ways that amazed the people who work with them every day. It was a wonderful show.

A few weeks later, Cutler was back onstage, this time leading the Schemers, the iconic Rhode Island rock band. It was a CD release party.

Cutler is positive The Narrows is the only place he could have played those two gigs.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, July 22, I missed a series of Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on #450, #451, and #458. Additionally, I would have voted "NAY" on #452, #453, #454, #455, #456, and #457.

RECOGNIZING NYA BARTON

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I am grateful to welcome Nya Sole Barton on her visit to the Capitol. Nya will attend Lemon Road Elementary School in Falls Church, Virginia this fall.

Often named to the Honor Roll, Nya has demonstrated superior academic achievement, and is active in martial arts and dance. I congratulate her parents, Darlene and Jacob Barton, on raising an impressive young lady, and I am confident in her future success.

HAPPY 10TH ANNIVERSARY TO LOGOS PREP

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Logos Preparatory Academy on its 10 year anniversary.

Logos Prep opened their doors on August 6, 2005 and ever since, they have provided a high quality, Christ-centered education to our future leaders. Logos Prep began when four families in Southwest Houston joined together to create a Christ centered educational institute. In its first year, Logos offered 3rd–10th grades with an initial enrollment of 232 students. Now, 10 years later, over 500 students are enrolled in its K–12 college preparatory program. The school's superior academic record speaks for itself—students are thriving. Thank you to the teachers and staff at Logos Prep for their dedication to seeing their students succeed.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Logos Preparatory Academy for 10 successful years educating our leaders of tomorrow.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MATAWAN ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Matawan Italian American Association as its members celebrate its 50th anniversary this year.

Currently under the leadership of President Frank Giammarino, the Matawan Italian American Association executive office consists of a 1st Vice President, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary and Sergeant at Arms. It is also advised by a Board of Trustees. Its membership is comprised of residents of Italian descent and their spouses who meet monthly in fellowship and community service.

For 50 years, the Matawan Italian American Club has worked to preserve and promote Italian heritage and improve the community through charitable donations, scholarships and activities. It supports various local and national non-profits, humanitarian and community organizations, including the National MS Society, Ronald McDonald House, and the Bayshore Senior Center, among many others. Its efforts to support the local community and to offer an association of Italian culture are truly admirable and I am honored to be one of the past recipients of the Man of the Year Award.

Once again, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating the Matawan Italian American Association on its 50th anniversary and recognizing its numerous contributions to the community.

TELEMUNDO 47'S 50-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. ALBIO SIRES

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the upcoming 50th Anniversary of Telemundo 47. Telemundo 47 began operation on July 30, 1965 as a television station to serve Spanish-language viewers in the New York Tri-State area. Since then, it has been the main source of information and entertainment for the Spanish-speaking community across the Tri-State area, including New Jersey.

Telemundo 47 has evolved with its audience over the past 50 years, and recently experienced a boost in its local news operations. Today, the station broadcasts more than 20 hours of local news and programming each week and provides viewers with local newscasts seven days a week. To support this boost in demand, Telemundo 47 has hired additional journalists and launched a new weekday newscast aired at 5:30 p.m.

A particular program worth noting is Telemundo Responde, a new consumer investigative unit that is charged with fighting for and helping consumers who have been wronged. The unit has already recovered more than $1.4 million for consumers, successfully combining informative broadcasting with consumer protection.

For the past 50 years, Telemundo 47 has done an outstanding job of broadcasting both entertaining and informative programs to many viewers in my district. I am confident that Telemundo 47's success will continue for decades to come, and I congratulate them on this important milestone.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH HAMILTON

HON. CHRIS COLLINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished accomplishment of a constituent in my district, Joseph Hamilton, on the occasion of his 2015 NFIB Young Entrepreneur Award.

