

Mr. Jollivette lived an extraordinary life that cannot be categorized. His legacy will forever be a part of his hometown and his dedication to community embodies the spirit of public service. We cannot match the sacrifices made by Mr. Jollivette, but surely we can try to match his sense of service. We cannot match his courage, but we can strive to match his devotion.

Mr. Jollivette's survivors include his daughter Lynn Jollivette Johns; two sisters Regina Jollivette Frazier and Cleo L. Jollivette, and two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Cyrus "Russ" Jollivette.

RECOGNIZING DAVID "BIG PAPI"
ORTIZ

HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize David "Big Papi" Ortiz who to this day stands as among the most feared hitters in Major League Baseball. His success as a player began with his journey from his home—our home—the Dominican Republic. It was Pedro Martinez, his fellow Dominican teammate on the Boston Red Sox, who said of David Ortiz, that "A guy from a shack in the Dominican lifted up the hearts of an entire city."

No For all the fame and glory that "Big Papi" epitomized as No. 34, in Boston, his career began as No. 27 with the Minnesota Twins. His ascension to the Major Leagues with the Minnesota Twins was one measure of professional success, it was not permanent. Returning to the Dominican Republic and then the encouragement from his fellow countrymen that followed lent perspective that whatever happens—however challenging on its face—presents opportunity. That new opportunity for unmatched success and a storied career in baseball began with the Boston Red Sox in 2003.

In the Dominican Republic, baseball is beloved. When anyone Dominican succeeds, we all succeed. And yes, we celebrate those successes. What we celebrate is that in each generation, there becomes more permanent a sense that no matter where you are born or whether you lived in a shack, you can succeed. It means that anyone born in Santo Domingo, Manoguayabo, Nizao, Laguna Verde, San Pedro de Macoris, Hato Mayor, Altamira, Villa González, Monte Cristi, or Samaná can look to David Ortiz and know that they too can emulate his resilience and fortitude and achieve his degree of success and beyond.

In recognizing David Ortiz, I would be remiss to not share his professional accolades. While some came at the expense of MY New York Yankees, no one can deny his dominance: 7x Edgar Martinez Outstanding DH of The Year; 7x American League Silver Slugger; 10x American League All-Star; 2011 Roberto Clemente Award Winner; 2x American League Hank Aaron Award Winner. And then there is the Post-Season: 2004 American League Champion Series Most Valuable Player; 3x Major League Baseball World Series Champion; and 2013 World Series Most Valuable Player. And it all began after graduating from Estudia Espailat High School.

I end with the inimitable words of Pedro Martinez, "Whether you loved David or hated him, he gave you everything to love or hate. He was a force of nature. He was a big brother to a lot of Latin players . . . Nobody—none of the other players from the Dominican, including me—does more for society than David. He's a better man than he is a baseball player." As the first Dominican American elected to the U.S. Congress, it is my distinct pleasure to celebrate David Ortiz—"Big Papi"—for all his success.

IN RECOGNITION OF RASHEDA
ALI'S TIRELESS ADVOCACY FOR
PARKINSON'S DISEASE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rasheda Ali as she is recognized by the American Human Rights Council (AHC). Her efforts have been paramount in bringing recognition and hope to those suffering from various neuro-cognitive disorders.

Founded in 2014, the AHC brings together community leaders and civil rights activists to promote and defend human rights defined in the United States' Constitution and by the United Nations' Declaration of Human Rights. Initially focused on protecting and preserving the rights of prisoners, the AHC has expanded its advocacy efforts to address pressing humanitarian issues in the United States and abroad. The AHC has been able to draw attention to human rights issues through its work with local and state partners, including Rasheda Ali.

As the daughter of Muhammad Ali, Ms. Rasheda Ali has witnessed the devastating toll of Parkinson's Disease firsthand. After watching her father suffer for more than 30 years from the disease, she was inspired to speak publicly about his struggles and help shine a light on Parkinson's Disease. Her book "I'll Hold Your Hand So You Won't Fall—A Child's Guide to Parkinson's Disease" has been read by families all across the world. Ms. Ali travels across the globe raising awareness for neuro-cognitive disorders and meeting with families who shared her family's experience. Her work has elevated her to a public platform and she has appeared on many news networks including NBC, CNN, MSNBC and FOX. Through her speaking events and travel, Ms. Ali has raised awareness and funds for Parkinson's Disease, and we are grateful for her work. It is my hope that she will continue to advocate for medical research and lead the way into a world without Parkinson's Disease.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Rasheda Ali for her life's work as a Parkinson's Disease advocate. Her actions inspire us to put others before ourselves and speak up to advance the causes that we believe in.

