

which has succeeded New York Central. With the help of significant federal investment augmented by a partnership from state and private sources, the station underwent a major renovation and was renamed Central Union Plaza. Amtrak's history notes that "The Port Authority worked with the State Historic Preservation Office and the Northwest Ohio Historic Preservation Council in order to maintain the building's essential historic design features remained intact." Because "City funding stipulated that one percent of project monies had to be used on public art, the Port Authority worked with the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo to add contemporary sculptures to the grounds to enhance its function as a vital piece of the public realm."

In 2001, the station was renamed in honor of eminent civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. It now serves as a modern train station through which more than 63,000 travelers pass each year. It will soon add bus service as it grows into a greater multimodal transportation hub linking rail and bus, as well as proximity to waterborne vessels.

Historically, the Toledo passenger rail center has anchored northwest Ohio along the well-established east-west Chicago-Cleveland freight and passenger rail route so vital to the economy of the region and northern Ohio. Meeting the needs of the future for this region will require the recognition that modernization of this rail corridor is essential to future commerce including separation of freight and passenger service to make both more efficient.

I am honored this week to join with the community of Toledo, Ohio in celebrating the anniversary of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza, a jewel in our city born of an era when trains were a modern marvel of transportation and traveling toward a future which meets the needs of travels in the 21st Century and beyond.

HONORING NORMA MONTNA

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Norma Montna a lifetime advocate for persons with disabilities, and one of my district's 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, on the Twenty-Second Day of September, of the Year Two Thousand and Fifteen, Norma Montna was recognized as a 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, Norma Montna married her high school sweetheart Larry and in 1961, gave birth to their only child, Butchie. Butchie was born with Down's Syndrome and is the inspiration behind Norma's lifelong mission to help others with disabilities. Her work includes offering peer support to families of children with special needs and active board membership with many of the agencies that provide educational and support services such as Easter Seals, Special Olympics, Yuba Sutter Mercy Guild, Kiwanis Family House, Gateway Project, Sutter County Board of Education, CA State Area Board for Developmentally Disabled, and Yuba Sutter Association for the Retarded.

Whereas, in 1979, a community pool offering therapeutic warm water therapy for those

with disabilities at no cost was established in memory of Butchie Montna. Butchie's Pool is unique and the only pool of its kind in the Yuba-Sutter area. The pool today serves a large number of area Seniors suffering from age-related disabling conditions at minimal cost and provides relief to over 1,500 individuals annually.

Whereas, Norma, who still serves on the pool's Board of Directors, has poured her heart and soul into keeping this haven of love, fun, and physical support open and alive for 40 years.

Whereas, "The pool was an idea we thought of after we lost Butchie, because he loved the water. He'd have been here every day," explains Norma, who fondly refers to former friends of Butchie's who still attend the pool as her 'kids'.

Resolved, that I Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI of California's Third Congressional District, do hereby recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Norma Montna.

IN HONOR OF MR. RON SHANE

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ron Shane, a career technical teacher at Central Union High School in El Centro, CA, for his commitment to the education and training of his students. I would like to congratulate him on receiving the ASE Industry Alliance Instructor Recognition Award for his long trajectory of commitment and excellence.

Since 1991, Mr. Shane has been teaching his students to the best of his abilities. Mr. Shane stands out as an exceptional teacher, always striving to push his students. He instills in them an attitude to never be complacent and always work towards improving themselves.

Mr. Shane is an inspiration for all educators who seek to improve not only themselves but also the instruction that they provide to their students. On behalf of California's 51st Congressional District, I would like to thank Mr. Shane for his determination to give his students the best education possible.

TRIBUTE TO THE OVERHOLTZER FAMILY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Overholtzer Family of Southwest Iowa, who celebrated their family's 92nd family reunion on August 2, 2015.

The Overholtzers will assemble in Tingley, Iowa in Ringgold County to celebrate the family tradition as they have continued to do for the past 92 years. Four Overholtzer brothers settled in the Grand River area of Decatur County, Iowa in the 1870s. David Overholtzer's daughter, Olivia, is the 6th generation of Overholtzers to live in Iowa.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Overholtzer Family for 92 years of tradition and commitment to their family. What a fantastic preservation of family history. I am proud to represent them in the United States Congress and I know that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating the Overholtzer Family and wishing them nothing but continued success.

