

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING BOB BROWNSTEIN

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Bob Brownstein. I am joined by my colleagues Congresswoman ZOE LOFGREN and Congresswoman ANNA ESHOO. Bob is retiring from his 17-year career as Policy Director of Working Partnerships USA, but his dedication and service to working families in the Bay Area has spanned over 40 years. His commitment to creating a better, more just future for Silicon Valley makes him a hallmark of leadership in our community.

A native of the Bronx, Bob grew up admiring the towering photograph of President Franklin D. Roosevelt that hung in his father's hardware store. To the young boy and his father, President Roosevelt represented a higher echelon of politician and public servant—one who devoted his career to empowering the underprivileged and the underserved. It was in the manner and legacy of President Roosevelt that Bob embarked on his own career in public service, driven by his steadfast faith in and vision of societal progress.

Bob Brownstein entered the California political scene in 1977, and his impact was immediately felt across the region. He changed local government and city politics as he led efforts to elect San Jose officials by district, giving greater representation for residents in City Hall. Later, he was instrumental in establishing the partnership between the city and San Jose State University to build the Martin Luther King Library.

Bob, a lifelong advocate for workers, was the driving force behind the 1998 movement for living wages. He led two campaigns to raise the minimum wage and worked closely to reform San Jose's rent control laws. He played a significant role in passing the Living Wage ordinance, which raised San Jose's living wage to what was then the highest in the nation while still creating an infrastructure for job growth. Most recently, Bob led an initiative to ensure part-time workers receive fair consideration for increased work hours.

As the Director of Policy and Research with Working Partnerships USA, Bob not only fought for the rights and agenda of the disenfranchised, but has become one of the most prominent voices in health care policy. He was the architect of Children's Health Initiative, making Santa Clara County the first in the country to provide health coverage to nearly every child. He has been the catalyst for profound reinvention in our community, bringing both tangible and institutional change—a rich legacy that will continue to impact lives for generations.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Mr. Bob Brownstein for his years of dedication and commitment to our community both as an advocate for progressive values and as an outstanding public servant. His relentless pursuit

to empower those in need will forever be remembered and appreciated by the many lives he has touched and will continue to influence.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RICHMOND COUNTY PIPES AND DRUMS

**HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Richmond County Pipes and Drums.

Formed in 1975, the Richmond County Pipes and Drums have been actively involved in the Staten Island community. They have marched in parades, played at community events, and participated in fundraisers for local causes, bringing joy to anyone who gets the chance to listen. In fact, the first parade they marched in was in March 1976 for America's Bicentennial, for which they were appropriately dressed in red, white, and blue uniforms. Furthermore, they perform at almost every Celtic event throughout New York City. They have even participated in hundreds of events in Upstate New York, Long Island, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania over the years.

Most importantly, however, is the work that the Richmond County Pipes and Drums do for those who put their lives on the line to protect others. They are enthusiastic and patriotic supporters of our military and our veterans, for whom they have performed on numerous occasions. They have paid tribute to our nation's servicemen killed or missing in action, as well as local firefighters and policemen. They have demonstrated tremendous support for our first responders, proving just how dedicated to giving back they are.

Mr. Speaker, the Richmond County Pipes and Drums are dedicated servants in the Staten Island community. I thank them for their great work and congratulate them on their 40 years of performance.

THANKING STARBUCKS AND THEIR UPSTANDERS SERIES FOR RECOGNIZING THE BALDWIN PROMISE

**HON. BILL HUIZENGA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Starbucks and their Upstanders series for recognizing Baldwin Community Schools and the Baldwin Promise. It is wonderful to see an organization highlight a caring community like Baldwin, which united to raise funds that will help their children pay for college.

The Upstanders series all began with an idea from Starbucks' CEO Howard Schultz

and Executive Vice President Rajiv Chandrasekaran. It was created to showcase uplifting American stories and bring citizens across our nation together. Chandrasekaran stated the Upstanders mission well when he quipped, "Our goal is very simple: we want to connect with millions of Americans and inspire and engage them. That's it." If Starbucks is looking for an inspiring community, then they chose the perfect one in Michigan's second district with Baldwin.

Baldwin Community Schools was designated as a Michigan Promise Zone in 2009, meaning that every child in Baldwin has a tuition free path to a college education. Earning this designation took commitment and sacrifice from the entire Baldwin community. In order to be designated, the village of Baldwin had to privately fundraise over \$100,000. Baldwin looked within for donations, even though it is located in Lake County, where more than 24 percent of residents live below the poverty level. Nevertheless, the citizens of Baldwin banded together, giving whatever they could.

Baldwin exceeded their goal by 150 percent, raising more than \$160,000 to put a down payment on their children's future. Because of the community's sacrifice, Baldwin earned the Promise Zone designation. Now, any student who graduates from Baldwin High School is granted \$5,000 per year for four years to attend the college of their choice.

The people of Baldwin and their commitment to their community and one another truly exemplify what West Michigan is all about. I want to thank Starbucks for creating the Upstanders series and sharing Baldwin's story with the nation.

TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL LEE KARR OF THE CITY OF PUEBLO, COLORADO POLICE DEPARTMENT

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Corporal Lee Karr of the City of Pueblo Colorado Police Department for his outstanding duty and assistance to the citizens of Pueblo. During his normal duties of the day, Corporal Lee Karr went above and beyond his call of duty to assist a victim of robbery.

On September 12, 2016, Corporal Karr, and a fellow officer, were called to assist a 51 year old woman who had been a victim of robbery at a bus stop in the City of Pueblo, Colorado. Karr and the other officer carried out their protocol, and then Officer Karr took his commitment of public service to another level.

After comforting the victim, Karr placed her in a cool, air-conditioned police car and began assisting her with sorting out issues associated with the items that were stolen. The victim needed a new State of Colorado ID, bank and Medicaid cards—all the items that were stolen from her purse. Corporal Karr paid for

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

these items out of his own pocket without any hesitation. Once the issue of her cards were resolved, Corporal Karr drove the victim to her destination and then, finally to her home.

Mr. Speaker, Corporal Karr went above and beyond the call of public service to assist a member of his community. I commend him on a job well done, and thank him for serving as an exemplary model of public service and safety. Each and every day law enforcement officers perform these selfless acts of kindness and generosity in their communities. I am proud to honor Corporal Karr and his commitment to the City of Pueblo and its people.

CONGRATULATING GERALDINE  
JONES ON BECOMING PRESIDENT  
OF CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF  
PENNSYLVANIA

### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Geraldine M. Jones, the seventh president of California University of Pennsylvania. This past April, the board of governors for Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education concluded a year-long, nationwide search for the university's top position by unanimously selecting Mrs. Jones, who had been serving as the university's interim president.

President Jones is no stranger to the Vulcan community or to western Pennsylvania. She graduated in 1972 from then-named California State College with a bachelor of education degree, and later earned her master's degree in education at California in 1980. She was a school teacher to second-grade students in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, and later returned to her alma mater to serve as a program director for Upward Bound and chair the Department of Academic Development Services. She went on to serve as the associate dean of the College of Education and Human Services for two years before taking on the role of college dean from 2000–2008. In July of 2008, she was selected as provost and vice president for academic affairs, which she held until she was appointed as acting, and then interim, university president.

Somehow, she still finds time to pay it forward and be an active member of her community. She serves as a board member on local and regional community organizations, such as the Washington County Community Foundation and the Washington County Chamber of Commerce. She has been a lifelong member of Mt. Zion AME Church in Brownsville, PA.

California University will hold a formal installation ceremony for President Jones on October 14, 2016. President Jones has spent her whole life serving the educational community and the people of western Pennsylvania, and has been a living embodiment of the University's core values: integrity, civility, and responsibility. California University of Pennsylvania is fortunate to have her, and I am honored to be able to congratulate her on this momentous achievement.

IN TRIBUTE TO JOAN LIND VAN  
BLOM

### HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, in every sport, in every art, in every field of human endeavor, there are figures that impact history so deeply that the future is reshaped forever.

They are icons, pioneers, and trailblazers.

Joan Lind Van Blom belongs among this pantheon.

A graduate of Wilson High School and California State Long Beach, Joan is widely considered the greatest American female athlete to have ever competed in the sport of rowing.

Joan was a trailblazer, paving the way for women in the U.S. to compete on the international rowing stage.

During her rowing career, she was the top single sculler in America for nearly a decade and won 14 national titles.

In 1976, she won a silver medal in the XXI Summer Games in Montreal, Canada, becoming the first U.S. woman to win an Olympic medal in rowing. Four years later, again a member of the U.S. Olympic team, she was the favorite to win the gold in Moscow, but the U.S. delegation boycotted the Moscow Games. In the XXIII Summer Games in Los Angeles in 1984 she returned to the medal stand earning a silver medal.

The same year she married coach, former Olympian, and National Rowing Hall of Famer John Van Blom, and for the last three decades the pair have enjoyed the title of the First Couple of Rowing.

She went on to be inducted in the Wilson High, Cal State Long Beach, Century Club, and National Rowing halls of fame. Joan still holds 11 indoor rowing world records.

Joan also served the Long Beach Unified School District for over three decades, 25 years of that as a teacher and then another decade as the district's first physical education curriculum leader. She was instrumental in winning a million-dollar grant to put rowing machines in each of LBUSD's nine high schools.

In 2014 she was given the prestigious Ernestine Bayer Award for her deep contributions to the entire sport of rowing.

One year ago she passed away in her Long Beach home at the age of 62.

Her smile and joy of life served as a beacon, drawing people from her past back to her, and her husband John said the last two years while Joan battled brain cancer were filled with reconnections and reunions with people from throughout their life.

In addition to her husband John, Joan is also survived by son John Jr. and her sisters, Loretta Madsen and Carol Hansen.

IN HONOR OF E15 DAY

### HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of E15 Day on September 16th, when gasoline retailers can once again sell E15 to

American consumers and to urge the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to remove regulatory barriers which prevent the sale of E-15 year round.

The EPA first created the 1-psi waiver of the Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) to increase the availability of 10 percent ethanol blends. As a result, nearly every gallon of gasoline sold in the United States contains ethanol. However, the EPA has been unwilling to provide a similar waiver for E-15 gasoline blends. This means E15 cannot be sold during the summer months, causing many retailers to not carry the higher blend and restricting access to renewable fuels.

In response to these burdensome restrictions, I introduced H.R. 1944, the Fuel Choice and Deregulation Act. This legislation would extend the RVP waiver to include gasoline blended with more than 10 percent ethanol, allowing gas stations to sell E15 year round.

I urge the EPA to repeal these archaic and meaningless regulations and increase access to E-15 gasoline.

I applaud Governor Branstad for recognizing E15 Day in Iowa, and I hope Congress continues to work on enacting policy which increases consumer access and savings at the pump.

I am proud of the vital role Iowa has in developing and providing America with cleaner energy sources. Drivers across the country are fueling their cars with Iowa grown ethanol. By allowing access to E15 year round, we can give consumers greater choice while helping our environment.

HAPPY DOUBLE TEN DAY

### HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, Monday, October 10 is Taiwan's National Day—also known as Double Ten Day. On the eve of this special occasion, I would like to offer my early wishes to the people and government of Taiwan.

Taiwan is a very close trade partner and security ally of the U.S. in the Asia-Pacific region. Formosa Plastics Corporation, a Taiwanese company invested in the congressional district I represent and create lots of job opportunities to my constituency. It sets a good example of Taiwan-U.S. economic relationship.

Last June, Eva Air, one of the biggest Taiwanese airline companies launched the direct flight route between Dallas, Texas and Taipei, Taiwan. The direct flight further facilitates the passenger and cargo movement between the two nations.

I am glad to see closer trade ties between Taiwan and the U.S. and I realize that Taiwan should be included in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), which works to secure the civil aviation throughout the world. The ICAO's 39th Triennial Assembly will be soon taking place shortly in Montreal, beginning on September 27. We hope that Taiwan will be invited to attend the Assembly as three years ago.

Again, I wish the people of Taiwan a Happy Double Ten Day, and I look forward to working closely with Taiwanese people to further enhance our bilateral relations.

IN HONOR OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF O'NEILL SEA ODYSSEY

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 20th anniversary of O'Neill Sea Odyssey, a remarkable science education organization based in Santa Cruz, California. It started as the brainchild of Jack O'Neill, the inventor of the modern wetsuit worn by surfers, divers, kayakers, and other water enthusiasts the world over. Now 93, Jack spent much of the last 60 years building the wetsuit company that bears his name into an internationally recognized brand of excellence.

Throughout that time, Jack retained and grew a deep commitment to protecting the oceans as well as an unbinding love for the Santa Cruz coast and the Monterey Bay that he has called home since 1959. In 1996, he founded O'Neill Sea Odyssey as a community based non-profit dedicated to educating school children about the ocean science and the ocean environment. The program is located in Santa Cruz Harbor and takes 4th, 5th, and 6th graders onto Monterey Bay on a specially equipped sail catamaran to teach the fundamentals of science and environmental stewardship.

Under the long term leadership of executive director Dan Haifley, the program has grown into an innovative education program that incorporates a curriculum in line with the latest Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards. The program's instructors enjoy a three to one ratio with students. They teach mathematics using navigation techniques; marine ecology, including the kelp forest, marine mammals, and human impacts on Monterey Bay; and marine biology, focused on examining and learning about plankton as a basis for study of the marine food web. Lessons taught during the ocean-going field trip are supplemented with in-classroom curriculum that participating students can use. Over 90,000 students have experienced this remarkable program since its inception, and that number grows every year.

In June of 2016, O'Neill Sea Odyssey entered into a partnership with Public Consulting Group's education department to distribute the OSO curriculum nationally through Pepper, PCG's online curriculum development tool for teachers. The goal is for teachers and district administrators to use the OSO curriculum for their required continuing education units, helping teachers to reach their learning goals through marine science education.

In 2004, O'Neill Sea Odyssey earned the Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award. Other awards and include: Senator BOXER's 2008 Environmental Champion award; the Adam Webster Memorial Fund received the Community Spinners award; and The Silicon Valley Business Journal's Community Impact Award, to name just a few.

Mr. Speaker, I know that I speak for the whole House in both congratulating and thanking Jack O'Neill, Dan Haifley, and the whole Sea Odyssey crew, from its board, boat pilot, and instructors to its interns and participating teachers. The world is a better place because of your efforts. Congratulations on 20 years of success. We look forward to many more.

HONORING THE 2016 NIPSCO LUMINARY AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise to commend the recipients of this year's NIPSCO Luminary Awards. The Luminary Awards were created to honor prominent individuals or organizations for their exemplary leadership. This year's honorees include Barb Young, Jim Staton, Thomas Keon, and the Shirley Heinze Land Trust. For their outstanding contributions to the community in Northwest Indiana and beyond, the honorees will be recognized at a ceremony on Thursday, September 22, 2016, at NiSource Corporate Headquarters in Merrillville, Indiana.

Barb Young, president and chief executive officer of the Porter County Community Foundation, is the recipient of this year's Community Leadership Award. Barb will be retiring from her position at the end of 2016 after serving the last twenty years as the foundation's president. During her tenure, Barb assisted with the issuing of more than \$18 million in grants to non-profit organizations and scholarships for county residents. She was also heavily involved in the establishment of Empower Porter County, an organization created with the mission of fighting substance abuse. In addition, Barb has been instrumental in the development of a ten-year plan to end homelessness in Porter County. Barb Young is a leader in every sense of the word, and she is most worthy of this prestigious honor.

Jim Staton, Regional Director for the Indiana Economic Development Commission (IEDC), is the recipient of the Economic Development Award. Jim has been a trailblazer for economic development in Northwest Indiana since the early 1990's. Through his position with the IEDC, Jim is committed to bringing jobs and investment to Northwest Indiana through projects and organizations such as BP's \$4 billion plus expansion, Hoist Lift Trucks in East Chicago, Pratt Industries in Valparaiso, Alcoa in La Porte, Modern Forge in Merrillville, Green Sense Farms in Portage, and many, many more. This year, Jim was named one of America's top 50 economic developers by Consultant Connect. For his outstanding contributions to the growth and development of Northwest Indiana and beyond, Jim Staton is worthy of the highest praise.

Chancellor Thomas Keon, of Purdue University Northwest, is the recipient of the 2016 Educator Award. Under his leadership and direction, Chancellor Keon works with the University to foster collaboration between business and education through innovation. Some examples of this partnership include the founding and creating of the Center for Innovation through Visualization and Simulation, the Energy Center, the Center for Business and Economic Development, and the Commercialization and Manufacturing Excellence Center. For his exceptional dedication to empowering individuals through education, Chancellor Thomas Keon is an inspiration to his students and the community and is truly deserving of this outstanding accolade.

The Shirley Heinze Land Trust is the recipient of the Environmental Stewardship Award.

Since its founding in 1981, the Shirley Heinze Land Trust has worked to protect the habitats and ecosystems of Northwest Indiana and to educate residents about land conservation. Currently, it is managing more than 2,100 acres in Lake, Porter, LaPorte, and Saint Joseph counties. The organization works with a vast group of volunteers, professionals, and businesses to maintain and protect these grounds. Recently, the organization's first capital campaign raised \$4.6 million and will add 400 acres of preserved land, while restoring an additional 250 acres. For its truly important environmental work, the Shirley Heinze Land Trust is most deserved of this exceptional honor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other colleagues to join me in commending these remarkable leaders, innovators, and organizations. For their outstanding contributions to the community of Northwest Indiana and their unwavering commitment to improving the quality of life for its residents, each recipient is worthy of the honors bestowed upon them.

HONORING DR. KENJI HAMADA

**HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the contributions to North Alabama made by Dr. Kenji Hamada of Arizona.

Dr. Hamada is a highly regarded optometrist who has dedicated his life to helping preserve and restore eyesight to countless individuals. His care and concern has also extended to those in other states.

Several years ago through his service with Optometry Cares, Dr. Hamada met Alabama State Representative Johnny Mack Morrow and his wife, Dr. Martha Morrow, a fellow optometrist, who introduced him to North Alabama. At this time, Dr. Hamada was looking to develop a program for visually impaired children. Little did he know that a program was already in the works between the Helen Keller Birthplace Foundation and Optometry Cares—The AOA Foundation. The first "Camp Courage: A Helen Keller Experience" for blind and severely visually impaired children was held in October 2013, and Dr. Hamada was immediately sold on the concept and became an advocate and funding supporter.

Since this initial meeting between the Morrrows and Dr. Hamada, he has dedicated a great deal of his time and resources to support programs to help visually challenged children in Alabama. Through his support and partnership with organizations like the American Optometric Association Foundation, many children have been assisted with or cured of their visual impairments. In addition to his support of optometry care, he has also financially supported other groups in Alabama such as the University of North Alabama Summer Theatre and the Alabama Music Hall of Fame.

