

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CINCINNATI CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Cincinnati Children's Hospital on their remarkable achievement of being ranked the second-best children's hospital in the nation and the best hospital to treat pediatric cancer and diseases affecting the digestive tract according to U.S. News and World Report.

Over the past seven years, this hospital, located in my district, has consistently been rated third best overall in the nation. Their commitment to excellence is continually recognized across the country, and they have been a stalwart in the Cincinnati community for a long time. Not only do they provide world class care for their patients, but they also engage with the local community and throughout the region. Without a doubt, the hospital prioritizes the kids they treat and their families.

To continue that mission, the hospital has recently started construction on a new clinical care building. I will continue to work with them to ensure that I am doing whatever I can to help them further succeed as they move forward.

Again, I want to congratulate Cincinnati Children's Hospital on this tremendous accomplishment, and look forward to them becoming number one in the future. They make Cincinnati proud.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATION OF COLEMAN'S VETERANS MEMORIAL

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication of a new veterans memorial in the Village of Coleman, Wisconsin. Found within Lillian's Park, the "All Veterans Memorial" honors veterans from every branch who have served in wars on behalf of our country. We will never know all the sacrifices our veterans have made, however this memorial will stand in recognition of their service and honor their example.

The "All Veterans Memorial" was made possible by the generous support of American Legion Post 280 and the Coleman community. The Kalbes-Seewald American Legion Post sold their legion hall last fall and dedicated the proceeds to the construction of a memorial for the veterans of our armed forces, as well as POWs/MIA. The Village of Coleman has also enthusiastically supported the project and contributed generously to its development.

The "All Veterans Memorial" is a fine tribute to the men and women who have given so

much to our country. I hope that every visitor to Lillian's Park will pause beside the granite stone to remember our veterans—past, present, and future. Mr. Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in commending American Legion Post 280 and the Village of Coleman as they dedicate this new monument.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF PLEASANT VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH OF SALEM, MISSOURI

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pleasant Valley Baptist Church of Salem, Missouri on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary.

The church was founded in 1868, when a small group met in southern Dent County at the home of J.F. Halbrook. The church began with 11 charter members and Rev. John A. Summers was selected as the first Pastor.

The church continued meeting at the home of J.F. Halbrook during the early years. Later they moved to a log school house in the Miner community and in 1878, thanks to Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Orchard, the church moved to its present location in the Doss community. Today, the church has 308 members and is involved in local and nationwide missions.

For continuing its work of proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ through 150 years of change and challenge, it is my great pleasure to honor Pleasant Valley Baptist Church today before the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING FULTON CHAPTER NO. 35, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR, ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Fulton Chapter No. 35, Order of the Eastern Star, on their 100th Anniversary.

On September 21, 1917 Chapter No. 35 was founded by first Worthy Matron Anna Christian and first Worthy Patron Howard B. Lang. While the chapter has roots in Fulton, the dedicated members live throughout Missouri and surrounding states. There were 22 original signers who saw the vision of what the Fulton Chapter No. 35 could become. These signers were: Lena Newkomm, Julia Ann Neal, Anna Christian, Charles H. Christian, Selena Loveng, Bertie Fay Jackson, J. Roy

Jackson, Gertrude Clatterbuck, Edgar Clatterbuck, Norma Lang, Howard B. Lang, Gertrude M. Brown, Jella D. Brown, Doyle S. Brown, Lulu Beaven, Theodore Beaven, Marie Le Noir, William Meng, John R. Pratt, Harry H. McIntire, Alice Koontz, and Elmer L. Koontz. Currently, the Fulton Chapter No. 35 is 102 members strong.

The members of this Masonry organization are dedicated men and women who consistently represent the spirit of fraternal love and the desire to work together to benefit mankind. Their hard work and charity is constantly felt by the community and dearly appreciated by the many lives they have and continue to touch.