THE LASKER-DEBAKEY AWARD COMES HOME TO MD ANDERSON

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the nation's highest honor for clinical research, the Lasker-DeBakey Award, was recently awarded to Jim Allison, Ph.D., chair of Immunology at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Dr. Allison has invented a completely new way to strike cancer. He has found a way to unlock the shackles of an immune system, freeing T cells to fight tumor cells. This discovery opens up brand new and very effective ways to treat cancer.

A drug developed from this research was the first to increase survival of patients with late-stage melanoma and produced previously unheard of survival rates of up to 10 years.

The drug, marketed as Yervoy, was approved by the FDA in 2001 and has been used to treat 59,000 people.

In addition, during his time leading the immunology department at MD Anderson, Dr. Allison has established a cancer immunotherapy platform. This platform, a combination of expertise and infrastructure, brings together scientists and clinicians to better understand and advance cancer immunotherapy.

This prestigious award honoring major achievements in basic science, clinical research, and public service around the world is rightly bestowed on Dr. Allison, as he has paved the way to extend the survival of current cancer patients and ultimately cure some types of cancer.

Texas is proud to be home to such innovative and groundbreaking work happening at MD Anderson.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING THE DALLAS COALITION FOR HUNGER SOLUTIONS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the Dallas Coalition for Hunger Solutions for hosting their Fourth Annual Dallas Hunger Summit. As the Chair of the Dallas Coalition for Hunger Solutions, I hold a strong passion for helping the families in my district overcome the obstacles and challenges they face. I'm very pleased to again be working with the Coalition to organize this important event. The theme of this year's Summit is Roots, Growth and Harvest.

First, we explore the roots of hunger and renew our commitment to tackling this urgent problem. Hunger and food insecurity are obstacles that no family, no child, and no senior should have to confront. More than 477,000 people in Dallas County are food insecure, including over 172,000 children. In Congress, I have been a steadfast supporter of anti-hunger programs. I cannot over-emphasize the importance of preserving nutrition programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).

Often, I remind my colleagues that 95% of SNAP funding goes directly to families to purchase food. For many of these at-risk populations, SNAP is the sole form of income assistance they receive and is a powerful anecdote to extreme poverty. Tens of millions of people rely on federal nutrition programs to feed their families and help make ends meet. When we know that nutrition programs not only help struggling families, but also generate economic activity, we must support these assistance programs.

At last year's Summit, we came together to learn, share about our successes and challenge ourselves to do more. This past year we have seen a fantastic growth in partnerships as many of you lent your time, passion and expertise to the work of the Coalition and its five Action Teams. I'm glad to share just a few of the great things that have been accomplished this year. First, the Child Hunger Action Team continued to partner with DISD to expand the number of schools that served suppers during afterschool programs—growing participation from 28 in 2013 to over 160 today. Second, the Faith Community Action Team organized 15 congregations and ministries to jointly provide vegetable gardens to 190 families across the County, many of them growing their own food for the very first time. Third, the Senior Hunger Action Team has begun implementing collaborative pilot initiatives to increase the number of seniors with access to SNAP benefits and to increase participation in senior congregate meal programs. This is vital as we owe it to our seniors to make sure they have the food they need to be healthy. Fourth, the Urban Agriculture Action Team achieved a great victory in spurring the City of Dallas to amend zoning ordinances to allow sales from urban gardens, which will both increase access to healthy food, and spur jobs and economic development. Lastly, the Neighborhood Organizing Action Team successfully launched a new, resident-led community organization called Empowering Oak Cliff, which is engaging community members in southern Oak Cliff in leading a holistic campaign for neighborhood revitalization, including ensuring that the many seniors in the community have access to healthy food.

Thanks so much to all of you that have been part of making these achievements possible. It is amazing what can be accomplished when we work together. Thank you to all of the participants and especially to the Dallas Coalition for Hunger Solutions for your commitment to this cause.

WELCOMING HIS HOLINESS, POPE FRANCIS, TO THE UNITED STATES AND EMBRACING HIS MESSAGE OF HOPE, HEALING, AND RECONCILIATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the constituents of the Eighteenth Congressional District, I rise to express joy and appreciation on the occasion of the historic visit to the United States by His Holiness, Pope Francis.

