

a better life, but they have bettered the lives of those now around them.

Now in North Florida, the two have both given much back to their adopted community. Basma teaches middle school girls at the Foundation Academy much more than just math and science. Through example, she instills the value of taking initiatives and the importance of making a difference in the lives of others. To do this, she brings her classes to visit a local nursing home and organizes clothing at the church's thrift store. Her husband, Ali, contributes to the Christian academy through his work as a chef and a soccer coach, both bridging gaps in different religious communities.

For Basma, the work doesn't end when the school day is over. Basma has been volunteering with refugee-resettlement agencies, working as the Florida delegate to the UNHCR, and even founding the Iraqi Family Organization so that the Iraqi community could support one another.

The increasing conflict in the Middle East has threatened the future of refugees to the United States. Basma, who became an American citizen in July, wrote an essay with great courage, telling her own story in response to the political rhetoric about banning Muslims and refugees from certain countries. Her expressions of the struggles she faced and the love she had for America were simple, yet the message was clear and powerful.

As a Member of Congress, I have the privilege of interacting with and supporting the work of outstanding individuals, such as Basma Alawee. America is the world's most generous and diverse country, and Basma is proof that this generosity touches those who need it most. I am proud that Basma and her family call Jacksonville, FL their home. Basma has fully utilized the great opportunities presented to her by the United States of America and has dedicated her life to fostering community in Jacksonville and around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of Congress to join me in recognizing Basma Alawee, not only for overcoming incredible challenges as a refugee, but for her dedication making this country a home for her family, her neighbors, and those who have dreams of escaping conflict for a better life.

**HONORING MR. DOUGLAS HEUSER  
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS  
RETIREMENT FROM THE SEE  
SCIENCE CENTER**

**HON. FRANK C. GUINTA**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 9, 2016*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to Douglas Heuser on his retirement from the SEE Science Center after 32 years, and thank him for the outstanding work he did during his career.

Mr. Heuser's commitment to promoting and instilling a love of science in people across the Granite state has been a critical aspect of his dedication to education. Under Mr. Heuser's leadership, the SEE Science Center has grown from a staff of one to a staff of 23 and the center has grown from 4,500 square feet to 45,000. This expansion exemplifies Mr. Heuser's outstanding management abilities and successful marketing techniques.

The creativity, knowledge and experience Mr. Heuser brought to New Hampshire during his time at the SEE Science Center has been invaluable, and it's clear he leaves an example of strong leadership for others to emulate in his wake.

It is with great admiration that I congratulate Mr. Heuser on his retirement, and wish him the best on all future endeavors.

**IN HONOR OF GEORGIE CLARK**

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 9, 2016*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments and celebrate the tourism award being presented to a truly remarkable woman and dear friend, Georgiana Clark. Today, the National Tour Association at their annual convention in Atlanta, Georgia, is recognizing Mrs. Clark with the Pioneer Award for her lifetime dedication to the tourism industry in the United States. I have known Georgie and her late husband, Norman, since the early 1980s. They are the founders and operators of a family attraction in Santa Cruz County: Roaring Camp Railroads. The goal of the Clark Family was to freeze a period in time so visitors can step across the authentic wooden covered bridge and step back in time to the 1880's.

Norman and Georgiana Clark realized their family owned tourist attraction would never be able to financially afford the worldwide marketing needed to make their attraction a success, but they believed in cooperative marketing. Georgiana and Norman were the founders of what is today Cal Travel but was founded as the California Travel Industry Association and were the founders of what today is known as US Travel but was founded as the Travel Industry Association of America.

After Norman's passing in 1985, Georgiana went on to launch the company's second rail service, the Santa Cruz, Big Trees & Pacific Railway, the train from the California Redwoods to the beaches of Santa Cruz, Monterey Bay and the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk. I'm proud to say I was part of the original dedication ceremony when this tourist attraction began in Santa Cruz County. Today Roaring Camp is a thriving tourist attraction hosting many historical events and one of the largest Day Out With Thomas (Thomas the Tank Engine) events in the world.

Georgiana Collins Clark was born in 1935 Honolulu, Hawaii. She learned the importance of tourism at a very young age. Georgie and her sisters would make leis and sell them to arriving visitors to Honolulu as they disembarked off of cruise ships. Remember—back then there was no commercial air services. Georgiana later became a stewardess for Aloha Airlines where she met her husband, Norman on a flight. After Norman and Georgiana were married they settled in to their new home on the property of Roaring Camp where together they raised their three daughters Chemene, Melani and Kapiolani. Today two of their daughters work in tourism; Melani is the CEO for Roaring Camp Railroads and Kapiolani is an Operations Director at the Disneyland Resort in Anaheim.

Georgiana has played such a huge part in so many lives but especially to her family and

friends. As the National Tour Association recognizing Georgiana P. Clark for her lifetime contribution to tourism, I am proud to say I have watched this family owned and operated attraction grow and flourish over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in celebrating Georgiana P. Clark's amazing spirit and offering our congratulations to her on her lifetime of dedication to the tourism industry.

**IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF  
JAMES J. PAVLICIN**

**HON. DAVID W. JOLLY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 9, 2016*

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jim Pavlicin, a resident of Gulfport, Florida, who passed away on January 7, 2016. James Joseph Pavlicin was born and raised in Westbury, New York, the son of United States Navy veteran and Nassau County Police Detective Michael Thomas Pavlicin and his wife, Margaret Josephine (née Clay).

During World War II, Jim's mother sewed three blue stars on her Military Service flag, as all three of her sons, members of the Greatest Generation, defended our nation overseas. Following his older brothers—Mike, who served in the United States Navy, and George, who served in the United States Marine Corps—Jim joined the United States Army. In the post-war period, he was assigned to the Military Police Honor Guard, IX Corps Headquarters, in Sendai, Japan.

Returning home, he married his beloved wife of sixty years and eight months, Mary (née Horton). Settling on Long Island, New York, Mary and Jim raised four children: James (Annie), William (Debra), Jo Ann (Van), and Robert (Melissa); had seven grandchildren: Jessica (Sean), Amy (Matt), Kellie (Brandon), William, Rachel, Matthew, and Rebecca; and five great-grandchildren: Kaelyn, Matthew, Sam, Jacob, and Thomas. A sixth great-grandchild, Brandon Jr., will be born this month. He is also survived by two sisters, Mary Elliott and Margaret Clark, and dozens of nieces and nephews.

Jim was a proud member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers for fifty-five years. He enjoyed gardening, sport aviation, and travel, and was a master woodworker. Mary and Jim retired to Gulfport in 1998 after four years of living in a recreational vehicle and seeing this beautiful country. They belonged to the Gulfport Presbyterian Church, and were active and avid volunteers with the Experimental Aircraft Association, and the Sun 'n Fun Fly-In & Expo, Florida's largest convention. In 2012, Jim and his daughter Jo Ann participated in an Honor Flight, along with many other veterans from the Tampa area, traveling to Washington to visit the National World War II Memorial along the Mall.

Jim's goal in life was to "build a better mouse trap"—and most of the time, he did. He always had a smile on his face, and was happiest when he was with his family, helping others, telling a story, or singing. At his funeral, his grandchildren recounted how meaningful it was to hear their grandfather say to them, "Good job. I'm proud of you."

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor James J. Pavlicin, whose life and service reflect great credit upon himself, his family, and his community. He will be remembered as a man who selflessly answered his country's call; as a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, son, brother, and uncle; and as an important part of Florida's 13th Congressional District. My wife Laura and I offer our prayers for his wife, Mary; children, Jim, Bill, Jo, and Bob; and the rest of his large, loving family, as we remember and honor the life of Jim Pavlicin.

**HONORING THE LIFE OF MAY YING MARY YANG**

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of May Ying Mary Yang of Merced, California who passed away on November 22, 2015, at the age of 69. Mrs. Yang's family and friends will miss her greatly as she dedicated her life to assisting those she met and always strived to make a difference in the community.

May Ying Mary Yang was born on October 1, 1946 in Xieng Khouang, Laos. When she was 15 years old, she married a military man, Ge Paul Yang, whom she would spend the rest of her life with. In 1975, the Yang family made the decision to flee from the war in Vietnam with their 8 children in order to seek refuge in a refugee camp in Thailand, prior to immigrating to the United States. When they arrived to the refugee camp, the Yang family had no money or food for their children and faced numerous hardships. Additionally, while living in the refugee camp, the family witnessed many children dying from malnutrition and diseases. It goes without saying that Mrs. Yang overcame many struggles in her life and managed to persevere in order to provide her family with a safe future lifestyle.

Throughout her life, Mrs. Yang touched many lives. Her commitment to her husband, Ge Paul Yang played a huge role in his career. Further, Mrs. Yang was known as an intelligent woman with a big heart, who was compassionate and always encouraging. She actively made a difference in her community alongside her husband, preparing meals, planning community events, and engaging in social work. The Yang family did this as a means to maintain a strong Hmong group within the community.

Mrs. Yang's work led to more Hmong individuals believing in the concept of "giving more than what one is called upon to give." Her work was instrumental to the development of the belief that women should be equal and that equality is not based on gender. These beliefs were instilled in Mrs. Yang's children and she always encouraged them to succeed.

Further, the dedication Mrs. Yang had to serving her community; her integrity, honor, and long service to the Central Valley made her a cherished figure. Her commitment to family and to her community will forever live in the lives of the people she touched. It is my honor to join Mrs. Yang's family in celebrating a life that will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a great woman of tireless service and dedication to her community. Mrs. Yang's memory will live on through her family and be remembered by our entire community.

**TO AMPLIFY CONCERN OF IMMIGRANT DEATHS IN PRIVATE PRISONS**

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the first sections of a terrific article, entitled, 'This Man Will Almost Certainly Die' by Seth Freed Wessler, and published by The Nation. As we continue to discuss Criminal Justice Reform, I hope that this article can be invaluable resource to my colleagues.