They have been active in many charitable causes to benefit the community: Callaway Relay 4 Life, MoChip, Cancer Research, and the Masonic Home to name a few. Since the foundation of the organization, the lessons shared at the meetings have remained scriptural, the purpose beneficent, and the teachings moral. This type of teaching is a nod to the founder of the Order of the Eastern Star, Dr. Robert Morris, who had the vision of using beautiful and inspiring Biblical examples which in turn would be the noble principles Eastern Star members are encouraged to emulate. With this vision, the environment within the Eastern Star organization is dedicated to charity, truth, and loving kindness.

I ask you to join me in honoring Fulton Chapter No. 35, Order of the Eastern Star on their 100th Anniversary.

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND CULTURE 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, this year the Northern Mariana Islands Museum of History and Culture celebrates its 20th anniversary.

Our islands' only, locally-run museum is as much a tribute to the story of the people of the Marianas as it is to the resilience and determination of those who have led the Museum's operation. They have kept the Museum alive despite many years of inadequate funding, understaffing, and a destructive typhoon that could well have shut it down permanently.

The Museum is located in a 92-year-old hospital built during the time the Northern Marianas were under the administration of Japan. The structure itself is an artifact of our history, and before its renovation looked the part. Its concrete, paint-less exterior told the story of war and every typhoon that has passed through our islands in the last century.

Today, within the Museum a visitor can view artifacts from the time of the ancient Chamorro people, and of the Spanish, German, and Japanese occupations that descended upon us.

• 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 artifacts, and the paintings and photographs that are part of the displays, tell the story of how our people survived, adapted, and thrived throughout our history. They—and other objects stored away in the Museum—are lovingly preserved by their local conservators, who exhibit a profound dedication to keeping the memories of our people alive.

The NMI Museum of History and Culture is an independent program of our Governor's Office. Sadly, the facility fell on hard times in the mid-2000s, when massive budget cuts forced the lay-off of most staff. At this low point, the Museum had only one employee, whose availability determined when the museum would open and close. As a result, many a visitor was turned away who could have experienced the history of the Chamorro people.

In 2015, the Marianas were hit by Typhoon Soudelor, the most devastating typhoon in decades. That terrible storm could well have meant the end for our Museum. The typhoon left many artifacts damaged, the roof leaking, mold along the walls, floors flooded, and much of the plumbing a wreck. And the museum was forced to close its doors to visitors—indeed definitely.

Into this scene of destruction a new energy arrived in the person of Mr. Danny Aquino. Appointed Executive Director last year, Mr. Aquino was tasked with the grueling repair of the museum.

And more help was on the way. An outpouring of financial and material support from IT&E, Saipan Stevedore, Saipan Shipping, CMS Trucking, Soudelor Corporation, Tropical Gardens, Tan Holdings, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, McDonald's of Saipan, Tasi Tours and other local businesses, a \$55,000 appropriation from the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, and \$50,000 from the Marianas Visitors Authority gave Aquino and his team the funds to start repairs.

Help from the staff of the Mayor of Saipan also moved the work along at a faster pace. The Mayor's team assisted museum staff with grounds maintenance, landscaping, and other outdoor work. Somehow, restoration took less than six months to complete; and the Museum reopened last November to its first visitors in a very long time.

I visited the museum in February to see this progress. I had been there shortly after Typhoon Soudelor; and I can report the difference between then and now is night and day. Mr. Aquino's can-do attitude, and the tireless work of his staff—James Cabrera, James Macaranas, Allan Lifoifo, and Wenny Haruo—drove the repair efforts and the result is a museum that the Marianas can truly be proud of.

Today, visitors to our islands can orient themselves to the three-and-a-half millennia of Marianas history at our Museum. Residents can take pride in who they are and where they come from by strolling through this beautiful facility. And students—many of whom are required to take a course on the history of our islands—can enlarge their vision of the future by learning about our past at the Northern Mariana Islands Museum of History and Culture.

Please join me in congratulating the Northern Mariana Islands Museum of History and Culture on 20 years of serving our islands and our people.

TRIBUTE TO DEE AND MIKE HUGHES

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Dee and Mike Hughes of Clarinda, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on May 12, 2018.

