

INTRODUCTION OF THE FOOD DESERTS ACT

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, in June of 2017, Marsh Supermarkets grocery stores announced the closure of many stores throughout the Midwest. Many of these stores were located in my district where already many families lack a car or reliable public transportation to get to the nearest alternative, often located over a mile away. Today, thousands of my constituents are struggling to find the food they need, with many forced to rely on fast food restaurants and convenience stores. These options are neither healthy nor affordable.

Sadly, this situation is not unique. Over 29 million people, almost 10 percent of the U.S. population, live without ready access to affordable, nutritious food and over 2 million people have no transportation to get to their nearest store. Many have seen their local stores close their doors during the recent economic downturn. Others lost access years ago and are now facing the serious long-term impacts of obesity, diabetes, malnutrition and other diet related ailments. Unfortunately, residents in these low-income areas tend to spend less on groceries, leaving little financial incentive for traditional grocery chains to make costly investments for new locations.

In the wealthiest country on Earth, nutritious food should be an expectation, not a luxury. That is why I am introducing the Food Deserts Act, which creates new avenues to fund stores in underserved communities. This bill will create USDA funded, state operated revolving funds that will issue low interest loans for the operation of grocery stores in food deserts. The bill ensures that recipients of these loans, including for-profit, non-profit and municipal entities, will provide affordable, healthy food, including fresh produce and staples like milk, bread and meat. It will also ensure that USDA professionals are available to provide technical assistance to recipients who need it.

Access to healthy food is something that most of us take for granted. But despite our own experiences, we need to remember that millions of our constituents are struggling every day to feed their families. With this market driven approach, I hope to complement existing federal programs and efforts around the country by ensuring a stable lending stream for struggling grocery stores and sustainable access to food for communities in need.

RECOGNIZING CANADA'S SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF CONFEDERATION

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of United States' closest allies and neighbor, the nation of Canada, on its sesquicentennial anniversary of confederation.

Minnesota shares a special bond with our neighbor to the north through many deep cul-

tural, economic, and environmental ties. As Minnesota's largest trading partner, Canada helps generate \$20 billion of economic activity, a clear indicator of its importance to our state. However, perhaps even more meaningful are connections we share to our precious cultural and natural heritage. The Great Lakes and the pristine natural beauty of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness not only form Minnesota's northern border with Canada, but they also help define our collective identities, drawing visitors from both near and abroad who come to explore and marvel over the world's largest reserve of fresh water, and accessible and beautiful wilderness. It is because of the natural wonders that we both share, that Minnesota and Canada also share a commitment to action in addressing climate change and protecting our natural resources for future generations.

Minnesotans and Canadians are also deeply connected on a cultural level. Long before Europeans arrived, Indigenous Americans and First Nations created thriving communities and lived off of the abundance of the vast forests, plains, lakes and rivers. Europeans who later settled these lands chose names derived from indigenous languages. Minnesota came from two Dakota words; Mni meaning "water" and Sota meaning "sky-tinted," while Canada is derived from the Iroquois-Huron word Kanata meaning "village" or "settlement." Later on, threads of early French influence were interwoven into each of our historical tapestries. This can easily be seen in the names of streets in the Twin Cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, and in our state motto "L'Etoile du Nord", "The Star of the North". Minnesota and Canada share so much culturally, that Canadians will often jokingly refer to Minnesota as the 11th province.

Minnesotans and Canadians continue to share a strong affinity to the land and outdoors pursuits, including, hiking, boating, hunting and fishing. Perhaps nothing defines our bond more clearly today than a love of hockey. Minnesota is proudly known as "the State of Hockey" and Canadians of all stripes similarly display unparalleled energy and passion for the sport.

As we join the nation of Canada in celebrating 150 years since its confederation, let us remember the unwavering friendship and security alliance between not only our two countries, but also between the people of Canada and Minnesota. Rarely is it that two peoples, separated by national borders, hold the other in such high esteem as the people of Minnesota and Canada do for one another. As Canada embarks on another 150 years, let us continue to foster a relationship that is truly unique amongst the nations of the world. On behalf of the residents of Minnesota's Fourth Congressional District, it is my honor to wish Canada a happy 150th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT P. EVERLY

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contribution to our national security has been exceptional. After eight years

of active duty service in the U.S. Navy and decades of work dedicated to the development and assessment of U.S. Navy weapons delivery platforms as a civilian, Robert "Bob" Everly is retiring on June 30, 2017.

