

United States Congress will join me in congratulating them.

CONGRATULATING NAPSEC

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 5, 2011

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the National Association of Private Special Education Centers (NAPSEC) for their 40 years of excellent service and academic dedication to our country's individuals with disabilities. NAPSEC's educational therapeutic services, combined with four decades of experience are invaluable to the education community across the United States and to the dozens of partners in my home state of New Jersey.

Established in 1971, NAPSEC represents private specialized education programs including early intervention services, school programs, residential therapeutic centers, and college experience and adult living programs for individuals with disabilities and their families. NAPSEC's hundreds of affiliates offer much needed services to publically and privately placed individuals who are otherwise unable to receive an appropriate public education. Member programs also serve the needs of individuals who have graduated from high school including adults over 21 years of age.

I am inspired by the quality of care and expertise NAPSEC's partners provide to America's students with disabilities, including those with autism. Again, I offer NAPSEC my sincerest congratulations on 40 years of service to the disabilities community and look forward to NAPSEC's continued progress in the future.

HONORING LESLIE (LES) HAROLD HAYES

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 5, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life and legacy of Leslie (Les) Harold Hayes—publisher emeritus of The Madera Tribune.

Les was born in 1928 in Emporia, Kansas. After working his way through school, Les enrolled in Emporia College where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Business with a minor in English and Journalism. In 1955 he received an offer from the Merced Sun Star, moved to California, and spent the next few decades climbing from typesetter to publisher while working at a series of papers around the Valley. In 1995 Les retired only to be asked to return in 1998.

When not busy reporting the news, Les actively engaged himself in the community: he was a member of the Lions Club, the Rotary Club, and the Madera County Historical Society. In 2006, Les received the Madera Chamber of Commerce "Lifetime Achievement Award" for his contributions to life in the county.

On April 6, 2011, at the age of 82, Les passed away. He leaves behind his wife, Chris, and five children.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Les Hayes and his many contributions. May we keep him and those he left behind in our hearts and prayers.

HONORING WILLIAM A. COOK

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 5, 2011

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and salute an exceptional Hoosier, William A. Cook. Sadly, we lost Bill on April 15. I wish to express my condolences to his family who knew him as husband, father, and grandfather.

To Indiana, Bill's leadership was a shining example of the type of leadership everyone should strive to achieve. Marked by common sense, his leadership embodied the qualities emblazoned in the Hoosier spirit. Bill's focus on service above self; both in building great businesses and in improving our community has left us all a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

As a man of faith, I believe we were put on this earth to love one another and to make the best of the gifts our Lord has provided. We are all blessed to live in a country that allows us to experience freedom and the opportunity to succeed. When I look at the life story of a man who built a business empire that began in a spare bedroom in an apartment, employed thousands around the globe, and provided life saving, and life-altering technology to millions more, all I can say is Amen. Well done.

Bill Cook exemplified the American dream in every way. The amazing narrative of his life will live on, not only through the Cook Group and the many companies that Bill created, but through his family and through the incalculable number of Hoosiers he helped through the years. I would like to thank his family for sharing Bill with us. We are a community that will not soon forget him.

KEEP TEACHERS TEACHING ACT

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 5, 2011

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution provides Congress with the authority to "make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper" to provide for the "general Welfare" of Americans. In the Department of Education Organization Act (P.L. 96-88), Congress declared that "the establishment of a Department of Education is in the public interest, will promote the general welfare of the United States, will help ensure that education issues receive proper treatment at the Federal level, and will enable the Federal Government to coordinate its education activities more effectively." The Department of Education's mission is to "promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access."

A TRIBUTE TO CHRISTENSEN CONSTRUCTION

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 5, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievement of Christensen Construction in Estherville, Iowa. This company was presented the Midwest Region Builder of the Year for 2010 by Butler Manufacturing at a convention held in Atlanta, Georgia.

Butler Manufacturing is a BlueScope Steel company that is based in Kansas City. The world's oldest steel building manufacturer, Butler Manufacturing has six regional manufacturing locations and over 1,200 Butler Builders nationwide. The Midwest Region consists of 13 states and 320 builders. The Builder of the Year Award is given annually to one builder in each region who has demonstrated excellence in selling Butler building and roof systems and has superior marketing skills.