Dee and Mike'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 ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

CONGRATULATING FAYETTEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT A-SHIFT RESCUE 1 ON BEING PRESENTED THE PUBLIC SAFETY VALOR AWARD

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Michael Bartch, Lieutenant Kenneth Tatum, Firefighter James Strickland, Firefighter Thomas Farrell, and Firefighter Chiara Furlanetto-Duehning for receiving the Greater Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce's Public Safety Valor Award as part of the Fayetteville Fire Department A-Shift Rescue 1.

We are all too familiar with the heroic work our firefighters do in our communities. Whether it is keeping us safe or saving the lives of others, the men and women who put on these uniforms are unsung heroes in towns and cities all across our nation. They work long hours, day and night, to ensure that we can feel safe as we go about our lives.

The Valor Award is presented to those who execute extreme acts of heroism in order to save the lives of others in our community. The Fayetteville Fire Department A-Shift 1 exemplified this when they saved an individual who was stuck in a grain silo with temperatures well over one hundred degrees. They were able to extract the individual and get him to the hospital where he made a full recovery. It is lifesaving acts such as this which humble me and make me appreciate the selflessness of our firefighters that put their lives in danger to help others.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating these heroic men and women of the Fayetteville Fire Department A-Shift Rescue 1 on receiving the Greater Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce's Public Safety Valor Award.

HONORING ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH ON THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Thomas the Apostle Parish on their 150th Anniversary. They will be celebrating this historic milestone in June of 2019.

Since the early 1800's, the St. Thomas area had been visited by Jesuit missionary priests. In 1838 Father Ferdinand Helias, S.J. celebrated the first Mass in the area called "Indian Bottom" and went on to establish a strong faith community for many parishioners by founding approximately 20 mission churches in central Missouri. To this day, 7 of those mission churches are still in operation, serving the community members of Westphalia, Rich Fountain, Taos, Loose Creek, and Jefferson City.

In 1869, Archbishop Peter Kenrick, Archbishop of St. Louis, officially erected St. Thomas as the Apostle Parish. When St. Thomas was established as a town, it was decided to move the church there and construction began in 1883. On October 22, 1884 the new building was dedicated and Father Aloysius Mayer served as the first pastor. Impressively, this is the church still being used today. In 1987, the pipe organ built by the J.G. Pfeffer Company of St. Louis was installed and in 2016 was historically restored. This year the Organ Historical Society recognized the organ as an instrument of national heritage.

Generations of families have benefited from the various spiritual opportunities offered at St. Thomas the Apostle. Weekly Sunday school and sacraments of Penance and Holy Communion are a real treasure to those living in this rural community. The Totus Tuus Summer camp offered for children 1st-12th grade gives kids a fun and faith based experience during the summer months. Parish groups cater to a variety of parishioners at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish from the Catholic Youth Organization, to Quilters, Knights of Columbus, a Prayer Line, St. Ann's Sodality, and even a bowling alley. The annual parish picnic is a favorite social event for locals and even residents of the surrounding counties.

The church property is also home to the town's first school which was built in 1874. In 1903, a new two-story school was built where students were taught for the next 63 years by lay teachers; Precious Blood Sisters of Ruma, Illinois; Sisters of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ; and School Sisters of Notre Dame. Starting in 1962, the school operated as a public school in the Cole R-II School District and then in 1989, it was re-established as a Catholic School. In 2006, the two-story school building was renovated and a new gym was constructed. Throughout the years this school has shaped the minds of many generations and is still providing a positive influence in students' lives today.

The City of St. Thomas has seen many businesses come and go throughout the years, but the anchor in the community has been the steadfastness of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating St. Thomas the Apostle Parish on

their 150th Anniversary. This milestone is a great testament to the commitment this parish has shown to the Lord, their parishioners, and the entire community.

