

PATTY DUKE “QUEEN OF TV MOVIES AND TIRELESS ADVOCATE FOR THOSE STRUGGLING WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES”

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Patty Duke, an American icon and advocate for those suffering in silence from various forms of mental illness, who passed away on March 29, 2016 at the age of 69.

Patty Duke was born Anna Marie Duke on December 14, 1946 in Elmhurst, New York.

Anna Duke and her siblings grew up in a difficult household, raised by an alcoholic father and a mother who suffered from what was then called “manic depression,” later known to be bipolar disorder.

Anna Duke was introduced to acting by her brother’s managers, John and Ethel Ross, who changed her name to Patty and eventually became her guardians.

Later in Patty Duke’s life, she revealed that she was a survivor of sexual assault.

In 1959, Patty Duke’s first big role came when she was cast as Helen Keller in the Broadway version of *The Miracle Worker*, with Anne Bancroft portraying her teacher, Anne Sullivan.

Then in 1962, that play was turned into a feature film, in which she also starred.

For her performance in the film, the 16-year-old won a “Promising Newcomer” Golden Globe as well as an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress—making her the youngest person to win an Oscar at that time.

Sadly, following her Oscar win, Patty Duke began to privately unravel.

The abuse she endured along with her family’s history of bipolar disorder began to plague her.

All the while, she continued to dazzle the outside world with a successful career.

Patty Duke then starred in her own sitcom called *The Patty Duke Show*, which she artfully played two cousin characters simultaneously.

In 1965, she also became a pop music contender with her top 10 hit “Don’t Just Stand There” and headlined the acclaimed film *Billie*, which was the first movie ever sold to a television network.

Thus, began Patty Duke’s reign as the “Queen of TV Movies.”

Patty Duke continued her big-screen career by starring in the cult classic *Valley of the Dolls* in 1967 and indie films such as *Me, Natalie* in 1969.

Patty Duke married assistant director Harry Falk, remaining in the marriage from 1965 to 1969.

After her marriage ended, Patty Duke bore a son named Sean Patrick Duke.

In 1972, she married actor John Astin, who played Gomez in the television version of *The Addams Family*.

John Astin adopted her son Sean, and fathered her second son, Mackenzie Astin, born in 1973.

Then in 1976, Patty Duke won her second Emmy for the highly successful mini-series *Captains and the Kings*.

Other popular TV movies followed, including the 1979 small screen version of *The Miracle*

Worker, in which she portrayed Anne Sullivan, a role that won her third Emmy.

In the mid-1980s, she became president of the Screen Actors Guild.

Her 1987 autobiography, *Call Me Anna*, was made into a TV movie in 1990 in which she portrayed herself and served as co-producer.

Following in 1992 second book, *A Brilliant Madness: Living With Manic Depression Illness*, was published.

With the help of family and friends Patty Duke was able to quiet her personal demons, and become a vocal advocate for those suffering from mental illnesses, along with dispelling social stigmas attached to them.

Patty Duke died on March 29, 2016 in Coeur D’Alene, Idaho, at the age of 69 from a sepsis infection from a ruptured intestine.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to take a moment of silence in remembrance of this strong woman who was able to stand against the suffocating struggles of depression and became a source of inspiration for hundreds of thousands of Americans struggling with mental illnesses.

STANDARD MERGER AND ACQUISITION REVIEWS THROUGH EQUAL RULES ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 23, 2016

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in opposition to H.R. 2745 or the SMARTER Act.

This bill is another delay tactic that stops us from the meaningful work of passing a budget.

Too many bills that have come out of the Judiciary Committee this year are designed to erode consumer rights and roll back established judicial precedent.

We should be considering and debating meaningful bills to address criminal justice reform and common sense gun safety.

Instead, we are here voting to fix a problem that does not exist and does not need our attention.

A Politico article from two days ago was titled “Congress setting a low bar for doing nothing.”

My Democratic colleagues and I have bills and agendas that we would like to bring to the floor to address real problems facing real Americans.

This bill is not smart. It is a timewaster and I hope after spring recess we can come back to a robust agenda and work on behalf of the American people.

HONORING SYDNEY ALDERMAN PERRY ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, today marks the end of an era at the Jewish Federation and Jewish Community Center of Greater New Haven as they gather to celebrate the retire-

ment of their President and CEO, and my dear friend, Sydney Alderman Perry.