Christensen Construction first became a Butler Builder in 1985. Since then, Christensen Construction has sold over \$25 million in Butler products. The company was nominated for the award by Keith Huls of West Des Moines, this area's Butler manager. Huls said Christensen Construction received this award "because of its history for outstanding sales along with its reputation for delivering the best value in products and services to their customers."

I know my colleagues in the United States Congress will join me in congratulating Christensen Construction and its employees for receipt of this award. It is an honor to represent this company, its owner, and its employees in Congress, and I wish it the best of luck and success in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS OF CHICAGO ALDERMAN HELEN SHILLER

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 5, 2011

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Chicago Alderman Helen Shiller, who has been the Alderman of the 46th Ward since 1987. Alderman Shiller is retiring after 24 years of dedicated service to the residents of the 46th Ward and the City of Chicago. She is a tireless, passionate advocate for her constituents and for the community. She has been an especially powerful champion for those whose voices too often go unheard—the poor, immigrants, those who need affordable housing or shelter, the hungry.

Alderman Shiller is the Chair of the Chicago City Council's Committee on Human Relations, where she has a long and outstanding record of achievement. She played a key role in the passage of the human rights ordinance, recycling programs and city responsibility for public health and safety in the Chicago Public Schools. She initiated and passed a tough anti-apartheid ordinance in 1990. Her budget amendment tripled the city's AIDS budget in

1992. She co-sponsored the domestic partners ordinance extending benefits for unmarried couples. Throughout her aldermanic career, Alderman Shiller has fought for affordable housing and for city budget investments to make Chicago a more affordable place to live.

A strong voice for sustainability and green technologies, Alderman Shiller took the lead on a voluntary pilot program for multi-unit residential building recycling and created a task force to improve the city's recycling program. She is an advocate for LEED certification in all planned developments as well as in other development projects throughout the city.

In 1989, Alderman Shiller sponsored a resolution that created a sub-committee to focus on ways to end domestic violence. As a result of her leadership, the city now funds domestic violence counseling centers and programs for supervised visitations.

Alderman Shiller has continuously worked to keep the 46th Ward both economically and culturally diverse, while at the same time working to develop virtually every area of the ward. It is important to Alderman Shiller that the 46th Ward continue to be defined by its unique mix of people with very different economic and cultural backgrounds. She has worked on many models to retain this diversity and, with the City's Department of Housing, developed the Planned Purchase Price Assistance Program (now called CPAN), which provides opportunities for home ownership for working families.

Alderman Shiller led a comprehensive and inclusive community planning process resulting in the development of affordable housing and thriving retail development at Wilson Yard in the heart of Uptown.

Helen Shiller received her high school diploma from Woodstock Country School in Vermont in 1965. She attended the University of Wisconsin at Madison as a history major and received her BA in 1969. In 2005, she graduated from DePaul University's School for New Learning's Master's Program where her focus was public policy.

I am confident that Helen will continue to contribute to her community and city. I wish her the very best, and I am proud to call her my friend.

INTRODUCING THE INCREASING ACCESS TO VOLUNTARY SCREENING FOR HIV/AIDS AND STIS ACT OF 2011

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 5, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Increasing Access to Voluntary Screening for HIV/AIDS and STIs Act of 2011, which will help reduce the spread and morbidities associated with HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

Each year in the United States, almost 19 million new STIs occur and an estimated 56,300 Americans are newly infected with HIV. HIV/AIDS and STIs are syndemics. HIV infection can increase a person's risk for acquiring certain STIs, as well as affect their frequency, severity, and healing time, while STIs increase the risk of HIV transmission, impaired fertility,

reproductive tract cancer, and adverse pregnancy outcomes.

Due to various factors, including stigma, a lack of health care coverage, and an inaccurate perception of risk among communities and providers, HIV and other long-term, initially asymptomatic STIs often remain undiagnosed or are diagnosed at later stages. This leads to higher rates of mortality, morbidity, disability, and transmission. Furthermore, the burden of HIV/AIDS and STIs falls disproportionately on different populations, with 15–24 year olds, men who have sex with men (MSM), and racial and ethnic minorities facing the greatest risk for STIs.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the United States Preventive Services Task Force recommend that voluntary screening for HIV/AIDS and other STIs be integrated into routine clinical care. All individuals engaging in sexual contact must have access to voluntary screening that is confidential, rapid, accurate, and medically appropriate. In addition, supporting scientifically based, culturally competent, and age-appropriate interventions is key to reducing the incidence of HIV/AIDS and other STIs.