I would like to commend Dr. Hamada for his service and dedication to the people of North Alabama. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I believe it is fitting and proper that Dr. Kenji Hamada be an Honorary Ambassador for North Alabama for all his contributions and service to the region.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHAZY CENTRAL RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 100th anniversary of the Chazy Central Rural School District in Chazy, New York. The Chazy Central Rural School District was the first centralized rural school district in the United States. Since its founding in 1916, through the consolidation of eleven rural schools, Chazy Central has given children in the community the educational advantages they would receive living in a large city.

The new school opened its doors on November 14, 1916, and was soon recognized throughout the world as an extraordinary school for a town of 800 residents. The building itself stood five stories tall and supported a bell tower that was seventy-one feet higher than the fifth floor roof. The school consisted of forty-four rooms, and boasted an English room modeled in the Tudor style, an auditorium capable of seating 1100 people, and two gymnasiums and swimming pools. There was also a fully equipped nursing office and a dentist on staff to ensure that the students had access to the best healthcare.

At the time of its founding, Chazy Central had special departments in agriculture, industrial arts, household arts, library, music, and physical education. The student body consisted of eight grades and a four year high school program.

Today, the Chazy Central Rural School District consists of an elementary school and a junior-senior high school, and the school district remains committed to providing students with an excellent education and the resources they need to become successful adults. Beginning in elementary school, students have access to computer labs and music and art classes, and as they grow, are afforded opportunities like travelling to Model United Nations Conferences and participating in different sports programs.

As the first rural school district in the United States, Chazy Central School District has successfully educated students for 100 years. Congratulations to the Chazy Central Rural School District. I want to wish its teachers, administrators, students, and alumni all the best in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BILL PASCARELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. PASCARELL. Mr. Speaker, on September 12, 2016, I missed the two roll call votes of the day. Had I been present I would have voted:

AYE—Roll Call No. 496—H. Res. 847, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives about a national strategy for the Internet of Things to promote economic growth and consumer empowerment.

AYE—Roll Call No. 497—H. Res. 835, Expressing the sense of the House of Rep-

resentatives that the United States should adopt a national policy for technology to promote consumers' access to financial tools and online commerce to promote economic growth and consumer empowerment.

KENNETH RAY HOUSTON

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Pro Football Hall of Famer, Kenny Houston, and pay tribute to his contributions to his alma mater, Prairie View A&M University. Kenny is one of the best football players to ever play the game; he is an outstanding member of our community, on and off the field.

Kenny was born and raised in Lufkin, Texas and attended Dunbar High School where he started his long career in one of Texas' favorite past times, football. After graduating from high school in 1962, he chose to play football for Prairie View A&M University. During his time at Prairie View, he was a standout All-American in the Southwestern Athletic Conference, and the Panthers won the 1963–1964 Black College National Championship Football title.

The Houston Oilers made Kenny their 9th round pick in the 1967 draft, once again keeping him close to Texas. He played six seasons with the Houston Oilers, four under head coach Wally Lemm. Houston fans were upset when the Oilers traded Kenny in 1973 to the Washington Redskins. He then went on to play eight seasons in the prime of his career until he retired in 1980. He played a total of 14 seasons and 196 games in the National Football League. In recognition of his tremendous talent, he played in ten pro bowls and was named to the NFL's 1970s All-Decade Team, the NFL's All-Time 75th Anniversary Team and in 1999, Sporting News named him one of the 100 greatest players in NFL history. He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1986.

Despite his big league career and national stardom, Kenny has never lost the small town values that helped shape him. After his professional football career, he followed his passion to teach and coach and remains a strong advocate for students. He is a dedicated family man, having been married to his wife Gustie for 49 years, and he is also the proud father of two grown children.

On behalf of the Second Congressional District of Texas, I commend this remarkable leader for giving back to our community, being a role model for our youth, and helping the next generation of athletes achieve their dream of attending college and playing football at the collegiate level.

And that's just the way it is.

CONGRATULATING GEN. NORTON A. SCHWARTZ ON RECEIVING THE WILLIAM J. DONOVAN AWARD

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Gen. Norton A. Schwartz on receiving the William J. Donovan Award from the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) Society. This special honor is one shared with a select group of great men and women who have rendered distinguished service to the United States. Gen. Schwartz has earned this award through his unflagging service to the United States and the United States Air Force.

The William J. Donovan Award, administered by the OSS Society, recognizes men and women who have exemplified the distinguishing features which characterized General Donovan's life of service to the United States of America. With this achievement, Gen. Schwartz joins Presidents Eisenhower, Reagan, and George H.W. Bush, Prime Minister Thatcher, Adm. McRaven, and several other great men and women who have done a great service to our nation.

Gen. Schwartz's hard work, perseverance, and tireless service to the United States are exemplified in his receipt of this honor. His thirty-nine years with the Air Force, the last four of which as Chief of Staff of the Air Force, were marked by excellence. It is officers like Gen. Schwartz who remind us why we have the greatest military in the world.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to highlight the importance of this award and what it represents for Gen. Schwartz and our nation. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Gen. Schwartz on receiving the William J. Donovan Award. I thank him for his service and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO REX PHARMACY

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rex Pharmacy of Atlantic, Iowa for its recognition as the National 2016 Pharmacy of the Year by McKesson Health Mart. Mark Walchirk, President of McKesson U.S. Pharmaceutical said, "Rex Pharmacy is dedicated to providing their customers with extraordinary service that improves patient care and demonstrates why community pharmacies continue to thrive."

Josh Borer, owner of Rex Pharmacy, said his approach is to be "proactive and helping improve patient outcomes." Rex Pharmacy provides services such as "no wait refills" and a program, "Rex Packs," which can package patient prescriptions into pouches that give the date and time they need to be taken. Josh Borer believes "the bottom line is patient care and convenience," and trying to find ways to help his customers achieve their best health results.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Josh Borer and Rex Pharmacy for providing dedicated, committed, and crucial health care to the Atlantic,

Iowa area and the Cass County community. There is great work and service being accomplished every day at Rex Pharmacy. I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating them for their service. I wish Josh Borer and the entire staff the very best in all their future endeavors.

**H. RES. 810 HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF ELIE WIESEL IN PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS, PEACE, AND HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE**

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 810, recognizing and celebrating the life and important work of Elie Wiesel in promoting human rights, peace, and Holocaust remembrance.

As an author of at least 60 books, plays, and essays, Elie Wiesel enlightened his readers and taught them lessons of history concerning injustice, intolerance, and indifference, pulling from his personal experience as a Holocaust survivor to give a first person point of view of the horrors the faced by Holocaust victims.

From 1933 to 1945, two-thirds of the Jewish population living in Europe at the time of World War II were brutally murdered by Nazis during the Holocaust.

Families were torn apart; children were separated from their parents; babies were ripped from the arms of their mothers.

The Jewish community suffered incredible losses, losses that will never be remedied.

Elie Wiesel is a heroic survivor who lived to share his experiences of loss and tragedy.

He lost his father at Buchenwald and his younger sister and mother to a gas chamber at Auschwitz, but he and his two older sisters survived.

Following the liberation of the concentration camp, Wiesel moved to France and worked as a journalist, becoming a U.S. citizen in 1963.

His first and one of his best known works, "Night", was published in 1958 and has been translated into more than 30 different languages, allowing the story of his family's deportation to reach millions around the world.

In addition to his publications, Elie Wiesel was commissioned to chair the President's Commission on the Holocaust in 1978, and they recommended the creation of the Holocaust Museum.

Following this, Elie Wiesel worked as the Founding Chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council and put forth incredible efforts for the United States Holocaust Museum to open its doors in 1993.

In his desire to fight indifference, intolerance, and injustice, Elie and his wife Marion Wiesel founded the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity.

Elie Wiesel was also passionate about teaching and served as a Visiting Scholar at Yale University and a professor at the City University of New York and Boston University, striving to provide insight and knowledge among students.

Elie Wiesel has been honored in many ways by receiving a variety of awards, such as the

Nobel Peace Prize, Presidential Medal of Freedom, the United States Congressional Gold Medal, the National Humanities Medal, the Medal of Liberty, the rank of Grand-Croix in the French Legion of Honor, and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Award.

Elie Wiesel's passing on July 2, 2016 is saddening, but the legacy he leaves is one of honor, justice, and determination.

Elie Wiesel left behind a voice for the voiceless, ensuring the promotion of peace and tolerance and the fight against indifference, intolerance, and genocide.

This man was an inspiration, and though he may be gone, his light and impact remains.

I would like to extend my deepest condolences to the family members of Elie Wiesel who feel this heartbreak more than any other.

We promise to keep Elie Wiesel's memory alive; to prevent the recurrence of another Holocaust; and, ultimately, to never forget the lessons we as a people have learned from history and from Elie Wiesel.

**64TH NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST: PART ONE**

**HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, February 4, 2016 I had the privilege of co-chairing the 64th Annual National Prayer Breakfast with Representative JUAN VARGAS. I would like to submit Part One of the transcript:

**64TH NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST: PART ONE**

U.S. Representative Juan Vargas: Jesus once said, that when we lift up his name, it would draw a crowd, and wow, it worked. Look at this group, unbelievable. What a miracle you are here this morning—elected and appointed officials, religious leaders, business leaders, entertainers, athletes, farmers, sons, and daughters, moms and dads, folks from all 50 states, and from more than 140 countries.

U.S. Representative Robert Aderholt: We are not here this morning to see a show, or to watch a ball game, or to participate in a political rally. Each and every one of us are here this morning with a single focused reason, and that is to pray. And what a holy moment it is, for not only Washington but also the entire world. We could not be more different. The thousands of you who have gathered here this morning, you know—just look around, everyone is different. But what we are seeking and what we are asking God to do is to bring us together in unity. Not just for today, but also for the days ahead, and not just for us that are in this room and that are hearing this message this morning, but for the entire world.

Rep. Vargas: Now, to gather our hearts and point us in the right direction, I am honored to introduce Major General Julie Bentz, to offer our opening prayer. Her important job at the Pentagon, is figuring out how to protect American soldiers who are in harm's way around the world from so called improvised attacks. She is also part of a small group of members of the military who meet regularly to focus on the teachings of Jesus, General Bentz.

Major General Julie Bentz: Jesus, here we are gathered in your name from across this nation, in all corners of the earth, here to learn how to pray together, with and for one another. You ask all of us who are weary and

are carrying heavy burdens, to come to you and find rest. You ask us to learn from you, who are gentle and humble of heart. You show us, our Heavenly Father, not only as holy and just, but also as good, loving, and merciful, full of tenderness and kindness. And so we have the courage to stand in the presence of Holy God and pray for a miracle of unity across borders, boundaries, and beliefs. We ask you, Father, to look favorably on those you have placed in our care, and on those who have elected us to our current positions. I ask specifically for your grace on behalf of our soldiers, sailors, airmen, coasties, and marines, our commander in chief, and all those in authority over us. In this year of mercy, Lord God, let us discover your generous love, and be transformed into patient, tolerant, and tender leaders. Enter into our actions, oh God. Remove our fear of suffering, our fear of humiliation, and our fear of failure. Lord, I acknowledge before you and before those present here, that I have failed, in my thoughts, in my words, and in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do, but I trust in your limitless mercy. You shower me and each one of us here abundantly with your goodness. Oh God, Heavenly Father, holy is your name. Your children yearn for your kingdom and pray that your will be done. We thank you for our daily sustenance, for forgiving us as we forgive others, you who direct our paths, and secure us from evil. Pour out your Spirit on us today, and in so doing, renew the face of the earth. Amen.

Rep. Aderholt: Well thank you so much General Julie, I like the sound of that. The President of the United States is on his way, and the First Lady, so at this time, please enjoy your conversation and your breakfast.

Speaker introducing the president: Ladies and Gentlemen, the President of the United States and Mrs. Michelle Obama.

Rep. Aderholt: We want to get started this morning. We have a great lineup here this morning at our head table, and we are excited that everyone is here. I am Representative Robert Aderholt from the state of Alabama, and I am privileged to be here with my co-chair for this event, my new best friend, Juan Vargas from the state of California.

Just so you know, over the past 13 months we have been praying, and we have been working, and we have been praying some more about what happens over the next 75 minutes. We prayed this head table together. We have prayed for you who are here in this ball room, for those that are in the overflow room—which are probably enjoying an even better breakfast than we are having. Some are out there watching it on a computer screen monitor, some are watching it by television. We pray for everyone that is listening, or that is in our presence, because we believe that Jesus and his reconciling power of prayer is so desperately needed these days. So thank you for showing up and for your prayers. Here is the most obvious thing that you will hear—and that is we all need all the help we can get.

I would like to introduce my co-chair, Congressman Juan Vargas. He served in the jungles of El Salvador as a Jesuit missionary, and now he serves in the jungles of the House of Representatives. He grew up on a chicken ranch, and quite honestly, that is a high qualification for government service in my district. He brings great joy and passion to his new responsibilities in the House of Representatives, and I wish all of you could just spend a couple of hours with him.

What is so maddening about the place where we work is that there is so much division and it prevents us from appreciating each other, and from understanding the wonderful strengths that 435 unique individuals

have that we all work with. And if you are not all from around here, you might not know that Juan is a progressive Democrat and that I am a conservative Republican. Our voting records are probably about as similar as our hairstyles. But I love him, and I know he loves me because we share a common friend in Jesus. Juan, thank you.

Rep. Vargas: Thank you. That is so true, I do love Robert and I appreciate it, but compared to Robert, I just got here. He has served 20 years in the House, which seems like 90 dog years I think, quite some time. Prior to coming here, he was a judge and I bet he was a great one. He is good at seeing things from all sides and all angles, and it is really a rare gift. I represent Southern California, and he represents northern Alabama. These places are very different according to most demographics, but they are alike in that they are both full of folks with really a very deep faith.

One of the landmarks of Robert's district is a beautiful 60 foot high sandstone bridge, called Natural Bridge, and like that bridge, Robert is able to connect people. He brings people together to get work done for America. Robert and I have the responsibility of facilitating a weekly prayer group of members of the House. The House has had such a group for over 50 years now. This group includes Republicans, Democrats, older members, younger members, women, and men and folks from different faith traditions. We have much yet to accomplish, but we are making progress by coming together in unity around Jesus. This morning's event is simply a big, public version of what we do intimately and privately every week that the House is in session. We hope we all make progress here today as well.

One idea we would like to plant in your minds this morning is, despite our very busy schedules and all our differences, we make time to come together every week and pray. Could you do that in your city, your workplace, your mission in life? If a lefty Chicano from California and a conservative judge from Alabama can do it, why can't you?

Rep. Aderholt: Now I would like to introduce to you those who will be leading this morning, and if you could, please hold your applause until I introduce the entire head table. Way down to my right is the hero of Alabama, Heisman Trophy winner, Derrick Henry of the University of Alabama, the national champion University of Alabama. Roll tide. He has got some big shoulders, so we have asked him to carry us all the way through the program this morning—he is going to finish with our closing prayer. You have already met Major General Bentz—thank you for being here. Next, we have our counterparts from that other chamber in the Capitol that are here with us, Senator Tim Kaine of Virginia, and Senator John Boozman of Arkansas—they will be sharing greetings from the Senate group just shortly. And you should know that in about an hour, they will start working on the 2017 breakfast; gentlemen, thank you for your leadership and as we hand the torch over to you in a few minutes.

Rep. Vargas: Most important to me, I would like to introduce my beautiful wife of 25 years, Adrienne Vargas. Honey, you truly are a gift from God to me and I love you very much. Next is a distinguished member of the President's cabinet, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, which he has dubbed the Department of Opportunity. Prior to federal service, he was mayor of San Antonio, Texas. Secretary Julian Castro will be offering a prayer for unity and the needs of the poor. Next is the First Lady, Michelle Obama. And it is impossible to hold your applause for her, it really is. We love her. First Lady Michelle Obama is a lawyer, a writer,

and the wife of the 44th and current president, President Barack Obama. She is the first African American First Lady of the United States and is a role model and an advocate for poverty awareness, higher education and healthy living.

Rep. Aderholt: Continuing down the table is our brand new Speaker of the House, Paul Ryan of Wisconsin. We haven't cut the tags off of him yet, he is so new. And he is a great colleague with a lot of energy. He has a lot of knowledge, and he has a lot of faith, and we are honored to have him with us while he is still fresh. Sitting next to him is Democrat Leader and former Speaker of the House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi of California. She has been a strong and gracious force on so many issues during her time serving in Congress, and she will offer a reading from Scripture. Next to her is my dear wife and best friend, Caroline Aderholt. We have been blessed by trying to put God in the center of our relationship each day, and so I appreciate her being here and her support through all of this. And by the way, Adrienne, Juan's wife, and Caroline informed Juan and myself that this does not count as a date.

Rep. Vargas: We tried. Next, our keynote speakers who will be introduced in a little bit. Next is the Honorable Judge Robert R. Rigsby of the District of Columbia Superior Court. He has served our nation in so many ways, including service in the United States Army for 34 years. His service makes him the first District Judge ever deployed to a theater of war. Robert and I are blessed to have Judge Rigsby as a member of the weekly prayer group. He will offer a prayer for national leaders. Next is the distinguished Rabbi Jack Bemporad. He is a great hero of ours because he has done about as much as anyone alive to try to bring people together, of all the world's great religious traditions to find common ground. He will offer a reading from the Scriptures.

Rep. Aderholt: Quite a group, isn't it? Thank you all for being here and for leading us this morning.

Rep. Vargas: And finally, I would like to introduce a returning favorite artist to the Prayer Breakfast, Andrea Bocelli. Andrea Bocelli's voice and spirit has lifted hearts and souls all around the world. We are pleased to share his gifts with you this morning as he sings Panis Angelicus, 'Heavenly Bread'. He will be singing in Italian but listen to his words in English, they go like this: "Heavenly bread that becomes the bread of all mankind; bread from the angelic host that is the end of all imaginations and images. Oh miraculous thing, this body of God will nourish even the poorest, the most humble of servants, even the poorest, the most humble of servants. Amen." To share a few remarks and a song, please again welcome Mr. Andrea Bocelli.

[Mr. Bocelli sings Panis Angelicus]

U.S. Senator John Boozman: I am John Boozman from Arkansas, and I can promise you one thing—next year when Tim and I are running the show, we won't be following that; simply remarkable. How does anyone do that? It really is a pleasure to be with you all, and to be with my colleague, Senator Tim Kaine. I greatly appreciate his friendship and have had the pleasure of working with him this last year as co-chair of the Senate prayer breakfast. As the fellows who are going to put this event on next year, together we realize that we are a part of a very, very long, great tradition. It is humbling to think that the Prayer Breakfast that we are a part of has been meeting longer than either of us has been alive—and in my case that has been a while. It is exciting to think also that it will be going on a long time after we are gone. We meet, we

pray, we have personal prayer requests. Someone shares their testimony or spiritual thought. Who would believe that an hour of fellowship per week centered on the teachings of Jesus could make such a difference? It is not logical; it is a matter of the heart. So I would encourage all of you as you go back to your communities, as you go back to the different countries that are represented here, to start a prayer breakfast. The example that we have today, the example that we have every week in the House and the Senate—that is how you change hearts, that is how you change the world.