I am deeply honored to have participated in the historic arrival ceremony at the White House welcoming His Holiness, the spiritual leader of 70 million Catholic Americans and 1.2 billion Catholics worldwide.

I wish to thank President Obama for his gracious welcoming remarks on behalf of the American people which conveyed to Pope Francis and the world what is best about our nation.

I especially appreciate Pope Francis's message of hope, healing, and reconciliation which inspires us all to do more "to care for the least of these," to be good stewards of the earth, and to work for peace.

Mr. Speaker, the messages of President Obama and Pope Francis affirm the value and good works performed daily by Catholic organizations and charities in the United States, including those in my congressional district represented by the many advocates for social justice who accepted by invitation and made the pilgrimage from Houston to Washington, D.C. to bear witness to this historic and joyful occasion.

I am pleased that my office was able to extend invitations to many organizations and Galveston-Houston Archdiocese churches from my congressional district to come to Washington, D.C. to salute His Holiness.

Among them are the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, St. Francis Assisi Catholic Church, St. Monica Catholic Church, Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church, Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, and a number of Houston's Wounded Warriors.

I am also pleased that Deacon Sam Dunning, the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston's Director of the Office of Justice and Peace, was able to join me in celebrating the pontiff's visit, as were students and staff from St. Pius X High School, members of the Idbo Catholic Community, and World Harvest Outreach.

In his moving remarks today, Pope Francis reminded us that "the Creator does not abandon us" and that we "still have time to make the change needed to bring about a sustainable and integral development."

Mr. Speaker, every day in communities across America and around the world, Catholic organizations and agencies can be found doing the Lord's work of caring for the poor, the sick, the needy, the aged, the helpless, the lost and hopeless.

We see the fruits of this work in the sanctuary found by women fleeing from domestic violence, in the reunification of families separated by natural disasters, in the shelter found by a homeless wounded warrior suffering from PTSD, and the love and support given the child of undocumented immigrants who seek

only the chance to make a better life for themselves and their family in a land that has always been the most welcoming nation on earth.

Mr. Speaker, the good works of the Catholic Church are on display daily in my congressional district where agencies and organizations supported by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston/Houston take to heart the biblical injunction that we are our brother's keeper.

Ten years ago, for example, Hurricane Katrina forced thousands of people to flee New Orleans and relocate to Houston.

Among these persons were an adoption specialist for Catholic Charities in New Orleans, one of the birthmothers she was working with, and the adoptive family the birthmothers had just chosen for her baby.

With phone lines down and no communication between them, the adoption was sure to fall through, but somehow they found each other in Houston and the adoption was put back on track.

The Lord works in mysterious ways indeed.

The day following the flood that struck the Houston area this past Memorial Day, staff members of Catholic Charities of the Galveston-Houston Archdiocese were out in the field assessing the needs of their senior citizen clients, one of whom was 74-year old Minthia Terry.

Ms. Terry survived the flood but her house was severely damaged; thanks to Catholic Charities her damaged house was restored and she is able to live safe and secure in the home she worked so hard to acquire.

The Lotus Project is a program of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston that helps homeless female veterans rebuild their lives.

I am thankful for the Lotus Project, and so is a woman named Yolanda.

Yolanda served her country honorably in the Armed Forces but her three-year tour of duty left her with emotional scars that still affect her today.

She was a victim of verbal abuse by an officer, which escalated to physical violence, and then to sexual assault.

After reporting the abuse, violence and assault she had suffered, she underwent psychological counseling and was subsequently honorably discharged.

But the emotional and psychic scars resulting from her traumatic experience did not disappear after her separation from the military.

To combat them and cope with the pressure of caring for her two young sons, Yolanda turned to drugs and alcohol, and committed offenses that landed her in prison.

During her third stint in prison, Yolanda renewed her relationship with God and dedicated herself to a new life, but she needed help to get there.

When the Lotus Project helped her get an apartment under her own name, she cried; then with the help and support of the Lotus Project she went about the business of furthering her education so she can support her family and be a positive role model for her children.

Mr. Speaker, a woman named Esmerelda was living in a rapidly deteriorating situation.

When she became a victim of domestic violence, she knew she had to leave.

But because her immigration paperwork was not in order, she did not believe it would be