Between his active duty service and civilian work directly supporting the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division, Mr. Everly spent nearly fifty years supporting the U.S. Navy. That civilian employment includes thirty-three years managing projects and programs supporting weapons and combat systems performance assessment, Fleet exercise assessments, metrology systems engineering, RM&A assessment, range systems engineering, telecommunications engineering, information systems engineering, software development, Information Assurance/Accreditation, and classified network operations.

Mr. Everly has also dedicated a tremendous amount of time as an essential member of various community-based organizations. That includes his service as an Executive Board Member and Co-Chair of the Science and Technology Education Program (STEP). As the Honorary Chairman of STEP, I have been incredibly fortunate to work closely with Mr. Everly to develop a successful program that sparks students interest in math, science and engineering. Mr. Everly also served as Chairman of the Board, President and Vice-President of the Measurement Science Conference, as a member of the Corona and Riverside Chambers of Commerce, and participated as a member of state and local Naval Surface Warfare Center Corona Retention Committees during the Base Realignment and Closers (BRAC) process.

Mr. Everly has contributed immensely to the betterment of our region and military and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and my friend. To conclude, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mr. Everly for his service to our country and the Inland Empire—his dedication, insight and passion will be greatly missed.

IN HONOR OF JAMES MARTIN KIDWELL

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Leesburg Virginia's longest serving Police Chief, James Martin Kidwell, who passed away on June 19, 2017, at the age of seventy-seven. A lifelong resident of Leesburg, Chief Kidwell was renowned for his public service and longstanding community involvement, as he dedicated his career to protecting the people of his hometown. Throughout his life, he was a revered leader in the Leesburg community who brought honor and integrity to his profession and will be remembered as one of the town's finest and most devoted policemen.

Chief Kidwell was born and reared in Leesburg and graduated from Loudoun County High School. After graduation, Chief Kidwell initially intended to follow in the footsteps of his uncle and work as a plumber. However, only after a few days in this occupation, when he came across a nest of snakes, Chief Kidwell realized that he wanted to pursue a

different line of work. Then in 1961, at the age of twenty, he became a police officer in Leesburg, marking the commencement of his thirty-four year career with Leesburg's Police Department. In 1972, he assumed the position of Chief of the Leesburg Police Department and held that post until his retirement in 1995.

Mr. Kidwell's remarkable career spanned multiple decades, and as Chief, he oversaw Leesburg's Police Department during a period of unprecedented development in the town. As the town expanded and confronted new complex challenges, Chief Kidwell ensured that the police department was equipped to handle the city's massive population surge and transformed the department from a meager force of only four police officers, one patrol car, and no radio system into a modern police department. During his tenure, the department burgeoned into a thirty-five person force that was able to effectively combat the increasingly serious crimes stemming from Leesburg's rapid growth. But despite the town's enlargement, Chief Kidwell always remained engaged with Leesburg's residents and maintained a small-town approach to law enforcement.

After retirement, Chief Kidwell spent much of his time playing golf, watching sports, especially his beloved Washington Redskins, and caring for his grandchildren. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Knox Kidwell, his daughters, Kelly Bradley, Kerri Spinks, and Kristi Kidwell, his sisters Catherine Howard and Page Kidwell, his brother Bradley Kidwell, seven grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me and countless others as we recognize the innumerable contributions of Chief Kidwell. Chief Kidwell's steadfast commitment and selfless dedication to keeping the residents of Leesburg safe will be greatly missed, and the services he provided to the Town of Leesburg and Virginia's Tenth Congressional District will never be forgotten. He was an exemplary officer and the true embodiment of a public servant, and today we honor him for his legacy of a lifetime of service.