RECOGNIZING LISA BUCHHOLZ
FOR WINNING THE GOLDEN
APPLE AWARD

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mrs. Lisa Buchholz, a first grade teacher at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Glen Ellyn, Illinois, for being awarded with the prestigious 2018 Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching & Leadership.

This honor is bestowed on those teachers in recognition of their contributions to building a stronger, better-educated society. Every year since 1986, Golden Apple has chosen 10 outstanding teachers to receive the award. Award recipients are nominated by their fellow educators, students, parents and community leaders. The 2018 award recipients were selected over 650 nominations, highlighting Mrs. Buchholz's worthiness.

Over the course of 27 years in the classroom, Mrs. Buchholz has encouraged thousands of students to strive for the highest of standards and to expect more of themselves and each other every day. It is no coincidence that as a result of her leadership many of her students adopt an "I can" attitude in school and life. According to a former-Golden Apple recipient who reviewed Mrs. Buchholz's nomination, "It's like you can tell the magic and the chemistry the minute you walk into her classroom."

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me to recognize Mrs. Lisa Buchholz for her outstanding leadership in teaching and congratulate her on being awarded with a 2018 Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching & Leadership.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NON-FEDERAL
RESERVOIR OPERATIONS
IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, as we in the San Joaquin Valley know, "food grows where water flows."

We also know the ravages of drought and are the first communities in California to experience drought's harmful effects.

For over 30 years, I have worked to strengthen water supply reliability for the San Joaquin Valley and throughout California.

While I was in the California Legislature, I authored the legislation to create the Kern County Water Bank, led 2 water bonds and helped to pass 2 others, providing more than \$2 billion dollars to improve California's water system and provide for safe, reliable drinking water.

In Congress, I have secured approval of the Madera Irrigation District Water Bank, the San Luis Intertie, and the North Valley Regional Recycled Water Project, bringing hundreds of thousands of acre-feet of more secure water to the San Joaquin Valley.

I also worked on a bipartisan basis to pass the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the

Nation, or WIIN Act, which was signed into law in December of 2016 and increased pumping flexibility to move water throughout the state and provided over \$355 million dollars for water infrastructure projects, including matching federal funds for new surface storage in California.

In all of my time working to improve the lives of the people of the Valley, rarely have I been presented with a project with such obvious potential as raising the spillway gates at New Exchequer Dam.

Water impounded behind New Exchequer Dam provides irrigation water for agriculture in Merced County, groundwater replenishment for several nearby communities, and environmental benefits for fisheries and wildlife refuges downstream of the dam.

Recently, Merced Irrigation District performed a detailed analysis of the hydrology of the watershed upstream of New Exchequer Dam and found that by raising the spillway gates 8 feet, Lake McClure could hold an additional 57,000 acre-feet without impeding the Merced River's Wild and Scenic River designation.

However, in order to move forward with raising the spillway gates, the flood control and operations manual for New Exchequer Dam must be updated, a responsibility of the Army Corps of Engineers.

Unfortunately, this manual is based on data that dates back to 1959, when New Exchequer Dam was being constructed.

Army Corps of Engineers policy requires that flood control manuals be updated to reflect new data and changes to a project.

In 2017, Merced Irrigation District wrote to the Army Corps requesting a revision of the flood control manual, which was last updated in 1981.

The Army Corps indicated that it could not update the manual at this time, citing budgetary constraints.

Merced Irrigation District proposed to pay for the public process to update the flood control manual to incorporate the new hydrologic data.

The Army Corps responded by saying that it didn't have the legal authority to accept funds for this purpose for a non-federal Section 7 project like New Exchequer, despite being able to do so for Corps facilities.

The Non-Federal Reservoir Operations Improvement Act would resolve this disparity by allowing the owners of non-federal reservoirs that are regulated by the Army Corps to contribute funds to update their flood control manuals.

It's a very commonsense, targeted change to law that will improve the water supply reliability in Merced County.

JUSTIN ONWENU: PLAN B IS NOT
AN OPTION

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Rice University Student Body President Justin Onwenu was born in Detroit, grew up in Alabama and moved around a lot as a kid. He lived in rural, suburban, and urban Alabama with his mom. His moving around didn't bother him; in fact it

was quite the opposite. He says it was instrumental in learning a sense of how to coexist and feel others' perspectives. He was a very successful high school student active in debate, basketball, and student government.

When he graduated, he knew exactly what he wanted: a small school in a big city. Rice University was the perfect fit. Justin had never been to Houston before his college visit to Rice, but once he saw the vibrant, diverse city, he knew it was the place for him—so much so, it was the only school to which he applied. Mr. Speaker, Justin just knew it was what he must do, he had no Plan B.

