

assistant professor in 1988 and to full professor in 2010. He served as interim chief of the division from 1993 until his campaign to make ophthalmology a stand-alone department was successful in 2000. He was named chair in the document ratifying creation of the Department of Ophthalmology by the Howard University Board of Trustees.

Dr. Copeland wrote multiple papers on corneal and external diseases, uveitis, and other diseases of the eye. His research focused on conditions affecting the eye, as well as the socioeconomic and gender disparities in cataract surgery, including factors such as insurance coverage, transportation, and other barriers to access.

In 2012, in conjunction with a Duke University professor, Dr. Copeland published Copeland and Afshari's Principles and Practice of Cornea, a definitive textbook on the cornea. The two-volume work is over 1,500 pages long, includes 119 chapters, and weighs over 14 pounds. Dr. Copeland also traveled throughout the world to perform humanitarian services for underserved populations. He served the people of Haiti, Saint Lucia, Ghana, Egypt, Ethiopia, Chile, Liberia, Nigeria, and India.

Over the years, Dr. Copeland's work drew numerous awards and accolades. He was frequently honored by the American Academy of Ophthalmology, garnering the Distinguished Service Award, Achievement Award, Council of Appreciation Award, Surgery by Surgeons Award, and the Secretariat Award. He was frequently listed as a "top doctor" in major publications. In 2008, Dr. Copeland received the Professional Service Award from the Prevention of Blindness Society of Metropolitan Washington, and in 2013, he garnered an Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society nomination. At Howard University, Dr. Copeland was honored at the Ninth Annual Spirituality and Medicine Seminar in 2005—he was a member of Washington's historic Shiloh Baptist Church, where he was a deacon. Howard also honored Dr. Copeland with a Citation of Achievement Award in 2008.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in remembering this barrier-breaking physician. Dr. Copeland was a leader in ophthalmology who used his expertise to help the underserved. His wisdom and compassion will be sorely missed, but his contributions will live on through all those who learned from him.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE SCIENTISTS AND TECHNOLOGISTS—ARNYA ARORA

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Arnya Arora from Pearland, TX for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists to represent the state of Texas at the Congress of Future Science and Technology leaders.

Arnya attends Manvel High School and is one of 13 high school honor students selected from the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas. These students were selected as Texas delegates at the Congress of Future

Science and Technology Leaders. This program was designed for high school students to be recognized for their hard work in school, as well as to support their aspirations of working in a science or technology field. The National Academy was founded by Richard Rossi and Dr. Robert Darling; Mr. Rossi currently serves as president. The Congress is being held at the Tsongas Center at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell from June 29th through July 1st. Arnya was selected by a group of educators to be a delegate for the Congress thanks to his dedication to his academic success and goals of pursuing science or technology. We are proud of Arnya and all of his hard work, and know he will make Pearland proud.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Arnya for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists. Keep up the great work.

CELEBRATING THE 275TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, in 1741, 275 years ago, a small group of Moravian settlers founded a community along the banks of the Monocacy Creek in an area about 60 miles north of Philadelphia.

In recognition of their faith—and in the hope that they were establishing a community that would stand the test of time—they named their settlement Bethlehem.

These Moravian settlers chose an excellent site for their settlement. Bethlehem quickly grew to become an important hub for commerce, industry and learning. It remains so to this day, and continues to evolve with the times while still retaining strong ties to its heritage and founders.

Bethlehem also remains a rich melting pot and serves as a shining example for other cities. Many of its citizens share a connection to the former Bethlehem Steel plant, which was once the number two steel producer in the United States. While time and circumstances resulted in Bethlehem Steel's closure, the people of Bethlehem have proven themselves to be as resilient and strong as the steel they forged. The City has continued to prosper, and it consistently appears on lists of the best places to live in the country.

Now with a population over 75,000, a diversified industrial base, and a unique blend of culture and commerce, Bethlehem is celebrating its 275th Anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to serve and represent the people of Bethlehem, and I offer them my sincerest congratulations on their numerous achievements over the course of their city's long and storied past. May their city long continue to grow and to prosper.