U.S. Senator Tim Kaine: Good morning. What a wonderful occasion. It is truly good to be here with my friend, John Boozman. When I was young, I spent part of 1980 and 1981 living with Jesuit missionaries in a small community in Honduras. I learned from that experience the power of a small group in advancing your spiritual life. And it has been my blessing to have opportunities since—in my parish in Richmond, with a group of legislators when I was Lieutenant Governor and Governor and now in the Senate working with John Boozman and my other friends in the Senate and the Senate prayer breakfast tradition. We are here in a very, very large room and there is greatness in a large room, but I think a lot of us are here because there is greatness in small rooms, and small groups. And so like John, I would encourage you to advance your spiritual life by joining a small group that focuses on spiritual fellowship.

And now a word of introduction, when I came to the Senate in January 2013, within nine months the government of the United States shut down. Because I am Catholic, I was tempted to blame myself. When the government re-opened, we had a hard task on our shoulders, which was that Congress was charged with finding a budget deal by the end of the calendar year. And I am on the budget committee; and I got to watch my chairwoman, my great friend, Senator Patty Murray work with the then House budget chair, Paul Ryan. I came to know, in that work by observation, Paul is a person of strong principle, a person who knows that the American people send us here not to express our opinions louder than the next person but to be principled, but also respect and work with the principles of others, and we found a deal that enabled us to move forward.

I want to offer a prayer for the Speaker, from a letter of Paul, a letter to the Galatians: "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season, we will reap if we do not give up." Ladies and gentlemen, the Speaker of the House, Paul Ryan.

U.S. Representative Paul Ryan: That was quite nice. Thank you very much. First of all, I want to express my gratitude to my friends, Robert Aderholt and Juan Vargas for hosting us here today. Thank you. Thank you for what you have done. And I want to applaud their work to raise awareness of the plight of the persecuted Christians around the world. I also want to welcome all of you to Washington. You could not have come here for a better reason. This breakfast is a national tradition because prayer is a part of our national heritage. It goes all the way back to the Declaration of Independence. We believe that our rights come from God, and our job as office holders is to protect those rights. So it is only natural that we should ask for His guidance as we seek to do His will. I have noticed a growing impatience though with prayer in our culture these days. You see it in the papers, or you see it on Twitter. When people say "We are praying for someone or something," the attitude in some quarters these days, is "Don't just pray, do something about it." The thing is,

when you are praying, you are doing something about it.

You are revealing the presence of God. Whenever people are in grief, or even when they are about to start some great undertaking, they feel the worst pain of all. They feel alone. How am I going to get through this? Why is this happening to me? My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? That is why there is nothing more comforting, or more humbling really than to hear someone say, "I am praying for you." Because when you hear that, you realize you are not alone—God is there. And hundreds, if not thousands, if not millions of people are all speaking to Him on your behalf. They are not praying for some abstract notion, they are praying for you, the person. You know it says a lot about our country, that people of both parties and of all faiths will drop everything and pray for their fellow Americans. What it says is "We believe in the dignity of the individual, of the human person," and that is why prayer should always come first. All Americans believe this; but as Christians, we can especially appreciate this truth. We believe in Jesus Christ. We believe God came down from heaven and became a man with a name and a body so that we could know him, we could begin to understand. He walked among the poor and the lowly of this world so that he could raise us to new heights in the next. It is a miracle. It inspires us every single day, and that is why we should rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and in all circumstances, give thanks. Thank you, and welcome.

64TH NATIONAL PRAYER  
BREAKFAST: PART FOUR

**HON. JANICE HAHN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, February 4, 2016 I had the privilege of attending the 64th Annual National Prayer Breakfast chaired by Representatives ROBERT ADERHOLT and JUAN VARGAS. I would like to submit Part Four of the transcript:

64TH NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST: PART FOUR

The President: Thank you so much. Thank you. You're very kind. Thank you very much. Well, good morning. Giving all praise and honor to God for bringing us together here this morning.

I want to thank everyone who helped organize this breakfast, especially our co-chairs, Robert and Juan, who embody the tradition of friendship, fellowship, and prayer. I will begin with a confession: I have always felt a tinge of guilt motorcading up here at the heart of D.C.'s rush hour. I suspect that not all the commuters were blessing me as they waited to get to work. But it's for a good cause. A National Prayer Brunch doesn't have the same ring to it.

And Michelle and I are extremely honored, as always, to be with so many friends, with members of Congress, with faith leaders from across the country and around the world, to be with the Speaker, the Leader. I want thank Mark and Roma for their friendship and their extraordinary story, and sharing those inspiring words. Andrea, for sharing his remarkable gifts.

And on this occasion, I always enjoy reflecting on a piece of scripture that's been meaningful to me or otherwise sustained me throughout the year. And lately, I've been thinking and praying on a verse from Second Timothy: "For God has not given us a spirit

of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

We live in extraordinary times. Times of extraordinary change. We're surrounded by tectonic shifts in technology and in our economy; by destructive conflict, disruptions to our environment. And it all reshapes the way we work and the way we live. It's all amplified by a media that is unceasing, and that feeds 24/7 on our ever-shrinking attention spans.

And as a student of history, I often remind people that the challenges that we face are not unique; that in fact, the threats of previous eras—civil war or world war or cold war, depressions or famines—those challenges put our own in perspective. Moreover, I believe that our unique strengths as a nation make us better equipped than others to harness this change to work for us, rather than against us.

And yet, the sheer rapidity of change, and the uncertainty that it brings, is real. The hardship of a family trying to make ends meet. Refugees fleeing from a war-torn home. Those things are real. Terrorism, eroding shorelines—those things are real. Even the very progress that humanity has made, the affluence, the stability that so many of us enjoy, far greater prosperity than any previous generation of humanity has experienced, shines a brighter light on those who still struggle, reveal the gap in prospects that exist for the children of the world.

And that gap between want and plenty, it gives us vertigo. It can make us afraid, not only of the possibility that progress will stall, but that maybe we have more to lose. And fear does funny things. Fear can lead us to lash out against those who are different, or lead us to try to get some sinister "other" under control. Alternatively, fear can lead us to succumb to despair, or paralysis, or cynicism. Fear can feed our most selfish impulses, and erode the bonds of community.

It is a primal emotion—fear—one that we all experience. And it can be contagious, spreading through societies, and through nations. And if we let it consume us, the consequences of that fear can be worse than any outward threat.

For me, and I know for so many of you, faith is the great cure for fear. Jesus is a good cure for fear. God gives believers the power, the love, the sound mind required to conquer any fear. And what more important moment for that faith than right now? What better time than these changing, tumultuous times to have Jesus standing beside us, steadying our minds, cleansing our hearts, pointing us towards what matters.

His love gives us the power to resist fear's temptations. He gives us the courage to reach out to others across that divide, rather than push people away. He gives us the courage to go against the conventional wisdom and stand up for what's right, even when it's not popular. To stand up not just to our enemies but, sometimes, to stand up to our friends. He gives us the fortitude to sacrifice ourselves for a larger cause. Or to make tough decisions knowing that we can only do our best. Less of me, more of God. And then, to have the courage to admit our failings and our sins while pledging to learn from our mistakes and to try to do better.

Certainly, during the course of this enormous privilege to have served as the President of the United States, that's what faith has done for me. It helps me deal with the common, everyday fears that we all share. The main one I'm feeling right now is that our children grow up too fast. They're leaving. That's a tough deal. And so, as a parent, you're worrying about will some harm befall them, how are they going to manage without

you, did you miss some central moment in their lives. Will they call? Or text? Each day, we're fearful that God's purpose becomes elusive, cloudy. We try to figure out how we fit into his broader plan. They're universal fears that we have, and my faith helps me to manage those.

And then my faith helps me to deal with some of the unique elements of my job. As one of the great departed heroes of our age, Nelson Mandela, once said, "I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. . . The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear."

And certainly, there are times where I've had to repeat that to myself while holding this office. When you hear from a parade of experts, just days after you're elected, that another Great Depression is a very real possibility—that will get your attention. When you tell a room full of young cadets that you've made a decision to send them into harm's way, knowing that some of them might not return safely—that's sobering. When you hold in your arms the mothers and fathers of innocent children gunned down in their classroom—that reminds you there's evil in the world. And so you come to understand what President Lincoln meant when he said that he'd been driven to his knees by the overwhelming conviction that he had no place else to go.

And so like every President, like every leader, like every person, I've known fear. But my faith tells me that I need not fear death; that the acceptance of Christ promises everlasting life and the washing away of sins. If Scripture instructs me to "put on the full armor of God" so that when trouble comes, I'm able to stand, then surely I can face down these temporal setbacks, surely I can battle back doubts, surely I can rouse myself to action.

And should that faith waver, should I lose my way, I have drawn strength not only from a remarkable wife, not only from incredible colleagues and friends, but I have drawn strength from witnessing all across this country and all around this world, good people, of all faiths, who do the Lord's work each and every day, who wield that power and love, and sound mind to feed the hungry and heal the sick, to teach our children and welcome the stranger.

Think about the extraordinary work of the congregations and faith communities represented here today. Whether fighting global poverty or working to end the scourge of human trafficking, you are the leaders of what Pope Francis calls "this march of living hope."

When the Earth cleaves in Haiti, Christians, Sikhs, and other faith groups sent volunteers to distribute aid, tend to the wounded, rebuild homes for the homeless.

When Ebola ravaged West Africa, Jewish, Christian, Muslim groups responded to the outbreak to save lives. And as the news fanned the flames of fear, churches and mosques responded with a powerful rebuke, welcoming survivors into their pews.

When nine worshippers were murdered in a Charleston church basement, it was people of all faiths who came together to wrap a shattered community in love and understanding.

When Syrian refugees seek the sanctuary of our shores, it's the faithful from synagogues, mosques, temples, and churches who welcome them, the first to offer blankets and food and open their homes. Even now, people of different faiths and beliefs are coming together to help people suffering in Flint.

And then there's the most—less spectacular, more quiet efforts of congregations all across this country just helping people. Seeing God in others. And we're driven to do this because we're driven by the value that

so many of our faiths teach us—I am my brother's keeper, I am my sister's keeper. As Christians, we do this compelled by the Gospel of Jesus—the command to love God, and love one another.

And so, yes, like every person, there are times where I'm fearful. But my faith and, more importantly, the faith that I've seen in so many of you, the God I see in you, that makes me inevitably hopeful about our future. I have seen so many who know that God has not given us a spirit of fear. He has given us power, and love, and a sound mind.

We see that spirit in people like Pastor Saeed Abedini, imprisoned for no crime other than holding God in his heart. And last year, we prayed that he might be freed. And this year, we give thanks that he is home safe.

We pray for God's protection for all around the world who are not free to practice their faith, including Christians who are persecuted, or who have been driven from their ancient homelands by unspeakable violence. And just as we call on other countries to respect the rights of religious minorities, we, too, respect the right of every single American to practice their faith freely. For this is what each of us is called on to do: To seek our common humanity in each other. To make sure our politics and our public discourse reflect that same spirit of love and sound mind. To assume the best in each other and not just the worst—and not just at the National Prayer Breakfast. To begin each of our works from the shared belief that all of us want what's good and right for our country and our future.

We can draw such strength from the quiet moments of heroism around us every single day. And so let me close with two such stories that I've come to know just over the past week.

A week ago, I spoke at a ceremony held at the Israeli Embassy for the first time, honoring the courage of people who saved Jews during the Holocaust. And one of the recipients was the grandson—or the son of an American soldier who had been captured by the Nazis. So a group of American soldiers are captured, and their captors ordered Jewish POWs to identify themselves. And one sergeant, a Christian named Roddie Edmonds, from Tennessee, ordered all American troops to report alongside them. They lined up in formation, approximately 200 of them, and the Nazi colonel said, "I asked only for the Jewish POWs," and said, "These can't all be Jewish." And Master Sergeant Edmonds stood there and said, "We are all Jews." And the colonel took out his pistol and held it to the Master Sergeant's head and said, "Tell me who the Jews are." And he repeated, "We are all Jews." And faced with the choice of shooting all those soldiers, the Nazis relented. And so, through his moral clarity, through an act of faith, Sergeant Edmonds saved the lives of his Jewish brothers-in-arms.

A second story. Just yesterday, some of you may be aware I visited a mosque in Baltimore to let our Muslim-American brothers and sisters know that they, too, are Americans and welcome here. And there I met a Muslim-American named Rami Nashashibi, who runs a nonprofit working for social change in Chicago. And he forms coalitions with churches and Latino groups and African Americans in this poor neighborhood in Chicago. And he told me how the day after the tragedy in San Bernardino happened, he took his three young children to a playground in the Marquette Park neighborhood, and while they were out, the time came for one of the five daily prayers that are essential to the Muslim tradition. And on any other day, he told me, he would have immediately put his rug out on the grass right there and prayed.

But that day, he paused. He feared any unwelcome attention he might attract to himself and his children. And his seven-year-old daughter asked him, "What are you doing, Dad? Isn't it time to pray?" And he thought of all the times he had told her the story of the day that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Rabbi Robert Marx, and 700 other people marched to that very same park, enduring hatred and bigotry, dodging rocks and bottles, and hateful words, in order to challenge Chicago housing segregation, and to ask America to live up to our highest ideals.

And so, at that moment, drawing from the courage of men of different religions, of a different time, Rami refused to teach his children to be afraid. Instead, he taught them to be a part of that legacy of faith and good conscience. "I want them to understand that sometimes faith will be tested," he told me, "and that we will be asked to show immense courage, like others have before us, to make our city, our country, and our world a better reflection of all our ideals." And he put down his rug and he prayed.

Now, those two stories, they give me courage and they give me hope. And they instruct me in my own Christian faith. I can't imagine a moment in which that young American sergeant expressed his Christianity more profoundly than when, confronted by his own death, he said "We are all Jews." I can't imagine a clearer expression of Jesus's teachings. I can't imagine a better expression of the peaceful spirit of Islam than when a Muslim father, filled with fear, drew from the example of a Baptist preacher and a Jewish rabbi to teach his children what God demands.

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. I pray that by His grace, we all find the courage to set such examples in our own lives—not just during this wonderful gathering and fellowship, not just in the public piety that we profess, but in those smaller moments when it's difficult, when we're challenged, when we're angry, when we're confronted with someone who doesn't agree with us, when no one is watching. I pray, as Roma so beautifully said, that our differences ultimately are bridged; that the God that is in each of us comes together, and we don't divide.

I pray that our leaders will always act with humility and generosity. I pray that my failings are forgiven. I pray that we will uphold our obligation to be good stewards of God's creation—this beautiful planet. I pray that we will see every single child as our own, each worthy of our love and of our compassion. And I pray we answer Scripture's call to lift up the vulnerable, and to stand up for justice, and ensure that every human being lives in dignity.

That's my prayer for this breakfast, and for this country, in the years to come. May God bless you, and may He continue to bless this country that we love.

Rep. Aderholt: Thank you so much, Mr. President. Thank you for your encouraging and also your challenging word this morning. As you know, this breakfast began with one of your predecessors, Dwight Eisenhower; we appreciate you being with us all eight years.

And now, let us get ready for the world that awaits us outside the walls of this hotel, and let's hear again from our friend and our brother from Italy, Andrea Bocelli singing Amazing Grace.

[Mr. Bocelli sings Amazing Grace]

Mr. Andrea Bocelli: Thank you. Thank you very much. A few words in my terrible English. Ladies and gentlemen, and Mr. President, there is a dark shadow on the world in this period. Many children, elderly die under the bomb. The war is the worst in-

cident of our intelligence. There is a very small word, an honorable word that is to the base of our tragedy. This word in Old Greek, is hubris. Hubris means pride. But there is also on the other side a big reason of happiness, a big reason to be optimistic. This reason is the will to be all together and pray together. To be all together also for a moment, to put aside our opinions, our ideas, our different goals, and to be really very close and to pray. Thank you for this invitation. Thank you very much.

Rep. Vargas: Wow, what a great morning. Better than what we ever imagined. Thank you, Jesus. Let's take away the right kind of pride in what we have experienced today, the right kind. As my mother often said, "Never be ashamed of your faith in Jesus because you never want him to be ashamed of you." As Democratic Leader Pelosi reminded us in her reading, Jesus prayed for us to be one and brought to complete unity, and we also heard that today with Mr. Bocelli. So here is my question to you, does Jesus get what he prays for? Let's work for unity. Jesus asked God to send us all together to be one.

Rep. Aderholt: In closing, let me challenge you with this. We have heard a lot about unity this morning, that is what Juan and I wanted, just what we were hoping would be the case. Division is a great problem, so unity is our greatest need, and we believe that we need to pray our way to that unity. We cannot achieve unity on our own. Humanity has tried and humanity has failed for centuries. We have tried, and we have failed in this city, Washington D.C. Unity is a gift from God and Jesus says, "Seek and ye shall find, knock and the door will be open to you." Bring us the unity we need, Lord Jesus. And now to offer our closing prayer, Derrick Henry.

Mr. Derrick Henry: Good morning. I am so glad and honored to be here to do this closing prayer. We bow our heads. Lord Jesus, I thank you for gathering us here today, to hear from these great leaders and these great people, to hear God's word about unity and us being united as one, and how important it is. Jesus Lord I pray for the people who weren't able to eat breakfast today, people who don't have clothes on their back or shoes on their feet, but I pray that you make them find a way and have faith in you that they will receive better days. Father God, I pray for the people who have cancer, who suffer every day with pain and heartache and that you one day will heal them from all the suffering and all the pain. And Lord, I want to pray for my generation, that every day we wake up we seek you, Lord for guidance and wisdom, and one day that we can stand up here and be great leaders, be great people, men and women to speak on unity and united as one, and how important it is to this country and to this world. My Father God, I pray that us as people, great people in here, that we continue to use our platform to help others and inspire others. And last, I would like to pray on the food that we are eating today. I pray that we bless the hands that prepared this food, and let it be nourishment to our bodies. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Rep. Aderholt: Thank you again. Paco and I are very happy that you have joined us here this morning for this breakfast. I think it was very successful. Again, let's give everyone at the head table a great hand.

That concludes our breakfast, and the President and the First Lady will be leaving shortly. If you could stay in your seats for the next few minutes, but we do appreciate them as they're leaving the building and their support for the National Prayer Breakfast. May God bless each of you that are here. May God bless the United States of America, and every country around the world. Thank you, and God Bless.



