

## KIDNEY AWARENESS WEEK

**HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the great work of the American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA) and their efforts to raise awareness about chronic kidney disease (CKD). From August 5–9, the ANNA is hosting Kidney Disease Awareness and Education week, where ANNA members are holding a series of events raising awareness of the growing health problems associated with kidney disease.

CKD's onset usually stems from the improper treatment of diabetes and high blood pressure, when the kidneys fail to filter blood properly. Overtime, the kidneys can lose their functionality and as a result, increase one's chances of kidney failure, cardiovascular diseases such as heart attacks and heart failure, along with other serious health issues. Unfortunately, CKD impacts over 25 million adults in the United States.

The American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA), organized in 1969, is a nonprofit organization made of over 10,000 nephrology nurses whose mission is to educate the public and improve the lives of those with kidney disease. ANNA pursues this mission through educational and advocacy programs encouraging understanding of nephrology nursing.

Much is demanded of nephrology nurses. They are required to handle many tasks at once, while demonstrating extraordinary attention to detail and dedication while also caring and comforting their patients.

I want to thank America's nephrology nurses for all they do, particularly those who serve my constituents in the 21st Congressional district. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the efforts of the American Nephrology Nurses Association and Kidney Disease Awareness and Education week.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 429 I was unavoidably detained in a meeting off the Hill at the White House with the President.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

## A TRIBUTE TO KAREN SHAFF

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Karen Shaff for being named a 2013 Women of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Each year, *Business Record* undertakes an exhaustive review to identify a standout group

of women in the Greater Des Moines area who, as the publication notes, "have made a difference." An impressive group of inspiring female leaders are selected annually for this prestigious distinction, which is based on combined criteria of community involvement, career success, and being a role model for other women to emulate. The 2013 Women of Influence honorees join an impressive roster of more than 130 women who have changed and are continuing to change our communities for the better.

Karen Shaff began her career at what was then known as Bankers Life Co. in 1982. In the three decades since, she has ascended the ladder to become executive vice president and general counsel at Principal Financial Group Inc., making her the highest ranking female officer of an organization whose reach spans the globe. Coming from a family of public servants, she was well-acquainted with community involvement from an early age—and it's shown. Mrs. Shaff is president of the Animal Rescue League of Iowa's advisory council, has led the fundraising efforts for the construction of the Science Center of Iowa, and is a member of the Grinnell College board of trustees. She's also involved with such organizations as Bravo Greater Des Moines and Hospice of Central Iowa.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Karen Shaff in the United States Congress, and I am pleased to recognize her for working to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating her on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Women of Influence class continued success.

## RECOGNIZING JORDAN

**HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, today I urge my colleagues to support House Resolution 222, recognizing the long-term partnership and friendship between the United States and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, working together towards peace and security in the Middle East. I would like to recognize the bipartisan support of my colleagues, including House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce and Ranking Member Eliot Engel. This resolution comes at a time of extreme unrest and conflict in the region.

Since taking up the post of our country's top diplomat in February, Secretary of State John Kerry has traveled to Amman over six times. Close cooperation between our two nations is critical to meet the challenges of the Middle East region. Jordan plays a key role as the host and mediator in Middle East peace negotiations between the Israelis and Palestinians. Jordan has maintained full, normalized diplomatic relations with Israel for almost 20 years since signing the historic 1994 Jordan-Israel Peace Treaty. As an advocate for progress in the Middle East peace process, Jordan is a stabilizing force for the region.

The horrific violence in neighboring Syria threatens to destabilize an entire region. The

al-Assad regime continues to fuel a humanitarian crisis through attacks against innocent civilians. Over 100,000 Syrian lives have been lost and approximately 1.8 million refugees have fled Syria. Jordan is hosting over half a million refugees, which is almost 10% of Jordan's population. The government of Jordan is partnering with the international community to care for the needs of this vulnerable population, providing shelter, food, water, health care and education. The burden of caring for such a large number of refugees places enormous economic and social pressures on the country.

The United States has enjoyed a strong alliance with Jordan for over six decades. The Jordanians work closely with the United States in multiple areas, from cooperation in regional and global counterterrorism efforts, to economic development and humanitarian assistance. King Abdullah II is an advocate for modernization in the Arab world, and recognizes the potential opportunity for political reform in Jordan. U.S.–Jordan relations are a key element of U.S. strategic interests in the Middle East. I am pleased to offer this resolution commending the people and Government of Jordan for their continued friendship with the United States and commitment to peace, security and stability in the Middle East.

## IN RECOGNITION OF DON DORNELL

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Fire Chief Don Dornell, who is retiring after nearly four decades of service to the people of Burlingame and San Mateo County. His dedication to public service is a credit to his community and to his character as a leader.

Don Dornell is a Peninsula native, born in San Francisco in 1951 and raised in Millbrae as the second of five children, and one of a pair of twins. He attended Capuchino High School in San Bruno, then earned his associate degree in Political Science at the College of San Mateo in 1971.

It was then that Chief Dornell's career in public service began. He served in the Army National Guard for six years, until 1977. During that time, Chief Dornell trained as a plumber, and he began working for the San Carlos Parks Department. But from his first day, he knew that the Parks Department was not for him—his real goal was serving as a firefighter.

After a brief stint in Piedmont, Chief Dornell was hired as a firefighter for the City of Burlingame in March 1977, a community he has served diligently ever since. He has risen swiftly through the ranks, earning a promotion to Fire Captain in 1985, and serving as the B-Shift Training Officer from 1985 to 1997 and codirector of the San Mateo County Fire Recruit Academy from 1996 to 1997. In January 1997, he became Assistant Chief, and he took over responsibility for training and overseeing line personnel.

More recently, Chief Dornell has worked tirelessly to ensure successful transitions as local agencies consolidate fire protection to strengthen the cohesiveness of service and promote administrative efficiency. When the