

Dimes. The American Cancer Society awarded her the "Inner Circle of 12 Distinction," which honors 12 outstanding women for their leadership, volunteerism, community involvement and dedication to the ACS mission. In addition to her admirable accomplishments, Ms. Oeters finds the time to be an adventure traveler, avid sailor, and equestrian. In 1988, she was the first woman to win the J/30 North America Sail Championship presented by the American Yacht Club.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Ms. Phillis Oeters for her continued service to the South Florida community and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this extraordinary individual.

12TH ANNUAL CONGRESSIONAL  
CIVIL RIGHTS PILGRIMAGE

**HON. JANICE HAHN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 27, 2012*

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker. I rise today in honor of the Faith & Politics Institute's 12th Annual Congressional Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Birmingham, Selma and Montgomery, Alabama, which I had the great privilege of joining.

This pilgrimage was about coming together—not as Democrats and Republicans—but as Americans, as men and women who believe somehow and some way that we have a can find a way to create the American community. The non-violent and peaceful Americans who risked so much simply to have the government honor their rights under our Constitution reminds me of what it means to be a patriot. In the face of brutal beatings, fire hoses, cattle prods, trampling by horses and in some cases death, these heroes forced America to face its past and present, and change the way it treated its own citizens.

Our pilgrimage included visits to many historic places in Alabama that changed the course of history for all Americans. In Montgomery, we visited Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. began his ministry and the parsonage where he and his family lived through two bombings. Other visits in Montgomery included First Baptist Church where the Rev. Dr. Ralph Abernathy served as pastor, the Southern Poverty Law Center, the Rosa Parks Museum and the Capitol—the building from which Governor George Wallace declared he would uphold segregation laws and on whose steps the Voting Rights March culminated.

My father, Kenny Hahn, took an enormous risk early in his public career to welcome Martin Luther King Jr. to Los Angeles. He did it because it was the right thing to do. This trip reminded me how important it was to stand up for what you believe, like my father did in 1961, and throughout his career. We must live up to the example set for us by leaders of the Civil Rights era by continuing the fight for social justice and for the rights of all Americans. I would hope that every member of Congress would take this pilgrimage during their career and that each American learns more about a group of men and women who stood up for and changed our nation.

CONVOY OF HOPE: A REAL  
"COMMUNITY ORGANIZER"

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 27, 2012*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, one of the great economic fallacies of our time is that if government doesn't do something, no one will. This disastrous fallacy underlies much of our national debate concerning health care, education, poverty, housing, and disaster relief, to name just a few issues.

But today I rise to applaud an organization that stands in stark refutation of that fallacy. Convoy of Hope, a private charity in Springfield, Missouri, does so much to help so many communities that the term "charity" doesn't begin to describe it. In fact, Convoy of Hope is equal parts grocer, clothier, health care provider, first responder, educator, and logistics expert. It works with communities in America and around the world bringing together local charities, businesses, churches, and government agencies to alleviate poverty and help people in the wake of disasters.

In other words, it is a real community organizer! The tremendous scope of its activities serves as a reminder that government is neither the sole nor the best provider of goods and services to people in need.

Mr. Speaker, I recently had the privilege of touring Convoy of Hope's headquarters and distribution center. It was a humbling but deeply encouraging experience, as I learned the full extent of its charitable outreach. Frankly I've never seen an organization so focused, efficient, and poised to do tremendous good for so many people.

First, some background: Convoy of Hope was founded by Hal and David Donaldson in 1994, who as young boys suffered the death of their father and subsequent poverty. But both men were struck by the outpouring of support their family received during that time; local churches and the community provided food and shelter. As a result, the two brothers both developed a deep sense of responsibility to help others in need.

In the years since, Convoy of Hope has helped more than 50 million individuals in more than 100 countries—giving away nearly \$300 million worth of food and supplies in the process.

Today, Convoy of Hope describes its mission as a global movement focused on four keys:

Children's feeding initiatives: the organization's overriding goal is to alleviate child hunger worldwide, providing food and clean water while also teaching agricultural techniques.

Community outreach: Convoy of Hope coordinates dozens of community events annually with thousands of volunteers and guests. These events involve free groceries; job and health fairs; and activities for children. As always, this outreach is available to all, without regard to age, race, physical appearance, or religion.

Disaster response: from an earthquake in Haiti to a tsunami in Indonesia to tornadoes in the American south, Convoy of Hope is a proven first responder. With its fleet of tractor trailers, 300,000 square foot warehouse, and high-tech mobile command center, it efficiently leverages relationships with private industry to help victims of worldwide disasters.

