

its paid and volunteer staff throughout our region help us prepare for and respond to emergencies down the street, across the country and around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 12th Annual March Is Red Cross Month Gala and the formation of the American Red Cross in the National Capital Region. The Red Cross has always depended on the cooperation of communities, neighbors, and volunteers, and this new regional endeavor is in keeping with that tradition.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF RED CROSS MONTH

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, March is Red Cross Month and I rise today to honor the American Red Cross, its chapters throughout the United States, and its affiliates around the world. Founded in 1881, the Red Cross is one of the most effective disaster relief organizations in the world, providing care and comfort to millions of people affected by disasters every year.

We need only look at the recent tragedy in Japan to witness the important work of the Red Cross. The Japanese Red Cross is supporting operations in 1800 shelters and has provided medical care and counseling and distributed blankets and other emergency supplies to those in need. The American Red Cross is also playing a vital role in the disaster relief effort in Japan, sending personnel and monetary support.

Earlier this year here at home, the American Red Cross provided assistance to individuals and families affected by the severe winter storms that impacted the Northeast and Midwest. More recently, the Red Cross provided shelter and meals in response to flooding, tornadoes, and wildfires around the United States.

In addition to its disaster relief efforts, the Red Cross provides training and preparedness information for individuals, families, and organizations. The Red Cross, its dedicated employees, and its many volunteers help to make a difference in American communities every day. Whenever there are people in need, the Red Cross is there.

This March, I honor the Red Cross, its employees, and its volunteers for their continued compassion and assistance in the United States and abroad.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM ACT OF 2011

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I proudly join in a bipartisan effort with Representatives JEAN SCHMIDT, GWEN MOORE, SUSAN DAVIS, BARBARA LEE, TAMMY BALDWIN, JANICE SCHAKOWSKY, DORIS MATSUI, RAÚL

GRIJALVA, KAREN BASS, PETE STARK, JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER, JACKIE SPEIER, CYNTHIA LUMMIS, SANDY ADAMS, ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, MARSHA BLACKBURN, MADELEINE BORDALLO, BARNEY FRANK, JUDY BIGGERT, ALCEE HASTINGS, JO ANN EMERSON, MARCY KAPTUR, JAMES MORAN, and YVETTE CLARKE in introducing the National Women's History Museum Act of 2011.

This bill directs the General Services Administration, GSA, to house a National Women's History Museum (NWHM) in one of their properties in Washington, DC. NWHM must pay fair market value for the property and reasonable timeframes are included for the transfer of the property and for construction to begin. NWHM will be built and maintained with private funds. No federal dollars will be spent on this important, new museum.

Women's history is largely missing from textbooks, memorials, museum exhibits and many other venues. In contrast, men have hundreds of years of written and available history to reflect upon and use for inspiration. Of the 210 statues in the United States Capitol, only 9 are of female leaders. Less than 5 percent of the 2,400 national historic landmarks chronicle women's achievement and according to a survey of 18 history textbooks, only 10 percent were dedicated to women.

The museums and memorials in our Nation's Capital demonstrate what we value. We have museums dedicated to flight, postage stamps, law enforcement and many other important people and issues of interest, but not to women. This bill would provide women, comprising 53 percent of our population, a long overdue home on our National Mall to honor their many contributions that are the very fabric of our country.

I urge my colleagues to join me in filling this void and honoring our Nation's foremothers by becoming cosponsors of the National Women's History Museum Act of 2011.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE STERLING HEIGHTS REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House floor today to honor and recognize an exceptional organization located in Michigan's 10th Congressional District—the Sterling Heights Regional Chamber of Commerce & Industry. On Friday, April 1, 2011, the Sterling Heights Chamber will mark a special day in its history with a very momentous 50th Anniversary Celebration. This "Golden Occasion" will be an opportunity to reflect upon the excellent work performed since the Chamber's inception in 1961 when it was first known as the Greater Utica Chamber of Commerce.

Over the past 50 years, the Chamber has adapted and transformed in order to maintain its business edge, and is known as one of the premier chambers in the State of Michigan. While over the years their name has changed to accommodate their growing membership in Macomb County and throughout the region,

their mission and goals have always remained the same—"to bring features, benefits and value to their members, and each and every day strive to bring a return on that investment."