RECOGNIZING TRENT HARMON, 15TH AND FINAL WINNER OF "AMERICAN IDOL"

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, April 7, 2016, was an exciting night for Mississippians, as we were represented by gifted vocalists, Trent Harmon, of Amory, and La'Porsha Renae, of McComb, the final two contestants during the farewell season of "American Idol." While Trent was ultimately victorious, he and La'Porsha have bright futures ahead of them and made Mississippi proud.

Born and raised in the First District of Mississippi, I was inspired by Trent's faith in God, hard work ethic, and humility. During the process, Trent was diagnosed with mononucleosis and was given the option to quit the show. Thankfully, Trent's hard work and determination allowed him to compete and overcome the illness.

Throughout the season, Trent was proud of his state and his state was proud of him. This was on display during the hometown parade and concert. Thousands of fans flocked to the parade in downtown Amory wearing blue and white "Team Trent" shirts, businesses had "Vote for Trent" signs in their windows, and fans crowded Amory High School to watch Trent perform. This is what is special about Mississippi. People are proud of where they come from and are happy to see each other succeed.

Most importantly, Trent had the love and support of his family. He discussed working on his family farm and restaurant and the need to leave in order to find success in the music industry. Even though he had to leave Amory, his family, community, and state continued to support his dream. I congratulate Trent on his success and wish him the best in his future career.

ESSAY BY JILLIAN SABOE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight from across the political spectrum that sheds a light on the concerns of our younger constituents. Giving voice to their priorities will hopefully instill a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Jillian Saboe attends Pearland High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: What makes the political process in Congress so challenging?

In recent decades, many political scientists as well as ordinary people of the

American population have taken notice of the seemingly endless routes that pieces of legislature take once they enter the hands of congressmen. Although the Constitution and other foundational texts and practices emphasize the democratic ways of government that sets America apart from the other nations of the world, what America gains in democracy, America lacks in efficiency. The polarization of Congressmen that results from different morals, political parties, and religions is a major factor that makes the political process in Congress so challenging.

A piece of legislature is voted on a number of times throughout the process of becoming official. Legislature is passed through the houses of Congress sometimes several times, as well as the through the President and his peers. Each member of Congress and member of the President's cabinet come from a different and unique background. These backgrounds include ethnicity, geographical regions, religions, political beliefs, a sense of what is right and what is wrong, and several other distinguishing factors. Each different member of Congress/the Executive team votes on legislature on the basis of two different things: 1) what his/her constituency wants and 2) what he/she wants. Balancing these two things along with all of the previously mentioned personal factors, those who vote on legislature in Congress have an incredible amount of information to consider prior to making decisions. The natural and environmental differences between humans that lead to each balancing factor results in a competitive, argumentative, passive Congress.

Just like in any relationship between/among individuals, reaching agreements when faced with a challenge or suggestion can be difficult. When you extend hundreds of individuals, who are in charge of thousands of individuals each, into one single political relationship, reaching an agreement almost seems impossible. Therefore, congressional struggles that exist and prevent some pieces of legislature from being efficiently passed, are consequences of inevitability and must either be dealt with or Congress must be reorganized.

POEM BY ALBERT CASWELL IN
HONOR OF ROBIN WILLIAMS

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of the remarkably talented Robin Williams, a man who gave the world one of the greatest gifts of all—laughter. The following poem was written in his honor by Albert Caswell:

LAUGH UNTIL YOU DIE IN MEMORY OF ROBIN WILLIAMS
(By: Albert Carey Caswell)

Laugh
Laugh until you die
Wipe those tears from your eyes
Laugh, laugh until you die
Because life is far too short to ever ask why
Robin Williams, was a shooting star so way
up high
So out of this world and in his mind,
as to new heights he would climb
So brilliant and so bright,
soaring ever higher with his mind as he took
flight
Was he really from another planet in time?
This comet that we called his life
Laugh until you dies
As he brought so many smiles