64TH NATIONAL PRAYER  
BREAKFAST: PART THREE

HON. JEFF DUNCAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, every week when the House of Representatives is in session, I like to attend the Weekly Members' Prayer Breakfast in the Capitol. The United States Senate also holds a Prayer Breakfast each week as well. This weekly meeting of Congressional Members of faith, gave birth to the yearly National Prayer Breakfast. On Thursday, February 4, 2016 I had the privilege of attending the 64th Annual National Prayer Breakfast chaired by Representatives ROBERT ADERHOLT and JUAN VARGAS. I would like to submit Part three of the transcript:

64TH NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST: PART  
THREE

Mr. Burnett: Yes, we are really fortunate and we are very grateful. But our faith has in fact led us to entirely build our TV careers and film careers on family friendly franchises, I mean shows like what was mentioned—The Voice, Apprentice, Shark Tank, Survivor. Often every week four nights out of seven, we have the number one show in America. It is a lot of leverage, which is what matters in Hollywood. We took that leverage and we told Hollywood we wanted to make a brand new series called The Bible. Yes, The Bible on prime time American TV.

Of course our friends told us we are going to destroy our great careers because mixing entertainment and religion is going to make people really angry. But worst of all, they said we were idiots because nobody is going to watch The Bible on prime time TV—they know the story and they can get that in church. Well, as the Americans in this room know, The Bible became the most talked about television show in America, the number one series that year, and 100 million of you watching.

And here is what is really great—The Bible was also shown in Canada but they showed it up against the first game for the National Hockey League—but head to head, The Bible beat hockey. I guess we do know now up in Canada we can officially say that hockey is not God.

Ms. Downey: At that time, The Bible was also up against a show called The Walking Dead and we won, and my favorite headline ran on CNN, "God beats zombies." But far more important than the ratings were the stories of families sitting together in their living rooms watching The Bible. The stories of how God's love for us unfolded through the ages, moved them, and engaged them because faith was and is alive and well in America. The series helped to ignite a much larger conversation about God and faith in this country. We were also humbled that people were inspired to see us, a Hollywood couple of producers daring to speak out about our love of Jesus, daring to talk about our faith in God, and our sincere belief in the power of prayer. I can honestly say that I have never made a decision in my life, big or small, that I didn't pray about first. The Bible series began with a prayer that started as a whisper in our hearts. Our dear friend, Rick Warren had said to us once, "The most dangerous prayer you can pray is, Lord, use me, because then you have to be ready that He might just do so." All we did was ask him to use us.

Mr. Burnett: And use us, he did, trust me. Yeah, it was a TV show but we are also still

telling the story of the most sacred book of all time, the Bible, and we knew we had to get it right. It is a really important, huge responsibility on our shoulders. So the first thing that we did was sign up 40 scholars and advisors—by the way, many of you are in this room right now—you know who you are—you backed us from the very beginning and stood shoulder to shoulder with us. And we thank you so much, all of you in this room who backed us.

You know it was difficult to bridge all the theological gaps, the sway of denominations, but we prayed our way through the process and managed to create a series that brought people together and glorified God. I think it is fair to say—we have become Hollywood's noisiest Christians. You know at least 90 million Americans attend church each Sunday in this country; millions more find inspiration and hope in the person, the story, and the teachings of Jesus Christ. The Christian community is a mainstream community. They watch the NFL they watch The Voice, they buy tickets to Star Wars and go to Beyonce concerts. It is a community that loves Jesus, loves their country, it is a very cool community made up of millions of young believers. Many who have tattoos, earrings, they ride skateboards, they surf, they tweet, they are entrepreneurs and are a vibrant part of the new American economy. It is a very broad audience indeed. It is a community that we are really proud to be a part of, and a community that has covered us in prayer—as to our own surprise we almost became the international spokespeople for the Bible.

Ms. Downey: The making of The Bible series was covered in prayer every step of the way. I can still remember sitting in the Moroccan desert under the shade of a rock and reading Scripture with actors, or praying together with them as they prepared for a scene. When we were getting ready to shoot the crucifixion scene, I sent out an email requesting that prayers would be sent ahead of us to clear the way. There were emotional and spiritual challenges of filming such a scene, as well as the physical challenge because we had to hang an actor on a cross and that day the winds were very high and the sun was scorching, and we prayed for safety, and that God would use this series to open hearts to him. We had a man on the set whose job it was to wrangle snakes and scorpions from each of the locations, and normally he found about 1 or 2 snakes a day, but on the morning of the crucifixion, he removed 48 snakes from around the hillside of Golgotha and we believe that was the power of prayer at work—the symbolism of the snake wasn't lost on any of us. We also prayed as we cast the series. We were only a few months away from beginning filming and we still hadn't cast the most important role of Jesus.

So I sent out an email to all my contacts with a header "Looking for Jesus." We asked in prayer that the right actor would show up. Through a series of remarkable coincidences, we came across Portuguese actor, Diogo Morgado. As he walked up our garden path to meet us for the first time, I turned to Mark and said "There he is; there's our Jesus." He was an answer to a prayer, and his touching and affecting performance as Jesus helped to inspire millions of people around the world.

Mr. Burnett: Yes, that role of Jesus was so important and it was last minute casting, and it was the answer to prayer, and the incredible Hispanic actor Diogo Morgado beautifully portrayed, as you saw on the screen, Jesus in The Bible series. Everyone in the whole country was talking about this Hispanic actor. And it reminds me of a great story.

There are a couple of old men who are Christians, they lived next door to each

other. One was an old black man; one was an old white man. They loved each other and they did everything together. In fact, they've only had one disagreement, the old black man was sure Jesus was black, and the old white man was just as sure that Jesus was a white man. Neither could ever convince the other. One day these great friends died together in a car accident. On their way up to heaven the old black man said "Buddy, we're about to find out I was right all along, Jesus is a black man." And the old white man said "I'm sorry you're going to have to find out this way, because when we meet him, you're going to see that Jesus in fact a white man." They got there in great anticipation and Jesus walked out to meet them, and he smiled at them and said, "Buenos dias."

Ms. Downey: Well, you know I suppose when you think about it, Jesus could have been Irish. He lived at home until he was 30. He never got married, and his mother thought he was God. You know, as a husband and wife producer team, not only do we get to do what we love to do but we get to do it together, and we have fun, you can tell, we have fun. But we also know that being in media comes with responsibility, for to those to whom much is given, much is expected. We are so pleased that our step of faith has reinvigorated faith and family programming in this country, and has hopefully inspired a whole new generation of artists to invest their talent and content that inspires and unifies. This is why we named the company that produced The Bible, Light Workers Media, because we have always believed that it is far more effective to light a candle than to curse the darkness. Let me say that again, we believe it is far more effective to light a candle, than to curse the darkness, and that is what we try to do—to light as many candles as we can. We just keep lighting candles in this often very dark, hostile and hurting world.

Mr. Burnett: It is very easy to divide people, and it is very difficult to bring people together. Did you know what we learned making The Bible? That just among Christians alone, there are over 30,000 denominations. When you think about that, it is crazy, right? And many have argued about their views of Jesus for thousands of years. So for us, working across the Protestant and the Catholic community, working in a very detailed way with the Jewish community, it was very, very challenging to make everybody happy as we told the story of The Bible. But we worked very, very hard, and as many people here advised us so closely, we learned to become bridge builders; and bridge building became our mission.

Ms. Downey: Building bridges has become so much of our mission and I know the power of a bridge from my own life's journey growing up in war torn Ireland. But today, if you go to Derry, you will find something new there. Peace has been restored there and there is now a walking bridge built across the River Foyle, and it is aptly called The Peace Bridge. It stands in defiance of all that once divided us—our very own bridge over troubled water. Protestant and Catholic children now play together, but more than that, the old hurts are healing. The leaders in Northern Ireland finally sat down and talked to each other, and listened to each other, and started to work things out together. We are at a time in the world's history where there is so much pain and fear, and division everywhere, and these divisions show up in race, and in religion, and in politics. The dividing lines are easy to find. The bridges to peace are harder to build. May we all find our dividing lines and work until we have built our own bridges of peace across them. On this day of the National Prayer Breakfast, we pray that with God's help, our world

can heal some of the hurts that wound us and the confusion that divides us, but it begins with us and perhaps a good place to start is to simply see the image of God in the eyes of everyone you meet. As Jesus said, "By this everyone will know that you follow me, that you love one another." For in this spirit is the power of true faith that we learn to love each other. We know that television and film can be powerful ways of bringing inspiration and hope through emotional stories that open your heart. As my dear friend the late Maya Angelou said, "People will forget what you said. People will forget what you did. But people will never forget how you made them feel." Thank you so much, and may God bless you.

Rep. Vargas: Wow, thank you so much. Muchisimas gracias. I have to say, thank you again, Mark. Thank you so much. Our purpose in this breakfast every year is to lift up Jesus as a solution to the problems of the world, and ask for the Lord's help. In that vein, we came together today to love and pray for the President of the United States, and his family, and we do this with all our hearts and we appreciate the message that you brought today to us, it was so uplifting. Mr. President, when we were in law school together, I had lunch with one of our smartest classmates, in fact I mentioned his name to you. And I asked him who he thought was really, really smart, and he said "This guy named Barack Obama; he's really, really smart; and he may even become a Supreme Court Justice some day." So there's still time, Mr. President. There's still time, you're a young man.

But all kidding aside, Mr. President, we honor you for your dignity. We honor you for your integrity. We honor you for your faith, the way you honor God with your life and your service to all of us. Ladies and gentlemen, for one last time at our National Prayer Breakfast, it is my honor to introduce the President of the United States.

#### 64TH NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST: PART TWO

### HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, February 4, 2016 I had the privilege of co-chairing the 64th Annual National Prayer Breakfast with Representative ROBERT ADERHOLT. I would like to submit Part two of the transcript:

#### 64TH NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST: PART TWO

Rabbi Jack Bemporad: I think in these few days that we are together, there is such a spirit of love and joy, and affection. A sense that an environment is produced these days that elicits the very best in us and there is a constant struggle in everyone to find a way in which our best selves emerges. And the self that manifests the love of God, and the love of one's fellow human being, and it calls us to something higher, to a calling that gives us the nobility of what it means to be a child of God.

In this spirit, I would like to read from the book of Isaiah, Chapter 58. It is a reading that is done every Yom Kippur, Day of Atonement, in every synagogue throughout the world. It is a day, incidentally, where Jews fast. And yet on this very day when Jews fast, they read this.

"Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a man to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a rush, and to spread sackcloth

and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, Here I am. If you take away from the midst of you the yoke, the pointing of the finger, and speaking of wickedness, if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday and the Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your desire with good things, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to dwell in."

Thank you.

The Honorable Julian Castro: Good morning. To President and Mrs. Obama, co-chairs Congressman Vargas and Congressman Aderholt, and to all distinguished guests with us this morning. On this day of hope and of harmony, let us pray.

Dear Lord, we gather here as one, connected by the strength of our faith, by our pride in this great nation, and by our common bond as Children of God. Let us remember that each of us is beloved equally in the eyes of our Lord, and let us serve as instruments that spread your mercy to our brothers and our sisters. Jesus told the disciples in the book of Matthew that what we do unto the least among us, we do unto Him. So, just as the grace of God provides nourishment to our souls and sanctuary for our spirits, we must provide food to the hungry, care for the ailing, shelter to the poor. The Bible instructs us to find unity in our faith, and compassion for all men and women through the example of Christ.

And I pray that we will find inspiration from the second chapter of Philippians, which reads:

"So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility, count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men." Amen.

Thank you and God bless.

U.S. Representative Nancy Pelosi: Good morning. Mr. President and Mrs. Obama, all of the distinguished guests gathered here in prayer. I know we all want to thank Congressman JUAN VARGAS and Congressman ROBERT ADERHOLT for their leadership in making this morning's breakfast such a success, and I thank them for giving me the opportunity to read the following from the Gospel of John. In the gospel of John, we see the golden rule that stands at the heart of the gospel. And as we hear these words from John chapters 13, 15 and 17 we know that this

message, this command of love is not confined to the New Testament. The same message stands at the center of the Torah, and the teachings of the Prophet Mohammed. From the Torah, it says, "Love your neighbor as yourself." And from Mohammed, "None of you has faith until he loves for his brother or his neighbor what he loves for himself." And now from the gospel of John: "Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father. . . .

"Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, rose from the meal, took off his outer clothing and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with a towel. . . .

"When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. 'Do you understand what I have done for you?' he asks them. 'You call me teacher and Lord, and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and teacher have washed your feet, you should also wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is any messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.'"

A little while later Jesus said,

"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in His love. I have told you this so that my joy may be with you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: love each other as I have loved you. Greater love hath no one than this, to lay down his life for his friend."

And finally, listen to Jesus' prayer for us, he went on to say:

"My prayer is not for them alone, I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one, I in them, and you in me, so that may guide to bring us to complete unity."

That is the gospel of the Lord. May the Lord guide us to answer this prayer of togetherness, unity, and love, that we may be from many faiths, we may be united by our service to God and to one another. Amen. Thank you.

The Honorable Robert Rigsby: Good morning. Mr. President, our First Lady, this is truly the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Let us pray.

Thank you, Father, for allowing us to live in a country where we can come together in your precious name. In peace, fellowship, and communion offering you praise, glory and honor. Father, we ask that you watch over our President, Barack Obama, as he literally carries the weight of the world on his shoulders. Continue to lead and guide him, and bless him with the courage of David and the wisdom of Solomon. Bless all of our national leaders from all branches of our government. Father, bless the leaders from around the world who are charged with the great responsibility to bring hope in the midst of hopelessness, calm in the midst of chaos, and peace in the midst of war. Father, infuse in our leaders a call to action to protect those who cannot protect themselves. For as Dr. King said, our lives begin and end the day we become silent about things that truly matter. Father, let our leaders never forget that

as a global community, or strength, our dignity, and our humanity are all closely linked to our willingness to help each other. Father, I pray that our leaders are led by faith because our faith lets us know you hear us. Father, because we have been granted this awesome responsibility to lead, we have the legal and moral obligation to strive to better conditions world wide. Father, your word and our faith provide us guidance. The Gospel of Matthew teaches that we must “first cast out of the beam out of thine own eye, and then shall thou see clearly to cast the moat out of thy brother’s eye.” Father, impress upon our leaders the profoundness of this passage. I pray that our leaders will understand that to earn our positions of leadership, we must constantly sit in judgment of ourselves. This is not an easy or a comfortable task, but it is one that is essential—whether it is at a prayer meeting or during times of self-reflection—we must examine our actions in the crucible of our faith. In First Kings, Solomon is reminded of the promise that God made to David, that is if our people remain faithful, then when in need, our God would hear them. Father, faith is essential to all we do, and faith has been vital to me. I am so proud to share my faith with our national leaders because this nation has invested so much in me. I am humbled and honored to have served in Afghanistan and Iraq as a United States Army officer. My unwavering faith sustained me while I served in a combat zone away from my wife and my son. But more importantly, my faith sustained me when I was paralyzed shortly after returning from Afghanistan. My wife Anna and I relied on our faith to sustain us and keep us. Without faith, I know I would not be standing here today. I literally would not be standing here today. Father, remind our leaders that you told us to have faith in all we do, not some of what we do, but all we do, not just when it is popular or convenient. Let our leaders know that it is through prayer and faith that our brave soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines that work to secure our homeland will return home when war will be no more. Father, remind our leaders that faith will sustain them, faith will keep them and faith will guide them. For I know firsthand that it is because my faith and the power of prayer that I stand before you today. I also pray that with continued faith and perseverance, our president will be strengthened, fortified, guided and directed to lead this great nation, and be a beacon of justice and peace around the world. In the precious name of Jesus, I give thanks. Amen.

Rep. Aderholt: Thank you Judge Rigsby. And thank you God for answering our prayers, and we thank You again for this morning and we offer all of these prayers up to the Father. Mark Burnett and Roma Downey are two of television’s most successful producers. They have made over 3,000 hours of American TV that airs in over 70 countries, and have received eight Emmy Awards. You know them from their productions of some of television’s most iconic shows, including *The Voice*, *Shark Tank*, *Survivor*, *The Bible Series*, and their major motion picture, *Son of God*.

Mark Burnett is the president of MGM Television and Digital Group, and his wife, Roma is chief content officer of Light Works Media. Many of you also know Roma from her starring role as Monica in the long running hit TV show, *Touched by An Angel*. And to give you an idea of some of their work, we are going to look at a brief clip from their hit television series, *The Bible*.

[Video clip from *The Bible*]

Ladies and Gentlemen, please join me in welcoming the first husband and wife couple to ever address this breakfast, Roma Downey and Mark Burnett.

Mr. Mark Burnett: Good morning, Mr. President, Madam First Lady, Senators, Congressmen, members of our armed forces, esteemed foreign representatives and guests. Roma and I are so grateful to be here this year. We are used to sitting out there, and have for many years and love this prayer breakfast. We are especially grateful this year to be speaking at President Obama’s last prayer breakfast, it is such an honor. We are also really, really glad to be here to share with you a little of our story about immigrant, blue collar roots of coming to America.

Ms. Roma Downey: Yes, it is a great blessing also for us to be here as a married couple and to get to do this together. As we heard, we are the first husband and wife team ever to speak at the National Prayer Breakfast. Mark and I have been working together, side by side for years, and most couples we know can’t even do yard work together without arguing. And yet we have been together every day, producing *The Bible* and *AD*, and the soon to be released, epic feature film, *Ben Hur*. And I just have to acknowledge Mr. Morgan Freeman, who is here today, who is one of the stars of *Ben Hur*.

Spending so much time together as a husband and wife, is a blessing and a challenge, and perhaps the real miracle is that we are still speaking to each other. As business partners, we have different styles and approaches. I might tap gently on a door, and my husband might kick the door down. And both can be effective, and like all partnerships, we have learned to work as a team. And there is an art, of course, to public speaking. It should feel like a graceful dance, and speaking today, we will try not to step on each other’s toes. I am reminded of some of the great dancers from the past, like Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, and they moved so well together. And remember that Ginger did everything Fred did, but she did it backwards and in high heels. Of course you may be able to tell from our accents, I am Irish, my husband is English—but we don’t hold that against him.

Mr. Burnett: Okay, I admit it. I was born in England but I am very lucky now, as is Roma now, to be an American citizen—so we can officially celebrate the 4th of July. I do know I am also lucky; I am the only person in the room who is married to an actual angel. Yeah, I know what you are thinking. Yes, I have been touched by an angel. Well, we are married.

Ms. Downey: I was born and raised in Derry City, Northern Ireland near the bog side section, and Derry is the second city of the North and as you all know it was home to a great deal of violence and unrest, particularly in the 1970s and 1980s. Our city was divided by a river, which flowed through the middle segregating the communities; and Catholics lived on one side, Protestants lived on the other, and never the twain did meet. We hardly ever crossed the river to the other side. Those were scary and often dangerous times when shootings and bombings became a way of life. When I was just 10 years of age, my mother died and I remember going to visit her grave when a fierce gun battle broke out in the cemetery. I narrowly missed being shot, the bullet hole singed the coat I was wearing and missed my head by inches. Surely I must have had an angel watching over me that day. Through my teenage years I can remember sitting in my little bedroom on the street where we lived, looking out at the rain and listening over and over to one of the only cassettes that I owned. It was Simon and Garfunkel’s *Greatest Hits* and I loved the lyrics, for they created a poetic world where you could hear the sounds of silence and it seemed possible that you could really build a bridge over troubled waters.

