

comprehensive review of U.S. illicit drug supply and demand reduction policies and will be required to submit recommendations on future U.S. drug policy to Congress, the Secretary of State, and the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

To tackle our nation's horrific drug problem once and for all, we must have a better sense of what works and what does not work. Our partners in the Americas, who have worked closely with us in fighting the drug war for years, and the citizens of our great country, who deal every day with illegal drugs on their streets, deserve no less.

SMA TREATMENT ACCELERATION ACT

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, today, along with my colleague Representative ERIC CANTOR, I am introducing the SMA Treatment Acceleration Act, in an effort to help find a treatment or cure for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), the number one genetic killer of children under the age of two.

SMA is an inherited disease that destroys the nerves controlling muscle movement, which affects crawling, walking, head and neck control, swallowing, and even breathing. The gene mutation that causes SMA is carried by one in every 40 people, or approximately 7.5 million Americans. Each child born of two carriers of the mutant gene has a one in four chance of developing SMA.

Among more than 600 neurological disorders, SMA has been singled out by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as the disease closest to treatment. This priority status is based on scientists' advanced genetic understanding of the disease and a strong collaboration between families, federal agencies, and patient advocacy groups.

Researchers have identified the gene responsible for SMA, as well as a disease modifying "back-up" gene that has opened the door to promising new treatment pathways. This research is providing groundbreaking data for SMA and other neurodegenerative disorders, including the muscular dystrophies, Freidrich's Ataxia, Fragile X syndrome, and Huntington's disease.

This legislation will upgrade and unify SMA clinical trial sites and establish a national clinical trials network for SMA. It will also establish a Data Coordinating Center, expand and intensify federally supported research programs, and promote collaborative research at NIH. Additionally, the bill will enhance and provide support for the SMA patient registry, establish an Interagency SMA Research Coordinating Committee, and establish and implement a program for providing information and education on SMA to health professionals and the general public. These provisions will advance our research and understanding of SMA and lead towards effective treatments. I am proud to be reintroducing this legislation, and I urge your full consideration of this important legislation.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING TRAVIS BLEVINS FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Travis Blevins showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and Whereas, Travis Blevins was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Travis Blevins always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Travis Blevins on winning the Boys' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 basketball season.

65TH ANNIVERSARY OF NORMANDY INVASION

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Mr. WEXLER. Madam Speaker, as we approach the 65th Anniversary of the Invasion of Normandy, it is important to take a moment to remember all of the men and women who bravely served our country in World War II. We all owe an enormous debt of gratitude to these veterans and their families. I am honored to have one such veteran in my district, Corporal Elliott M. Herring. Corporal Herring bravely served in the Battle of Normandy and in the battle which took place in St-Lo. He fought in five major battles in the 3rd Army under General Patton. Throughout his service, he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, American Campaign Medal, European Africa Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with one Silver Service Star, WWII Victory Medal, Army of Occupation Medal with the Germany Clasp, Combat Infantryman Badge, Honorable Service Lapel Button, Marksman Badge with Rifle Bar WWII and Five Battle Stars. Additionally, he was awarded the Légion d'honneur from France.

Corporal Herring is looking forward to an upcoming visit to the National WWII Memorial, which is celebrating its fifth anniversary this year. I encourage all veterans, their families, and all Americans to visit the World War II Memorial on the Mall in Washington, D.C. where the announcement stone reads:

Here in the presence of Washington and Lincoln, one the eighteenth century father and the other the nineteenth century preserver of our nation, we honor those twentieth century Americans who took up the struggle during the Second World War and made the sacrifices to perpetuate the gift our forefathers entrusted to us: a nation conceived in liberty and justice.

May we never forget their sacrifices as we stand here today. Let us continue to honor

these brave men and women who fought so bravely to preserve our freedom.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately last night, April 27, 2009, I was unable to cast my votes on H. Res. 329, H.R. 1746, and H. Res. 335 and wish the RECORD to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 207, on suspending the Rules and passing H. Res. 295, Recognizing the anniversary of the tragic accident of the steamboat ship SS Sultana, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 208, on suspending the Rules and passing H.R. 1746, the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Act of 2009, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 209, on suspending the Rules and passing H. Res. 335, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Volunteer Week, I would have voted "yea."

A PROCLAMATION HONORING RYAN BORDEN FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Ryan Borden showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and Whereas, Ryan Borden was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Ryan Borden always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Ryan Borden on winning the Boys' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 basketball season.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE ANNIVERSARY

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, last week marked the 94th anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

I have long been a cosponsor of a resolution introduced in multiple sessions of Congress which reaffirms the United States Record on the Armenian genocide.

The Armenian genocide, in which 1.5 million perished, is widely recognized as the 20th

century's first genocide. Raphael Lemkin, the Jewish legal scholar who coined the word genocide and tirelessly advocated for international law defining it and preventing it, was driven largely by what happened to the Armenians.

Since that time the world has witnessed unfathomable horrors during the Nazi-perpetrated Holocaust and subsequent genocides in Bosnia, Cambodia, Rwanda and still today Darfur. And too often, the world has been silent in the face of such brutality.

