

Executive Officer of Greater Spokane Incorporated (GSI), the Inland Northwest's largest chamber of commerce, Rich has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to growing jobs and business opportunities not only in Spokane but all across Eastern Washington and the Inland Northwest region.

When Rich arrived at the Spokane Chamber of Commerce in 1993, the organization looked and functioned very differently than the GSI the community knows today. Under Rich's leadership, GSI has been intentional in consolidating business promotion efforts, thereby presenting a strong, unified voice for the Inland Northwest. Specifically in 2007, Rich brought together the Chamber and the Spokane Area Economic Development Council, thereby creating Greater Spokane Incorporated. More recently, three groups, the International Trade Alliance, the Spokane STEM Network, and Connect Northwest, have integrated with GSI: These recent integrations serve as a testament to GSI's credibility as the groups know that GSI will be able to fulfill each of their missions.

From tirelessly advocating for Fairchild Air Force Base, an integral part of Spokane's community since 1942 when the City of Spokane and local residents purchased the land and donated it to the War Department, to supporting the start of the North Spokane Corridor, Eastern Washington's top transportation priority, Rich's legacies are numerous. However, his greatest legacy is his tireless commitment to bringing a medical school to Spokane.

Several years ago, Rich saw a need in Eastern Washington for a medical school as it would bring additional doctors to the region and open up new economic opportunities. Working with the University of Washington (UW) and Washington State University (WSU), in 2008, WSU accepted its first group of first-year medical students at its Spokane campus. Last fall, it added 19 second-year students as part of the UW School of Medicine's second-year curriculum. Now, the University District is the center of a new bioscience complex that will be a major contributor to Spokane's future economic vitality.

A man of integrity and high principle, his humility and his impact on Eastern Washington and on his country will long be remembered. So, today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Hadley for a lifetime of dedicated service.

HONORING DAVID J. CRAWFORD

**HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2014*

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exemplary constituent of mine, David J. Crawford, who throughout his lifetime in Columbia County, NY has contributed significantly to economic growth and our sense of community in my home county.

David was born and raised in Germantown, where he played soccer, basketball, and the trumpet while working as a construction laborer in high school. After high school, he first began studying engineering at Columbia-Greene Community College, where he also was the 1st Trumpet in the College's first mu-

sical, "The Music Man." He then continued his undergraduate studies at Clarkson University and began his Master of Business Administration at Pace University, before setting off to work as a land surveyor and engineer for firms in Missouri, Michigan, and Indiana.

David returned to New York permanently in 1978 and founded Crawford & Associates Engineering & Land Surveying, P.C. in 1992. He is the current board President of the Columbia Economic Development Corporation, past president and treasurer of Friends of Clermont, board member of the Columbia County Historical Society and Columbia County Board of Supervisors' Airport Committee, and past president of the Columbia County Association in the City of New York. Beyond his significant business and charitable contributions to Columbia County and surrounding areas, David has made an indelible mark on our region through his character and personal relationships.

I would like to again thank David for his life of service and business acumen that have immeasurably helped Upstate New York and beyond. It is no surprise to me, nor anyone else who knows him, that he continues to be recognized in a variety of ways, including winning the Columbia County Association in the City of New York 2013 Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award. Thank you David, and keep up the incredible work.

APRIL IS IBS AWARENESS MONTH

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2014*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize April as IBS Awareness Month. Irritable bowel syndrome, or IBS, is a functional gastrointestinal disorder. It is characterized by recurring abdominal pain or discomfort related to changes in intestinal function. Other GI symptoms, such as nausea or bloating, and non-GI symptoms, such as sleep disturbances or headache, may often occur. IBS affects up to 15 percent of the U.S. population and accounts for roughly 40 percent of all referrals to gastroenterologists.

There is no cure and there are few treatments options for IBS, many of which are only marginally effective. Individuals with moderate to severe IBS struggle with symptoms that significantly limit their physical, emotional, economic, and social well-being. For example, a recent study found that employees with IBS had higher average total healthcare costs, and significantly higher medically related work absenteeism.

People of all ages are affected by IBS. One study found that 14 percent of high school students and six percent of middle school students have IBS. Children with IBS are also more likely to experience anxiety and depression and a disruption of normal activities and social interactions. In addition, veterans and active military personnel are disproportionately represented by those suffering from IBS and other functional gastrointestinal disorders due to their exposure to increased risk factors.

I am encouraged by efforts by non-profits to provide education, support, and advancing research. Recently, the International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders

(IFFGD) developed a smart-phone app that allows patients to access information on IBS, including treatment options. These are the kind of new initiatives that need advancing so that the millions of Americans with IBS can be treated more effectively.

I urge my fellow Members of Congress to support research efforts and to raise awareness for IBS. As an institution, let's agree to lessen the stigma for IBS patients and urge those who may be affected by IBS to find out more and get the help they need.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2014*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,436,444,226,130.22. We've added \$6,809,567,177,217.14 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CELEBRATION OF MAY 3RD POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY

**HON. DUNCAN HUNTER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2014*

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an important national holiday that will be celebrated this week by our friends in Poland, May 3rd, Polish Constitution Day. On May 3, 1791, Poland adopted the first constitution of its kind in Europe and second in the world following what had occurred here in America only a few years before.

This new constitution in Poland sought to supplant the prevailing anarchy fostered by some of the country's magnates with a more democratic constitutional monarchy. It introduced elements of political equality between townspeople and nobility and placed people of all classes under the protection of the government, thus mitigating the worst abuses of serfdom. It banned pernicious parliamentary institutions such as the liberum veto, which had put the Sejm (Polish Assembly) at the mercy of any deputy who could revoke all the legislation that had been passed by that Sejm.

The citizens of Poland knew this constitution was special and May 3rd was declared an official Polish holiday, Constitution Day, two days later on May 5, 1791. As with all new efforts toward freedom and greater democracy, the Polish Constitution met resistance and was banned during the partitions of Poland but eventually reinstated in April 1919 under the Second Polish Republic—the first holiday officially introduced in the newly independent country. The holiday was again outlawed during World War II by both Nazi and Soviet occupiers, only to be celebrated in Polish cities in May 1945 in a mostly spontaneous manner.