

young cancer patients who have lost their hair from chemotherapy and radiation. Initiatives like the Magical Caps for Kids program help lift the spirits and boost the self-esteem of children undergoing exhaustive and painful courses of treatment. The American Cancer Fund for Children also sponsors the Courageous Kid Award, which organizes ceremonies and hospital celebrations to recognize a child's bravery and determination in fighting the battle against childhood cancer.

Kids Cancer Connection provides educational resources to the public and strives to raise public awareness about childhood cancer.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Steven Firestein for his remarkable efforts on behalf of the thousands of children and families affected by childhood cancer.

COLUMBIA COUNTY BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Columbia County of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which will celebrate its bicentennial anniversary on March 22, 2013.

On March 22, 1813, Columbia County separated from Northumberland County. The area was named for Columbia, a popular poetic name for America at the time and one that alludes to Christopher Columbus and his discovery of our great nation. In 1870, Bloomsburg was named as the County Seat and is still considered to be the only "incorporated" town in Pennsylvania. Today, about 66,000 Americans call Columbia County home. They contribute to our nation by working hard for a living and caring for their families. Many of them are earning an education at Bloomsburg University, working at Geisinger-Bloomsburg Hospital or tending to family-owned farms or businesses.

The County is noted for its natural beauty and historic sites. The Susquehanna River and several tributaries flow through the region which also has rolling farmlands, State game lands, State forests, and nature preserves. Notable architectural sites are the Catawissa Friends Meetinghouse constructed in 1789, the Columbia County Courthouse built in 1848, the Berwick Armory constructed in 1922, Bloomsburg Historic District, and 23 covered bridges, the third largest concentration of covered bridges in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, for two hundred years Columbia County has been an integral part of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and our great nation. Therefore, I commend all those citizens who have lived and worked for two centuries in this beautiful and historic area.

HONORING MR. ROD TAYLOR ON HIS SELECTION TO THE NAFCU BOARD

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rod Taylor on his recent selec-

tion to the Board of Directors at the National Association of Federal Credit Unions, NAFCU.

Mr. Taylor has been President and CEO of Barksdale Federal Credit Union in Bossier City since 2008. Barksdale FCU is the largest member-owned credit union in Louisiana. Mr. Taylor previously served as Barksdale Federal Credit Union's Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer, a post he held for over sixteen years.

Mr. Taylor served in the U.S. Coast Guard from 1973-1977 and received his MBA from Oregon State University before he started working in the financial industry with US National Bank of Oregon in 1983.

Mr. Taylor also brings experience as a board member of other businesses, and he will bring a tremendous amount of expertise to the NAFCU Board. I wish Mr. Taylor the best of luck in his new role on the NAFCU Board and look forward to working with him in this capacity. I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating Rod Taylor on this achievement.

TRIBUTE TO BENJAMIN PAGE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Benjamin Page for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Benjamin Page is the Director of the Des Moines Park and Recreation Department, where he manages a \$15.8 million budget that includes 76 parks, 42 miles of trails, five aquatic centers, three public golf courses, and the Principal Riverwalk. Benjamin's role also tasks him with overseeing well known local landmarks such as the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, Blank Park Zoo and Principal Park, home of the Iowa Cubs, while serving as a liaison for each location's respective foundations. When he's not in the office, Mr. Page serves on a number of boards including the Greater Des Moines Convention and Visitors Bureau Sports Commission, First Tee of Greater Des Moines, and the Blank Park Zoo Foundation. Ben is also a proud recipient of the Governor's Award for Outstanding Service to Iowa's Children in the Area of Environmental Awareness. Outside of his official commitments, Ben loves spending time with his wife Kim, and their children Sophia and Bryce. Together they enjoy participating in several activities of the city's recreational programming. In all facets of his life, Benjamin is an example of hard work and service that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Benjamin in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Page for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Benjamin on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SCREEN ACT FOR 113TH CONGRESS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, the month of March is national colorectal cancer awareness month. I introduce today the Supporting Colorectal Examination and Education Now (SCREEN) Act. This legislation removes barriers in colon cancer screening, one of the most effective preventive health screenings available. The bill helps save lives, improve quality of care, while also reducing Medicare costs in the process. I urge all of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

The statistics surrounding colon cancer are startling. Over 50,000 people will die this year from this disease according to the American Cancer Society. Colon cancer is the number two cancer killer in the United States for both men and women. Many of us in this chamber have had friends, family members, and associates affected by this terrible disease.

Thankfully, colorectal cancer is highly preventable with appropriate screening. According to an important study recently published in the New England Journal of Medicine, colorectal cancer deaths may be reduced by over 50 percent by removing precancerous polyps during the screening colonoscopy. Colon cancer screening is a unique preventive service as pre-cancerous polyps are removed during the same encounter, thus preventing cancer from developing, as opposed to other cancer screenings where early detection is the goal. That is one reason why the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force provides an "A" rating for CRC screenings.

Unfortunately, only half of the Medicare population is being screened, despite the availability of a Medicare colon cancer screening benefit. According to CMS and the American Cancer Society, Medicare claims indicate that only 55-58 percent of beneficiaries have had a colonoscopy or any colorectal cancer test. Screening rates among minority populations are especially low despite the fact that incidences of colon cancer are higher in these populations. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) concludes that 1,000 additional colorectal cancer deaths will be prevented each year if screening rates reached 70 percent.

In addition to saving lives, colorectal cancer screening has been demonstrated to save Medicare long-term costs as noted by the New England Journal of Medicine in a recent article. The direct costs of treating colorectal cancer in 2010 reached \$4 billion. These costs can be partially avoided with proper screening.