Partner resourcing: Convoy of Hope supports hundreds of like-minded organizations throughout the world, providing them with the food and supplies needed to help their communities. In this way Convoy of Hope consistently promotes local control, results, and accountability—while demonstrating humility and a willingness to let others shine and take credit in local communities.

Unlike government bureaucracies and many top-heavy private charities, Convoy of Hope applies a uniquely results-oriented approach to serving people. You won't find bloated salaries or patronage jobs at Convoy of Hope, nor will you find tony offices in New York or Los Angeles like so many nonprofits. In fact, the organization regularly spends only about 10 percent of its budget on overhead (a very low ratio in the nonprofit world), while employing a small staff of approximately 85. Watchdog group Charity Navigator consistently gives Convoy of Hope high marks for both its financial acumen and transparency.

Convoy of Hope also stretches its resources by developing strategic partnerships with private sector corporations, many of which provide in-kind donations of goods or services. This allows Convoy of Hope to offer a win-win proposition to prospective corporate donors: companies benefit from donating needed goods or services already in their inventory or area of expertise, while Convoy of Hope benefits from receiving the supplies and services it needs without paying retail prices. Its corporate donors—including Coca Cola; Nestle; Proctor & Gamble; Nestle; Georgia Pacific; Cargill; Del Monte; and FedEx—donate everything from building supplies to bottled water to toiletries. These partnerships with successful private companies demonstrate an entrepreneurial mindset that enables Convoy of Hope to help more people with less overhead.

Its massive distribution center and headquarters are located strategically in Missouri, where its fleet of trucks can dispatch quickly anywhere in America. It also operates six international distribution centers for logistical efficiency. By contrast, many government agencies purposely locate offices and facilities in different states at the clear expense of efficiency, solely to curry funding support from as many members of Congress and Senators as possible.

The next step for Convoy of Hope is an audacious one: a 50 state tour beginning in May designed to address poverty across the United States. The "Convoy of Hope Tour" will provide an average of \$1 million in goods and services to a community in a single day. Convoy of Hope's fleet of 18 wheel trucks will roll through every state, providing a wide variety of goods and practical services to those in need, including: groceries, job counseling, clothing, dental care, breast cancer screenings, haircuts, family portraits, children's activities, prayer and connections with local churches.

Finally, while Convoy of Hope is a Christian-based organization, it is nondenominational and strongly non-political in its approach, helping those in need without imposing their faith. Convoy of Hope employees simply believe their faith compels them to help their fellow man. This commonsense dictum guides infuses everything that Convoy of Hope does.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion let me state unequivocally that Convoy of Hope is doing tremendous work on behalf of mankind. I wish

everyone at Convoy of Hope (and their donors) best wishes for great success with their upcoming Tour. It's hard to imagine a government agency operating as efficiently, as nimbly, or even as cheerfully as Convoy of Hope. I truly believe it should serve as a model for private, nongovernmental solutions to poverty and its attendant ills.

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HONORING KALEB CANALES

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 27, 2012*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mr. Kaleb Canales who was named the interim head coach for the Portland Trail Blazers of the National Basketball Association, NBA, on March 15, 2012. Mr. Canales is the youngest active head coach in the NBA and the first Mexican-American to hold this position in the league's history.

Mr. Canales was born on July 7, 1978, in Laredo, Texas, and graduated from Alexander High School in 1996. He then went on to earn his bachelor's degree in Kinesiology from the University of Texas at Arlington and his master's degree in Sports Leadership from Virginia Commonwealth University. Upon completing his education, Mr. Canales moved back to Laredo and coached at Martin High School from 2001 through 2002 and United High School from 2002 through 2003.

Mr. Canales moved on to join the men's basketball coaching staff at the University of Texas at Arlington. He worked on the UT-Arlington staff for a year before moving on to become an unpaid intern for the Portland Trail Blazers from 2004 through 2005. Mr. Canales' career with the Trail Blazers started in 2005 when he was designated as the team's video coordinator, a position he held until 2008. After serving as the video coordinator, Mr. Canales was promoted to assistant coach and held that title until the 15th of this month when he was named interim head coach.

His story is one of passion and persistence; one that is truly admirable that sets an example for our youth today. Mr. Canales has demonstrated that with hard work and goals, accomplishments will follow. This young Laredoan has made us all very proud and we look forward to his work in the NBA.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had the opportunity to recognize Mr. Canales' great background and accomplishments. His hard work and determination has truly had a positive impact on the Laredo and Hispanic community.

