

TRIBUTE TO HEATH DOWNING

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Heath Downing of Creston, Iowa, for receiving a state 4-H food and nutrition project award. Heath is the son of Steve and Karen Downing of Creston.

A state 4-H project award is the highest achievement one can receive in the 4-H project work category. Project awards are given to youth who demonstrate leadership, communication, and volunteerism in certain project areas. A total of 152 youth from 55 counties competed for these project awards on the state level. Achieving this honor is a true testament to Heath's perseverance and dedication to serve others, and I commend him for his hard work.

Mr. Speaker, Heath's actions embody the Iowa spirit and I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Heath on his achievement and I wish him and his family nothing but the best moving forward.

GOLDEN GOOSE AWARD WINNER

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2015

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Golden Goose Award, which recognizes researchers whose seemingly obscure, federally funded research has returned significant benefits to society.

In particular, I rise to celebrate 2015 Golden Goose Awardees Drs. Walter Mischel, Philip Peake, and Yuichi Shoda for their research using the now famous Marshmallow Test. Their work—funded by the National Institutes of Health and National Science Foundation—has had a significant impact on how we understand human behavior, how we educate our children, and even how we save for retirement.

These researchers used a simple test to measure pre-schoolers' self-control, offering children one marshmallow now or two if they could wait 15 minutes alone in a room with a single marshmallow. Their research showed that how children performed on this simple, silly-sounding test correlated with the children's future SAT scores, their propensity for obesity or drug addiction, and even the very chemistry of their brains.

Far from a story about fixed fates, their study showed the importance of self-control and provided an understanding of how it can be cultivated. Our increased understanding of self-control has transformed how we teach our children and helps us recognize the potential that lies in all of us. They have helped usher in a new age of understanding of human development and behavior. Our lives are the better for it. I am proud to stand in recognition of their work.

I also believe it is important to highlight the government funding that made their research

possible. Basic scientific research is often misunderstood because it may not appear to have an immediate pay off, but the research using Marshmallow Test highlights the profound impact it can have on our lives. We must continue to invest in basic and applied scientific research if we are going to tackle the problems of the 21st century.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2015

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). This crucial program has traditionally enjoyed bipartisan support and over the course of its 50-year existence has conserved iconic landscapes in every state. Investing in public parks and recreational areas is one of the most direct and effective steps we can take to ensure that future generations are able to enjoy the natural beauty of our country.

Indeed, my public service began with a fight to preserve the beautiful beech-maple trees of Hart's Woods outside of Rochester, New York. Developers had targeted this magnificent forest for commercial development, but my neighbors and I worked together to delay their plans. Every time I return home and pass by the trees we were able to save, I am reminded of the importance of preservation.

And, Mr. Speaker, there are few better ways to conserve and protect our nation's wilderness and environment than by supporting the LWCF. Since its creation during the Johnson Administration, the LWCF has preserved national forests, recreation areas, parks, wildlife refuges, Civil War battlefields, and historic sites across our country. This program also provides matching funds to support countless state park and recreation projects.

These investments not only directly preserve our nation's natural beauty, but also contribute to our economy. Access to open space drives economic development, boosts property values, and provides healthy outdoor recreational opportunities for residents and tourists alike. Ensuring recreational access to existing public lands for hunters, anglers, and other outdoors recreationists is one of the important successes of this program and all of these activities support local economies. In my home state of New York alone, outdoor recreation generates \$33.8 billion in consumer spending and \$12.4 billion in wages and salaries.

Importantly, the LWCF accomplishes all this at little cost to the taxpayer as the program is funded through fees paid by companies drilling offshore for oil and gas. It is hard for me to believe that this body would fail to reauthorize such a valuable program that creates so many tangible benefits at such little cost.

I strongly support the LWCF. I urge all of my colleagues to ensure that the LWCF is reauthorized so that we can continue to preserve open spaces not only for all those who rely on these natural resources for their livelihood, but also for the benefit of our children and grandchildren.

THE SAFE AND ACCURATE FOOD LABELING ACT (H.R. 1599)

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2015

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, every family should have access to the information they need to make informed choices about the food they consume. For many consumers, understanding what products are considered genetically modified organisms (GMO) is important when buying food for their families. Unfortunately, right now there is no standard federal definition for GMO. Instead, a patchwork of different definitions exists, leading to confusion and misinformation.

Consumers have the right to know how their food was produced and that begins with establishing a consistent, standard federal definition of GMO. I voted in favor of the Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act (H.R. 1599) to provide families in Minnesota and across our country with the information they want. H.R. 1599 is not perfect, but it is an important first step to ensure families have safe and accurate labeling of genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

For years, I fought for a standard definition of "gluten-free" products. Additionally, last year I reaffirmed my support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) national voluntary certified "organic" labeling system when Congress passed the 2014 Farm Bill. This voluntary system ensures a mother buying bread for her family can be confident that it is "organic" whether she sees this label in Minnesota or Vermont. Similarly, H.R. 1599 calls on USDA to establish a national voluntary labeling system for "GMO-free" products. I hope this federal definition and voluntary labeling system can ultimately help us move towards nationwide mandatory labeling for GMOs.

Finally, H.R. 1599 instructs the Food and Drug Administration to create a definition for the word "natural". This rulemaking process, which will be fully transparent and open to the public, will help clarify one of the most confusing terms used in food marketing today.

The Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act marks the beginning, not the endpoint, of much-needed policy discussion on the reliable consumer information we all deserve. The current status quo—which does not provide consumers any information about GMO products—is unacceptable for Minnesota families and farmers. Instead of settling for no standard definition for GMO, I voted to continue this conversation and ensure families have access to the information they want about their food.

Mr. Speaker, we all deserve accurate and safe food labels. As a nation, it is important that we continue this discussion and work to ensure that consumers have the information they need to make informed choices for themselves and their families.

IRANIAN NUCLEAR DEAL

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2015

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the nuclear deal with Iran that was