Mr. Hamilton from Lancaster, New York started "Charlie and Checkers" to provide live, unique entertainment for people of all ages. Joseph created the business alongside his brother and they now perform a blend of comedy, magic, juggling, and music. The brothers have also performed for the homeless, disabled, and elderly as a way to give back to their community.

As a 2015 NFIB Young Entrepreneur Award winner, Mr. Hamilton has earned a financial scholarship and will be attending Canisius College next year.

I want to wish him nothing but the best for his future entrepreneurial and educational endeavors.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

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 $18,151,821,652,004.79. We've added $7,524,944,603,091.71 to our debt in 6 years. This is over $7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LIFELONG IMPROVEMENTS IN FOOD AND EXERCISE (LIFE) ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, as we approach July 25, and the 6th annual National Dance Day, I rise to reintroduce the Lifelong Improvements in Food and Exercise (LIFE) Act, authorizing a national initiative to attack a major health problem in the United States that cannot be remedied through the health care system alone. Increasing rates of overweight

and obesity are now found in Americans of every age, race, and major demographic group, and threaten the health of Americans like no other single disease or condition. In fact, the key to eliminating many of the most serious health conditions is not only to reduce overweight and obesity but also to encourage exercise of all kinds. On National Dance Day across the nation, Americans will be dancing, one of the most enjoyable and popular forms of exercise.

This bill would provide $25 million to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for a coordinated national effort to reverse increasingly sedentary lifestyles and diets that are high in fat and sugar.

We see rising consciousness of the need to get moving, from the First Lady's ''Let's Move'' campaign for children and the television shows ''So You Think You Can Dance,'' ''The Biggest Loser,'' and ''Extreme Weight Loss''. Yet, the United States continues to have startling rates of obesity among adults and children. In 2010, estimates from the CDC National Center for Health Statistics showed that since 1980, the percentage of children who are overweight has more than doubled, and the percentage of adolescents who are overweight has tripled. Today, the 13 million overweight children have an 80 percent chance of being overweight adults, with the health conditions that follow, such as high blood pressure, heart disease, and cancer. The CDC reports that Type 2 diabetes, considered an adult disease, is now widespread in children. The rising cost of the health care system, including insurance premiums, reflects the epidemic. The consequences for kids will follow them throughout their lives if we do not act quickly and decisively. If we are serious about controlling health care costs, we must start where the most serious health conditions begin: overweight and obesity.

This bill seeks to provide the first national strategy to combat the epidemic by directing the CDC to do three things: train health professionals to recognize the signs of obesity early and to educate people concerning healthy lifestyles, such as proper nutrition and regular exercise; conduct public education campaigns about how to recognize and address overweight and obesity; and develop intervention strategies to be used in everyday life, such as in the workplace and in community settings. This legislation is the minimum necessary to address our most important health crisis. Today, chronic diseases, many of which are caused or exacerbated by overweight and obesity, account for 70 percent of all deaths in the U.S., and 60 percent of U.S. medical care costs. According to the Surgeon General's Call to Action to Prevent and Decrease Overweight and Obesity, the cost of obesity in the U.S. was more than $117 billion in 2000. The CDC has highlighted a study that estimates the annual cost to be $147 billion. It is estimated that between 300,000 and 400,000 deaths per year are related to obesity.

A focused national health initiative would provide guidance to the states to engage in similar programs, as mayors of some cities have done. National focus could lead to full participation in high school physical education classes, participation in which has dropped from 42 percent in 1991 to 33 percent in 2005. Changes in nutrition are equally critical because 60 percent of young people consume too much fat, a factor in the doubling of the percentage of overweight youth. Data show an increase in unhealthy eating habits for adults and no change in physical activity.

According to a recent study conducted by the American College of Sports Medicine, the District of Columbia is the fittest city in the United States, and yet, obesity continues to be a severe problem even here. Most of the obesity epidemic is exercise-food-related. One-fifth of the District of Columbia is considered to be obese, and if the number is this high in the nation's capital, one shudders to think how high it is for other areas of the nation. We need to act now.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this important legislation to mobilize the country now, before entirely preventable health conditions, which often begin in childhood, overwhelm the nation's health care system.