The lyrics painted a picture for me, a picture of America and a seed was planted. The American dream represented freedom, and opportunity, and there as a young Irish teenager, an American dream was born in my heart. Like so many immigrants before us, this great country has provided us with the opportunities to make our dreams reality.

Mr. Burnett: Yet we both came seeking that same American dream. Thirty years ago, I left the British Army Parachute Regiment and I moved to Los Angeles with zero skills, but I did need a job and a place to live and I had a friend from home who lived in Beverly Hills and worked as a chauffeur for a rich family. He suggested a chauffeur might be a good job—at least I could drive a car—but there were no chauffeur jobs available. But there was a job advertised and it sounded great. It was a live in position in Beverly Hills; got paid 125 dollars a week and the job did come with a room, a car, and even cable TV. The trouble was there were two words right at the front of the job description, which made no sense for a guy from the parachute regiment. Those two words were: child care. My friend Nick told me it was a waste of time even going to the interview but I remember him saying “Mark, come on, how are you going over being the commando yesterday to Mary Poppins tomorrow, really?” But I knew I was desperate. So I showed up that night at 624 North Beverly Drive in Beverly Hills for a job interview. It was crazy. Keep in mind I was 22 years of age, I had just come out of the army. Irving, the husband, began by asking what on earth I was doing there. Here he had a 3 year old from this marriage, a 17 year old and a 19 year old from the previous marriage, and what did he possibly need another 22 year old kid for? What Earl said he needed was a nanny and a housekeeper. Just then his wife, Patty cut him off and said “Wow, you have an accent, where are you from?” I said “Ma’am, I’m from London.” She said “Oh, we love London.” Earl did not crack a smile, he was just annoyed so he started drilling me to get rid of me. He said, “This job isn’t just about chasing a 3 year old around a Beverly Hills estate—you need to do some cleaning. Can you clean Mark?” I said “Sir, I just left 4 years in the British army. They came around with a white glove to inspect our lockers every day. No one ever found a speck of dust on my locker.” Patty smiled and Earl got even more annoyed. Then he asked me “Okay, can you do laundry?” I said “Sir, laundry? We have to do all our own washing and ironing, I could iron a shirt with a crease so sharp you could shave with it.” Patty was loving this. But then Irving finally got me when he said “Mark, can you cook?” I said “Sir, I’m British. My mom can’t even cook.”

Anyway, I thought I wasn’t getting the job—but a few hours later, Patty called the number I had left where my friend Nick lived and said, “It’s a very soft sell, but you got the job. Can you start tomorrow?” And then I began the next day in America as a domestic help/nanny/housekeeper at 624 North Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills. This was really amazing. Last year, Roma and I, as a lot of you know, merged our company into MGM, which made me the president of MGM Television. And I was given an office on the top floor of MGM, right next to Gary Barber, the Chairman and CEO of MGM. I walked in there and looked at this incredible view of Los Angeles—the Hollywood sign, Beverly Hills and it dawned on me. The address of this building is 245 North Beverly Drive. I looked out the window up Beverly Drive and I could actually see the house where I was a nanny at 624 North Beverly Drive. You have to know, this can only happen in America. It’s the American dream.

Ms. Downey: Yeah, there are certain things that could only happen in America. Back when I emigrated from Ireland, I lived in New York City, and the very first job I had there was checking coats in a very fancy Upper West Side restaurant. The meals were lovely but so expensive and I never could have afforded to eat there myself. When I checked a coat, I used to get maybe a quarter a coat or sometimes a dollar on average. One night I checked the coat of Regis Philbin. He was the very first celebrity that I ever met, and he gave me a 20 dollar tip and I thought I died and went to heaven. Just a few years later, I was living in Los Angeles, starring on a TV show called *Touched by an Angel* and the show had millions of viewers each week and it was a big hit on CBS. Soon I was invited to fly back to New York and be a guest on the Regis Philbin Show. Checking coats one moment, starring on television the next—only in America. And I remember I told Regis that story and he laughed, and he laughed, and he was just so glad that he hadn't stiffed me.

Anyway, for almost 10 years I had the privilege of playing the angel, Monica on television opposite the great Della Reese, and we were undercover angels who showed up at a crossroad in people's lives, often when they had hit the bottom, and in their brokenness, they had reached out to God for help. Every week I got to deliver a message of God's love on national television to millions of people. As a believer myself, this was such an honor to share with the audience that there is a God, that he loves us, and that he wants to be part of our lives. Before we filmed these angel revelation scenes each week, we would pray a very simple prayer, "Less of me, God, more of you; less of me, more of you." And we prayed because we hoped we would be used to touch people's hearts and to open their lives to God—and thankfully that happened thousands of times. Both Mark and I have been so blessed with our careers here in the United States, and we are both so fortunate and incredibly grateful.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MS.  
MARIA LOURDES GUTIÉRREZ

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Mr. BECERRA to honor the life of Ms. Maria Lourdes Gutiérrez of Los Angeles, California. Maria passed away on May 19, 2016 after a year-long battle with cancer. She led a prolific career and will be greatly missed by her family, friends, and entire community.

Maria L. Gutiérrez was born on September 23, 1954, in Los Angeles, California to Jose and Manuela Gutiérrez. As the only child of immigrant parents, Maria's story is a testament to the American Dream. She grew up in East Los Angeles, graduated from Loyola Marymount University with a Bachelor's degree in history and political science, and did graduate work at the University of Southern California. She worked for a short time as a station manager of KMEX in Los Angeles before moving to Fresno in 1998, to serve as the General Manager for KFTV. Her hard work and determination allowed her to rise quickly to the position of Senior Vice President and Regional Director of Local Media for Univision until her retirement in 2012.

Under Maria's leadership, KFTV became a leading force in local news. She worked to raise the level of the local Spanish-language television stations during her career and she never stopped working to do so. With her guidance, KFTV won several awards for outstanding journalism, becoming the leading Spanish-language television station in the San Joaquin Valley and earned recognition and honors from various news associations.

After her retirement, Maria continued to serve her community. Maria served on the boards of the Fresno State Bulldog Foundation, Fresno State Art and Humanities, the San Joaquin Debate Committee, the National Parks Conservation Advisory Board, and El Agua es Asunto de Todos, highlighting the importance of having a reliable and secure water supply in California. She was also the chairman for the Complete Count committee for Census and was the President for both the Loyola Marymount University Latino Alumni Association and the National Association of Broadcasters Board.

Maria's faith and love for family, public service, and her community was guided by her strong belief in shining a light on issues that impact the quality of life in the Central Valley. Her hard work led her to be honored by several groups, including the Girls Scouts of Central California South, The National Women's Political Caucus of Fresno County, and The Fresno Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Maria received various awards, including "Women of Influence," "Humanitarian Award," "Hispanic Woman of Promise Award," and the American Advertising Federation's Silver Medal Award. Maria was passionate about her work and was a fantastic leader, mentor, and friend.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that Mr. BECERRA and I ask our colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to honor the life of Ms. Maria Lourdes Gutiérrez. The positive difference Maria made in the lives of others and her community will never be forgotten.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN  
REVOLUTION RECOGNIZE THE  
229TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
DRAFTING OF THE CONSTITU-  
TION

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, the 229th anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States was nationally noted on September 17, 2016. The Constitution, the greatest framework of human liberty, incorporates the principles of freedom, equality and justice. Constitution Week, September 17–23, was initiated by the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1955 to promote the observance of the U.S. Constitution. The organization also created the DAR Constitution Hall in Washington D.C. as a memorial to the enduring document. The DAR encourages patriotism, education and historic preservation in communities across America and has continued this mission, honoring and celebrating the Constitution and encouraging observance of Constitution Week throughout the nation, and in communities and classrooms, encouraging

adults and children to study and discuss the Constitution. In recognition of this magnificent document and this important annual event, I congratulate the Daughters of the American Revolution for their ongoing commitment to our unique American history.

TRIBUTE TO LUELLE AND CLARK  
HERZBERG

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Luella and Clark Herzberg of Clarinda, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. They were married in Oakland, California and celebrated their anniversary on July 16, 2016.

Luella and Clark's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 70th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 70th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

INTRODUCING HOUSE CONCUR-  
RENT RESOLUTION EXPRESSING  
THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT  
THE UNITED STATES SHOULD  
CONTINUE TO EXERCISE ITS  
VETO IN THE UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY COUNCIL ON ANTI-  
ISRAEL RESOLUTIONS

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a House Concurrent Resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should continue to exercise its veto in the United Nations Security Council on resolutions regarding the Israeli-Palestinian peace process and to oppose anti-Israel measures considered by the United Nations General Assembly and other United Nations bodies.

As we all know, Israel is routinely the subject of unfair attacks at the United Nations. Israel is one of our nation's great allies—a free and open democratic society in a region that is anything but—yet it is the only country in the world that has to defend its very right to existence on a daily basis. International bodies unfairly target Israel regularly, and it's shameful.

For instance, the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) has voted to condemn Israel 62 times since its creation in 2006. Earlier this year, the UNHRC named Israel as the world's top human rights violator.

Here's another example. Resolution 1, adopted during the 29th session of the Commission on the Status of Women last year singled out Israel as the only nation responsible

for women's rights violations. You heard that right. Not Syria, where an entire ethnic group, the Yazidis, have seen their women and girls sold off as sex slaves; not Saudi Arabia, with its strict laws on modesty, where women can neither drive nor own property; and not Sudan, where young girls are married off at the age of 10 and where many of them are forced to undergo female genital mutilation.

Earlier this year, the government of France convened a conference in Paris on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Notably, representatives from Israel and the Palestinian Territories were not invited. That is no way to negotiate. If the government of France takes the plan to the United Nations Security Council, it would effectively force a "solution" upon Israel at an arbitrary deadline, putting the entire country at risk. This is unacceptable. We have all seen the wave of terrorism that has swept through Israel in recent months. Israel must be allowed to maintain its security.

Mr. Speaker, it is imperative that we, the United States of America, continue to stand up for Israel at the United Nations. We all want to see a resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, but we know that it can only happen if both sides come together, sit down, and negotiate. My friend, Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu has offered to meet anywhere at any time, without any precondition, to continue negotiations. The Palestinian leadership, unfortunately, has refused or made excuses, and instead turned to international bodies. In doing so, they have turned from the peace process and focused instead on castigatory measures that will, in the long run, get them nowhere. And that is a shame.

The United Nations can't force peace. A resolution to the conflict requires difficult conversations, and even painful concessions through mutual bilateral discussion. This is what needs to happen, and the United States must send this signal clearly and unequivocally. I urge this body to pass the resolution, which will do just that.

#### HONORING JEANELLE NORMAN

### HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jeanelle Norman, who was recently named Citizen of the Year by the Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce.

Jeanelle is perhaps most known for her work as the president of the Decatur branch of the NAACP, where she has spent the past few years fighting tirelessly for the inclusion and equality of all people in the greater Decatur area.

However, Jeanelle is no stranger to activism. In 1998, she saw a need for leadership in her community and began her campaign as the first black woman to run for mayor of Decatur. Although unsuccessful, she was later elected as the first black president of the Decatur School Board where she saw firsthand the needs of parents and children in Decatur's public schools.

Using her years of experience and advocacy on the School Board, Jeanelle channeled her desire to make a difference into the creation of the Area Leaders and Education Re-

sponse Team, whose focus is to improve relations between Decatur's community members and its law enforcement. This 11-member team works to spread accurate information in the event of high-profile incidents involving police and the black community.

For decades, the Decatur community has benefitted immensely from Jeanelle's positive influence. I am very proud of Jeanelle for all of her accomplishments that have earned her the distinction of Citizen of the Year. She is truly an inspiration and I congratulate her on receiving this honor.

#### IN CONGRATULATING MARIELA MELERO ON BECOMING A 2016 SAMMIES FINALIST

### HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mariela Melero on being selected as a 2016 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals finalist. This honor is one shared with a select group of other federal employees who have achieved excellence in their work to help others. Ms. Melero has earned this recognition through imparting her passion and commitment to improving immigration services for anyone seeking a better life in the United States.

By enhancing the experience for those who seek help obtaining legal immigration status, Ms. Melero has simplified a sometimes complicated process. As the daughter of Cuban parents who sought refuge in Puerto Rico, Ms. Melero understands how important it is to give support to those looking for a better life. She has significantly aided those seeking immigration help by developing an online portal and virtual assistant to help provide answers and resources to countless migrants. These cutting edge tools have distinguished Ms. Melero in her work. As a nation of immigrants, it cannot be understated how important it is to help individuals who are seeking avenues to legal immigration the proper advice that they need.

Ms. Melero's hard work and perseverance are exemplified in her receipt of this honor. We need to encourage more federal employees, like Ms. Melero, who work hard and dedicate their lives to helping those seeking a better life for their families.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to highlight the importance of this recognition and what it represents for Ms. Melero and our district. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Ms. Melero on being a 2016 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals finalist. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF CANADA AND THE CANADIAN STUDIES PROGRAM AT SUNY PLATTSBURGH

### HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 50th Anniversary of

the Center for the Study of Canada and the Canadian Studies Program at SUNY Plattsburgh. The Center is dedicated to providing comprehensive scholarly professional development programs on Canada for residents of the United States.

The Canadian Studies Program as SUNY Plattsburgh was founded in 1966. Nine years later the Center for the Study of Canada was established in 1975 and was recognized as a Title VI National Resource Center by the United States Department of Education in 1983. The Center offers the most comprehensive Canadian Studies undergraduate program in the United States, and spearheaded the CONNECT program, which works to promote Canadian Studies in American academic institutions.

The Center's Canadian Studies Program gives students the opportunity to learn about Canada's rich multiculturalism and its vital role as one of the largest trading partners with the United States. The Center offers students multiple outreach programs, such as the Distinguished Canadian Address, K-12 Initiatives, and Teaching Canada. These programs, as well as opportunities to study abroad in Canada, enable the Center's students to learn more about our northern neighbor.

Congratulations to the Center for the Study of Canada and the Canadian Studies Program at SUNY Plattsburgh on the 50th anniversary of its formation. I want to wish the Center and its students and faculty continued success in the future.

#### TRIBUTE TO ADA GOSHORN

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ms. Ada Goshorn on the occasion of her 100th birthday on August 19, 2016.

Our world has changed immensely during Ada's life. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Ada has lived through seventeen United States Presidents and twenty-four Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Ada Goshorn in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish her a very happy 100th birthday. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Ada on reaching this incredible milestone, and wishing her even more health and happiness in the years to come.

#### DAY OF RECKONING—PAKISTAN IS NOT A TRUSTWORTHY ALLY

### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Pakistan is not America's trustworthy ally.

For years, Pakistan has been aiding and abetting the enemies of the United States of America. These are not enemies who simply profess to hate us. These are groups and individuals with American blood on their hands.

However, the United States continues to give billions of money to Pakistan.

Frankly, Pakistan has been playing both sides on the war on terror. Pakistan openly supported the Taliban both before and after they came to power in Afghanistan. They provided the radical extremists with cover, cash, and weapons to conduct attacks. Senior Taliban leaders still live in Pakistan to this day. They are not all hiding in remote caves in the mountains far from the eyes of Pakistani officials. Some of these terrorist leaders are known to live in Pakistan's capital, Islamabad. It came as no surprise that the leader of the Afghan Taliban was killed by a U.S. drone strike while in Pakistan in May.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, the worldwide Taliban headquarters is . . . in the Pakistan city of Quetta.

Pakistan is not America's trustworthy ally.

There is more. The Pakistan Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) Agency fosters close, cozy ties with the Taliban leaders, directly assisting them to carry out a terrorist agenda approved by Islamabad. Documents leaked in 2010 revealed direct meetings between the ISI and the Taliban to organize and orchestrate attacks on American soldiers in Afghanistan. Pakistan's security services also maintain illegal ties to the Haqqani network, a rabid criminal terrorist syndicate that has claimed responsibility for numerous bloody attacks against American and NATO forces.

Admiral Mike Mullen, the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, testified in 2011 that Pakistan supported many Haqqani network attacks in Afghanistan, including an assault on the U.S. Embassy. Admiral Mullen even called the Haqqani network "the veritable arm of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence Agency." Five years later, little has changed. This summer, the Department of Defense announced that it could not certify that Pakistan has taken action against the Haqqani network. Therefore, Pakistan lost hundreds of millions of dollars of U.S. aid.

Pakistan is not America's trustworthy ally.

Yet another terrorist group protected by the ISI is Lashkar-e-Taiba, the perpetrators of the 2008 Mumbai, India massacre. This murderous rampage claimed the lives of 166 individuals and left over 600 wounded. This group arrogantly operates freely within Pakistan. Its founder Hafiz Muhammad Saeed is an open public figure in the country despite a \$10 million dollar U.S. bounty on his head. Pakistan has even maintained contact with the perpetrators of the most devastating attacks on our homeland, al-Qaeda. In fact, in 1998 Pakistani nuclear scientists met with senior al-Qaeda leaders to discuss the possibility of the terrorist group developing a nuclear weapon.

Following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 and the invasion of Afghanistan, outlaw leaders of al-Qaeda and the Taliban knew just where to find a hideout—across the border to Pakistan. Home sweet home.

Evidence emerged in 2005 and 2008 that Pakistan's ISI was working hand in hand with al-Qaeda operatives to purchase arms. Further evidence shows the bandit groups moved Arab fighters to fight against Americans trying to bring peace to Afghanistan.

Finally, Pakistan was harboring public enemy Number 1, the coward Osama bin Laden, in a luxurious home near a military compound. American Navy SEALs brought justice upon his head in 2011.

These are well established facts that even the Administration has acknowledged Pakistan's despicable record of combatting terrorism. The most recent edition of the State Department's Country Reports on Terrorism plainly states that Pakistan "did not take substantial action" against terrorist groups nor did it limit their ability to attack U.S. interests in neighboring Afghanistan. It details the ongoing capabilities of terrorist groups to "operate, train, organize, and fundraise in Pakistan."

Pakistan is not America's trustworthy ally.

In spite of this overwhelming evidence, the State Department still perversely and blissfully maintains that Pakistan is a "critical counterterrorism partner." This simply does not make sense. The American people demand an explanation. Is Pakistan a friend or a foe in the fight against terrorism?

My bill, the Pakistan State Sponsor of Terrorism Designation Act of 2016, will require the Administration to answer this question. The President must issue a report in 90 days detailing whether or not Pakistan has provided support for international terrorism. Thirty days later, the Secretary of State must issue a follow-up report containing either a determination that Pakistan is state sponsor of terrorism or a detailed justification as to why Islamabad does not meet the legal criteria for designation.