Justin chose Rice, in part, because of its research and extracurricular activities. Upon arrival, he knew he wanted to study medicine, policy, and international health. There was only one problem: Rice University didn't have that degree. Justin decided to create his own degree plan. He formulated the curriculum and the class requirements, submitted it to Rice, and created the Bachelor of Arts Degree in International Health and Policy at Rice University. Once again, Mr. Speaker, Justin knew it was the right thing for him to do, no Plan B. Justin told me, "I think about what opportunity is out there that I want, then I go after it!"

In his sophomore year, Justin became involved in student government and was instrumental in the university's first-ever student survey to gauge sexual conduct on campus. Justin felt strongly that a dialogue was necessary for students to discuss their expectations with their peers, not just be pushed to know right from wrong. As a result of Justin's work, Rice University led the nation with the first Critical Thinking and Sexuality course required of entering freshmen. Other college campuses are now following Rice's lead and engaging in real talk about campus sexual conduct. Mr. Speaker, Justin recently shared his work with Congress when he testified at my "Breaking the Silence: Responding to Sexual Assault on Campus" Field Hearing. He says he knew from the beginning this was such an important topic, he just had to give a voice to it. He had no choice.

Then Hurricane Harvey hit. Mr. Speaker, every Houstonian struggled to know how to respond to this devastating crisis. Justin knew he had to be involved with the school's Crisis Management Team, so he said he invited himself to their meeting. It was the first time the student body president was involved in such a high level tactical plan. Justin told me that throughout the meetings his thoughts were on the future. "How can we prepare for post-Harvey? We need to think about volunteering, not just making sure Rice is safe." Justin said he went "full in" with this idea and decided to "launch it first, then figure out the details later." With this in mind, the student government partnered with the Doerr Institute and the Center for Civic Leadership to create the Rice Harvey Action Team. The R-HAT, made up of 1,700 students and faculty, worked with synagogues, churches, and local shelters on demolition and volunteer projects. "There was no other option," Justin told me. "We had to make it happen." There was no Plan B.

With finals and term papers now due, Justin has taken on a new civic engagement project: scholarship reform. Mr. Speaker, you may have seen Justin's op-ed piece in the New York Times late last year on this very subject. Financial aid recipients who receive private scholarships are required to report the amount

to their college or university. The school may then evaluate the scholarship and decrease the recipient's financial aid by the same amount. Since his op-ed, students and student governments from across the nation have reached out to him asking advice and thanking him for giving this issue a voice. Justin visited Capitol Hill this year to tell lawmakers about scholarship displacement and to propose policy changes. Justin is committed to educating lawmakers on this issue; there is no other choice for him. Again, no Plan B.

Justin graduates this month. He looks back on his career at Rice and says he's proud that people who don't normally speak up, speak with him. He says people have told him he's their "voice" on issues they care about, but have never felt comfortable coming forward on. He says this has inspired him to continue to speak up and speak out for people and policy changes. He plans to attend law school in the fall.

When considering how to tackle a project or a problem, Justin told me, "You have a moment of 'freak out' trying to decide if you should do something. I've learned how to tell myself to 'just go for it!' It's easier to get involved and speak out than people think. I tell people to get passionate about an issue and work for change."

Mr. Speaker, Justin Onwenu works on his "Plan As." And, he finds a way to make them work every time. Justin has never thought about a Plan B, in fact, in his 21 years it's never entered his mind that one should exist. And that's just the way it is.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YPSILANTI CAMPAIGN FOR EQUALITY'S LANDMARK VICTORY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ypsilanti Campaign for Equality (YCFE) for twenty years of striving for a more equal society. Their efforts enrich the lives of Michigan residents through their grassroots activism.

The Ypsilanti Campaign for Equality was formed in 1998 to protect the rights of all Ypsilanti residents. Later that year, the city passed a human rights ordinance that protected against discrimination based on 'race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, or disability.' The ordinance protected from a wide range of discrimination including in jobs, labor unions, and access to houses, goods and services. Despite passing handily in 1998, opposition groups set out to overturn it, and YCFE stood strong against these efforts. Their grassroots organizing garnered a victory and the anti-discrimination initiative was upheld.

Although the fight against the 1998 overturn proposal took place 20 years ago, members of the original Ypsilanti Campaign for Equality continue to live in southeast Michigan today and promote ideals of equality and equal opportunity for all. As we gather tonight to celebrate their continued dedication to standing up against divisiveness, we honor the bravery and courage of our friends and neighbors.