Sydney began her career with the Jewish Federation and JCC nearly 30 years ago in the Department of Jewish Education. Education was her passion and over the course of her seventeen years in that department she not only worked to improve the synagogue supplementary schools, she also developed and implemented a number of innovative education programs for both adults and teens.

In addition to “A Taste of Honey,” an adult learning lecture series that attracts hundreds of adults, Sydney spearheaded the Israel Experience Savings program, which helps young people travel to Israel and initiated Talmud Torah Meyuchad, an individualized Jewish education program for children with special needs. But perhaps the contribution she is most proud of is the establishment of the successful community Hebrew High School, MAKOM, which serves hundreds of teens throughout the New Haven area every year.

She was tapped as associate executive director to supervise such things as the Holocaust Education and Prejudice Reduction Project and went on to become the executive director of the federation for six years, before taking on the title of CEO of the merged federation and the Jewish Community Center of New Haven.

Under her leadership the federation has expanded its agenda and outreach to enhance Jewish life and enrich the lives of those most in need both locally and internationally. Food4Kids sends local students who depend on the breakfast and lunch programs home with a backpack of staples for the weekends. The Jewish Coalition for Literacy has more than two hundred volunteers who read and talk with students. The federation supports the elderly housing complexes as well as educational institutions across Greater New Haven and raises funds for Yale Hillel and the University of Connecticut Hillel; the Jewish Historical Society and the JCC.

Beyond her leadership at the Jewish Federation and JCC, Sydney is an extraordinary advocate for Jewish continuity. She has served as a consultant to the community on educational endeavors, including the Anne Frank Project, Shepherd ’92, Jerusalem 3000 and the celebration of Israel’s 50th Anniversary. Sydney is an extraordinary scholar, often called upon nationally to give workshops and has served as scholar-in-residence for several communities.

Sydney has shown an unparalleled dedication to Jewish education in our community and throughout the nation—a commitment that is reflected in the myriad of awards she has been honored with over the years. She is an inspiration.

I am proud to join the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered this evening in extending my sincere thanks and appreciation to Sydney Alderman Perry for her incredible work with the Jewish Federation and Jewish Community Center of Greater New Haven and her outstanding service to our community. My very best wishes to her, her children, and grandchildren for many more years of health and happiness as she enjoys her retirement.

TRIBUTE TO RYANNE MULLEN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ryanne Mullen of Villisca, Iowa, for being awarded first place for her outstanding essay honoring our military veterans by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Iowa. Ryanne is a student at Enarson Elementary in Villisca, Iowa.

The theme for this essay contest was "What Does A Veteran Mean To Me?", and was open to all fifth graders in public, private, and home schools throughout Iowa.

Ryanne's essay reads:

I deeply thought about what a veteran means to me. I have chosen to share emotional descriptions of what a veteran means to me. The initial meaning of a veteran to me is how fear is considered, understood, and accepted but they still make the decision to face this fear for the freedom of their families and all other families they are standing strong for.

The second meaning of a veteran to me is courage. The attitude of never giving up, never backing down, and always remaining faithful. These are characteristics of semper fidelis.

The third meaning I want to express is brotherhood, which is described as equally caring for the life of your fellow soldier. The fact that no one is left behind especially the veterans that are KIA, MIA, or POW. I will carry memories of them with me forever.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Ryanne for earning this award. It is because of Iowans like her that I'm proud to represent our great state. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Ryanne for writing this outstanding essay honoring our veterans. I wish her nothing but continued success in all she does.

ST. EPHREM CHURCH PARISH 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, St. Ephrem Church Parish, founded in June 1966, is celebrating 50 years of faithful service to the Bensalem, Bucks County parish—a Golden Jubilee. The heart of the parish is the Catholic faith; its mission, meeting the spiritual needs of all parishioners. Dedicated, devout pastors and priests have overseen the mission throughout its history and continue on this path, today. For a half-century, the small parish has grown to include 3,300 registered families and more than 11,000 members. St. Ephrem's also provides an excellent education in pre-K through 8th grade to approximately 450 children, including another 200 in Sunday School. St. Ephrem's is known to have a strong community outreach program that touches many families in the parish through the Boy and Girl Scouts, Catholic Daughters of America, Bereavement Support, Family Counseling and active Teen and Youth sports programs. For your 50 years of spiritual guid-

ance, we extend our heartiest congratulations on this Golden Jubilee and sincere wishes for continued growth and service in the coming years.

