

A case study through the Veterans' Administration (VA) highlights the benefits of home healthcare. The VA has provided comprehensive primary care services to veterans in their homes since 1972 in an effort to keep patients in their homes and reduce inpatient hospital days. The program was specifically designed to target patients with complex chronic diseases through an interdisciplinary team of health professionals. This program showed a reduction in inpatient hospital days by 62 percent, and a reduction in nursing home bed days by 88 percent. This translated into a reduction in the cost of care from \$38,000 to \$29,000 per patient per year for patients enrolled in the program (a 24 percent reduction).

The Medicare program continues to increase in importance in my home state of Iowa, where our senior population is increasing dramatically. The percentage of Iowans age 65 and older is expected to grow from 14.8 percent in 2009 to 22.4 percent by 2030, according to the Iowa Department on Aging. I am committed to preserving benefits for current recipients and those nearing retirement, while guaranteeing the program's solvency for future generations of Americans.

Seniors throughout Iowa depend on Medicare for their health coverage, and we have to do everything we can to safeguard those benefits. As we examine solutions to address Medicare's solvency, there is strong evidence that home care is a cost-effective benefit that should remain accessible to seniors.

HONORING MR. WILLIAM F. SCHENCK FOR HIS SERVICE IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROFESSION

### HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2012*

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District to recognize William F. Schenck for his outstanding career as a prosecuting attorney and his efforts of upholding justice in the Greene County Community and the nation.

Bill earned his Juris Doctor from The Ohio State University and shortly after began his career in the Greene County prosecutor's office. Elected to the position of Prosecuting Attorney seven times, Bill honorably served the citizens of Greene County for over 25 years. During his time as the county's prosecuting attorney, Bill prosecuted over 50,000 felonies and brought justice to numerous victims.

After his time in the Greene County prosecutor's office, Bill served as the Assistant United States Attorney at Department of Justice in the U.S. Attorney's Office for over five years. During this time, Bill prosecuted felons involved in organized crime.

Bill has shown himself to be a dedicated and hardworking member of the Greene County community and the state of Ohio. Throughout his service, he has been an advocate for victims' rights and has worked tirelessly for justice.

Thus, it is with great pride, I congratulate William F. Schenck for his commendable service in protecting the Miami Valley, the state of Ohio, and the United States. I join the people

of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District in extending best wishes upon his retirement from the U.S. Attorney's Office and success in all future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GIRL SCOUTS

### HON. ANN MARIE BUERKLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2012*

Ms. BUERKLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Girl Scouts of America.

On March 12, 1912, Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low brought together 18 girls for the first ever Girl Scout meeting. One hundred years later Girl Scouts of America has 112 councils and more than 3.2 million members.

Since being founded, the Girl Scouts has been devoted to providing opportunities for all girls to develop and grow physically, mentally, and spiritually. Through the work of dedicated volunteers, young women are given a firm foundation to build upon their strengths and learn other valuable life skills.

Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways is the branch of the Girl Scouts of America that covers my district. It serves nearly 19,000 girls and over 7,000 adults in 24 counties in New York and two counties in Pennsylvania. Through activities that help girls discover their values and skills, Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways gives girls courage, confidence, and character; attributes that will serve them well in their future.

I congratulate Girl Scouts of America on their 100th anniversary and offer my sincerest thanks to all of the Girl Scouts of America's volunteers, especially those from NYPENN Pathways, for their dedication and leadership to the next generation of young women.

A TRIBUTE TO MELISSA HEER

### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2012*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Melissa Heer of Ames for receiving a coveted Fullbright award to study and conduct research abroad this academic year.

The Fullbright Program is sponsored by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs. This program is known as America's flagship international exchange program. First established by Congress in 1946, the Fullbright Program has served the purpose of building mutual understanding between American citizens and the rest of the world. Appropriations from the United States Congress, participating foreign governments, and private sector contributions fund the Fullbright Program. The program has exchanged over a quarter of a million people in more than 155 countries, since its inception. Melissa's host country for the 2011–2012 academic year is India.

To receive a Fullbright award is truly a great honor. Recipients of this award must demonstrate significant leadership potential in their

chosen field and are selected on the basis of their academic or professional achievement. The experiences provided by this program ensure that tomorrow's leaders are both knowledgeable about the world and well-rounded.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent future leaders like Melissa from the great state of Iowa in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States Congress will join me in congratulating her for receiving this prestigious award. I wish her the best of luck in her studies and future career.

HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO

### HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2012*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo for their commitment to education and to honor the volunteers that make it possible.

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo has been known as the largest rodeo in the world. It attracts the best of the best in the rodeo and livestock industries but it also raises millions of dollars for Houston area children to go to college.

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo will award more 600 scholarships totaling over \$9.53 million in 2012. Every year, the rodeo increases the number of awards given to local students.

Since its beginning in 1932, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo has committed more than \$283 million to scholarships, research, endowments, and other educational youth programs. Students have received more than \$165 million in direct support, since the first scholarship was awarded in 1957.

Currently, more than 2,000 students are on Show scholarships, attending more than 100 different Texas colleges and universities. The value of these scholarships is approximately \$30 million.

I'm sure many students from the 29th District, and from all over the Houston area, will enjoy benefiting from this great program as it continues to grow in the future.

I am proud to be a life member of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and thank the thousands of volunteers that dedicate well over a million hours of service each year to make the rodeo and its scholarship program operate as smoothly as they do.

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo would not be the success that it is today without the hard work and dedication of its volunteers. The current 26,000+ volunteers serve on more than 100 different Rodeo committees.

Their service to our community is greatly appreciated.

And so it is with great pleasure that I recognize the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo for their success and dedication to education and to the Volunteers that make the show possible.