The Increasing Access to Voluntary Screening for HIV/AIDS and STIs Act of 2011 takes an aggressive and multifaceted approach to combating HIV/AIDS and other STIs, including Chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and human papillomavirus (HPV), by increasing access to voluntary screening and other preventive methods while preserving patient rights and confidentiality.

Among other things, this bill requires Medicaid to cover voluntary screening for HIV/AIDS and other STIs as a mandatory service for all individuals 13 and older, including when such services are provided at a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). This legislation also requires the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to provide Medicare reimbursement for voluntary HIV/AIDS and STI screening for all beneficiaries 13 and older.

In addition, this Act requires group health plans, insurance issuers providing group or individual health insurance coverage, and federal employee health benefits programs to cover routine screening for HIV/AIDS and other STIs; provides states with the support they need to cover low-income individuals infected with HIV until Medicaid is expanded in 2014 under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; and supports access to early medical and mental treatment by linking patients to appropriate medical and mental health services.

Lastly, this bill will help improve the accessibility and effectiveness of screening and other preventive services for groups that have been historically underrepresented in public health interventions for HIV/AIDS and other STIs, such as people living with disabilities, the transgender community, women living with severe physical disabilities, and women who have sex with women (WSW).

Mr. Speaker, HIV/AIDS and STIs remain a significant challenge to individual and public health. Through early detection and treatment, as well as comprehensive education for health care providers and communities, we can begin to reverse the tide of infections. I urge my colleagues to support this important bill, which combines the effectiveness of voluntary, routine screening with smart policy to improve the

health of our communities and nation as a whole.

HONORING DELIA P. SANCHEZ

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 5, 2011

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of her recent honor, the 2011 Sydney & Thalia Potter Civic Leadership Award from the League of Women Voters of Hillsborough County, I rise to herald the achievements of Delia P. Sanchez, a champion for children in Florida. Ms. Sanchez is a wonderful example of the power of women to shape future generations and make a difference in their communities. Ms. Sanchez is a lifelong learner. She obtained her bachelor's degree from Florida State University in Social Work with minors in Education and Spanish in 1945 and went on to get her Master's in Social Work at Columbia University in 1947. Until 1991, nearly fifty years later, she took graduate level courses in areas such as Pupil Personnel Services, Education, and Rehabilitation.

All the while, Ms. Sanchez was affecting enormous change in lives of hundreds of children in the Tampa Bay area. One of the greatest services that Delia Sanchez provided to the Tampa community was to work with Congressman Sam Gibbons to bring the first Head Start initiative to Hillsborough County. She began her career as a Child Welfare Worker for the Florida State Welfare Board. From there Ms. Sanchez went on to work for the School Board of Hillsborough County as a School Social Worker and a Case Work Consultant, working her way up the ranks to eventually serve as the Administrative Supervisor for Head Start for nine years. Then, in the last three years of her career, she went into private practice to counsel troubled children.

Throughout her career and in her retirement, Ms. Sanchez has served as a board member or local representative to a number of community organizations. The list is too large to mention them all, but they range from the University of South Florida's Latin Community Advisory Committee, the Citizen's Advisory Council, the Child Abuse Council, the Ybor City Museum Society, to the National Association of Social Workers.

For all of her hard work in education and the lives of children, countless organizations have recognized her. To name a few, Ms. Sanchez is the recipient of the US State Department Fellowship Award, the American Red Cross Service Award twice, the Retired Social Worker Outstanding Achievement Award, the Hillsborough County Martin Luther King, Jr. Award, the National Head Start Association Lifetime Achievement Award and now the Sydney & Thalia Potter Civic Leadership Award. She is also a member of Sigma Delta Pi Spanish Honor Society, was named Social Worker of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers by the Tampa Bay Unit and then again by the Florida Chapter, received an honorary Doctorate from the University of South Florida School of Social Work, and in 1993 she was Hispanic Woman of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, Delia P. Sanchez is a woman of the highest regard who has dedicated her