HONORING DANIEL BEN-ZAKEN AND RACHEL BEAN

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor of Daniel Ben-Zaken and Rachel Bean, who were awarded in this year's C-SPAN student documentary contest. Daniel and Rachel are students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

Their powerful documentary, "Target," explores the issues and arguments surrounding gun safety and school shootings. The theme of this year's contest was "Road to the White House: What's the Issue You Most Want Candidates to Discuss during the 2016 Presidential Campaign?" Nearly three thousand video submissions from almost six thousand students across the nation were submitted to this contest, and I am thrilled that Daniel and Rachel's documentary was recognized as exceptional.

I am honored that these young filmmakers chose to interview me for their documentary. In my remarks, I expressed my deep concern regarding gun violence in America, especially in schools. Our students must be able to study and learn in a safe environment absent the threat of gun violence. With an average of nearly one school shooting every week, this documentary covers a timely and vital issue facing our nation.

Again, congratulations to Daniel and Rachel. I wish them the best of luck with their future endeavors and academic pursuits. It is with great pleasure that I honor them, and I hope they will continue to inspire young South Floridians to become involved in issues they care about.

RECOGNIZING CASILDA LUNA

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Casilda Luna, who celebrated her 90th birthday on Wednesday, April 6, 2016.

A native of Sanchez, Dominican Republic, Casilda Luna is often referred to as a pioneer in the Hispanic community. Casilda Luna moved to Washington, D.C. in 1961, and was one of the first Hispanic activists in Adams Morgan. Casilda organized weekly social gatherings that evolved into community discussions, which addressed social problems in the community. She then became involved with the Latin American Festival organizing committee and the Latino Affairs Office of the District of Columbia.

Casilda was the co-founder of the Hispanic Festival and the Mayor's Office of Latino Affairs, where she helped to promote the inclu-

sion of Hispanics in the Metropolitan Police Department. She also founded Mujeres Unidas Latinas en Accion (MULA), which helped Hispanic women who were new to the District of Columbia by bringing them together through community activities.

I ask the House to join me in recognizing her 90th birthday and her more than 50 years of activism in the national capital region. Casilda Luna is a special woman whose service to our community is greatly appreciated.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT OF BILL HANEY

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to acknowledge one of my constituents who has demonstrated day-in day-out what living the American dream really means.

Bill Haney graduated from the College of New Jersey with a Bachelor of Science in Education. While teaching elementary school in Talbot County, Maryland, Bill worked to earn his Master's Degree in Supervision and Human Relations from George Washington University. In 1983, Mr. Haney accepted the position of Chief Executive Officer of Every Citizen Has Opportunities, Inc. (ECHO), a Leesburg, Virginia based non-profit which provides employment, training, and community integration to individuals with disabilities. Mr. Haney has decided it is time to retire from his life's work, thus ending a bright chapter in ECHO's history.

As Mr. Haney's extraordinary career comes to a close, I would like to take a moment to highlight the work he has done over the years. When Mr. Haney took over as CEO at ECHO, the organization was supporting about 75 individuals with disabilities, with an annual budget of under three hundred thousand dollars, and only two worksites. Under Mr. Haney's leadership, ECHO's budget has grown to nearly five million dollars, and has expanded services to nearly 170 individuals with disabilities. ECHO has approximately 15 work locations, ranging from Loudoun County Public Schools to Inova Hospitals.

In addition to his work at ECHO, Mr. Haney has extended his skills to the community through his work on the Board of Directors for the Loudoun County Red Cross, as Cubmaster for the Pack 11 Boy Scouts in Boyce, Virginia, and as a Sunday school teacher at St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church in Front Royal, Virginia.

Mr. Haney leaves ECHO after a storied 33 years at the helm with zero debt, positive cash flow, and outright ownership of its facility. ECHO will continue serving our community, but without a doubt, will miss Mr. Haney's leadership and dedication.

At this moment, Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in extending our sincerest thanks to Mr. Haney for all the work he has done in our community, and wish him the best in his future endeavors.