HONORING THE THOMPSON-CLEMONS POST #200

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Thompson-Clemons Post #200 of Greenwood, Mississippi.

The Thompson-Clemons Post #200 of Greenwood, Mississippi was the first African American Post established in the State of Mississippi and came about due to the perseverance of eighteen determined Black Veterans of World War I and World War II in the Mississippi Delta.

These veterans attempted to join Keesler-Hamrick-Gillespie Post #29 which refused them membership. Given that this was the 1940s and Mississippi being a segregationist state, Post #29 could not get a majority vote of its members to allow black veterans to join their post.

The eighteen black veterans filed a petition to start a new post and presented it to the Mississippi Department of the American Legion. Mr. Solomon N. Dickerson, a black veteran, postal worker and co-worker of Mr. Author H. Ritchter, the Adjutant of post #29, worked to get the petition through the District. It was due to their vigorous and persistent correspondence to the District and the Mississippi Department of the American Legion that they were allowed to form a separate post if they could find a sponsor.

Keesler-Hamrick-Gillespie Post #29 agreed to serve as a sponsor to assist Thompson-Clemons Post #200 in getting the temporary charter, paving the way for other charters to be granted to other black veteran's groups throughout the state of Mississippi.

Originally, the post was called the Mississippi Delta Post #200. Mr. L.H. Threadgill, principal of Stone Street High School, a veteran of World War II, proposed that the post be named after two former students of Stone Street High School, that were killed in action during WWII. The motion carried and the name was adopted. Thompson-Clemons Post #200 was granted a permanent charter on July 28, 1949, becoming the first Black post in the State of Mississippi. The first Post Commander was Mr. Solomon N. Dickerson.

Mr. L.H. Threadgill and others in the community were instrumental in purchasing the property, obtaining a deed, and getting a building to establish a post headquarters where it is still located today.

The Thompson-Clemons Post #200 of Greenwood, Mississippi has a distinct track record of encouragement to veterans with issues, be they from serving abroad; in combat situations or statewide service. Issues range from transportation to Regional Office and VA Hospital for medical disability claims, educational and skill training, housing and other activities including establishing collaborative partnerships with community organizations to provide emergency services such as utilities, homes for the homeless, counseling and assistance in understanding the myriad of services provided by the VA.

The VA community activities include sponsorship of little league baseball teams, voter education classes, veterans day celebration, adopt a school program, donations to needy families, Boys State Program and the National American Legion Oratorical Contest, where candidates sponsored by Post #200, have won the Mississippi State Championship four times, and three out of the past four years.

Leadership activities include a weekly live call in radio talk program aired on WGNL 104.3 FM in Greenwood, Mississippi where veterans can actually dial up and talk about issues that affect them and their community. Partnering with organizations such as the National Association of the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Greenwood Voters League, Mississippi Valley State University and other community based groups that advocate for social justice.

Thompson-Clemons Post #200 is well integrated into the fabric and culture of the Mississippi Delta and should be recognized as a Post that has the interest of our service men, their families and community at heart.

The American Legion Post #200 is moving forward to continue the legacy of those early veterans who honorably served their country and had the vision that through the American Legion and its core principles, they could continue to protect and build an America and Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a remarkable organization, The Thompson-Clemons Post #200, for its dedication to serving our veterans and giving back to the African American community.

CONGRATULATING DR. JAMES COFER ON HIS FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR ACHIEVEMENT

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dr. James Cofer on receiving a renowned Fulbright Scholar award.

Dr. Cofer, a Springfield resident and former Missouri State University president, was awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture and perform research at Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil. As a Missouri State University marketing professor, Dr. Cofer devoted his research efforts while in Brazil to studying college and university administration and developing models for the Brazilian higher education community.