

the same rate as their peers while school is in session, but while middle and upper-income students show slight gains in their reading performance after the summer months, lower income students experience a two-month loss in reading achievement.

It is what teachers refer to as the “summer slide” or “summer setback.” This loss is cumulative: while teachers spend 4–6 weeks re-teaching material to the students who have fallen behind over the summer, other students are progressing with their skills. The result? By the end of the sixth grade, children who lose reading skills during the summer are on average 2 years behind their peers. Even more startling is the conclusion of University of Nevada research, which has shown that students without access to books are less likely to complete their basic education.

The simple fact is that there are fewer opportunities for daily summer reading when both parents are away at work. Without access to books, our kids fall behind.

My daughter teaches English at Baylor University. She has dedicated her life to edifying the young people of this country by instilling in them a love for reading, and for the intellectual tradition it gives them access to. This love needs to start early, and the inheritance of that tradition should be accessible to all Americans. That is why I am proud of the efforts of KHOU and Star Furniture, who are rolling out a new community effort to increase the literacy rate in Houston. They are soliciting donations for the non-profit group “Books Between Kids,” which provides at-risk children with books that they can keep in their home. We need more programs like this in our country. And that’s just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO KELLY KOCH

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Kelly Koch, of Waukee, Iowa, on being crowned Miss Iowa 2016.

Miss Koch recently started competing in pageants as late as 2014, and was the runner-up Miss Iowa 2015. There are five categories for which contestants are judged. She was a preliminary talent winner with her ballet en point, telling the local newspaper, Dallas County News, that she spent at least two hours daily each week with her choreographer to perfect every detail. She was attuned to national and international news in preparation for the interview portion of the pageant. During her year of service as Miss Iowa, Miss Koch chose the Pinky Swear Foundation, which provides financial and emotional support to families whose children are afflicted with cancer. Earlier, Kelly Koch had served as an intern for the organization and has a great affection for its mission.

In her service as Miss Iowa and to fulfill her obligations to the Miss Iowa organization, Kelly Koch will temporarily suspend her studies at Iowa State University where she is a member of the I.S.U. Dance Team. In September, she will represent Iowa in Miss USA set for Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Kelly Koch for this recognition. I am proud to

represent her in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Miss Koch and wishing her nothing but success over the coming year and beyond.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF FARM CREDIT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the centennial of the Farm Credit System.

The Farm Credit System was established by Congress through the Federal Farm Loan Act of 1916 which was signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson. Next month will mark the centennial of this vital network.

I was pleased to cosponsor House Resolution 591, introduced by House Agriculture Committee Chairman MIKE CONAWAY and Ranking Member COLLIN PETERSON—commending the cooperative owners and employees of the Farm Credit System for their important contributions over the last century.

Congress designed the Farm Credit System as a network of cooperatives that would be able to respond to the needs of farmers and rural communities.

My district covers an important agricultural area in Central New York. The 24th District of New York is home to some of the most productive fruit, vegetable, dairy and diversified farms in the state. According to the census of agriculture, Cayuga County ranks second in the state and Wayne County ranks fifth in terms of the value of agricultural production. Farms in my district are served by Farm Credit East, which has over \$4 billion in loan commitments to its nearly 9,000 customers in New York.

As part of its centennial celebration, Farm Credit sponsored the Fresh Perspectives program to identify 100 leaders that are making a difference in rural America. Leaders were nominated in 10 different categories. From the top 100 list, a top honoree in each category was selected. I’m proud to say that Christine Fesko, of Skaneateles, NY was selected as the top honoree in the category of Agriculture Education and Community Impact.

In addition to running a 600 cow dairy farm with her family, Chris operates the Discovery Center where children, who wouldn’t otherwise be able to see a working farm, can learn about agriculture. She has also produced a series of award-winning educational videos to teach children about agriculture and modern farming practices. She was elected to the Farm Credit East board of directors where she served from 2003 to 2016.

As the Farm Credit System celebrates its centennial, I want to recognize farmers like Chris who have made this cooperative system strong as it begins its next 100 years.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF CLIVE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Clive, Iowa for its recognition as a 2015 Tree City USA sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service’s Urban and Community Forestry program (the Forest Service).

The City of Clive has met the core standards for tree care during the past year. Over 135 million Americans live in Tree USA communities. In its 40th year of celebration, the Tree City USA program is critical to the U.S. Forest Service. This federal partner delivers technical and financial resources to states, cities and communities across the nation with each community adhering to a State Action Plan, guiding investments in each state while accomplishing local projects and programs.

The U.S. Forest Service and Arbor Day Foundation cooperate with communities to establish healthy forests, improve air and water quality and contribute to important national energy conservation goals. These local investments create long term major environmental improvements nationwide.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the City of Clive and urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the community on this award and in wishing them nothing but continued success.

GENERAL LEAVE—FARM CREDIT CENTENNIAL REMARKS—NEW YORK 22ND DISTRICT

HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the cooperative owners and employees of the Farm Credit System for meeting the credit and financial-services needs of rural communities and agriculture for 100 years.

I was pleased to cosponsor House Resolution 591 commemorating the Farm Credit System centennial. Congress designed the Farm Credit System as a permanent means to support the well-being and prosperity of the Nation’s rural communities and agricultural producers of all types and sizes. Congress designed the Farm Credit System as a network of cooperatives, independently owned and controlled by its borrowers, responsive to their individual needs for credit and financial services.

Farm Credit East serves many farmers in my district through their offices in Cortland and Sangerfield. Further, the Farm Credit system actively supports our next generation of farmers with agriculture education and support for organizations like 4-H and Future Farmers of America.