CELEBRATING THE 176TH ANNIVERSARY OF MARION MILITARY INSTITUTE

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Marion Military Institute on 176 years of service to our nation's Armed Forces. Located in the heart of Alabama's Black Belt, and only thirty minutes from my hometown of Selma, MMI is a pillar of the 7th Congressional District. Since its founding, MMI has achieved a national reputation for preparing young men and women for successful civilian and military careers.

Marion Military Institute is one of only four military junior colleges in the United States, and is the nation's oldest military junior college, tracing its origin back to 1842 with the founding of Howard College in Marion, Alabama. MMI is also one of the first schools to establish a Student Government Association and a student honor system. Former President Howard Taft was the president of the board of trustees, and former president Woodrow Wilson was the keynote speaker of the convocation at MMI chapel in 1905. Marion Military Institute continued as a private high school and junior college until 2006, when the Alabama State Legislature incorporated the military institution into the Alabama Community College System.

I was reminded of Marion Military Institute's legacy when I recently addressed the impressive Corps of 446 cadets. As our country's oldest military junior college, MMI has produced over 210 Generals and Admirals for our Armed Forces. I am also proud to say that there are 348 men and women MMI graduates in all five Service Academies.

College students across the nation attend MMI to establish a strong foundation for their careers and to take advantage of its leadership development opportunities. Marion Military Institute teaches students to never give up, to push forward, and to excel in all of life's pursuits.

In the student body, about 40 percent of the cadets will pursue a civilian career and are enrolled in the Leadership Education Program. Others are working toward receiving an appointment to one of the five U.S. Service Academies. Unique to the four military junior colleges is the Early Commissioning Program, which provides an opportunity for qualified students to earn a commission as a Second Lieutenant after receiving their associate's degree to serve in either the National Guard or the U.S. Army Reserve. Students also can enter the U.S. Marine Corps Program that allows students to work and train with a Selection Officer. Lastly, students can enter the Air Force ROTC, a program that is designed to give men and women the opportunity to become Air Force officers while completing their degrees.

This summer, I was also pleased to have a wonderful Marion Military Institute graduate

named Jordan Ceasar intern in my Washington, D.C. office. Jordan learned about a new side of public service as he assisted constituents, studied the legislative process, and learned how to advocate for policy reforms.

Marion Military Institute has a strong history of developing our country's future leaders for military, government, and community service, and I am thrilled to celebrate their 176th Anniversary. With college enrollment averaging an all-time high, I am sure Marion Military Institute will continue to be a pillar of the Black Belt and produce America's leaders for another 176 years.

RECOGNIZING COMMAND
SERGEANT MAJOR ERIC B. HILL

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize Command Sergeant Major Eric B. Hill on his retirement from a career of honorable service in the United States Army.

In 1983, Command Sergeant Major Hill enlisted in the Army and was initially assigned to the 388th Chemical Company. As he continued his service, Command Sergeant Major Hill excelled in a multitude of duty assignments and was repeatedly promoted as a non-commissioned officer. From his days as a young Sergeant serving in the 388th Chemical Company to the highest rank of Command Sergeant Major in the 419th Movement Control Battalion, he has exemplified the true meaning of leadership and commitment. Command Sergeant Major Hill honorably served our nation through several combat deployments including Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2003 to 2008 and Operation Enduring Freedom from 2010 to 2011.

Throughout his duty assignments, Command Sergeant Major Hill was highly decorated in recognition of his exceptional service. He is a recipient of several service awards including the Purple Heart, Bronze Star Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Combat Action Badge, Meritorious Service Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters.

I would like to acknowledge Command Sergeant Major Hill for his 31 years of service and sacrifice to our country. I am grateful for his dedication, bravery, and selfless service. It is an honor to recognize servicemen like Eric Hill and I thank him for his sacrifice for our country.

TRIBUTE TO ANNE AND JERRY
TOWNSEND

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Anne and Jerry Townsend of Mount Ayr on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Their lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. As the years pass, may their love continue to

grow even stronger and may they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many more years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60 years together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. JONI
MCGEE'S 15 YEARS OF SERVICE
WITH THE PECOS COUNTY VSO

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. HURD. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take this opportunity to offer my sincere gratitude to Ms. Joni McGee upon her retirement from 15 years of service with the Pecos County Veterans Service Office. Her commitment to the Pecos County community has and will continue to have an impact on all those she has worked with.

