

workforce trends and increasing collaboration between employers and educators, we can help students to make informed decisions regarding their career paths.

Comprehensive career counseling is a vital component of skills training and helps to better align school curricula with local workforce trends and available post-secondary opportunities. While not every job will require a college degree, some sort of postsecondary education will be necessary. Whether it comes from a community college, a skills training program, or on-the-job-training, we need to change what it means to be college- and career-ready. We need to provide students with the knowledge and experience that will truly prepare them for what's next.

However, we cannot neglect the skills gap that remains for people already in the workforce. Many workers need to learn new skills to advance their careers, and although they may not have the option to work with a school counselor, they can foster connections with career development professionals.

Across the nation, career development professionals help students to achieve their goals by providing professional development resources, scientific resources and advocacy. Each November, career development professionals celebrate the achievements of their clients with career-focused events and activities including the National Career Development Association (NCDA) Poetry and Poster Contest. In fact, this year marks the 49th successful competition, which is appropriately titled, "Reimagining Life's Possibilities: Celebrating First Jobs Through Encore Careers."

NCDA represents a broad range of members that provide career intervention and support services. Members include school and college counselors, One Stop Career Center counselors, Veterans Administration counselors, and private practice counselors, coaches and consultants. NCDA supports its members by providing research, advocacy and training. Last year, NCDA celebrated its 100th year of providing professional service to individuals seeking career advancement and success.

I would like to thank all career development professionals for their dedication to helping Americans improve their skillsets, find quality employment and achieve their professional and personal goals.

RECOGNIZING THE 55 YEARS OF SERVICE TO BARTLETT, IL BY MR. BILL "TIK" TIKNIS

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2014*

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Mr. Bill "Tik" Tknis, a resident of Bartlett, Illinois, in my Congressional district.

Bill Tknis moved with his family to Bartlett in 1956 and dedicated his life in service to his community. Bill gave a remarkable 55 years of service in jobs including serving as Village President, Village Trustee, and the Founder and President of the Bartlett Chamber of Commerce. He was a volunteer Fire Fighter and later District Commissioner of the Bartlett Fire Protection District and was a Charter Member

of the Bartlett Rotary and President of the Hanover Township Foundation. Bill's leadership in these roles left an indelible mark on Bartlett and has created a lasting legacy.

Apart from his time spent in local government, Bill helped organize youth football in Bartlett and created the Bartlett Park District. While he was Village President, he helped preserve a town landmark by working to purchase Bartlett Hills Golf Club with overwhelming support from the community. The Village now has a "Bill Tknis Golf Classic" in his honor.

Recently, the Village of Bartlett has named the seventh of April as Bill Tknis Day and Hanover Township Administration Center renamed their building the "Bill Tknis Campus" at a ceremony attended by over 200 community members and leaders. He is a true living legend in the Village of Bartlett.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing Mr. Bill Tknis as a wonderful example of citizenship and service and wishing him much success in his next chapter.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CIVIL WAR REVISITED

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2014*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th anniversary of the Fresno Historical Society's Civil War Revisited celebration, taking place on October 18–19, 2014.

On September 29–30, 1990, more than 10,000 visitors in Fresno's Kearney Park were able to travel back in time to witness four battles between Union and confederate soldiers that originally took place in 1864 near Atlanta, Georgia. Three hundred volunteers from throughout California were sponsored by the Civil War Reenactment Society to assemble and act in authentic Civil War battles complete with cannon volleys, musket fire, rebel yells, costumes, and charging horses.

These volunteers were educated in depth about the lives of the characters they portray, leaving visitors with a broader view of the times and lives of people during the time period. Such authenticity allowed the audience, and over 4,000 students to learn firsthand, vivid history lessons from conversations with soldiers in the 1864 setting.

Over the 25 years of its existence, Civil War Revisited has grown to be one of the largest civil war reenactments in the Western United States. So much so, that it is often referred to as "an American history class for thousands."

In 2001, the event expanded by adding a school day program called "Time Travelers at the Civil War." This program allows students to interact with historical figures such as President Lincoln, Clara Barton, Walt Whitman and Harriet Tubman. Additionally, they are able to speak with military re-enactors to learn about life as a part of the war effort, but they are also able to speak to blacksmiths and dress-makers in order to get a glimpse into day to day life in the era.

A unique component of the school day program is a play, featuring a cast of students who bring the voices of children of the Civil

War period to life, known as Readers' heater. Students often rehearse at school leading up to a performance during the Civil War reenactment. To date, the Time Travelers program has hosted 22,000 students from throughout the San Joaquin Valley since its establishment. This allows students to learn about history using a more interactive, unique perspective, as opposed to solely reading about the period in textbooks or watching videos.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of the Fresno Historical Society in its 25 years of excellence in accurately reenacting such an important point in American history.

THE DEDICATION OF A BUST OF VÁCLAV HAVEL IN THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2014*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, today, Democrats and Republicans from both the House and Senate came together to dedicate a bust of former Czech President Václav Havel that will be displayed prominently in the U.S. Capitol building.

President Havel was both a playwright and a freedom fighter. His literary works artfully undermined the totalitarian Communist system under which Czechs languished from 1948–1989, and he co-founded the Charter 77 Movement that called out the Communist regime for human rights violations as well as the Committee for the Defense of the Unjustly Prosecuted, which supported dissidents. He was among the leaders of the Velvet Revolution twenty-five years ago this month, which ended Communist rule and finally opened the door to democracy and freedom of expression.

To his credit, President Havel navigated the difficult process of fostering a democratic political culture in the Czech Republic's new institutions of government while instilling hope for the future in a people whose yearnings and optimism had been suppressed for a generation. In office, he oversaw the first free and fair elections in over four decades and worked to build friendly ties with nations that had been shunned by the Communist bloc. When he retired in 2003, the Czech Republic had developed a vibrant democracy, had joined NATO, and was on the cusp of entering the European Union.

Václav Havel died in 2011, but his legacy continues to inspire freedom fighters and democratic activists throughout the world. In an op-ed in the Washington Post earlier this week, Carl Gershman, President of the National Endowment for Democracy, wrote about Havel's affection for the United States and the values it embodies: "When he addressed a joint session of Congress just three months after the revolution, Havel spoke with deep feeling about his country's indebtedness to the United States, including for President Woodrow Wilson's great support for the founding of Czechoslovakia in 1918, U.S. sacrifice and leadership in three wars—two hot and one cold—to save freedom in Europe, and the American founding documents that 'inspire us to be citizens.'" President Havel's advocacy on behalf of dissidents and freedom fighters