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HONORING MS. MARY FINLAN

**HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 27, 2012*

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of Women's History month, I rise today to honor Ms. Mary Finlan, an exceptional individual who has served South Florida for decades.

Ms. Finlan began her work at the Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Com-

merce in 1998, and was promoted to Executive Director a year later. Throughout her career, she has worked tirelessly for the community, earning the respect and trust of many in South Florida. After Hurricane Andrew, she worked for four years with Habitat for Humanity, Lutheran Disaster Response, and ICARE to rebuild homes and clean up the disaster. During this time, she also worked to gather volunteers and raise funds nationwide.

From 1987 to 1992, Ms. Finlan served as Executive Director of the USO of Dade and Monroe Counties headquartered on Homestead Air Force Base before Hurricane Andrew. The agency provided services to the U.S. and allied military personnel and dependents from Opa-Locka to Key West. During that time she was a member of the Military Affairs Committees of the Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce, the South Dade Chamber of Commerce (now Chamber South) and the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Finlan is a charter member of the Miami-Dade Defense Alliance, and works diligently on behalf of Homestead Air Reserve Base and the other military installations to protect them from closure. She currently serves as Chairman of the board of the Everglades Community Association for migrant housing. She also sits on numerous advisory councils including the Miami-Dade Farm Worker Jobs and Education Program, the board of Rural Neighborhoods, Inc., and the Industry Advisory Council of the Homestead Job Corps Center.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Ms. Mary Finlan for her continued service to the South Florida community and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a remarkable individual.

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HONORING JAMES KIMO CAMPBELL

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 27, 2012*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend James Kimo Campbell, who passed away on February 16, 2012. Kimo, as he was known locally, has been recognized for decades as a principled leader on environmental issues, education, and social justice. I admired the values he stood for and appreciated the opportunity to work with him over the years. He was a man of conscience, and his work has benefitted not only Marin County, but the entire Pacific coast.

Campbell was born in 1947 in Los Angeles. He was raised in Ewa Beach, Oahu by his grandmother, Alice Kamokila Campbell, part of a prominent Irish-Hawaiian landowning family. After studying at the venerable Punahou School in Honolulu, Campbell came to northern California in 1966 for a journalism program at College of Marin.

It was at College of Marin that Campbell first earned recognition for his intelligence and insight, winning journalism awards and becoming editor of the college student newspaper by 1968. It was also at College of Marin that Campbell became involved in the earliest activities of the antiwar and environmental movements of the late 1960s. Campbell was an ac-

tive reporter and demonstrator in Vietnam war events across the San Francisco Bay area, and he served as a public voice for peace and civil liberties on the national stage.

As his work progressed, Campbell was especially effective in translating advocacy and protest into political power and substantive change. He ran four times for a seat on the College of Marin Board of Trustees before finally winning his first, narrow election at the age of 27. From then on, he worked tirelessly to defend the interests of the students, staff, and institution he represented, and to effectively manage College of Marin through a period of modernization.

Campbell brought the same focus to a range of environmental priorities. He served on the Boards of the California League of Conservation Voters, Earthjustice, the Trust for Public Land, and other organizations. He also had a particular interest in projects supporting Hawaiian culture, including the Pohaku Fund and his home-based publishing operation, Pueo Press.

Campbell is survived by his wife, Kerry Tepperman Campbell, and his two children, Mahealani and Kawika Campbell.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing a man whose leadership has set an example for all of us—a man whose tireless advocacy and positive spirit teach us all a lesson in the value of 'ohana.

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OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT CAPS

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 27, 2012*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$15,586,074,570,040.79. We've added \$4,959,197,521,227.71 to our debt in 3 years. This is debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

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IN REMEMBRANCE OF MRS. CECILIA ARLEEN MCINTYRE HARBISON

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 27, 2012*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a beloved educator, inspiring role model and gracious woman of faith, Mrs. Cecilia Arleen McIntyre Harbison. Sadly, Mrs. Harbison passed away on Wednesday, March 21, 2012. On Wednesday, March 28, 2012, Mrs. Harbison's funeral will be held in Columbus, Georgia, where her family, friends and colleagues will honor her life and legacy of good deeds.

Mrs. Harbison was born on February 21, 1950, to Jesse and Emma McIntyre in Thomsville, Georgia. Following her birth, the family moved to Montgomery, Alabama, where she attended Booker T. Washington High School and was voted "Miss Sweetheart" of her senior class. After she obtained her high school