One of Farm Credit East’s recent stewardship initiatives focuses on improving ag education. One of the top FFA chapters and ag education programs in the state of New York

is located in my district at Vernon-Verona-Sherrill High School—VVS.

In honor of the Farm Credit System centennial, Farm Credit East has committed substantial resources toward teacher scholarships to attend institutes sponsored by the Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education (CASE), a program of the National Association of Agricultural Educators.

The CASE program trains ag educators how to deliver hands on, STEM-based learning to agricultural students in subjects like plant and animal science. As a strong supporter of STEM education, I understand how valuable these investments in our children's education are, and I am grateful for their generous participation in this critical area of study.

Farm Credit East recently announced 15 teacher scholarships to attend CASE institutes, including Paul Perry and Sara Tuthill from VVS. Two other recipients are also from the 22nd district—Crystal Aukema from Oxford and Johanna Fox-Bossard from Hamilton.

VVS will be hosting an institute this summer to instruct educators on teaching the CASE introductory course: Introduction to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources. Eleven of the Farm Credit East scholarship recipients will be attending this program.

I applaud Farm Credit's support of ag educators as they train the next generation of farmers. No doubt many of those students will become members of Farm Credit during its second century of service. Congratulations to the Farm Credit System's cooperative owners and employees on the System's centennial.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF
CLARINDA

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Clarinda, Iowa for its recognition as a 2015 Tree City USA sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry program (the Forest Service).

The City of Clarinda has met the core standards for tree care during the past year. Over 135 million Americans live in Tree City USA communities. In its 40th year of celebration, the Tree City USA program is critical to the U.S. Forest Service. This federal partner delivers technical and financial resources to states, cities and communities across the nation with each community adhering to a State Action Plan, guiding investments in each state while accomplishing local projects and programs.

The U.S. Forest Service and Arbor Day Foundation cooperate with communities to establish healthy forests, improve air and water quality and contribute to important national energy conservation goals. These local investments create long term major environmental improvements nationwide.

I commend the City of Clarinda and urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the community on this award and in wishing them nothing but continued success.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT
OF K.L. "KOVEN" BROWN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the retirement of K.L. "Koven" Brown.

Mr. Brown will be selling his two businesses, K.L. Brown Funeral Home and Cremation Center, which he has owned since 1978, and K.L. Brown Memory Chapel, at the end of this month.

Mr. Brown wanted to be a mortician since he was a young boy. He graduated from Jefferson Davis High School in Montgomery in 1969, and was the first graduating class from Kentucky School of Mortuary Science in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1971.

Mr. Brown is in his second term in the Alabama House of Representatives and is looking forward to traveling more with his wife, Mande, now that he is retiring.

Mr. Brown has two children: Allison (deceased) and Emily who is married to James Avery. He is blessed with four grandchildren: Charlie, Austin, Savannah and Tyler. His mother, Dr. Faye Brown, lives in Clanton.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing K.L. Brown and congratulating him on his much-deserved retirement.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF
COUNCIL BLUFFS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Council Bluffs, Iowa for its recognition as a 2015 Tree City USA sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry program (the Forest Service).

The City of Council Bluffs has met the core standards for tree care during the past year. Over 135 million Americans live in Tree City USA communities. In its 40th year of celebration, the Tree City USA program is critical to the U.S. Forest Service. This federal partner delivers technical and financial resources to states, cities and communities across the nation with each community adhering to a State Action Plan, guiding investments in each state while accomplishing local projects and programs.

The U.S. Forest Service and Arbor Day Foundation cooperate with communities to establish healthy forests, improve air and water quality and contribute to important national energy conservation goals. These local investments create long term major environmental improvements nationwide.

I commend the City of Council Bluffs and urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the community on this award and in wishing them nothing but continued success.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL
ANNIVERSARY OF FARM CREDIT

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Farm Credit system in America

The Farm Credit System in America was established 100 years ago through the Federal Farm Loan Act of 1916, signed into law on July 17, 1916, by President Woodrow Wilson.

It was founded to provide lending opportunities for American farmers, ranchers and dairy men; those who till the soil to put food on American dinner tables every night.

Congress intended the Farm Credit System be designed as a permanent means to support the well-being and prosperity of the nation's rural communities and agricultural producers of all types and sizes.

Further, it was designed as a network of cooperatives, independently owned and controlled by its borrowers, responsive to their individual needs for credit and financial services and continually adapting to meet the changing needs of rural communities and agriculture.

Through the success of the Farm Credit organizations throughout this country, such as Fresno-Madera Farm Credit and Yosemite Farm Credit we celebrate 100 years of that successful ability to make loans to young and old farmers alike, those just starting out or those who have been farming for generations.

And to those who in every region of America do their best to produce the healthiest, most nutritious and bountiful crops anywhere grown in the world.

The Farm Credit System today plays a vital role in the success of United States agriculture and the economic vibrancy of rural communities throughout all 50 States and Puerto Rico, providing more than \$237 billion in loans to more than 500,000 customers.

This is so American consumers can enjoy those food products at lowest cost value possible.

Clearly we know the success of American agriculture is in large part due to the success Farm Credit across the country.

We commend the Farm Credit System for their efforts and celebrate 100 years of making America the most productive agriculture country in the world.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF ADEL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Adel, Iowa for its recognition as a 2015 Tree City USA sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry program (the Forest Service).

The City of Adel has met the core standards for tree care during the past year. Over 135 million Americans live in Tree City USA communities. In its 40th year of celebration, the Tree