IN HONOR OF NEW CITIZENS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate the individuals who will take their oath of citizenship on July 4, 2017. In true patriotic fashion, on the day of our great Nation's celebration of independence, a naturalization ceremony will take place, welcoming new citizens of the United States of America. This memorable occasion, coordinated by the League of Women Voters of the Calumet Area and presided over by Magistrate Judge Andrew Radovich, will be held at The Pavilion at Wolf Lake in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. The oath ceremony is a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of

a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On July 4, 2017, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Adriana Solis, Dhanwant Singh, Syneth Lorana Gardner, Roberto Diaz, Virginia Reformina Wilson, Khalid Javed, Maria Wiederhold, Glendie Mallen, Liljana Stojceska, Oliver Cadikovski, Gagandeep Khatra, Hernan Ezequiel Barenboim, Jose Lauro Sanchez Ruvalcaba, Sambath Cheakhun, Mariel Claudia Lopez, Sabine Marie Helene Shive, Maria del Rayo Tirado, Mary Madhulatha Vennamalla, Ding Lin, Aurelia Ruiz, Alanoud Hashem Mahmoud Alshurafa, Yan Zhu, Guadalupe Juan Ramirez, Aleksandra Gardijan, Nevena Nanic, Brenda Beatriz Medina, Maria de los Angeles Garduno Hernandez, Woo Young Yang, Lucy Amparo Perdomo Lopez, Marjan Risteski, J. Guadalupe Gama Macias, Delroy Anthony Roomes, Sonali Shukla, Erlinda Treyes Alvarez, Ma Dolores Serrano del Real, Gelma Ordaniza Hogue, Damaris Mituki Kariuki, Ravi Nigam, Jayesh Shantilal, Minnie Marchan Damico, Teresa Bautista Alcala, Mico Mileusnic, Mathy Bukassa McKinney, Israel Jacinto-Contreras, Norielyn Langres Heitzmann, Genevieve Blayee, Manuel Angel Corazzari, Martin Gonzalez, Hannan Hassan Sheikh, and Emilio Soria.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country “. . . of the people, by the people, and for the people.” They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these individuals, who will become citizens of the United States of America on July 4, 2017, the anniversary of our Nation's independence. They, too, are American citizens, and they, too, are guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

2016 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. PAUL MITCHELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Kelmendi, a member of the Albanian-American Community of Michigan.

In 2002, Professor John P. Kelmendi was elevated to Knighthood by his Majesty King Leka I of Albania. This honor represents his leadership and courage in bringing freedom, liberty, and democracy to citizens of Albania.

Dedicating his life to service, Dr. Kelmendi was also presented with the Mother Theresa Humanitarian Award by the President of Albania and now resides in Michigan.

Dr. Kelmendi's efforts continue to influence the lives of high school students as an educator and scholar in Michigan. On March 31, 2017, the Albanian-American Community of the USA awarded Dr. Kelmendi the 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award. His contribution to education and culture in America has been extraordinary.

I join the Albanian-American Community of Michigan, in Shelby Township, in congratulating and thanking Dr. John P. Kelmendi for his service.

HONORING STARK COUNTY COURTHOUSE'S BICENTENNIAL

HON. BOB GIBBS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the Stark County Courthouse, which celebrates its bicentennial this year.

The halls of the Stark County Courthouse have a significant place in American history—recounting the area's evolution into a prominent community in Northeast Ohio. President William McKinley argued cases before the court as Stark County Prosecutor, and citizens would travel to the courthouse to hear news and updates from the battlefield during the Civil War.

The current courthouse is the third constructed on the grounds in Stark County, sculpted from brick, sandstone, and marble. The building itself is an illustration of justice, with the clock tower adorned with four Trumpeters of Justice symbolizing the Courthouse occupants' devotion to truth and integrity. The triangular sandstone pediment on the front of the Courthouse demonstrates figures of commerce, justice, agriculture, and industry produced in Stark County.

The Stark County Courthouse is a treasure of Northeast Ohio, and I am proud to join in celebration of its place in our history.

HONORING OBERLIN COLLEGE PRESIDENT MARVIN KRISLOV

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to commend to the House the many contributions of Dr. Marvin Krislov. Dr. Krislov is departing the presidency of Oberlin College and Conservatory tomorrow after ten years of distinguished service in that office.

A Rhodes Scholar and a graduate of Yale Law School, Dr. Krislov initially pursued a career in law, clerking for the United States District Court for the Northern District of California in San Francisco. He then spent three years working at the White House Counsel's Office and then in various senior roles at the Department of Labor.

Dr. Krislov came to Oberlin College in 2007 after nine years as Vice President and General Counsel at the University of Michigan.