The Sterling Heights Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry has been a true ambassador of economic liberty and an admirable advocate for small businesses. It has always taken a proactive approach to highlight the wonderful resources and services available to potential customers and clients. With business workshops, educational seminars and various community outreach events covering a wide range of topics and issues, the entrepreneurial spirit has been the driving force behind their initiatives to improve our economy, create a better business climate, increase the number of jobs, and enhance the quality of life for all who call this area home.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the chamber's leadership, both past and present, for their tireless work, innovative thinking and exemplary vision. The effectiveness and strength of this Chamber is displayed by the fact it has expanded its designated coverage base of the original communities of Sterling Heights, Utica and Shelby Township to also include communities in the adjoining Oakland and Wayne Counties. It captured the essence of this region by focusing on the industrial, manufacturing and engineering businesses that are unique to Southeast Michigan, and provided opportunities for their collaboration.

During these years of severe economic challenges, especially in Macomb County and in the State of Michigan, one thing has become crystal clear: We cannot afford to isolate ourselves from our neighbors based on parochial interests. The 5 million people living and working in the Metro Detroit Region need to work together to find solutions to our economic woes. This includes all stakeholders, private and public, communicating with one another and using all the tools and resources at their disposal. The Sterling Heights Chamber has always fostered this type of cooperation among its members.

I personally can attest to the positive impact the Chamber has had in Macomb County. Beginning with my years working for my family's marina business, and extending throughout my career in public service at the township, county, state and federal level, the efforts of the Chamber have been nothing short of extraordinary. The executive team, support staff and Board of Directors have always set a robust agenda to improve our economic well-being and I salute each and every one of them for their dedicated efforts and hard work.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my personal congratulations to the Sterling Heights Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry as they celebrate this milestone event. I wish them nothing but the best and another 50 years of successful service to the businesses in our community.

INTRODUCING THE AGRICULTURE EDUCATION FREEDOM ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Agriculture Education Freedom Act. This

bill addresses a great injustice being perpetrated by the Federal Government on those youngsters who participate in programs such as 4-H or the Future Farmers of America. Under current tax law, children are forced to pay federal income tax when they sell livestock they have raised as part of an agricultural education program.

Think about this for a moment. These kids are trying to better themselves, earn some money, save some money and what does Congress do? We pick on these kids by taxing them: It is truly amazing that with all the hand-wringing in Congress over the alleged need to further restrict liberty and grow the size of government "for the children" we would continue to tax young people who are trying to lead responsible lives and prepare for the future. Even if the serious social problems today's youth face could be solved by new federal bureaucracies and programs, it is still unfair to pick on those kids who are trying to do the right thing.

These children are not even old enough to vote, yet we are forcing them to pay taxes! What ever happened to no taxation without representation? No wonder young people are so cynical about government!

It is time we stopped taxing youngsters who are trying to earn money to go to college by selling livestock they have raised through their participation in programs such as 4-H or Future Farmers of America. Therefore, I call on my colleagues to join me in supporting the Agriculture Education Freedom Act.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GREATER
NEW YORK CHAPTER, THE
LINKS, INCORPORATED—2011
WOMEN OF DISTINCTION SPIRIT
AWARD LUNCHEON

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Greater New York Chapter, The Links, Incorporated—2011 Women of Distinction Spirit Award Luncheon which takes place on Saturday, April 23, 2011 at the elegant and scenic Pier Sixty at Chelsea Piers in New York City.

Established in 1946, The Links, Incorporated, is one of the Nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organizations of women who, linked in friendship, are committed to enriching, sustaining and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African-Americans and persons of African descent. The Links, Incorporated is a not-for-profit organization, which consists of nearly 12,000 professional women of color in 272 chapters located in 42 states, the District of Columbia and the Bahamas.

On May 21, 1949, the Greater New York Chapter was chartered in response to an invitation extended by Margaret Roselle Hawkins and Sarah Strickland Scott, co-founders of The Links, Incorporated. Co-founder Sarah Strickland Scott attended the installation of the new charter members at Harlem's famous Hotel Theresa, which included Dorothy Reed, Bernia Austin, Myrtle Howard, Estelle Jarrott, Ethel Lowry, Emilie Pickins, Mable Trent, and Marie Vidal. The Links National Emblem was

designed by Ethel Lowry, who served as the National Corresponding Secretary.