I am proud to serve alongside hardworking men and women like Ms. McGee in the 23rd Congressional District of Texas. Her time as a County Veteran Service Officer has undoubtedly had a tremendous impact on the wellbeing of veterans in our community. I wish her all the best in the many years to come.

PROTECT HEALTH CARE ACCESS
FOR ALL

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to bring awareness to the Republicans' effort to dismantle the Affordable Care Act and weaken protections provided by Medicaid and Medicare. Republicans began their sabotage of the ACA when many of their Governors, including Alabama's Governor, refused to expand Medicaid. In these states, the full benefits of the law haven't been realized. Working families have been left behind, rural hospitals have closed, and premiums have risen.

Make no mistake, these governors created an environment in which Republican politicians could campaign on the failures of the ACA, all while taking NO credit for the failures they created. The millions of working Americans who fall in the Medicaid gap and live in non-expansion states have been overlooked! This body needs to be laser focused on improving the marketplace for the working Americans who have fallen victim to the lack of Medicaid expansion.

Last year, I sat down with my hairdresser in Birmingham, and she immediately told me about how she had lost her health coverage. She didn't know why, but as she explained her situation, I quickly realized that she had fallen into our state's Medicaid gap.

A few years before in 2014, thanks to the Affordable Care Act, she received Cost Sharing Reductions to afford commercial health insurance for the first time at an affordable rate.

Unfortunately, President Trump has decided that he doesn't value those CSRs and has pulled those subsidies. But last year, before his harmful decision was implemented, my hairdresser fell victim to another form of health care sabotage—our Republican Governor's failure to expand Medicaid.

Since 2014, my hairdresser had comprehensive coverage through Blue Cross, subsidized by cost sharing reductions from the ACA. She had access to primary care appointments and everything she needed to lead a healthy life. Unfortunately, hairdressing is one of the many careers in the service economy in which income fluctuates from year to year. And in 2017, her income fell below the poverty line.

If she lived in an expansion state, she would have had the option to be covered by Medicaid while she continued to work. But instead, she lives in Alabama. She was left without coverage because she made too much to qualify for Medicaid.

She was forced into the commercial market with no premium assistance whatsoever. Premiums are higher in states that didn't expand Medicaid. Therefore, premiums in Alabama are much higher than what she could afford. President Trump's elimination of the cost-sharing reductions has been cited by insurers as a driving force behind premium hikes in 2018.

My hairdresser was anxious about having an emergency in which she would be left with large medical bills she couldn't pay. I was heartbroken seeing her pain. Fortunately, we were able to connect her with patient navigators at a large hospital in Birmingham. The Trump Administration has ended contracts with navigators under the ACA, but since the hospital has sufficient resources, they have taken the cost of continuing the program on themselves.

I was happy we could help her, but there are millions of working Americans like her who don't have that kind of access to their Member of Congress. For these Americans, even a year without basic health care coverage can be catastrophic.

When I think about the health disparities currently plaguing Republican states, I think about all of the constituents I've met while in Congress. We cannot allow our working constituents to continue being victims of political malpractice. We can no longer ignore the vulnerable residents of non-expansion states and their needs.

Make no mistake, the ACA strengthened access to primary health care services across the country, even in non-expansion states. In Alabama alone, the law gave 897,000 mental health and substance use disorder benefits, treated more than two million children and adults for pre-existing conditions, and gave more than 650,000 Medicare enrollees free preventives services. However, approximately 235,000 Alabamians would have gained health insurance coverage if the state expanded Medicaid.

It is my sincere hope that Congress will work together to alleviate the economic constraints of health care access for hardworking individuals across America. We need to restore what was best about the ACA and improve access for all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, June 27, 2018, I was recorded as a NO on Roll Call No. 302. I had intended to vote YES on Roll Call No. 302.

