

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 CONSTITUTION

#### 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 CONCURRENT 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.