

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I, like my colleagues from West Virginia, Mrs. CAPITO and Mr. MCKINLEY, remember Mick Staton as a dedicated public servant, a son of West Virginia.

I enjoyed serving in this body with Mick. He always knew where he stood on a given issue. While he and I were members of different political parties, on principle, we often agreed. He shared the most basic value of true West Virginians, loyalty—loyalty to his faith, to his family, to his friends, to his Nation, and to our State.

Mick's word was his bond. Of course, he was a loyal Republican, and as a copper-riveted, rock-ribbed Republican through and through, Mick was always my friend. There is a good lesson in that for our Members today. Our friendship continued to grow after his distinguished service ended in this body.

Mr. Speaker, Mick Staton's service to our State of West Virginia never ended, nor did his efforts to bring people together to get things accomplished for West Virginians.

He worked hard for that, and his devotion flowed as naturally as a pristine mountain stream. This courteous, cordial fellow—with what could best be described as an award-winning, ever-present smile—had a good way with people. It is no secret to anyone who knew him that all of that warm personality—that sincere charm—stemmed from a good heart.

Mick always made a point of delivering a birthday card to me, personally, sometimes in my congressional office. This May, as my birthday approaches, that good heart will be sorely missed. My thoughts and prayers remain with Lynn—his wife—and with his family.

□ 1600

MOMENT OF SILENCE HONORING PIONEER AND LIFELONG MOUNTAINEER DAVID "MICK" STATON

(Mr. MCKINLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, on April 14, we lost a friend in West Virginia. Mick Staton and I had known each other for some time. I considered him a true friend, someone who had a passion for West Virginia.

He was a trailblazer for numbers of us, all through West Virginia, in trying different techniques, campaign styles, and work ethic. He made a difference for numbers of his conservatives in West Virginia. He was elected to the House of Representatives on behalf of the Second District.

He brought with him a background of work with the National Guard for 8 years. His role here in the House meant a lot to him, and after he left, whenever I would run into him, Mr. Speaker, he would always ask: What about

something new? What is happening? Because he cared passionately about our country and the State of West Virginia.

Afterwards, after leaving office, he served as the chief political adviser for the United States Chamber of Commerce. He continued his mission to try to get the message across of how we can be a better Nation, stronger, more vibrant, because he cared very much.

As you heard, he has left behind his wife, Lynn, and two adult kids: David "Mick" Staton, Jr., and his daughter, Cynthia.

Mr. Speaker, again, we have lost a friend. I would ask that we have just a moment of silence on behalf of the family.

APPROVING THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

(Mr. BARROW of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, almost 2 weeks ago, the administration announced yet another delay in approving the Keystone XL pipeline. I think they have it all wrong. Further delays in constructing this pipeline means that the U.S. will miss out on tens of thousands of jobs and continue to depend on foreign oil from hostile countries.

The Keystone XL pipeline will bring in 840,000 barrels of oil a day from our friend and neighbor, Canada. That can essentially replace the 900,000 barrels we have to get every day from Venezuela, one country we cannot count on. Add to that the roughly 20,000 jobs that will be created and the findings that the pipeline will have no net negative environmental impacts, you can see why there is broad, bipartisan support for the Keystone XL pipeline.

Mr. Speaker, this oil will be extracted, refined, and used by someone. The only question is who will get the jobs and who will be the first in line to use it. America needs the Keystone XL pipeline now, and I urge the administration to end the holdup.

NATIONAL DNA DAY

(Mr. PEARCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, April is National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. April 25 was National DNA Day. It commemorates the discovery of DNA's double helix and subsequent scientific advancements.

DNA has revolutionized public safety in the criminal justice system. Since its inception in 1994, the national DNA database system has solved more than 200,000 previously unsolved crimes. It provides closure to victims of violent crimes. It assists prosecutors in taking violent offenders off the streets and has

helped clear more than 300 wrongfully convicted.

Katie Sepich was a 22-year-old New Mexico State University graduate student. In August of 2003, she was brutally raped, strangled to death, burned, and abandoned at a dumpsite. Katie was a fighter with full DNA profiles under her nails. Through DNA, we were able to find her attacker.

Katie's Law was signed into law last year, helping States with DNA collection. The discoveries and advancements of DNA have done wonders for our society. Closure has transformed our justice system.

THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION COMPETITION

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, last night it was my honor to be in the audience as Lincoln High School from Portland, Oregon, won the national Constitution competition. This is a terrific program. The We the People competition has been going on since 1987. It has involved almost 28 million youngsters, nearly 100,000 coaches and teachers, where young people do a deep dive into constitutional underpinnings. I will tell you, these students were no different.

I am pleased that this is the third year in a row that Portland, Oregon, has won: Lincoln 2 years ago, Grant High School, Lincoln again this year.

These are outstanding young men and women. It has been my privilege to have had an opportunity to work with them during their preparation. I am continually impressed with their insight and their commitment.

There is a lot of concern about the state of civic education in the United States today, and rightly so. But these young trailblazers are showing the ability of young people to master the subject, make a commitment, and they are sowing the seeds for productive careers for years to come.

I hope some day this Congress will see fit to once again support this civic education program, which we had done until 2 years ago. It is time to reconsider and see if we can be a partner as well.

CALLING UPON THE BELARUSIAN OFFICIALS FOR THE IMMEDIATE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, every individual has a right to live in a free society. This May, the Ice Hockey World Championship 2014 will take place in Minsk, Belarus, challenging the Belarusian Government to demonstrate that it lives up to the core principles of good sportsmanship and fair play.