

Colby, Wisconsin, who lost his life on Sunday, March 4, 2012 due to injuries sustained while fighting a fire at the Abbottsford Movie Theater.

Mr. Speaker, Lieutenant Kampmeyer had qualities that many of us strive for all of our lives. He was a dedicated husband, father of three sons, public servant and friend to many. Since 2002, Jamison served his community with honor as a volunteer firefighter and EMT for the City of Colby, eventually rising to the rank of Lieutenant. Jamison began his career with the Marathon County Sheriff's Department in 2004. Throughout his career as a Deputy Sheriff, he served in numerous capacities including Field Training Officer and SWAT team member. It is because of his extreme dedication to duty that he was posthumously promoted to Detective on March 5th, a position which he was due to assume next month.

The selfless sacrifice and exemplary service of Lieutenant Jamison Kampmeyer will not soon be forgotten. Through his actions, he has made his family, community, state and nation eternally proud. It is my humbling honor to pay tribute to him and I urge my colleagues to join me today in honoring the life of Lieutenant Jamison Kampmeyer for the sacrifice he made for his community and fellow firefighters.

HONORING THE AMERICAN LEGION AND RETIRED ARMY CORPORAL LEONARD SANTANGELO

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today in recognition of our nation's veterans. The brave men and women of the United States Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, National Guard, and Reserves deserve our support, gratitude and prayers. We owe a great debt to these Americans for their service, for their courage, and for the sacrifice of their families.

I would also like to thank the organizations that support these veterans and their families when they come home. In particular, the American Legion will be celebrating its 93rd birthday this Friday, March 9, 2012. The local American Legion posts in my district, and around the country, play a vital role in bringing our community together. The American Legion supports not only our service members, but also our youth, with programs such as an amateur baseball league, scholarships for college-bound students and more.

One of the American Legion posts within my district, Post #145 in Douglasville, will be honoring a very special veteran this Friday—Pearl Harbor survivor Leonard Santangelo, who is one of only 17 survivors from Georgia. Leonard is a retired Army Corporal, and, at 92, is almost as old as the American Legion itself. He began his military service in 1941, just a few months prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor. Throughout his military career Leonard has received the American Defense Medal with one Bronze Star, the Asiatic-Pacific Service Medal and the Good Conduct Medal. He served his country through the end of World War II and continues even today by sharing his story with his community—adults and school children alike.

It gives me great honor and pleasure to recognize American Legion Post #145 and Ret.

Army Corporal Leonard Santangelo for their great service to our nation.

IN CELEBRATION OF EBBY HALLIDAY'S 101ST BIRTHDAY

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend Ebby Halliday Acres as she celebrates her one hundred and first birthday tomorrow. Ebby is a remarkable woman who has made a lifelong impact on the Dallas Community through her leadership and philanthropic endeavors.

Ebby Halliday Realtors was founded in 1945 by Ebby and her beloved husband, Maurice Acers. Their company began with only fifty-two homes in North Dallas, and has since grown to become one of the largest privately owned residential real estate firms in the country. Ebby is a true entrepreneur that we can all admire. Her savvy business ventures have produced countless jobs, and her success is a true testament to what can be achieved with a positive attitude and hard working spirit. Ebby is a symbol of the American Dream, and through her company she has been able to help countless others achieve their own dreams of home ownership.

Ebby is also celebrated in the Dallas community for generously donating her time and efforts, as well as significant financial support, to numerous philanthropic endeavors. St. Paul Medical Center, United Way of Metropolitan Dallas, and the Communities Foundation of Texas are only three of the many nonprofit organizations and causes that have been personally touched by Ebby's love for her community and dedication to making the City of Dallas a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our heartiest congratulations to Ebby as she celebrates her one hundred and first birthday. May we all strive to match Ebby's passion for improving our communities and her unwavering commitment to success.

WAR ON WOMEN AND WOMEN'S HEALTH

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank Congressman MIKE QUIGLEY for working to organize Women's Health Wednesday, and also all of my colleagues of the Congressional Pro Choice Caucus, of which I am also a member, for standing up for women's health every single day.

I'm here, once again, to stand against the ongoing War on Women and Women's Health.

And let me just say how unfortunate it is that we continue to have to fight for what is and should be a basic health right and necessity for women. I am sure the American people would much rather have us focusing on ways to create jobs, especially for the long-term unemployed.

Yet here we are again. Defending women's right to access basic health care services. And yes, that includes contraception.

Much of the debate around access to contraception has centered on the so-called conscience clause. The ability of a religiously affiliated business to withhold access to contraception care for women based simply on an abstract moral objection.

An objection, mind you, that not only ignores the conscience or moral beliefs of the women these businesses employ, but completely disregards the real medical needs of these women.

And let me say, as I have before, that as a former devout practicing Catholic I fully understand and respect the Church's doctrine on contraception, even though I disagree with it.

But the health care decisions a woman makes should and must be between her and her doctor. And as I have always said, the government has no place inserting itself between the medical decisions a woman makes with her doctor. Period.

Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to recognize and highlight those women who are especially impacted by the attempts of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle, as well as some religious leaders, to restrict access to vital contraception coverage.

Those who often get lost in the debate around this issue. Although I believe that women's health care decisions should not continue to be unfairly politicized.

We know the benefits of birth control for women and their families. We know how planned pregnancy and spacing children improves the quality of life and the outlook for the children and the whole family.

And we know that is also improves the health of the woman.

Often, however, we do not hear from the women for whom birth control may literally mean the difference between life and death.

I'd like to share the story of a woman named Sally who is from my district in California. She is a working mother who could not afford to have more children. After numerous miscarriages, she relied on birth control to allow her body to heal properly before becoming pregnant again. After a couple of years of taking this medication, her body healed sufficiently to allow her to finally have a viable pregnancy.

Another young woman from California has polycystic ovarian syndrome and uses birth control to regulate her hormones.

She was prescribed the medication after her gynecologist had to scrape dozens of precancerous cysts from her uterus. According to her gynecologist, had another 6 months passed, this young woman would have developed full blown cancer.

And another young woman who, after having a very difficult first pregnancy and being diagnosed with a serious heart condition, was told by her doctor that if she were to become pregnant again, it could cost her life and the life of her unborn child. And so she depends, in part, on contraception to not only to preserve her life, but to be there to raise her son.

And these are just a few of the thousands of stories from women across the country who use contraception for many many medical reasons.

Two years after the passage of the Affordable Care Act we are beginning to see true reforms in our health care system that expands access to vital preventative health services.

We must protect these gains, instead of working against them.