While, living with his own pain the while
A man of style and such grace
With that smile upon his face
Laugh until you die,
Cherish every moment we're alive
As his was a special place,
As none will take his place or reside
With his laughter bringing us to tears in our
eyes
Robin Williams was such a genius none will
deny
As everywhere he went,
His life was filled with the kindness so spent
With his warm heart as he to tried
Laugh, yea laugh until you die
Live life like it's your last night
And smile with delight so all inside
For Robin's gift was to bring joy and laugh-
ter into peoples lives
And the "DEAD POETS SOCIETY" wasn't
really just an act,
it was the closest thing to real Robin Wil-
liams you will find
Yea, let's laugh until we die
Yes, he was one heck of a shusbud,
so Morked out all in time
So out of this world with his special comedic
mind
So brilliant we can't deny
Reaching higher than most of us will ever at-
tempt to fly
So fast and so far and so high
A natural born comic reacting with his gut
in time
And there wasn't any DOUBTFIRE about
Robin being a charming guy
For he traveled at light speeds
all in his need to entertain us in time
And if you ever thought you could catch up
to him,
You were out of your mind
Because his mind was always in a race,
Towards laughter at such a pace
So interstellar,
so extraterrestrial as time he did not waste
So out of this world,
as he added new meaning to Area 51 with his
design
All in the days of our lives,
When things seemed filled with sadness and
strife
Robin gave the world what she so needed in
time
LAUGHTER, is the best medicine you will
find
Making us forget about our worries and our
cares,
as we laughed until we cried with him there
And laughter,
HE MADE IT RAIN
Coming down in buckets so insane
Giving back everywhere he went
Was what his life's work so meant
"GOODWILL HUNTING" was how his time
was spent
Making us smile with laughter wherever he
commenced
So laugh until you die
And one Robin's special loves so all inside
Were our men and women of The Armed
Forces,
as half was around the world to them he
would fly
Traveling overseas,
For their families there was nothing he'd
deny
But his greatest loves of all,
were his children and his wife we saw
"THE WORLD'S GREATEST DAD",
His children knew they had
Now, whenever we say his name,
our hearts fill with love and such pain miss-
ing him so bad.
Please laugh until you die
And anyone who's ever done standup will not
deny
Robin was The Clown Prince of Comedy all
at speed was this guy.

For he had the "HOOK",
as "BACK TO NEVER LAND" all of us took
And he could act, as his life was a work of
poetry so profound
And this is why he belongs in The Hall of
Fame,
with all those DEAD POETS SOCIETY he
could claim now
For Robin was a Man For All Seasons,
and for so many reasons as he made us say
"WOW"
Whether, on the sidelines with his beloved
Niner's,
he was everywhere so all in time here and
how
Laugh until you die
Sadly, he must of been one hell of a magi-
cian,
how he kept all his tears of a clown so all
hidden
But Robin's very core,
was the heart of a child of which will live on
forevermore
Like Peter Pan, this wonderful man
refused to grow up and that's for sure
And that is why we should all laugh until we
die
"GOOD MORNING, VIETNAM",
when we hear him say those words we thing
of Robin and his smile
As we watched him perform,
it was like a NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM as
history was being born.
As he was always so strong to the finish,
cause like "POPEYE" he too ate his spinach
As "THE FISHER KING" he caught our
hearts with his smile
Bringing us to new "AWAKENINGS" all the
while
And that's why we should all laugh until we
die
As he was one of "THE ARISTOCRATS",
Kings of Comedy and that's a fact
Equipped with such "ARTIFICIAL INTEL-
LIGENCE",
oh how he could rap
And upon the stage, Robin would "SIEZE
THE DAY"
Watching him, was always "THE BEST OF
TIMES" we can say
As not the question we all must ask,
from his craft "WHAT DREAMS MAY
COME?"
While, riding in his "RV" or on the stage of
life he brought such glee
As now it's all very clear,
because of his heart he was always the "MAN
OF THE YEAR".
But "THE FINAL CUT",
Was so what we all felt when we heard he had
died
As came the tears down upon our face as we
asked why?
Knowing, that no longer on this earth Robin
would reside
And on that day our world got a little bit
sadder as we realized
But he's not really gone
For he lives on and on,
in everyone's heart who has seen him per-
form
As into future generations they will admire
this sensation,
named Robin Williams living on as out his
name they cry
And if we could all "PATCH ADAMS" up our
hearts
And from his memory in all our tears try to
start
TO LAUGH
By remembering what came from his heart
All in that laughter which was his TRUE
WORK OF ART
In our hearts
And laugh until we die
Because, we all live short lives