

the concentration camp. By claiming he was 18, when he was only 13, he narrowly avoided being sent to the gas chamber. Mr. Wolnerman believes God allowed him to make that choice and ultimately it helped him survive. Sydney, through her words, was able to pass along his message for others to hear. The tragedy of the holocaust must never be forgotten.

Sydney was encouraged to write the book by the Jewish Federation and A Book by Me, an Illinois company that taps children to tell stories of Jewish survivors. Her book passes down the oral history of David Wolnerman for other children nationwide.

I congratulate Sydney Pearl for writing this book and for preserving the history of those that survived the horrors of the Holocaust during the Second World War. I am proud to represent them in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in congratulating Sydney Pearl and wishing her many successes in the future.

HONORING ALLAN LEE
McCROSKEY

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks to commemorate the life of my friend Allan Lee McCroskey of Roanoke County, who went to be with his Lord on Tuesday, April 7, 2015.

Allan served our nation in the United States Air Force during Vietnam. In spite of his service-related ailments, Allan was always quick to greet you with a smile. He went on to serve as Commander for the Disabled American Veterans, Department of Virginia (2012–2013). In fact, Allan was a life member of the Disabled American Veterans, and was a Disabled American Veterans National Service Officer. He also was retired from the Veterans Administration.

Not only did Allan serve our nation, he actively served the community as well. He was Assistant Scout Master and Board Member of the Blue Ridge Council of Boy Scouts of America, and received the District Award of Merit, the Silver Beaver Award, and the James E. West Fellowship Award. He also was a member of the Scouting Heritage Society.

Additionally, Allan was board member for Climbing Higher Ministries of Lynchburg and Combining Chapters of the DAV. He also was a member of Living Water Christian Church and Cave Spring Masonic Lodge #230.

Allan was preceded in death by his father, Richard L. McCroskey; his stepmother, Agnes McCroskey; his mother, Virginia Johnson McCroskey; his loving wife of 37 years, Reatha Tuck McCroskey; and his second wife of eight years, Linda Perkins McCroskey; his sons, Matthew David and Stephen Paul McCroskey; and his brother, Richard F. McCroskey. He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Eric and Anne McCroskey of Goodview; his brother, Michael E. McCroskey of Mechanicsville; and his sister, Carolyn S. Wallace of Colonial Heights.

Known for his exceptional goodwill and dedication to the United States military, veterans, and our community, I am honored to

pay tribute to this man's many contributions. My thoughts and prayers go out to Allan's family and loved ones. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, on roll call numbers 174 and 175, I could not be present to vote on the House Floor as I was in my district attending the funeral of a former member of my staff. Had I been present, I would have voted aye on both roll call votes.

CONGRATULATING MR. BEN
TALLEY

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks to congratulate Mr. Ben Talley, a science teacher at Van Pelt Elementary School in Bristol, Virginia, on being inducted into the 2015 National Teachers Hall of Fame.

Education is important to the Ninth Congressional District and the future of our nation. Mr. Talley has 24 years of teaching experience, and has been awarded the prestigious McGlothlin Award for Teaching Excellence, the Bristol Mayors' Award of Distinction, a Rotary Outstanding Teacher, and Virginia Teacher of the Year.

In addition to teaching at Van Pelt Elementary School, Mr. Talley teaches GED courses at the Bristol Virginia Jail. He has also written several books, including his 2007 book entitled "The Game My Father Taught Me."

Mr. Speaker, I again congratulate Mr. Ben Talley on his remarkable accomplishments and, on behalf of many in the Ninth District, thank him for all he has done for our area. Best wishes for many more years of continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION SURFACE WATER STORAGE STREAMLINING ACT OF 2015

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce my legislation, the Bureau of Reclamation Surface Water Storage Streamlining Act of 2015. This important and desperately needed legislation would streamline the Bureau of Reclamation's environmental planning and study process for new surface water storage projects. It would accomplish this by applying the same streamlined water project development process used by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under the Water Resources Reform Development Act of 2014 to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, in order to fa-

cilitate the construction of new dams and reservoirs.

Water is the lifeblood of communities in the arid West and the current water shortage crisis devastating much of the Western United States highlights the critical need for water supply to grow with demand. A streamlined process for new water storage projects is vital to prepare effectively for drought and to provide adequate water resources for future development. This bill allows forward-thinking improvements to the Bureau of Reclamation's permitting process to create new opportunities for water storage. Put simply, this legislation will reform the current cumbersome and lengthy process so that there is a mechanism to build new surface water storage projects in the West.

I urge all members to join me in supporting this legislation and I urge its swift passage.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD LANGLEY
SETTLE

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks to commemorate the life of my friend Richard Langley Settle, who passed away on April 16, 2015.

Richard served our nation in the United States Air Force Communications Service at the Pentagon. He graduated from Russell County Public Schools, and went on to attend Clinch Valley College.

He was a 31-year employee of Verizon Virginia, and had an immense knowledge of telecommunications and legislative history. Richard left the company in 2003, having started as a pole climber and worked his way up to Southwest Area Manager of External Affairs. He was President of Settle Associates, a consulting group specializing in business development, telecommunications, government relations, and economic development.

Richard is well known for his public service, having served as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Russell County Board of Supervisors. He also served as a member of the Foundation Boards of both the Mountain Empire Community College and The University of Virginia—Wise. In 2003, he was the honoree of the Mountain Empire Community College Hall of Honor.

