

IN COMMEMORATION OF IVADALE
MARIE FOULKS FOSTER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2015

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a truly remarkable woman. Ivadale Foster passed away on November 14 in her hometown of Danville, Illinois, at the age of 93. Mrs. Foster was a pillar of the community, who dedicated her life to helping others. Her list of accomplishments and memberships on various community organizations is extraordinary. In 1964 Mrs. Foster was recognized as one of Danville's outstanding women and was named volunteer of the year in 1993. She was the first and only African American woman to serve on the Vermilion County Board, a position she held for three decades. She was active in the Laura Lee Fellowship House, American Legion Post 736 Auxiliary, and the Danville Public Schools, to name just a few of the organizations on which she served.

Her list of accomplishments could fill pages, and because of that record of service, the City of Danville and Vermilion County has lost a leader, a trailblazer, and an icon. Ivadale Foster embodied what is good and just in America, and her legacy of community service will touch future generations.

My sincere condolences go out to the family of Mrs. Foster, as we all mourn her passing.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF TAMPA LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2015

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the 75th anniversary of Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind. Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind has been serving individuals who are blind or visually impaired since 1940. Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind is dedicated to their mission to maximize independence and provide employment opportunities for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

On-site comprehensive rehabilitation services are provided in their two locations in Florida: Tampa and Winter Haven. The training programs are designed to help individuals who have recently lost part or all of their vision gain the skills needed to perform daily tasks and maintain employment.

Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind opened its first Winter Haven facility in 1993 to provide rehabilitation programs to residents in Polk, Hardee, and Highlands counties. In 1995, the Winter Haven facility opened its Low Vision Clinic for individuals who have some remaining vision. At the Low Vision Clinic, an optometrist specialized in low vision, works to improve visual functioning through the utilization of low vision aids, visual rehabilitation techniques, or specialized training.

Over the past 75 years, Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind has enriched the lives of individuals by providing them with the opportunity to

gain greater independence and quality of life, and enjoy and benefit from participation in their communities. On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I applaud the efforts of those involved and the investments they are making in the lives of individuals with vision loss to provide them with job training, work experience and other tools necessary to lead independent, successful lives. I wish Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind many more years of quality service to our community.

HONORING 50 YEARS OF UNC HIGHWAY SAFETY RESEARCH CENTER EFFORTS TO IMPROVE SAFETY

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2015

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50th anniversary of the University of North Carolina (UNC) Highway Safety Research Center. The Center's mission is to improve the safety, security, access and efficiency of all surface transportation modes by conducting interdisciplinary research and disseminating information. Located on the UNC campus at Chapel Hill, which is in my district, the Center is overseen by the Vice President for Research for the North Carolina University System and the Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus.

The UNC Highway Safety Research Center was formed by the North Carolina State Legislature in 1965 at a time when the public was calling for enhanced highway and vehicle safety and injury prevention. Established during former Governor Dan K. Moore's tenure, the Center began operations in 1966 under the direction of Dr. B.J. Campbell. I'd like to recognize the Center's current leadership, including David Harkey, Director of the Highway Safety Research Center; Lauren Marchetti, Director of the National Center for Safe Routes to School; Charles Zegeer, Director of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center; and Robert Foss, Director of the Center for the Study of Young Drivers.

The Center's cross-discipline research—from social and behavioral sciences to engineering and planning—addresses the diverse challenges we face in building safer roads and highways. Research topics include animal-vehicle crash information, bicycle & pedestrian safety and access, child passenger safety, distracted and drowsy driving, motorcycle safety, occupant protection, the safety of older and younger drivers, school travel, traffic operations, and roadway design.

Over its 50-year history, the Center has worked with various partner agencies in North Carolina on identifying road safety challenges, developing and implementing strategies, and evaluating the effectiveness of programs and interventions. Partners in North Carolina include the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), the Governor's Highway Safety Program, the State Highway Patrol, and many others. In recent years, the Center worked closely with NCDOT to train State professionals on the concept of complete streets, develop and implement the 'Watch for Me' pedestrian and bicycle safety program, and develop the 2014 Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

The nationally renowned investigators at the center have also translated their results into programs and policies that have been implemented in North Carolina, saving countless lives and injuries. The Center's staff has also trained thousands of safety professionals, and have served as a resource for the public and the media on how to communicate safety messages and provide an impartial voice on timely road safety topics.

For 50 years, the Highway Safety Research Center has been a leading research institute that has helped shape the field of transportation safety. We are fortunate that this world-class highway safety research center calls North Carolina home. Again, I want to congratulate the Center on celebrating 50 years of service to the cause of highway safety and road users everywhere. I look forward to their continued work over the coming decades.

ADDRESSING GUN VIOLENCE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2015

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I am sick and tired of people talking about gun violence as if it is just another headline or topic of the day. While we tend to discuss gun violence because it occurs so frequently in our country, another debate is not enough.

How many Americans do we have to bury before gun violence stops? What will it take for every Member of this House to consider gun safety laws? And, when will we stop talking about the lives lost and take real action to save our constituents before their names are called before a moment of silence?

It is clear that there is a culture of violence pervading our society. It is crippling us at our core: tearing families apart and hurting communities. Perpetrators are cutting off generations at the head and ending lives way too soon.

Gun violence is a crisis of murder. We need to call it what it is. We must figure out how to stop people from killing other people and get guns out of the hands of those that do not need them.

Proponents of gun rights say that there is an absolute right to bear arms. I disagree. All rights are subject to reasonable restrictions. But what is absolute, is that Americans have the right to leave their homes without being shot. All Americans deserve to live free from fear.

But, every day Congress does not act, we lose more innocent children, men and women. Every day we do nothing, we forfeit more lives.

I call on my colleagues in Congress to pass comprehensive, national gun policies that eliminate loopholes, ban assault weapons, and place limits on high-capacity magazines. Several bills have been introduced in the House this year. I have co-sponsored many. Yet, none have made it to the House Floor.

This is unacceptable. We have to protect the lives of our constituents.

It saddens me that we are still just talking about gun safety. We did the same after Sandy Hook and Newtown. We reacted similarly following Aurora, Charleston, Oregon,