A day of reckoning has arrived. Fifteen years after September 11, 2001, we have more than enough evidence to determine whose side Pakistan is on. And it's not America's.

And that's just the way it is.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
ROUND ROCK WOMAN'S CLUB

**HON. JOHN R. CARTER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Round Rock Woman's Club. Since its inception, the RRWC has been heavily involved in the Round Rock community. From beautifying downtown Round Rock to hosting their Soup and Bread fundraiser which brings in over 800 people each year, these committed public servants know how to bring the community together.

Founded in 1966, the Woman's Club has exemplified the strength of community that Round Rock so proudly boasts. Their Soup and Bread luncheon and silent auction allows the Woman's Club to donate thousands of dollars to various charities in not only Round Rock but also throughout all of Williamson County. The Woman's Club also awards two \$1,000 academic and community service scholarships each year to carefully selected students at Round Rock High School's Sub-Junior RRWC Club, also known as the Sweethearts.

The purpose of the Round Rock Woman's Club is to further any interests that enrich women's lives as well as remain actively en-

gaged in community participation and service, and they do a great job at that. I am proud to say that these ladies represent the core values of the great city of Round Rock and am especially proud of the remarkable work they have done for us. Happy 50th birthday ladies and here's to 50 more.

CELEBRATING EAST PENN MANUFACTURING'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. CHARLES W. DENT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to join with my colleague from Pennsylvania, Representative RYAN COSTELLO, to recognize the 70th Anniversary of East Penn Manufacturing, a family-owned business located in Lyons, Pennsylvania that exemplifies the American spirit of hard work and ingenuity.

As veterans returned home at the end of World War II, they were looking for reliable and affordable car batteries. DeLight Breidegam Jr., an Air Force veteran, and his father, DeLight Sr., responded to the growing demand for batteries in 1946 by starting a business to collect and rebuild old batteries.

The following year, in 1947, Karl Gasche joined the Breidegams and was named the company's Vice President. Gasche was an engineering graduate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and as modern materials became more available after the war, he designed a line of new batteries for the company. This line, which was named "Deka," is now one of the best known battery lines in America.

East Penn has shown an exemplary commitment to environmental stewardship during the past seven decades. That commitment has been ingrained in the company's identity and operations since day one through an extremely successful battery-recycling initiative. Today, East Penn recycles approximately 30,000 batteries per day. Furthermore, East Penn is making advances in emerging technologies, such as hybrid electric vehicles and smart grid services, which help to conserve energy and protect our environment.

Since its inception 70 years ago, East Penn has grown to become one of the world's leading battery manufacturers with more than 8,000 employees and 450 product designs. Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to offer our congratulations to the talented and hard-working employees at East Penn Manufacturing, as well as the entire Breidegam family, as they celebrate 70 years of success and innovation in the Berks County area and beyond. May they enjoy continued prosperity.

S. CON. RES. 46

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. Con. Res. 46, Expressing support for the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust victims live with dignity, comfort, and security

in their remaining years, and urging the Federal Republic of Germany to continue to reaffirm its commitment to comprehensively address the unique health and welfare needs of vulnerable Holocaust victims, including home care and other medically prescribed needs.

The Holocaust resulted in the murder of two-thirds of the Jewish population in Europe at the time of World War II.

In addition to this, more Jewish people fled in the face of extermination and left behind friends, personal items, homes, and much more in the effort to preserve their own lives.

To this day, there are approximately 500,000 Holocaust victims still alive around the world with 100,000 Holocaust victims currently living in the United States.

Of this large number of Holocaust survivors, tens of thousands are 80 years or older and 50 percent will pass away within the next decade while the living victims will experience increased health needs as they become frailer.

Even if age were not a factor, many Holocaust victims still alive suffer from permanent and psychological disabilities and live with emotional scars from the systematic genocide of the Jewish people.

Furthermore, Holocaust survivors often experience trauma when their emotional and physical circumstances force them to leave their homes and enter into either institutional or other group living residential facilities, and the emotional and psychological scars are heightened in the elder age of these Holocaust victims.

Many Holocaust victims are currently living below the poverty line and cannot afford basic necessities such as healthcare, food, transportation and other needs so that they may live their remaining time in comfort and dignity.

The government often steps in to assist with these Holocaust victims given that many lack family support networks and therefore require additional support of social services.

Additionally, the spokesperson for Chancellor Angela Merkel has stated that Germany accepts full responsibility for the Holocaust and effects thereof.

Germany has also acknowledged that the support and funds they have been providing are insufficient to these increased needs of the Holocaust victims, and Germany agrees that resources and support must be expanded to meet these needs.

These Holocaust victims have suffered enough, and it is the moral and historical responsibility of Germany to comprehensively, permanently, and urgently provide support and resources for medical, mental health, and long-term care needs of all Holocaust victims.

Because of this, we stand in support of working to ensure that all Holocaust victims in the United States and around the world are able to live in dignity, comfort, and security throughout their remaining years.

TRIBUTE TO  
FLORIDACHARACTER.ORG

**HON. DAVID W. JOLLY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize FloridaCharacter.org for promoting morality in schools, families, communities and workplaces throughout our community.

FloridaCharacter.org helps young people everywhere strive to be ethical and engaged citizens irrespective of their backgrounds. They are a nonprofit organization that works with districts, schools and other organizations to help foster a culture where young people thrive both academically and morally. They provide the necessary resources for educators, community activists, workplaces, and parents to create a productive environment.

Due to the extraordinary success of their model, FloridaCharacter.org provides tutorials to organizations across the world who wish to institute similar values in their communities. This template is named "The 11 Principles of Effective Character Education" which appropriately sums up their philosophy on character education. FloridaCharacter.org also helps people exchange ideas and resources through a network of organizations, schools, and individuals while discussing potentially beneficial approaches to further their work.

I would like to thank FloridaCharacter.org for being such an outstanding organization that works to encourage integral values such as honesty and respect, in parallel to an exemplary education. I thank FloridaCharacter.org for their passion and exceptional work, and ask that this body join me in recognizing them as well.

TRIBUTE TO GUTHRIE COUNTY  
STATE BANK

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a great Iowa business, Guthrie County State Bank of Guthrie Center, Iowa as they celebrate their 85th anniversary.

Founded on October 17, 1931, Guthrie County State Bank (GCSB) has grown from one bank location to a banking group that has branched out to realty, investment and abstracts. Its focus has never wavered from customer service and providing community service in Guthrie County.

Mr. Speaker, over the last 85 years GCSB has left an indelible mark on the banking industry and Guthrie County, Iowa. I commend Guthrie County State Bank and their employees for a job well done. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in honoring Guthrie County State Bank for its unwavering commitment to agriculture and the state of Iowa. I wish Guthrie County State Bank and their employees nothing but continued success in their future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING DAVID A.  
HINDIN ON BECOMING A 2016  
SAMMIES FINALIST

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize David Hindin on being selected as a 2016 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America

Medals finalist. This honor is one shared with a select group of other federal employees who have achieved excellence in their work. Mr. Hindin has earned this recognition through imparting his passion and commitment to improving regulatory compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance.

Through using modern technology and practical policies, Mr. Hindin has helped to increase regulatory compliance with EPA regulations, keeping our air and waterways clean. Mr. Hindin recognizes the need not merely for regulation, but also for compliance with existing policies. By holding industries accountable for their actions and improving transparency, Mr. Hindin and his office have encouraged companies to reduce the amount of pollution that they produce. The application of these cutting edge tools and ideas has distinguished Mr. Hindin in his field.

Mr. Hindin's hard work, perseverance, and excellence are exemplified in his receipt of this honor. We need to encourage more federal employees like Mr. Hindin who work hard and dedicate their lives to helping the environment. I look forward to Mr. Hindin's continued success and innovation in his work.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to highlight the importance of this recognition and what it represents for Mr. Hindin and our district. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Hindin on being a 2016 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals finalist. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE ARC LOS ANGELES  
AND ORANGE COUNTIES

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The Arc Los Angeles and Orange Counties (The Arc LAOC) on its 60th anniversary, which is being celebrated on September 24th. Thanks to its advocacy and its array of services, intellectually and developmentally disabled individuals in my district have found new opportunities to participate in community life. I salute this dynamic organization, and all those it serves, on 60 years of hard work, progress, and triumph.

The Arc LAOC has a rich legacy of promoting self-determination, dignity, and a high quality of life for all individuals. It was founded in 1956 by a handful of dedicated and resourceful parents seeking educational and employment opportunities for their sons and daughters. Today, its programs and services assist more than 200 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. With the organization's help, these individuals set and accomplish goals relating to learning, living, working, and socializing.

The past decade has been a time of substantial growth for The Arc LAOC. Its latest addition, the Community Integrated Training Program (CIT), offers opportunities in the arts, culture education, hobby development, and community experiences to participants aged 22 to 49. Other developments have included the October 2014 opening of the Just-A-Buck

store in Long Beach, and the renovation of Downey's Reagan Banquet and Conference Center, named in loving memory of Bennie and Annie Reagan.

The organization marked another milestone this past March, when it celebrated its 20th Annual Arc Walk for Independence. The Walk is a yearly opportunity for thousands of people from surrounding communities to gather in support of independence for individuals with developmental disabilities.

I hope my colleagues will join me in celebrating the 60th anniversary of The Arc Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Its decades-long record of service and success is a powerful reminder that wonderful things can happen when we offer help and hope to our fellow Americans. Thanks to its strong partnerships with local agencies, leaders, and businesses, I have no doubt that it will continue to evolve as a leading community organization.

CULVER CITY CENTENNIAL  
CELEBRATION

**HON. KAREN BASS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, the City of Culver City kicks off a year of festivities this Saturday that will culminate in celebration of the 100th anniversary of its incorporation on September 20, 1917. Real estate developer and promoter Harry Culver saw a huge opportunity in the former Rancho La Ballona, and bought 93 acres of barley fields nestled at the foot of the Baldwin Hills. His plot was conveniently located at the junction of three major transportation routes on the Pacific Red Car as they traveled between burgeoning downtown Los Angeles and the new resort developments at the beach, and early advertising claimed that "all roads lead to Culver City."

The city seal proclaims Culver City "The Heart of Screenland," and many movies attributed to Hollywood were actually filmed there, going all the way back to the Triangle Motion Picture Company in 1915, Thomas Ince Studio in 1918, and Hal Roach Studios in 1919.

Over the years, those same movie lots have been home to Metro-Goldwin-Mayer, DeMille Studios, RKO-Pathé, Desilu and other well-known production companies. Sony Pictures Studios, among others, now carries on the tradition of over a century of continuous movie-making.

In addition to film and television business, Culver City has played host to a variety of industries and entrepreneurs, whose products ranged from stoves to macaroni in the early years, to the famous Helms Bakery, whose former home still attracts business as a design hub. Howard Hughes opened Hughes Aircraft there in 1941, and the city is currently home to many thriving enterprises, including Symantec, Beats by Dre, NFL Media and NPR West.

Culver City's residents are justifiably proud of their schools, parks, museums and theatres, and their small-town feel within the metropolis of Los Angeles. Economically prosperous, environmentally conscious, education-minded and civically engaged, the people of Culver City have much to celebrate. I would like to wish all the best to Mayor Jim Clarke

and the other members of the City Council, to the city's staff, and to its entire population as they embark on the city's next century.

TRIBUTE TO RAY MABBITT

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Ray Mabbitt of Council Bluffs, Iowa on his recent retirement as a Captain with the Council Bluffs Police Department after 33 years of service. He joined the Council Bluffs Police Department on January 24, 1983.

Ray Mabbitt served as a uniform patrolman, detective, polygraph examiner, internal affairs, and officer in the criminal investigation units. He also served as the interim police chief after the retirement of Police Chief Ralph O'Donnell. Ray said, "Joining the police force was something I had wanted to do since high school." He said he enjoyed coming to work every day because he always did something different. Ray said that he will miss his co-workers and city residents who have shown their support for him and the police department.

Mr. Speaker, Ray Mabbitt made a difference by helping and serving others. It is with great honor that I recognize him today. I know that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives will join me in recognizing his accomplishments. I thank him for his service to the City of Council Bluffs and wish him all the best in the future.

H.R. 3471, THE VETERANS  
MOBILITY SAFETY ACT

**HON. VERN BUCHANAN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concerns about certain aspects of the Veterans Mobility Safety Act (H.R. 3471) as reported from the Veterans Affairs Committee. Thousands of disabled veterans each month are provided exterior vehicle lifts for their motorized scooters or wheelchairs and/or fully modified vehicles, depending on the degree of their mobility limitations. These serve as essential tools to ensuring that veterans have the freedom they deserve and help them live their lives to the fullest. While it is important to ensure that vehicles are operating safely after they receive VA-funded accessibility benefits, this legislation, which creates a new regulatory regime for the VA to implement, would benefit from some minor improvements.

I am pleased that the Veterans Affairs Committee stated that in approving this legislation, Congress intends for the VA to preserve access to residential installations and service of exterior vehicle lifts, which is essential for our veterans. Veterans with limited mobility, as opposed to no mobility, often have an exterior lift installed on their vehicles via a standard trailer hitch that allows for the transport of a scooter or power wheelchair. Currently, the vast ma-

jority of these lifts are installed in the driveway of the veteran's home in as little as 30 minutes, as opposed to an equipment dealer's place of business, which is far more convenient for veterans and their families. These simple modifications significantly differ from modifications to the structure or controls of a vehicle, which are not done at a veteran's home and can take days or even weeks.

And while the bill would permit manufacturers of vehicle lifts to continue to certify dealers and their employees as compliant with safety requirements, I would like to have seen a more robust conflict of interest provision related to the use of a third party certification organization for the new safety standards. The bill should also have explained more clearly how the new regulatory regime should differentiate between simple modifications, such as the addition of an exterior lift, and complex modifications, which affect the structure and/or operation of the vehicle. These simple changes to the bill could increase veterans' safety while ensuring against unintended consequences that could limit choices and access for our veterans.

H.R. 3471 authorizes the VA to allow third party organizations (other than manufacturers) to certify that vendors are meeting the standards created by this bill but only instructs VA to "minimize" conflicts of interest. I am troubled because even a "minimal" conflict of interest could give segments of the automotive adaptive market a competitive advantage. I am particularly concerned that a trade group, which is dominated by and representative of a fraction of the industry, is seeking to become a certifying organization and could be in a position to certify (or not) the competitors of its members. Accordingly, I am pleased that the Committee Report notes that Congress "expects VA to take all appropriate steps to minimize the potential for conflicts of interest, particularly if a third party organization who stands to unreasonably gain from designating quality standards high enough so that only the organization itself can certify providers of modification equipment is selected as a certifying body."

NATIONAL DAY OF TAIWAN

**HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the upcoming National Day of Taiwan, which falls on October 10, and is referred to on Taiwan as Double Ten Day. I extend my best wishes to the people of Taiwan as they prepare for this important day, and also offer my best wishes for the day itself.

As a Member of Congress, I am proud of the actions we have taken through the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) and the Six Assurances in helping to make it possible for the people of Taiwan to build the strong, prosperous, and democratic society they enjoy today. I would also note the excitement generated by the election of the first woman to the Taiwan's presidency, whom I had the honor of meeting recently. Our bilateral relationship is as strong as ever, and I am confident it will continue to be in the years to come under President Tsai's leadership.



In May Congress passed H. Con. Res. 88, reaffirming the TRA and the Six Assurances as the linchpin of our relationship and earlier in the 114th Congress, the House passed legislation regarding Taiwan's participation at the World Health Assembly and INTERPOL. With the passage of H. Con. Res. 88, the people of Taiwan may be assured that Congress will continue to develop and grow our prosperous relationship.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in a message of continuing friendship to the people of Taiwan, and in wishing them a Happy Double Ten Day.

IN HONOR OF LOUDOUN FIRST  
RESPONDERS

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the tremendous work of some of my constituents at the Loudoun First Responders. The Loudoun First Responders exemplify the very best of the traditions of public service to their community. Their dedication to a high standard of conduct allows them to remain fearless while making a positive impact in the lives of their neighbors.

Becoming a First Responder takes unwavering devotion. The Loudoun First Responders answer the calls of their neighbors in need with a limited amount of equipment, all while providing efficient and immediate care to ill and injured patients. These individuals are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, and the environment. They constantly adapt to function in uncommon situations in order to keep my constituents safe.

Within the Loudoun First Responders, the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office, the Leesburg Police Department, the Middleburg Police Department, the Purcellville Police Department, the Department of Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Management, our healthcare providers, as well as 16 volunteer fire-rescue corporations operating out of 19 stations all work tirelessly to protect our citizens. These individuals' dedication and skills greatly impact the community in which they serve. We readily commend them for their hard work and sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, I now ask that my colleagues join me in thanking the Loudoun First Responders for the outstanding service they have provided, and continue to provide, to our great Commonwealth. I wish them the best as they continue to serve and protect all in Virginia's 10th Congressional District.

TRIBUTE TO JOYCE AND DEAN  
OLSON

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Joyce and Dean Olson of Minden, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on July 16, 1966 at the United Church of Christ in Minden, Iowa.

Joyce and Dean's lifelong commitment to each other and their children, Bonnie, Pam, and Dee, and six grandchildren, truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

OGDENSBURG INTERNATIONAL  
AIRPORT GRAND OPENING

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the Ogdensburg International Airport located in St. Lawrence County, New York. The airport is owned by the Ogdensburg Bridge & Port Authority and has undergone a major expansion project.

The sizeable expansion of the Ogdensburg International Airport is impressive in its scope and the time within which the project was completed. The runway of the airport has been extended to accommodate larger planes, and the terminal and parking lot have been modernized and expanded for increased use and traffic. These additions and improvements have allowed the Ogdensburg International Airport to partner with new airlines and offer additional flights, and will strengthen both the direct and indirect economic impact of the facility on the community.

This expansion project will enable airlines partnering with the Ogdensburg International Airport to offer low cost airfare, making travel to the North Country easier and more convenient. It is my hope that this airport will act as a signal to investors, both in and out of the area, that Ogdensburg can support growing industries and expanding businesses. These improvements will provide returns on investments for the future, and will help establish a North Country presence beyond upstate New York.

Congratulations to St. Lawrence County, the City of Ogdensburg, the Ogdensburg Bridge & Port Authority, and the Ogdensburg International Airport. I wish you all the best for continued success in the future.

US-UK TRADE

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in the days leading up to the Brexit referendum, the President told our friend, Britain that if they were to leave the European Union, they would end up at the "back of the queue" for a trade deal. What an absurd statement to make to our most important ally. Throughout history we have worked side by side with the U.K. to

overcome global crises. After the disastrous foreign policy for the last eight years, America has few true friends left in this world. A free trade agreement between the U.S. and the U.K. should not be at the back of the line, but at the front.