Further, Richard worked tirelessly to encourage economic development in Southwest Virginia. Appointed by three Governors, Richard served the Virginia Coalfield Economic Development Authority as Chair and Vice-Chair. He attended the 2001 Economic Summit in Tokyo, Japan as a special envoy of Virginia, and was also appointed to the Virginia Workforce Council.

Richard was appointed by the General Assembly of Virginia as a non-legislative member of the Southwest Economic Development Commission. He also was a charter member of the Southwest Virginia Technology Council, and was honored with a lifetime membership. Additionally, Richard served as a member of the Board of Directors of Virginia Economic Bridge, and held several advisory board positions for privately held companies.

He was involved in additional public service work and charitable work, having served as a

Deacon of Miller View Primitive Baptist Church in Lebanon, VA. He was also an active member of the Sandy Valley Masonic Lodge #17, the Wise County Shrine Club, and the Kazim Temple in Roanoke, VA.

Richard is survived by his wife Janet Swearingen Settle of Abingdon, VA; son Jamie Settle of Carbo, VA; daughter Sarah Rae Easter, MD and husband Nick Easter of Boston, MA; grandsons Tommy Settle and Taylor Settle; brother Billy Settle and sister-in-law Judy, daughter-in-law Jennifer Taylor Yates, and niece Sally Ketron and husband Wes all of Lebanon, VA; niece Lora Beth Settle of Denver, CO and niece Lindsay Greer and husband Joe of Damascus, VA.

Also surviving are his mother-in-law Sarah Baird Hutcheson; brother-in-law James Baird Swearingen, niece Alissa M. Swearingen MD and husband Nick Alexiou, nephew Travis B. Swearingen and wife Aftin all of Brentwood, TN; nephew Christopher J. Swearingen PhD and wife Emilee of San Marcos, CA; brother-in-law Ray Hutcheson and wife Sue of Franklin, KY; great nieces Avery Ketron, Ava Swearingen, Denbigh Swearingen; great nephews Joe Hank, Jacob and Britt Swearingen. Richard was preceded in death by his parents Richard L. and Lillian Jackson Settle, son Robert Kyle Settle, sister Mary Kay Settle, brother Fred Settle, and sister-in-law Martha Jones Swearingen.

Richard's counsel to me and others over the years was truly invaluable. His expertise and devotion had a tremendous impact on our region, and made it a better place to live. His input and dedication will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Richard's family and loved ones at this time. May God give them comfort.

TRIBUTE TO MEALS FROM THE HEARTLAND

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and recognize Meals From The Heartland, a non-profit organization that operates out of West Des Moines, Iowa, for receiving the USA Today Make a Difference Day Award.

Make a Difference Day is a USA Today initiative that issues an award to honor the efforts of outstanding people who lead these projects. Each year, they award \$140,000 in grants to 14 honorees chosen by a distinguished panel of judges. Award-winners can use their grant money to expand their Make a Difference Day projects, or donate them to a charity of their choice. Make a Difference Day is the nation's largest annual day of giving.

On Make a Difference Day, October 25, 2014, Meals from the Heartland produced over seven tons of food to those in need. A small portion of the 100,008 dried meals produced go to people in Iowa, but most are sent overseas to children in countries including Haiti, South Africa, and the Philippines.

I applaud and congratulate Meals from the Heartland for receiving this award and for their service to starving people around the world, in Central Iowa and elsewhere in the United States. I am proud to represent their leaders,

employees, and volunteers in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in congratulating Meals from the Heartland and wishing them well and continued success in the future.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, April 30, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 5

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security

To hold hearings to examine surface transportation reauthorization, focusing on the importance of a long term reauthorization.

SR-253

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Federal government's role in wild-fire management, the impact of fires on communities, and potential improvements to be made in fire operations.

SD-366

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety

To hold hearings to examine the legal implications of the Clean Power Plan.

SD-406

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2016 for the Securities and Exchange Commission and Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

SD-138

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine the U.S. Grain Standards Act.

SR-328A

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine precision medicine for patients.

SD-430

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.

SR-418

MAY 6

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Fish and Wildlife Service, and S. 1036, to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to provide certain Western States assistance in the development of state-wide conservation and management plans or the protection and recovery of sage-grouse species, S. 855, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to permit Governors of States to regulate intrastate endangered species and intrastate threatened species, S. 736, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require disclosure to States of the basis of determinations under such Act, to ensure use of information provided by State, tribal, and county governments in decisionmaking under such Act, S. 655, to prohibit the use of funds by the Secretary of the Interior to make a final determination on the listing of the northern long-eared bat under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, S. 468, to provide a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to allow the Director of the Bureau of Land Management and the Chief of the Forest Service to remove Pinyon-Juniper trees to conserve and restore the habitat of the greater sage-grouse and the mule deer, S. 293, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to establish a procedure for approval of certain settlements, S. 292, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require publication on the Internet of the basis for determinations that species are endangered species or threatened species, S. 112, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require the Secretary of the Interior to publish and make available for public comment a draft economic analysis at the time a proposed rule to designate critical habitat is published, and S. 1081, to end the use of body-gripping traps in the National Wildlife Refuge System.

SD-406

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine ensuring an informed citizenry, focusing on examining the Administration's efforts to improve open government.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs

To hold hearings to examine global health problems.

SD-124

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Daniel R. Elliott III, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, and Mario Cordero, of California, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner.

SR-253