.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF MICHAEL DOVE

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished Hoosier, Chief Michael Dove, who will retire from the Brownsburg Police Department.

Chief Dove joined the Brownsburg Police Department in 1990 as a Reserve Officer and was later hired as a full-time officer in 1992. Throughout his career, Chief Dove has held every sworn rank at the department and has filled many roles, including Training Officer, Instructor, Shift Supervisor, Detective, Undercover Investigator, Emergency Response Team Commander, Uniform Division Commander, and Assistant Chief of Police. He was appointed Chief of Police in 2010.

Throughout his years of service, Chief Dove continued to improve his skills through hours of specialized law enforcement training. He has received training for Advanced Incident Command, Special Weapons and Tactics, Tactical Command, and as a Certified Crime Scene Investigator. He completed the Indiana Police Chief's Executive Course and is a graduate of the 223rd Session of the FBI National Academy.

Upon taking the helm of the Brownsburg Police Department, Chief Dove met with his staff to reevaluate every facet of the department. New philosophies were put in place, and the department increased efficiency and productivity. Most importantly, the department has significantly improved its relationship with the local community. The annual Night Out Against Crime has realized increased participation and standing in the community each year since Chief Dove's initial involvement many years ago.

I have been fortunate to know and work with Chief Dove for many years. I know I can always rely on him and his officers to ensure public events in Brownsburg are safe for everyone in attendance. Late last year I hosted a school safety summit, and knew even before a draft agenda was completed, that Chief Dove should be the Keynote Speaker. I consider him a friend and to me and the entire Brownsburg community.

Chief Dove has been a selfless public servant for over 25 years and the good people of our community appreciate those years of service. Thank you Chief Dove, for a job well done and I wish you well in your post-retirement endeavors.