

the buoy, the men sprang into action to lend assistance to the crew.

Approximately 30 seconds after the helicopter went down, the family was at the crash site and began assisting the crew members who were in the water. Because of the swift actions of these men, the entire crew was pulled to safety without any serious injuries. While the Navy is still investigating the incident to find out what went wrong, I am thankful these good Samaritans were there to lend a hand. It is an honor to celebrate their actions today.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in recognizing these fine men for exhibiting bravery and fortitude in helping rescue the crew of the downed U.S. Navy helicopter.

COMMEMORATING THE 99TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASSAGE OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ACT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 1, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the centennial anniversary of the passage of the "National Park Service Act".

Because of the "National Park Service Act," the history and heritage of America is being preserved to teach and inspire future generations.

Since the mid-19th century, the National Park Service is responsible for carrying out the Historic Sites, Buildings, and Antiquities Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, and other laws relating to protecting and preserving sites that illustrate America's history.

The Centennial is about celebrating the achievements of the past 100 years, but today is about the future.

Today is the start of a second century of stewardship.

As many as 407 national parks inspire community-based recreation, conservation, and history preservation programs that positively impact their own communities.

According to the National Park Service, the economic contributions brought to the United States economy was \$32 billion dollars in economic output and provided 295,000 jobs nationwide.

Texas is a proud home to 14 National Parks, 20 National Natural Landmarks, and 46 National Historic Landmarks.

In areas surrounding Houston, Texas, there are wonderful national parks including the Brazos Bend State Park, Galveston Island State Park, Huntsville State Park, Stephen F. Austin State Park and Lake Livingston State Park.

Tourists also enjoy educational sites and centers in the Houston Area as well, including the Sheldon Lake State Park and Environmental Learning Center, the Fanthorp Inn State Historic Site, and the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site.

It's no wonder that in 2015, 5,044,926 people visited national parks in Texas.

National Park Service estimates tourism in Texas contributed \$372.6 million in economic output and supplied 4,100 jobs statewide.

The Centennial of the National Park Service is a day we acknowledge and celebrate the fruits of our investment, for every dollar invested in the National Park Service generates \$10 in economic activity.

Investing in protecting America's National Parks is the right thing to do for our environment, for our people, and for our economy.

On the birthday of our nation's National Park Service, let us continue robust investment in protecting our environment and also improving the lives of millions of people.

I also want to commemorate the bipartisan efforts made leading to this day through passing H.R. 1068, "Title 54, United States Code, National Park System," becoming a law in December of 2014.

As we recall the great efforts made by Congress in the past century, let us also bear in mind the importance of continued bipartisan support as we embark upon this next century of protecting our beloved national parks.

IN HONOR OF ANDREW SHAPIRO'S SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENT TO RAISE MONEY TO FIGHT CANCER

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 1, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, please allow me to take a moment to recognize the significant accomplishments of Andrew Shapiro, a remarkable individual from my district. A junior at Langley High School in McLean, Virginia, Andrew has dedicated his time to breaking three world records in the name of cancer research.

Andrew's passion for combating cancer is laudable. Inspired by his father's battle against colon cancer, over the past year Andrew dedicated his time and energy towards training for the Relay For Life event held in Fairfax County, Virginia.

Preparing for several months, Andrew broke the world records for the most pullups over 6-hour, 12-hour, and 24-hour periods on Saturday, May 14th, as part of the annual fundraiser. Andrew completed 7,306 pullups over the course of 18 hours, raising over \$7,000 dollars for the American Cancer Society. It is estimated that there will be 43,190 new cancer diagnoses in Virginia alone, resulting in an estimated 14,910 deaths. The money that Andrew raised will go towards giving cancer patients and caregivers free lodging for a year at an American Cancer Society Hope Lodge. This enables patients to concentrate less on how they will afford to stay near their treatment centers, and more on staying strong in their fight against cancer. In the future, Andrew hopes to qualify for American Ninja Warrior, a sports entertainment competition in which athletes compete in a series of obstacle courses that increase in difficulty at each stage.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in sending our most sincere congratulations to Andrew Shapiro for his athletic accomplishments and fundraising efforts for the American Cancer Society. His actions

will have an incredible impact on others who have also been affected by cancer.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 1, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to speak today on the importance of Hispanic Heritage Month (HHM.)

American society today embraces a remarkable breadth of cultures, and Hispanics are an integral part of this diversity.

The Hispanic American community is a beautiful array of distinct groups, including people with roots in Central and South America, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Spain.

In 1968 President Lyndon Johnson designated a National Hispanic Heritage Week because of the growing impact of the Latin American culture in shaping the nation and society.

The week was expanded in 1988 to a 31-day period to provide all Americans the opportunity to participate and commemorate the contributions of the Hispanic culture to mainstream America.

Today in communities across the nation millions of American families come together to celebrate in this facet of American culture and participate in traditional comidas and fiestas.

There are over 54 million Hispanics living in the U.S. and Hispanics continue to be the fastest growing ethnic group.

Harris County has the second largest Hispanic population in the United States.

In 2010, 43.8 percent of the Houston population identified as Hispanic or Latino in the Census.

On behalf of my constituents and in my duties as a U.S. Representative, I am committed to speaking up for the rights of Hispanics and confronting the issues that affect them.

From lowering the uninsured rates and fighting to make higher education more affordable, to championing an increase in the minimum wage and addressing the economic challenges facing working women and families, my colleagues and I will continue working for the Latino community's top priorities.

Devoted to family, faith, country, and hard work, Hispanic Americans bring unique and bountiful perspectives and experiences to our national community and character.

The vibrant Hispanic influence can be seen in all aspects of American life and culture, from distinctive cuisine to colorful festivals, and from the rhythms and melodies of traditional music to the contagious beat of today's most popular songs.

The Hispanic community has persevered in the face of discrimination and hardships.

While significant barriers still stand in our way, I will continue fighting with a strong commitment, to achieve comprehensive immigration reform and to support an inclusive and unified country.