Adolph Hitler, in describing his murderous plans and seeking to silence those with reservations, famously said, "Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?"

There is power in speaking the truth, even about atrocities that occurred nearly a century ago, so that other men with evil aims might not be empowered by our silence.

A POEM BY MR. ROBERT DANA

HON. DAVID LOEBSACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, as mentioned in my one-minute speech regarding Robert Dana, I submit one of his poems.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE MIDDLE WEST

(By Robert Dana)

Under this corn,
these beans,
these acres of tamed grasses,
the prairie still rolls,
heave and trough,
breaker and green curl,
an ocean of dirt tilting and tipping.
Its towns
toss up on the distance, your distance,
like the wink of islands.
And the sky
is a blue voice
you cannot answer for.
The forked and burning wildflowers
that madden
the ditches
nod without vocabulary.
Your neighbor
is out early this morning—the air
already humid as raw diamond.
Drunk or lonely,
he's scattering large scraps of white
bread for the birds
as if it were winter.
He'd give you the sour undershirt off
his back—
sweet, bad man.
Does he remember
rain salting down from that flat, far shore
of clouds
slowly changing
its story?

HONORING THE CENTENARIANS OF
BRENTWOOD HEALTHCARE FACILITY
ALLIE M. DAVIS,
CORNELIUS MONTGOMERY,
MARIE DUKE, ANNIE LAURIE
TAYLOR, VIOLA D. PAGE, AND
GUADALUPE G. CORTEZ

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the six residents of Brentwood Healthcare in the Southeast Dallas Community of Pleasant Grove who have reached 100 years old. They are:

Allie M. Davis—100 years old, Cornelius Montgomery—104 years old, Marie Duke—100 years old, Annie Laurie Taylor—102 years old, Viola D. Page—102 years old, and Guadalupe G. Cortez—106 years old.

National Nursing Home Week will take place from May 10, 2009, to May 16, 2009, and Brentwood Healthcare will celebrate the long lives of these six individuals by having Centenarian Day at their facility on May 15, 2009. These residents have witnessed an extraordinary amount of history, and their long lives are an inspiration to all of us.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these centenarians, and I wish them continued life, good health, and strength.

A PROCLAMATION DECLARING
APRIL 24TH TO THE 26TH TO BE
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY PAY IT
FORWARD WEEKEND, AND COM-
MENDING THE LEADERSHIP
TUSCARAWAS CLASS OF 2009 FOR
THEIR WORK AT THE FORE-
FRONT OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, the 2009 class of Tuscarawas Leadership seeks to encourage community service among the county's youth; and

Whereas, the Pay It Forward Challenge is being held in conjunction with Global Youth Services Weekend and the Tuscarawas County United Way's Day of Caring; and

Whereas, the Tuscarawas Leadership has found willing participants in each of the county's public school superintendents to allow students to take part; and

Whereas, both adults and youth will be participating in many different community service projects across the county throughout the weekend; and

Whereas, research has shown that volunteerism plays an important role in shaping skills, social development and a sense of empowerment in young people everywhere; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that, along with the friends and family of the Tuscarawas Leadership Class of 2009, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend the Tuscarawas Leadership for leading the way in encouraging youth community service involvement, and de-

clare April 24, 2009 to April 26, 2009 to be "Tuscarawas County Pay It Forward Challenge Weekend."

COMMEMORATING WORKFORCE
MEMORIAL DAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Workforce Memorial Day. As a Nation built on the strength of our workforce, it is important that we honor those who have lost their lives while struggling to support themselves and their families.

For many Americans, going to work can be a dangerous activity, and one in which many of the harms could potentially be mitigated with the enhancement and enforcement of strong workplace health and safety protection laws.

Each year over 5,000 deaths result from occupational hazards. In 2007, 81 of these deaths occurred in New York City alone. Many of these might have been prevented by the enforcement stronger workplace safety standards.

Today, on Workforce Memorial Day, I urge my fellow Members of Congress to join me in commemorating our workforce, their dedication, and their perseverance, while resolving to create a safer and healthier work environment for all.

HONORING ANTHONY ALAMPI

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Anthony Alampi, of Sussex County, who passed away unexpectedly on January 28, 2009.

A small businessman for many years, Anthony owned Alampi's Deli in Paramus and Alampi's Luncheonette in Bergenfield. Later, along with his wife Maria, Anthony owned Stir and Shoot in Sussex County, where they taught shooting and gun safety courses along with traditional Italian cooking lessons.

A strong defender of the 2nd Amendment, Anthony served as a NRA Benefactor Life Member, NRA Senior Training Counselor and NRA 2nd Amendment Task Force Member. He also contributed his time as a Regional Vice President of the Association of New Jersey Pistol and Rifle Clubs.

It was a pleasure to get to know Anthony and be a guest in his house. His gregarious nature, quick smile and open hearted laugh were well known by both his friends and customers alike. It is with great sadness that we learned of his untimely death.

Anthony will be greatly missed by many throughout northern New Jersey. I extend my sympathies and prayers to the Alampi family and those close to him.