

believed in the best of us, each one of us. He believed that we could come together. He believed that we could set aside our petty prejudices. He believed that we could bring our voices together in this Chamber and make a better world.

I think there is a chance that 20 years from now Kevin might have served in this Chamber. Now, that is not going to happen. But Kevin's spirit of openness, of optimism, of possibility, that spirit must live on in this Chamber and in our hearts.

Thank you, Kevin.

HONORING PRIVATE WILLIAM LONG AND PRIVATE QUINTON EZEAGWULA

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two courageous young men, Army Private William "Andy" Long and Private Quinton "EZ" Ezeagwula.

On June 1, 2009, these soldiers were the target of a terrorist attack at a military recruiting station in my hometown of Little Rock, Arkansas, which, tragically, Andy Long did not survive.

Last Wednesday, in an emotional ceremony at the Arkansas State Capitol and after a wait of 6 years, these two soldiers were finally awarded the Purple Heart Medals they deserved.

I was privileged to be present as EZ and the family of Andy Long received the recognition they deserve for their sacrifice to our Nation.

Andy's father, Daris Long, put it best at the ceremony when he stated that this was never just about Purple Hearts. "It was about accurately identifying what really happened in Little Rock and at Fort Hood. These acts were not simply a drive-by shooting or workplace violence. They were terrorist attacks on our servicemembers in our own land."

I am truly appreciative of the work of our entire congressional delegation, both past and present, whose tireless efforts over the past 6 years ensured the sacrifice of these young men has been fully recognized and honored.

□ 1230

HONORING CHRISTINE RATH UPON HER RETIREMENT

(Ms. KUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor one of New Hampshire's best and brightest educators upon her retirement.

Christine Rath has served as superintendent of the Concord School District for 15 years, helping to maintain the high standards of public education

in Concord, New Hampshire. I am a proud product of Concord's public schools; so, they hold a special place in my heart.

Chris started her teaching career right here in Washington, D.C., in the 1960s as a member of President Johnson's Teacher Corps, designed to help educate low-income students in cities all across this country. That is where she met her husband Tom Rath, another community leader who has made many positive contributions to the Granite State over the years.

After they moved to New Hampshire, she taught in Goffstown, worked in Concord's Second Start alternative education program, and eventually became the principal of Rundlett Middle School in Concord. Chris has spent decades working to provide excellent education and support to students of all ages across the Granite State.

Our young people are our Nation's greatest resource, and it is absolutely essential that they have the tools they need to follow their dreams and meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Chris sets an extraordinary example for young educators who hope to change the lives of their students through commitment and creativity. I applaud her impressive service to the students, the city of Concord, and to the Granite State.

IMMIGRATION

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, just last week an American woman was shot and killed by an illegal immigrant while walking through a tourist-friendly area of San Francisco with her father.

She was killed for no reason by an illegal immigrant convicted of seven felonies who had been previously deported five times and was released by the San Francisco Police Department again over the objections of Federal immigration authorities.

This is sadly not the first time this has happened. Several years ago a father and his two sons were killed by an illegal immigrant felon who, again, San Francisco refused to detain for Federal immigration authorities.

The evidence is clear. Sanctuary city laws make our cities less safe and endanger Americans. Despite liberal claims to the contrary, this refusal to enforce immigration laws means that dangerous criminals with no regard for our laws are walking our streets.

In California alone, over 10,000 immigration detainee requests were declined; 10,000 known criminals were released in violation of Federal law.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for the House to act to ensure that the Federal Government does not aid cities who refuse to enforce our Nation's laws. That would be comprehensive immigration reform we can all understand.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, even though many in Congress still refuse to admit that climate change is a very real problem, the administration has been leading action on what has become one of the most important issues of our generation.

This week the White House announced a new initiative to increase access to solar energy, especially in low- and moderate-income communities. This is a critical step to reducing our carbon footprint and showing the world that we are, indeed, ready to lead by example when it comes to clean energy innovation.

The initiative expands training and education for jobs in the solar industry and is a partnership with the private sector to increase diversity in a new "green collar" workforce. Access to clean, reliable energy results in good-paying jobs, cleaner air, and an opportunity for our innovators and entrepreneurs to grow our economy.

As a member of the Safe Climate Caucus and a co-chair of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition, I applaud and support the administration's announcement this week and will continue to press for broader climate action in this Congress.

IN MEMORY OF RAPHAEL "RAFE" SAGARIN

(Ms. MCSALLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Raphael "Rafe" Sagarin, a world-renowned scientist and University of Arizona professor who died tragically a few weeks ago.

Rafe was passionate about the world's oceans and applying the lessons of our natural world to solving modern challenges. He earned widespread recognition for theorizing that governments could learn national defense techniques by studying how animals adapt to threats they face in the wild.

During his lifetime, Rafe authored three books and nearly two dozen scholarly articles and book chapters. At the time of his death, he was leading a University of Arizona project called Biosphere 2 that involved creating a functional model of the Gulf of California in the Sonoran Desert.

I was fortunate enough to meet Rafe earlier this year and hear him describe with trademark enthusiasm his work studying adaptable security systems in southern Arizona. I am also currently reading his insightful book on the subject.

Rafe will be missed by so many around the world, but his contagious spirit and groundbreaking contributions over many years will have lasting impacts.