The U.S. and Britain share a common heritage and values. We also have a deep and longstanding trade relationship grounded in our complimentary economies. The U.S. exported over \$76 billion in planes, helicopters, spacecraft, and aircraft parts to the U.K. in 2014. Our inability to work towards a trade agreement with the U.K. will negatively affect more than 40 Aerospace companies in Texas alone. We are Britain's most important trading partner. The U.S. imports over \$56 billion in goods every year from Britain and 20 percent of our exports bound for the EU end up in the U.K. market. We are also a major investor in the British economy, with U.S. foreign direct investment nearing \$588 billion in 2014. Unlike the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), a trade deal with the U.K. would be simple to broker. It could be as easy as expanding NAFTA to include the U.K., or creating a new model for more simplified trade agreements with individual countries in the future. A trade agreement with the U.K. would not only deepen our close friendship, but would also chip away at non-tariff regulatory barriers that are being built around the European Union, such as the different requirements for testing the safety of cars and drugs. A more streamlined and efficient trading relationship would reap benefits for both Washington and London.

Britain's exit from the EU should be looked at as an American opportunity. The prospect of a bilateral U.S.-U.K. trade agreement is exciting; such an agreement would promote economic freedom, champion national sovereignty, and create a new model for other bilateral trade agreements.

We have entered a strange time in politics—one in which free trade has never been more unpopular. Brexit presents a unique opportunity to demonstrate the positive impacts of free trade with one of our closest allies. We have already seen what can happen to global markets if the U.K. appears isolated: in the wake of the Brexit referendum the British pound plummeted by 7.6 percent against the dollar. Britain's continued seclusion will only cause more harm than good for the rest of us. And it doesn't end there. Economic disaster in London will translate into a reassessment of military and diplomatic relations in Washington. For the Administration to ignore both these risks and opportunities is a disservice to both our interests and those of our friends across the pond.

And that's just the way it is.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF THE U.S. DIS-  
TRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN  
DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California. Fifty years ago on September 18, the

Eastern District of California opened its doors to serve the people of counties across California, including those who live in my hometown of Sacramento. Over the last half-century, the judges, attorneys, and staff of the Eastern District have worked tirelessly to ensure that justice is served, that cases are adjudicated efficiently and fairly, and that the law is respected and upheld.

Throughout its history, the Eastern District of California has been fortunate in the quality of its leadership. Judge Myron D. Crocker served as the District's first Chief Judge, followed closely thereafter by Judge Thomas J. MacBride. Judge MacBride served in that capacity for eleven years, making him the longest-serving Chief Judge in the history of the Eastern District. Judge Philip C. Wilkins followed Judge MacBride as Chief Judge in 1979, and was in turn succeeded as Chief by Judge Lawrence Karlton in 1983. In 1990, Judge Robert E. Coyle became the court's fifth Chief. His term ended in 1996, when the duties of Chief were assumed by Judge William B. Shubb. Judge Shubb remains on the bench as a Senior District Judge to this day. He was succeeded as Chief by Judge David F. Levi, who held the post for four years until resigning his commission to train the next generation of legal minds as Dean of Duke University School of Law. Judge Garland E. Burrell served as Chief from 2007 to 2008, when he was succeeded by Judge Anthony W. Ishii. After Judge Ishii's tenure as Chief concluded in 2012, Judge Morrison C. England, Jr. assumed the reins of the District Court's leadership. The current Chief Judge of the Eastern District is Judge Lawrence J. O'Neill.

The Eastern District of California has, from its inception, been one of the hardest-working district courts in the United States. Today, the court has the heaviest weighted caseload in the Ninth Circuit. The fact that the Eastern District's docket carries more cases than most other courts in the country means that the judges, attorneys, staff, and volunteers of California's Eastern District are some of the most dedicated and effective people in our country's entire judicial system. I am proud to represent so many who do the critically important day-to-day work of adjudicating cases, dispensing justice, and upholding the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Eastern District of California on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF  
PAM HILLERY

**HON. RYAN K. ZINKE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. ZINKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Pam Hillery of Havre, Montana. After a four-year battle with Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS), Pam passed away peacefully in the presence of her family late Wednesday night, September 15, 2016. This was a profound loss, not only for Havre, but for all of Montana.

I was truly saddened to hear the news Thursday morning. I only had the privilege of meeting Pam and her husband Paul once, but they left a lasting impression on me and my

staff. Last year, Paul and Pam made the long trek from Havre to Washington to advocate for legislation that would prioritize finding cures for chronic diseases like ALS. At the time, the House was still crafting and debating a solution. I remember kneeling down next to Pam and listening to her story. Despite being bound to a wheelchair, her passion and dedication were truly inspirational. She knew her fate, but was still striving for a better future with those afflicted with this terrible disease. In Pam's own words, "I'm not hopeful, but I'm not hopeless." It was this fervent spirit that led me to cosponsor and help pass the 21st Century Cures legislation in the House of Representatives.

While I only knew Pam for a short time, it became immediately and abundantly clear why her passing is such a loss to Havre, Montana, and our nation. Her honest passion had the ability to inspire people to action. The town of Havre knows this better than anyone else. Pam epitomized what it means to be an active participant within the local community. She served on the Havre City Council for nine years, even after being confined to a wheelchair and losing her ability to speak. She was politically active, fighting for the causes close to her heart. From Missoula to Helena, she was constantly in motion no matter what it took. Most importantly, she was a loving and dedicated mother and wife to her children and husband. Pam leaves behind her husband Paul and children Caroline and Dolan. To each of them, you have mine and Lola's sincerest condolences.

Mr. Speaker, although Pam is no longer with us, I call upon this Congress to commemorate her lasting impact. Whether serving her community as part of the Havre City Council or navigating the halls of Congress for causes close to her heart, she made a positive impression at every single turn. She will be sorely missed by us all.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,520,012,359,884.18. We've added \$8,893,135,310,971.10 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

TRIBUTE TO SHANNON SMITH

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shannon Smith for being honored as Iowa's Adviser of the Year for the Future Business Leaders of America. She is a business instructor at Creston High School in Creston, Iowa.

Future Business Leaders of America helps over 230,000 members prepare for careers in business and related fields. Its mission is to bring business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs. Ms. Smith was nominated by her students and recognized with this award at the 2016 National Leadership Conference.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in commending Shannon Smith for her service as a teacher to students at Creston High School and congratulate her on this award. It is an honor to represent Shannon in Congress, and I wish her nothing but the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE SUNY PLATTSBURGH  
UPWARD BOUND 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 50th anniversary of the State University of New York at Plattsburgh's Upward Bound Program. Upward Bound prepares high school students for success in college and professional careers. Since its founding in 1966, nearly 1500 students in the Plattsburgh area have completed the program.

Through Upward Bound, high school students are afforded the opportunity to attend career fairs, shadow jobs, and complete internships. Each year, participants of the SUNY Plattsburgh Upward Bound Program provide over 6,000 hours of community outreach in Plattsburgh. This specific Upward Bound Program gives students the incredibly unique opportunity to take part in leadership experiences such as ocean classroom sailing, Adirondack wilderness trips, and participation in the National Leadership Congress.

SUNY Plattsburgh's Upward Bound is one of the oldest Upward Bound Programs in the country. In the past fifty years, over eighty percent of Upward Bound Alumni across the United States have pursued secondary education immediately after high school graduation and more than fifty percent of those students have been able to complete their post-secondary education.

Upward Bound Plattsburgh offers programming throughout the school year and during the summer as well, encouraging students to participate with their families. During the school year, the program offers college visits and bi-weekly counseling sessions, while in the summer, more than 45 classes are offered daily, covering every subject from math to history, foreign languages and the sciences. In addition to these classes, cultural experiences and leadership opportunities are offered every week.

The SUNY Plattsburgh Upward Bound Program has done a tremendous job of empowering and uplifting high school students since its founding in 1966. I want to wish its teachers, administrators, students, and alumni continued success in the future.

CELEBRATING THE NATIONAL DAY OF TAIWAN

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, I would like to take this chance to celebrate the National Day of Taiwan.

Taiwan has and continues to be a staunch ally of the United States, one who shares our common values of freedom, human rights, and civil society. I have personally had the privilege of visiting Taiwan and have seen, first hand, its proud democracy and strong economy.

As a part of their push for global integration, Taiwan has been seeking inclusion into international organizations. My colleagues and I understand the need for Taiwan to be a part of the global conversation and have passed legislation to help Taiwan receive observer status in international organizations such as: the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol).

I am pleased that for the last eight years, the World Health Assembly has continued to include Taiwan. Taiwanese experts have taken this opportunity to share their experiences with their counterparts from other countries around the world and they continue to make contributions to the global health network.

As a key aviation hub in East Asia, I would encourage the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to utilize Taiwan's expertise. Close to fifty eight million people each year enter, leave, or pass through the Taipei Flight Information Region. In addition, Taiwan is connected to over 100 cities around the world with hundreds of air-passenger and air-freight routes. In 2013, Taiwan was invited to attend the triennial ICAO assembly as a guest of the ICAO chair of the Executive Committee. It would be beneficial to Taiwan and the international for Taiwan to be included in ICAO meetings.

As Taiwan's National Day approaches, I would like to encourage the ICAO to welcome Taiwan's meaningful participation in its Assembly this month, and I hope that we as a Congress continue to incorporate the Taiwanese into the global network.

IN RECOGNITION OF  
LOVETTSVILLE ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL BEING NAMED ONE OF  
AMERICA'S HEALTHIEST  
SCHOOLS

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge Lovettsville Elementary School on being named one of America's Healthiest Schools. Lovettsville Elementary has shown dedication to getting its students active and promoting a fit and healthy lifestyle.

Lovettsville Elementary was awarded a silver medal by the Alliance for a Healthier Gen-

eration. This honor requires schools to meet stringent guidelines for serving healthier meals, pushing students to become active, offering physical and nutritional education, as well as empowering school leaders to become healthy role models. Students who attend healthy schools perform better academically, and have overall better attendance and attitudes towards school. Each of the students at this Lovettsville Elementary was challenged to live a healthier lifestyle over the course of the school year and the results were remarkable. In addition to the silver medal from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation, Lovettsville Elementary also received an Active Schools National Award from Let's Move.

Coming from a family of educators, I understand how important a strong education is to the future of our nation. It is schools like Lovettsville Elementary that will continue to help shape the United States' role in the evolving global economy, while at the same time producing many of our nation's future leaders. Lovettsville Elementary School has clearly shown that it cares about developing our children and has given them the tools to succeed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Lovettsville Elementary School for this achievement. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR MORRISSEY ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mayor Larry Morrissey as he leaves office after 12 years of service to the great people of Rockford, Illinois.

Larry Morrissey began his career after winning an ambitious campaign for mayor in 2005. During his past three terms, he's brought people together to fight for Rockford's future and move our community in a positive direction. Mayor Morrissey's commitment to improving lives all across Rockford can clearly be seen through his many accomplishments.

Through his leadership, Rockford was the first city in the nation to reach a functional zero for veteran homelessness. Mayor Morrissey also realized that a strong infrastructure was necessary for a strong economy, and made necessary investments in Rockford's roads, bridges and water infrastructure. Perhaps most importantly, he was committed to creating a promising future for Rockford's kids—and brought together community organizations to advocate for school improvements and impactful educational programs.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Mayor Morrissey's tireless dedication to the people of Rockford. I wish him the best in his future endeavors and thank him for his invaluable service to our region.

H. RES. 660

**HON. ADAM KINZINGER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution. Eight years ago this summer, Russia violated the sovereignty of our key ally in the Caucasus: the Republic of Georgia.

It seems that nothing has changed with Russian behavior as South Ossetia and Abkhazia are still under Russian occupation as a result of its military aggression. As we are seeing around other areas of Eastern Europe, particularly Ukraine, there is no end to the belligerence of Vladimir Putin.

The development of Georgian democracy has served as a powerful example to the region and has drawn a stark contrast with a revanchist and increasingly authoritarian Russia.

It is critical that the United States continues to stand with its democratic allies in the region in order to thwart further aggression from a ruthless dictator like Putin.

That's why Congress must send this strong message: we will never recognize the occupation of Georgia and we will continue to urge Russia to immediately withdraw from South Ossetia and Abkhazia.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be a cosponsor of this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this important resolution.

RECOGNIZING DEPUTY LARRY RAYBURN

**HON. RODNEY DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Deputy Larry Rayburn, a deputy who has served for more than seven years in the Macoupin County Sheriff's Department. Deputy Rayburn's quick and heroic actions earlier this summer literally saved a life.

Early in the morning of May 27, Deputy Rayburn responded to a call at Otter Lake Campground that a young man was experiencing an asthma attack. The young man was on a camping trip and found himself without an inhaler.

Deputy Rayburn, who had previously served as an emergency medical technician arrived at the scene 10 minutes after receiving the call from the young man's mother. He concluded that the asthma attack had closed off the young man's airway, and used a plastic airway device from his squad car to reopen it.

The deputy's quick actions helped restore the victim's skin color and allowed him to continue breathing until the local paramedics arrived and were able to put him on a ventilator.

The Macoupin County Sheriff's Department recently awarded Deputy Rayburn with their "Lifesaving Award," and I stand here today to honor him for his courageous actions that morning and to thank him for his service.

TRIBUTE TO JOYCE AND STANLEY  
KOENIG

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Joyce and Stanley Koenig of Council Bluffs, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on April 30, 1966 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs.

Joyce and Stanley's lifelong commitment to each other and their children, Kirk and Lisa, and their grandchildren, truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF ROYALTON BOR-  
OUGH

**HON. CHARLES W. DENT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct privilege and honor to recognize the 125th Anniversary of Royalton Borough, located in the southern portion of Dauphin County in Pennsylvania.

The history of Royalton is extensive and substantial, dating back to several native groups that called the area home, including the Susquehannocks, Conoys, Nanticokes, Conestogas, and the Shawnees. Both Captain John Smith and William Penn explored the area surrounding the Susquehanna River. In 1608, Penn deemed the area to be so impressive that he proposed a city that would eclipse Philadelphia. Unfortunately, the shallow water of the river would prove to be a deterrent from Penn's grandiose plans; however, Port Royal—which would officially be deemed Royalton in September 1891—served as an active and important trading post.

The Pennsylvania Canal would open to public use in 1834, running through Lower Royalton. The canal's opening provided a new transportation option and facilitated trade by providing a route from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, carrying goods such as anthracite coal, salt, and iron. When transportation preferences shifted to rail travel, Royalton also evolved and a large number of residents either worked for the railroad or its associated industries.

Throughout their history, Royalton's residents have consistently demonstrated an unsurpassed resilience and commitment to strengthening and evolving their community together. Today, the borough continues to be made up of hard-working people with a heart for their neighbors and their community.

I ask that the House join me in celebrating with Royalton Borough on the joyous occasion of its 125th Anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH  
PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF  
REV. DAVID N. HARRINGTON

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rev. David N. Harrington of Good Hope Baptist Church in Asbury Park, New Jersey on his 20th pastoral anniversary. Rev. Harrington continues to provide outstanding spiritual leadership to the greater Asbury Park community.

Rev. Harrington received his Masters of Divinity Degree from New Brunswick Theological Seminary. Installed as Pastor of Good Hope Baptist Church on September 15, 1996, Rev. Harrington's background has helped him lead his congregation. Prior to his service to Good Hope Baptist Church, Rev. Harrington was an Associate Minister for three years at St. Paul Baptist Church and was also a member of the Trustee Board. A basketball player at Delaware State University, Rev. Harrington was also President of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

In addition to his service to Good Hope Baptist Church, Rev. Harrington is an active member of his community. As a member of the pastoral staff at Jersey Shore University Medical Center and the Drug Prevention Coordinator for the Long Branch Housing Authority, Rev. Harrington continues to offer guidance and support to the greater community.

Currently residing in Neptune, New Jersey, Rev. Harrington and his wife Cecelia are blessed with two children, a daughter, Ivy and a son, Seth. Rev. Harrington is a graduate of Middletown High School South and earned his undergraduate degree in Business Administration from Delaware State University.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in celebrating the 20th Pastoral Anniversary of Rev. David N. Harrington. His leadership, service and dedication to the church and community are truly deserving of this body's recognition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed a vote during a vote series on September 14, 2016. Had I recorded my vote, I would have voted:

“No” on roll call no. 510, on the passage of the Regulatory Integrity Act of 2016 (H.R. 5226).

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 295—TO REAUTHORIZE THE HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 295, to Reauthorize the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation Program.

H.R. 295 would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million annually from 2017 through 2023 for the Historic Preservation Fund to provide aids for the restoration and preservation of historic structures at Historical Black Colleges (HBCUs).

As a member of the Bipartisan Congressional HBCU Caucus which promotes and protects the interest of HBCUs by: creating a national dialogue, educating Members of Congress and their staffs about the issues impacting HBCUs, drafting meaningful bipartisan legislation to address the needs of HBCUs, and supporting students and graduates of HBCUs by increasing access and career opportunities.

The Historically Black Colleges and Universities Preservation Program works to preserve, and stabilize historic structures on HBCU campuses through projects such as structural stabilization, repairing damaged masonry, replacing antiquated electrical and plumbing systems, abating environmental hazards such as asbestos, repairing termite damage, fixing leaking roofs.

Too much of the history of African Americans has been lost due to it not being considered important enough to note by historians outside of the community, and the fact that much of it is held in the records of black churches that may have been destroyed by arson.

This is why the HBCU preservation project is so important.

Since 2009, no funds have been appropriated for this program to support the preservation and stabilization of HBCU structures.

Just as I have supported previous efforts to preserve and repair HBCUs, I also support this measure to reauthorize the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation program.

I stand with and thank my colleague Representative JAMES CLYBURN for the introduction on this important bill, which encapsulates the sentiments I have about the importance of Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

I am proud to count Texas Southern University as an institution within my constituency, a great HBCU—located in my Houston, Texas Congressional District.

Texas Southern University has a rich history with nine academic units, 1,000 dedicated staff members, and over 9,200 esteemed students.

I have continuously partnered with Texas Southern University (TSU) to promote education opportunities and collaborate on community projects.

I led the initiative to get more than \$13 million in Financial Aid Relief for the students and campus of Texas Southern University.

I continue to keep the TSU university community informed about major issues impacting

citizens within the 18th congressional district and throughout the U.S.

For example, I initiated the digitization projects for former U.S. Members of Congress Barbara Jordan and Mickey Leland, both of whom have permanent archives at Texas Southern University.

I helped established the Barbara Jordan Medallion to be awarded each year at a ceremony held at Texas Southern University to an individual who advocates for the community.

I also assisted with the establishment of several scholarship Endowments at Texas Southern University.

I created a partnership with Comcast at TSU's School of Communication, which offers scholarships, internships and in-kind marketing.

I established the Center for Transportation, Training and Research in TSU's College of Science, Engineering, and Technology.

HBCUs have worked diligently to be where they are today.