Where Claudio Fagardo-Saucedo grew up, on the colonial streets of the Mexican city of Durango, migrating to the United States was almost a rite of passage. It was following the stream of departures from Durango in the 1980s that the lanky young man left his family and traveled north. His mother, Julieta Saucedo Salazar, heard that he'd found jobs working as a laborer in Los Angeles. But they soon lost touch. "We did not know much about him, really," his younger sister told me.

This article was reported in partnership with the Investigative Fund at the Nation Institute, with support from the Puffin Foundation. It will be part of the February 6 episode of Reveal, a new podcast and public radio show produced by The Center for Investigative Reporting and PRX. Fagardo-Saucedo worked, his jobs sometimes taking him out of California, and occasionally he got into trouble—once for "possession for sale" of cocaine, another time for stealing jewelry. Every seven or eight years, his mother recalled, he'd return to her house—but never by choice. "They caught him all the time for being illegal," Julieta said. She always hoped her wandering son might stay, get to know the family again, but he never did. "He would be here a month, and then he'd go again."

In the summer of 2003, immigration agents detained Fagardo-Saucedo on his way back to California, but this time the Border Patrol referred him to federal prosecutors, who charged him with "illegal re-entry," or returning to the United States after deportation. He served nearly five years before being sent back to Mexico. Again, he tried to return. Early one morning in August of 2008, Fagardo-Saucedo triggered an infrared sensor as he and two others ran across the border near Tijuana. He pleaded guilty in a U.S. District Court to another "illegal re-entry" charge. The judge sentenced him to four years in federal prison.

When Fagardo-Saucedo arrived at Reeves, a prison complex in rural West Texas, he entered a little-known segment of the federal prison system. Over the previous decade, elected officials and federal agencies had quietly recast the relationship between criminal justice and immigration enforcement. These changes have done as much to bloat the federal prison population as the War on Drugs; they have also helped make Latinos the largest racial or ethnic group sentenced to federal custody.

Until the 1990s, border crossing was almost always treated as a civil offense, punishable by deportation. But in the late 1980s, Congress started to change that. By 1996, cross-

ing the border after deportation was punishable by years of imprisonment, with enhanced sentences for people previously convicted of crimes—most often drug offenses. Though federal investigators have found no evidence that criminalization has reduced the pace of border crossings over the long term, prosecutions for illegal entry and re-entry rose from fewer than 4,000 a year at the start of Bill Clinton's presidency, to 31,000 in 2004 under George W. Bush, to a high of 91,000 in 2013 under President Obama.

By the late 1990s, the flood of inmates from this new class of prisoner, coupled with a raging War on Drugs, sent the Bureau of Prisons searching for places to put them. The BOP turned to private companies to operate a new type of facility, low-security prisons designed to hold only noncitizens convicted of federal crimes. As of June 2015, these facilities—which are distinct from immigration detention centers, where people are held pending deportation—housed nearly 23,000 people.

Three private companies now run 11 immigrant-only contract prisons. Five are run by the GEO Group, four by the Corrections Corporation of America, and two by a privately held company called the Management & Training Corporation. (A third MTC prison was recently shut down after inmates ransacked it in a protest.) Except for a prison largely used to house inmates from Washington, DC, these 11 facilities are the only privately run prisons in the federal criminal-justice system. In 2013, the BOP spent roughly \$625 million on them. The contracts include the provision of medical care, for which the companies often hire health-services subcontractors. In one such facility in Reeves County, Texas, the BOP entered into an agreement with the county, which in turn hired GEO to operate the prison and Correct Care Solutions to manage prison healthcare.

The BOP's contracts with these facilities are meant to cut costs. Though the prisons are part of the federal infrastructure, the companies that run them operate under a different—and less stringent—set of rules in order to allow cost-cutting innovations. As a retired BOP contracting official said in an interview, "The more specificity you put in the contract, the more money the contractors are going to want for performing the service."

At least five times since 2008, inmates have rioted in the BOP's contract prisons. The unrest has often come after medical-care complaints. (Pecos Enterprise, Smokey Briggs / AP)

Repeated federal audits and reports have found these facilities to be in crisis. Prison medical care is notoriously bad, but for years, immigrant- and prisoner-rights advocates have sounded the alarm about these sites in particular, describing them as separate and unequal, segregated on the basis of citizenship. "These prisons operate without the same systems of accountability as regular Bureau of Prisons facilities, and prisoners suffer," said Carl Takei, an ACLU attorney who coauthored a 2014 report documenting the subpar conditions.

Yet the full scale of the medical neglect at these immigrant-only contract prisons has remained opaque—until now. After two years of negotiations with the BOP in and out of federal court over an open-records request, I obtained more than 9,000 pages of medical records that contractors submitted to the BOP. They include the records for 103 of at least 137 people who have died in federal contract prisons from 1998 (the year after the first one opened) through the end of 2014. The records all concern men; women are sent to regular BOP-run prisons. The documents include nurse and doctor notes, records from hospital visits, psychological files, autopsies,