

RECOGNIZING THE INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO ABOLISH NUCLEAR WEAPONS

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2018

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), which was awarded the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize for its powerful and invaluable work to make the world a safer and more peaceful place. The organization is a coalition of non-governmental organizations (NGO) that pursues one of the continuing great imperatives of our time: the control and eventual elimination of nuclear weapons.

ICAN sought to build on the notable success of the Ottawa Treaty, which 163 signatories have signed agreeing to ban the use and possession of landmines. Previous international agreements have banned cluster munitions and the use of biological and chemical weapons, but no such agreement prohibits the use of nuclear weapons. By combining the efforts of hundreds of NGOs in 100 countries, ICAN draws international attention to the horrifying humanitarian consequences of armed conflict and the devastating specific threat posed by nuclear weapons.

After its founding in 2007, ICAN coordinated efforts around three international conferences—in Oslo, Nayarit, and Vienna—that considered the effects of nuclear detonation and worked toward a binding international agreement. After the Vienna agreement, ICAN worked with more than 100 governments on a nuclear humanitarian pledge to cooperate on efforts to “fill the legal gap” in the international regime governing the use of nuclear weapons. This effort helped the United Nations develop the first legal framework for nuclear prohibition. Thus far, 122 governments have signed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, the first binding international agreement of its kind. Through ICAN’s efforts, the world is moving forward in the campaign to eliminate some of the most inhumane and destructive weapons ever created.

The existential threat of nuclear conflict looms ever larger in our daily lives. Although anti-proliferation efforts have dramatically reduced the number of state-held nuclear arms, the 15,000 nuclear weapons that remain continue to pose an unparalleled and complete threat to the future of humankind. The consequences of nuclear war are devastating and irreversible. We must do everything in our power to prevent such a calamity.

I commend ICAN for its tireless advocacy for a strong and effective nuclear weapons ban treaty, and applaud its essential work to make the world a safer place for us all humanity.

RECOGNIZING GIRL SCOUT TROOP 2672

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2018

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Girl Scout Troop 2672 and espe-

cially Samantha Roberts, Elena Marquez, Dahlia Sussman, and Zola Coppa for raising money to help children in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria. Their event was a big success, and I applaud them for their creativity and dedication. Puerto Rico needs all the help it can get—and these young leaders are to be commended for helping the Island’s residents during these difficult times.

By engaging fellow students to raise money at a bowling event, Troop 2672 was able to rally a community around an important cause. It is inspiring to see young people identifying a purpose and then taking meaningful steps to help.

Puerto Rico and New York City have long shared a powerful bond, and it is too often forgotten that the people of Puerto Rico are American citizens. The efforts of these dedicated Girl Scouts are an important reminder that we cannot turn our backs on the Island.

It is great to see young women taking leadership roles and making a difference in both their local communities and for Puerto Rico. My best wishes to Troop 2672 as they continue the school year and Girl Scout activities and projects. I am heartened by their resolve and inspired by their desire to lend a helping hand. These young leaders make all New Yorkers proud.

CONGRATULATING MARILYN DANIS FOR RECEIVING THE 2018 GREATER FAYETTEVILLE CHAMBER ATHENA AWARD

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2018

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marilyn Danis as the recipient of the 2018 Greater Fayetteville Chamber Athena Award.

The Athena Award is presented to the man or woman who has contributed to the support and success of professional women in the greater Fayetteville region. Marilyn has demonstrated her passion for the advancement of professional women throughout her career in the real estate and mortgage industry, along with her commitment to numerous community service programs. As the former owner and broker of a Century 21 real estate franchise, Marilyn mentored her female employees—primarily military wives—as they honed their skills in the industry. Currently, Marilyn is the owner of Residential Mortgage Corp., the longest locally-owned mortgage lender in Fayetteville.

Over the years, Marilyn has been a tireless advocate for local programs which support furthering the careers of women. As a sponsor of the InnovateHER Project, she helped put together a competition which gives local women the venue to showcase the services and products that can empower women and their families.

Marilyn is deserving of this award, and I wish her success as she continues to advance not only her own career, but those of other women in our community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in celebrating Marilyn Danis on winning the 2018 Greater Fayetteville Chamber Athena Award.

HONORING THE REVEREND BILLY GRAHAM

HON. MARK WALKER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2018

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, Reverend Billy Graham was the premier example of how faith, hope and love can transcend political parties, backgrounds, cultures and affiliations.

Rev. Graham preached to tens of millions. He preached Christ. His death and resurrection.

Despite holding favor and serving as a spiritual advisor to presidents, kings and queens—and having a world renowned impact and legacy—Graham always remained grounded in humility.

That speaks to his character. But it speaks to Christ’s spirit in Rev. Graham.

Even as he preached to stadiums filled with tens of thousands, you knew that Rev. Graham cared about you as an individual, your life and your future.

Earning the titles “America’s Pastor” and “North Carolina’s favorite son,” a small-town pastor from North Carolina, who grew up on a dairy farm, preached the love and name of Jesus Christ. Never wavering, he changed the world—bringing thousands of lives to salvation and eternal life.

For me, Rev. Graham will always be remembered for his focus on redemption and the idea that there is limitless hope, opportunity and freedom for every human life.

Though I am not worthy to carry the old worn out Bible of Billy Graham, I am honored to be presenting the resolution to authorize Rev. Graham’s body to be the fourth American to lie in honor at the United States Capitol, the epicenter of our government. For almost a century, Rev. Graham changed lives and influenced our nation for the better.

Though Reverend Graham never chased the honor of men, next week he will lie in honor for two days. We take comfort knowing that Rev. Graham has entered paradise and lives forever to honor the name above all names, the name of Jesus.

RECOGNIZING ROSALYN FRAZIER

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 2018

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize the tremendous and meaningful work of Rosalyn Crawford Frazier, Chief Executive Officer of Broward Community and Family Health Centers.

Ms. Frazier has played a pivotal role in the lives of South Florida families by providing quality, affordable health care to the underserved, underinsured and uninsured. Her commitment to the health and wellness of Florida’s families is extensive, impressive and inspiring, and she works tirelessly to strengthen families across Broward County.

Community health centers have become an essential provider for comprehensive, high-quality preventive health care for all patients, regardless of their ability to pay. They have become the core primary care destination for