Martin Luther King once said,

The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.

Since the 1980s and continuing for more than 25 years, the National Park Service has awarded over \$40 million in matching grants and \$15 million in earmarked grants to more than 80 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to assist them in repairing historic buildings on their campuses.

On September 18, 2009, former Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced the 20 HBCUs that were the beneficiaries of historic preservation grants aimed at providing assistance in the repair of historic buildings on their campuses.

President Barack Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to jumpstart our economy, create or save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can thrive in the 21st century.

Included in this act was \$15 million that was competitively awarded to HBCUs for the preservation of campus buildings listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

HBCUs do not just educate—HBCUs have and will continue to fill an important role in education opportunity and engagement for millions of young people from diverse backgrounds.

I ask my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 295, to support Reauthorization of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation Program.

275TH ANNIVERSARY OF UPPER HANOVER TOWNSHIP

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, Upper Hanover Township is celebrating an important date this year—the 275th anniversary of its establishment as a township in Montgomery County. As part of the original William Penn Land Grant, this southeastern Pennsylvania community, once part of the greater Hanover Township, was settled mostly by Germanic

people who left their European homes in search of religious and social freedom—the story of America.

On the anniversary of the township's 275th founding, it is only fitting we recognize the township's heroes who sacrificed to ensure the most precious freedoms, which the township's founders valued and yearned for, would be preserved for future generations of Americans.

Today, Upper Hanover is dedicating military seals in recognition of those individuals who served, sacrificed and sadly, those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Veterans of World War I and II called Upper Hanover home. And, just like their forefathers it was the rich fertile land that attracted them. Their diligent work ethic made agriculture the leading industry in the early period. Centuries later it has grown with many families and residents actively participating in the community, government and business.

I offer my heartiest congratulations to Upper Hanover Township on this milestone year.

WEST LOS ANGELES LEASING ACT OF 2016

**HON. TED LIEU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5936 the West Los Angeles Leasing Act of 2016, which would authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs to enter into leases in order to construct permanent supportive housing on the West Los Angeles VA Medical Center campus. As a member of the Air Force Reserve, I understand the sacrifice our veterans make in service to our country and I'm committed helping them get the services they need.

There is a critical need for long-term supportive housing on the West Los Angeles Campus, and enhanced use leases would allow the Department to work with community and state organizations toward the goal of ending veteran homelessness in Los Angeles. If enacted, this legislation will enable the VA to construct 1,200 units of housing for homeless veterans and offer new robust services on the campus such as vocational training, recreation and spiritual support. The legislation also ensures that all leases on the campus principally benefit Veterans and strengthen the partnership between the VA and leaseholders. The bill allows the VA to renew any lease entered pursuant to these provisions after giving Congress 45 days' notice of the intent to renew.

I want to acknowledge the leadership of VA Secretary Bob McDonald and the tireless work of his team this past year in developing the Master Plan. I also want to thank Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN for her leadership in authoring companion legislation in the U.S. Senate, and House Veterans Affairs' Committee Chairman JEFF MILLER and Acting Ranking Member MARK TAKANO for helping to guide this legislation to passage in the House. I am confident Senator FEINSTEIN will now take this legislation across the finish line in the Senate.

And I especially want to recognize the contributions of vital local stakeholders, including veterans, veterans service organizations, the plaintiff partners, providers, and the commu-

nity for their collaborative effort and unprecedented support this past year. Without this cooperation, the Master Plan and progress on this legislation would not have been possible. Today's actions help us move forward on our unwavering mission to honor the debt we owe our nation's veterans.

IN RECOGNITION OF BARBARA MEIGGS

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Barbara Meiggs, a resident of Hanson, Massachusetts, who will soon be celebrating her 101st birthday, and who is a recipient of the Boston Post Cane, presented to the oldest citizen of a town in a proud New England tradition.

Barbara was born on October 17, 1915 in Brockton, Massachusetts and later moved to Whitman, Massachusetts where she graduated from Whitman High School at 18 years old. Shortly thereafter, she married Carlton Meiggs and was happily married for 67 years. In the intervening years, Barbara and Carlton raised their two sons, Russell and Weston, who in turn grew to have wonderful lives of their own, making her a grandmother and then great-grandmother.

In addition to her accomplishments as a mother, Barbara was a dedicated volunteer in the Jordan Hospital community. First joining the information desk in 1978, and then becoming a fixture in the "Bonnet for every baby" program at Jordan Hospital, Barbara's acts of kindness were often the first to welcome children into the world. For her outstanding service, Barbara was presented an official citation from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1994, and the President's Call to Service Award a decade later.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor what has already been a distinguished and well lived life. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing her life and community service.

IN HONOR OF THE BOSTON LIGHT ON ITS 300TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Boston Light, the first American Aid to Navigation, on its 300th anniversary.

As was originally proclaimed even before our nation's birth:

"Whereas the want of a Lighthouse at the entrance of the harbor of Boston, hath been a great discouragement to Navigation, by the loss of the lives and estates of several of His Majesties subjects," an Act for building and maintaining a lighthouse at the entrance of the harbor of Boston was passed by the Great and General Court or Assembly of His Majesties Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England in 1715 for prevention whereof.

The Boston Light was first lit on September 14, 1716, almost 60 years before the Declaration of Independence was signed.

Since then, the lighthouse has stood a faithful watch over Boston Harbor, helping the City of Boston to become a thriving international port and laying the foundation for the U.S. Coast Guard's Aids to Navigation mission.

Among its many missions as the maritime service responsible for the safety, security, and stewardship of American waterways, Aids to Navigation is the Coast Guard's oldest mission, and that mission started with the Boston Light.

That lone lighthouse on Little Brewster Island gave rise to the world-class system of U.S. Coast Guard Aids to Navigation that includes more than 48,000 buoys, beacons, ranges, sound signals, and electronic aids that safely guide thousands of vessels a day sailing on our nation's 25,000 miles of waterways.

Around the nation, the Coast Guard's system of Aids to Navigation keeps the American economy on course by enabling marine cargo transportation that generated \$4.6 trillion of economic activity and accounted for more than a quarter of the U.S. Gross Domestic Product in 2015.

The Boston Light is also the Coast Guard's only lighthouse that still has a Keeper assigned. For the last 13 years, that has been Sally Snowman, the 70th Boston Light Keeper and the first woman to hold the position in three centuries. This Weymouth, Massachusetts native proudly keeps the light shining today.

Sally is among the more than 2,500 Aids to Navigation Professionals, made up of Active Duty Coast Guardsmen and Coast Guard civilians serving at the U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Area, District, and Sector Waterways Management Offices. In addition, Aids to Navigation professionals are aboard 75 cutters, and at 64 Aids to Navigation Teams across the nation who maintain the Aids to Navigation that save lives, protect property, and enable commerce by ensuring safe, secure, and resilient waterways.

Mr. Speaker, the Boston Light has served our nation well for 300 years and the men and women of the Coast Guard proudly uphold its legacy of light today.

It is my distinct honor to take the floor of the House today to honor the Boston Light on its tri-centennial anniversary and to honor the U.S. Coast Guard personnel who continue to guide our mariners through our vital waterways.

TUESDAY'S IN TEXAS: RICHARD KING

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Richard King is one of the many faces who shaped the ethics of hard work and endurance that define Texan values. He is the founder of King Ranch, but started his career as a river man, steamboat businessman, and later a livestock capitalist. He was born in New York City in 1824 to a poor Irish family. At only nine years old, Richard was indentured to a jeweler. However, he soon escaped as a stowaway on the *Desdemona*, a massive ship headed to Alabama. Once arriving, he spent the majority of his on the Alabama river learning from other

boaters, and by the time he was 16 years old, he was a steamboat pilot.

Richard joined the army in 1842 to fight the Seminole War in Florida, and it is there that he met Mifflin Kenedy, who eventually became a longtime business partner. During the war, Richard King started and commanded the "*Colonel Cross*" to transport troops and supplies down the river. When peace was made, Richard became a partner of M. Kenedy and Company, Mr. Mifflin Kennedy's steamboat company.

But he didn't stop there. Richard began to expand his property, and after years scattered with trials, failures, and finally success, he became a master businessman. This aspiring gentleman's purchases and income grew greater and greater by the day. In several partnerships, he bought land in the Nueces Strip in 1853, when he purchased the 15,500-acre Rincón de Santa Gertrudis grant from the heirs of Juan Mendiola, then 53,000-acre Santa Gertrudis de la Garza grant from José Pérez Rey. These pieces of at first barren land became the birthplace of King Ranch.

With expansions and renovations, this land increased, and by the time of his death in 1885, King had made over sixty major purchases of land and amassed some 614,000 acres. Every good Texan knows of the trails to northern markets and Ft. Worth stock market. Richard sent more than 100,000 livestock up these trails, taking it upon himself to expand the Texas ranching industry.

Richard King was not only a rancher, river man, and businessman, but a man of generosity and service to his country, using his resources as he could in every battle. He symbolizes the heart of the American dream, rising from an indentured servant and runaway boy, to one of the wealthiest and most powerful men of the West.

He died at the Menger Hotel in San Antonio. His last instruction to his lawyer was, "Not to let a foot of dear old Santa Gertrudis get away".

And that is just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO THE STEVE AND CHANTELLE JENNETT FAMILY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate The Steve and Chantelle Jennett family of Blockton, Iowa for being recognized as a 2016 Way We Live Award winners at the Iowa State Fair.

The Way We Live Award recognizes Iowa families for their hard work and love of farming. Steve started farming with his father in 1989 and after marrying Chantelle, purchased more farmland where they have raised their three children. Their farm enterprise includes row crops, broiler chickens, and wean to finish hogs. Each family member helps with the daily chores and they are also involved in Pork Producers, Taylor County 4-H, and a number of other community activities.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by the Jennett family demonstrates the rewards of harnessing one's talents and sharing them with the world. Their hard work embodies the Iowa spirit and

I am honored to represent them in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating the Steve and Chantelle Jennett family for their achievements and wish them nothing but continued success.

JOHNSTOWN'S 50 PLUS CLUB 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Johnstown's 50 Plus Club in Johnstown, New York. Established in 1966 at the Shirley J. Luck Senior Citizens Center, the mission of the club is to promote healthy and active lifestyles to its members while giving them a safe place to congregate and socialize.

The staff at the Center is always looking for new ways to engage the members by providing activities and programs that interest them. Members of the club gather for their weekly meetings, meals, day and weekend trips and weekly walks. In addition to social programs, the Center offers informational programs to ensure that seniors know and understand the different options available to them in today's ever changing world.

Congratulations to the town of Johnstown and the Shirley J. Luck Senior Citizens Center on establishing this group and continuing to provide activities to our senior citizens over the past fifty years. I want to wish the staff of the Shirley J. Luck Senior Center and the members of the 50 Plus Club continued success in the future.

RECOGNITION OF GOVERNOR EDWARDS' BIRTHDAY

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th birthday of Governor John Bel Edwards of Louisiana. One of eight children, Governor Edwards learned the importance of helping others at a very young age, which he's shown through his profound strength and leadership in governing our great state of Louisiana. A retired Airborne Ranger for the United States Army and a diligent public servant, Governor Edwards has always put his community and nation first.

Within his first 8 months in office, Governor Edwards has focused on the state's crippling budget crisis, led our recovery from the historic floods that destroyed more than 100,000 homes, and worked to bring the community together after two tragic shooting incidents. Through it all, he has focused on the positivity in our citizens and the need for rebuilding our state.

Governor Edwards has faced every task and issue with an optimistic attitude, always believing that better days would be coming for Louisiana. I am proud to wish my friend a happy birthday.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF  
MAXIE BROADDUS

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with the sad news that Mr. Maxie Broaddus, a lifelong resident of Caroline County, Virginia passed away on December 31, 2015. As a fourth generation farmer, Maxie spent his entire life farming the land in and around his native county. At the young age of 16, he dedicated his life to hard work and his family, starting with only 650 acres of land.

Maxie Broaddus was a businessman, role model, and friend to so many. At the time of his passing, he farmed 7,000 acres spanning the counties of Caroline, Essex, and Richmond, making him the executive of one of the largest growing operations in all of Virginia. He was always open to new ideas and technology, allowing his business to thrive.

As a member of Salem Baptist Church, he enjoyed fellowship as he walked in faith every day. He also had a passion for helping the children of the area. He donated both time and talent to countless children's events and was often heard saying, "It's all about the kids." Maxie was never one to seek out recognition for his good works. He was known and respected for his dedication and will continue to inspire the members of the Caroline community.

Maxie loved the people of Caroline County, he loved our great Commonwealth of Virginia, and he loved his country. He always gave of himself to make the lives of others better.

He is survived by his daughters, Mindy Broaddus, Jessica Broaddus, and Danni Broaddus; his mother, Pat Homes; his brother, Mike Broaddus; his half-brother, Leo Mitchell; his grandsons, Weston James, and Own Wade Parker and his aunts, Mary Scott Haley and Jackie Dean.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me and countless others as we recognize the many contributions of Maxie Broaddus.

TRIBUTE TO HELEN AND RICHARD  
FORRESTER

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Helen and Richard Forrester of Carson, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on July 16, 1966 at Hazel Dell Methodist Church in Crescent, Iowa.

Helen and Richard's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will

join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

COMMEMORATING THE NATIONAL  
DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

**HON. DAVE BRAT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. BRAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan) this upcoming October 10th, 2016. This day commemorates the beginning of the end of China's Qing Dynasty and the subsequent establishment of the Republic of China.

In 1979, the U.S. Congress passed the Taiwan Relations Act, which was signed into law one month after being introduced. Today the TRA is the cornerstone of the robust relationship between the people of the United States and the people of Taiwan.

Taiwan is a good friend to the United States. Our shared values include respect for market institutions, democracy, free elections, and human rights. Taiwan is also an important strategic partner, promoting peace and stability in the region. Our economic relationship continues to grow, with benefits for both countries. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. trade in goods with Taiwan reached \$66 billion last year. Impressive for a population of only 23 million people, Taiwan has become America's ninth largest trading partner. Taiwan is also the ninth largest export market for the Commonwealth of Virginia, and its fourth largest export market in Asia.

In addition, the 39th Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) will take place soon in Montreal, Canada, beginning on September 27, 2016. Congress passed a law in 2013 calling for Taiwan's participation in the triennial ICAO assembly as an observer. With wide international support, Taiwan was invited to attend the 38th ICAO Assembly in 2013. Considering the Taipei Flight Information Region (FIR), which is administered by Taiwan and provides over 1.53 million instances of air traffic control services, handles 58 million incoming and outgoing passengers in 2015, and serves as an indispensable part of the global air transport network, I hope to see that Taiwan will be invited to observe again this year.

I wish the people of Taiwan a Happy Double Ten Day. I look forward to further strengthening this important relationship in the years to come.

NO MORE EXCUSES, NO MORE  
LIES. RESTORE THE VOTE

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to address the ongoing problem of voter suppression in this country and the pressing need to restore the vote.

The American people are tired. Tired of the lies, tired of the excuses and tired of being silenced. Our country was founded on the

strong values of democracy and those principles are embedded throughout the Constitution. Why then must we continue to fight and ask the leaders of this country to support an essential right—the right to vote? Instead of making changes, Republicans in Congress are making excuses—excuses to justify suppressive voting laws and false alarms of an alleged concern of voter fraud. This is an election year and there is too much at stake. Enough is enough.

Following the 2013 Supreme Court decision in *Shelby v. Holder*, states all across the country put in place new suppressive voting laws including new regulations for voter IDs under the guise of fighting against the problem of voter fraud. Mr. Speaker, too often a lie can be viewed as truth simply because the lie is repeated over and over and over again. But here is the truth—one of the most comprehensive studies to date found that between 2000 and 2014, out of nearly one billion votes cast in America, there were only 31 possible cases of voter impersonation fraud. 31 out of one billion. Is voter fraud truly a problem in this country? The numbers and facts reveal quite the opposite.

The cost/benefit analysis simply doesn't add up. Hundreds of thousands of eligible voters are potentially being blocked from the ballot box because of these new suppressive voter ID laws. The voter fraud myth has been used as a pathetic excuse to justify the silencing of select Americans nation-wide. Where there is no vote, there is no voice. We can no longer allow Americans to be silenced and subjected to these charades.

Republican leaders cannot continue to say they support voting rights, while refusing to restore the Voting Rights Act. They cannot continue to say they disavow racism, while refusing to restore the Voting Rights Act and protect against racial discrimination at the polls. The hypocrisy has to stop. The repeated lies need to end. We are in desperate need for immediate action in this country. These threats to our democracy and civil rights bar thousands of Americans from their right to the voting polls. I am committed to push for improving and strengthening voting rights legislation that makes voting easier, not harder for the American people.

On this Restoration Tuesday, I give us all the charge to battle against the continued suppression of the American vote and stand strong by our principles of democracy, liberty and justice for all. Mr. Speaker, my Republican colleagues should join the 168 members of Congress and support H.R. 2867—the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015. Let's restore the Voting Rights Act of 1965. It is the right thing to do.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MRS.  
LYDIA DE LA VINA DE FOLEY TO  
THE CONGRESSIONAL CLUB OF  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding individual, Lydia de La Vina de Foley, who will step down this month as Executive Director of

the Congressional Club after more than four decades of service to this important federally chartered institution.

Lydia first began her work at the Congressional Club as a volunteer illustrator of the Club's Bicentennial Congressional Club Cookbook in 1975. In 1977, she was asked to come on full time as Secretary to the Club. In the 1990's Lydia became Administrative Assistant to the President of the Club, and then became its Executive Director in the 2000's.

Throughout her tenure, Lydia has served under twenty-two Club presidents and, as she aptly describes, "lived through thirty-nine First Lady's Luncheons, the Club's premiere annual event honoring the nation's First Lady. She has been part of the Congressional Club's

continued growth and development as a key center of bipartisan comradery in the Nation's capital.

Lydia has been a Life Member of the Club since April 10, 1981 and became a member through her father-in law and mother-in law, the late Honorable John Foley and Lucy Foley of Maryland.

Founded in 1908, the original purpose of The Congressional Club was to provide a non-partisan setting for friendships among the spouses. Although the scope of the Club and the breadth of its activities have increased over the years, its purpose remains the same. The Congressional Club is rich in history and tradition, and we can thank Lydia for being an integral part of it.

I also want to commend Lydia's family who has stood by her all of the years she has helped to lead the Congressional Club including her husband, John (Jackie) and her children, Bryan Juan Carlos and Nicole Vivianne.

Lydia says that her most memorable experiences as part of the Club are "the friendships forged with many members and presidents of the Club." Her dedication and commitment can be summed up as "be willing to do everything and work hard." Mr. Speaker, Lydia has been a friend to hundreds of Congressional spouses over these past four decades, and because of her dedication, she has truly made Washington, D.C. and the Congress a better place. Lydia, we will miss you. We honor her on this day with love and good wishes.