The Greater New York Chapter was the first chapter in New York and comprises members from all five boroughs in New York City and Long Island. Today, under the leadership of President Gerri Warren Merrick, the Greater New York Chapter is committed to fostering community outreach throughout the New York metropolitan area by developing quality programs with a long-term impact on the well-being and enrichment of African-Americans.

The Greater New York Chapter honors two women of distinction and spirit—Ms. Debra L. Lee, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of BET Networks and Ms. Rhonda Mims, President of the ING Foundation and Senior Vice President of the Office of Corporate Responsibility and Multicultural Affairs.

Award recipient Debra L. Lee is responsible for helping guide BET's reinvigorated approach in producing programming that supports, embraces and encourages African American families in a very positive light, focusing on the issues that are important to the Black family, while presenting the freshest talent and entertainment to American Television and beyond.

Award recipient Rhonda Mims is responsible for creating an enterprise-wide community relations platform, focusing on financial literacy, children's education and diversity, including advancing the company's workforce diversity and inclusion strategy.

Please join me in recognizing the Greater New York Chapter, The Links, Incorporated and the Women of Distinction Spirit Award honorees.

HONORING THE LIFE OF EDWARD
A. BURDICK, FORMER CHIEF
CLERK OF THE MINNESOTA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise in tribute to a leader, a parliamentary expert, a mentor and a friend to many, Mr. Edward Burdick, former Chief Clerk of the Minnesota House of Representatives. On March 9, 2011 he died at the age of 89 years old, and he is remembered fondly by his family and many friends and colleagues.

In 1941 at the age of 19, Ed as he was known, began a job in the Minnesota House of Representatives as a Page, earning \$5 a day. He held many jobs in the Legislature and other public service jobs, including U.S. Department of Commerce and the Minnesota Department of Military Affairs. He also proudly served our Nation in the U.S. Army. In 1967, Ed was elected Chief Clerk of the Minnesota House of Representatives, a job he maintained until his retirement 38 years later. In all, Ed provided 62 years of public service to the people of Minnesota and our Nation.

Ed was not only Chief Clerk but also House Parliamentarian, understanding every little twist of parliamentary procedure. His mastery of legislative process made him a nationally renowned expert in the field. Within the House Chamber, his booming and authoritative voice was a familiar presence as he kept decorum

in a legislative body not always known for that quality. During the decades that Ed served as Chief Clerk, he mentored a dozen Speakers of the House and many others in leadership, including myself. He took his role teaching the House rules and parliamentary procedure very seriously.

In November of 1992, I was elected to the Minnesota State House of Representatives. Prior to my swearing-in he informed me that he would meet with each new representative and explain the workings of the House and his office, ending with "if there is anything you need or anything I can do for you, do not hesitate to ask me or my office"—and he truly meant it. That was who Ed Burdick was. A gentleman, a kind and thoughtful person, a hard worker, a person willing to serve everyone who needed assistance of any kind.

Ed will be missed by many, many Legislators and State Government officials for his guidance, dignity and hard work.

I know that I am not alone in saying, that I will miss Ed's kindness, his genuine nature, his loyalty to Minnesota and his absolute and total fairness to all. Ed Burdick will always serve a Minnesotan icon to public service. May you rest in peace, my friend.

AFGHANISTAN WAR POWERS
RESOLUTION

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the return home of our U.S. military in the absence of a declaration of war by this Congress is long overdue. Members of this House must support H. Con. Res. 28, and help reverse the course of the unconstitutional Afghan war.

First, the war in Afghanistan is unconstitutional.

Article 1, Section 8, clause 11 of the Constitution grants Congress—not the President—the power to declare war. Once that declaration is made by the Congress, the President can conduct war.

The Constitution is clear and there is no debate over the fact that the Constitution never intended any shared decision making in declaring a state of war. Such a shared decision making was rejected originally by the Framers. Thus, without a declaration of war, the President's continued use of force to continue a war in Afghanistan is unconstitutional.

James Madison, one of the key architects of the Constitution on separation of powers, said that "this requirement for Congress to be able to declare war is one of the most important provisions of the Constitution." However, ten years after the conflict began in Afghanistan, we still have no such declaration. This significant authority granted to Congress is why I rise today in support of the gentleman from Ohio's resolution.

Congress cannot hand over to the President our exclusive power to declare war. Without a declaration of war, the President's use of military force in Afghanistan is unconstitutional.

The seminal case of *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer* rejected the President's claim that he had authority as Commander-in-