CRISIS IN THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we held a hearing on human rights abuses and targeted killings in the Anglophone region of the Republic of Cameroon. We explored the roots of this emerging crisis, and U.S. policy options for addressing human rights violations and instability in the Anglophone region, which affects not only stability in Cameroon, but also in the region.

The increased tempo of government repression is fueling secessionist sentiment, leading to instability in the country in advance of presidential elections scheduled for October. Cameroon's political stability is of great importance to the U.S. because the country plays a critical role in American counterterrorism efforts against Boko Haram in the west and central Africa.

We also have ongoing concerns about 85-year-old strongman Paul Biya, who has either served as Prime Minister or as President since 1975 and who seems disconnected if not at odds with many of the people he is supposed to serve—particularly the English-speaking minority.

As the U.S. is involved in training and equipping Cameroonian security forces to strengthen regional capacity to combat terrorism, it is necessary to re-evaluate further counterterrorism cooperation with Cameroon to ensure the protection of Cameroonian civilians and respect for civil and political rights—including the most fundamental of rights, the right to life.

Understanding the history of Cameroon—or, rather, “the Cameroons,” as the choice between the singular and plural form is fraught with significance—is necessary for understanding the present crisis.

While it is a country of great African ethnic diversity, the main dividing line is linguistic, reflecting a colonial past which saw the French-speaking region gain independence from France in 1960 and union with the southern portion of the former mandate territory of British Cameroon the following year.

The country that was formed was the Federal Republic of the Cameroon, and the national flag that was adopted had two stars, signaling to the world the union of two coequal states under one constitution. English speakers were always a minority, however, and the political and constitutional basis under which they entered into a union eroded over time.

In 1972, then-President Ahmadou Ahidjo abolished the federal system of government and created a unitary “United Republic of

Cameroon.” The flag was not changed until 1975 to reflect this new imposition of monist rule, when the two stars gave way to one. In 1984, President Biya again revised the Constitution, which changed the country's name to the present “Republic of Cameroon.” The current Constitutional iteration dates back to 1996, and on paper, at least, restores a certain degree of federalist autonomy in response to Anglophone demands.

The reality is, however, different.

In 2016, the central government triggered a crisis by appointing French-speaking teachers and judges in the Anglophone areas.

To English-speakers, it felt like an occupation. Certain Anglophone activists declared independence of a “Federal Republic of Ambazonia” in 2017, which had led to a heavy-handed response by the military. Security forces have reportedly burned down villages, arrested and killed protesters in Anglophone areas, though it also must be noted that French-speaking teachers have been targeted by English-speaking separatists.

As Congress, we need to address whether we can continue to cooperate with Cameroon's security forces, given the reported abuses, and if so, how.

As the International Crisis Group—which is supplied one of our witnesses—has emphasized, the Cameroonian government's use of the military against its English-speaking citizens has exacerbated the situation. Indeed, our U.S. Ambassador to Cameroon Peter Barlerin has criticized Cameroon's actions and has expressed his concerns about the government's use of disproportionate force.

The Anglophone crisis casts a shadow upon the upcoming presidential elections. The credibility of the election, slated for October, is already under question as the government has yet to make serious preparations. It is assumed that strongman Paul Biya will run for re-election, but given his age and frequent absences abroad it is uncertain who will succeed him eventually.

There are also growing humanitarian concerns attributable to the Anglophone crisis. An estimated 160,000 people have been displaced within Cameroon, and over 21,000 Cameroonians have fled to neighboring Nigeria as refugees.

The continued malign presence of Boko Haram in northeastern Cameroon, attacking people in both Cameroon and in Nigeria, is a further complication which has led to an estimated 96,000 Nigerians fleeing the other way to Cameroon. Congress must then also weigh the need to assist Cameroon in its fight against Boko Haram.

Given all these spillover factors, we can see that a failure to solve the Anglophone crisis is not purely a domestic affair, but a regional one which implicates U.S. security interests.

HONORING ROSA BILSTON

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Rosa Bilston, my constituent from New Haven, for her commitment to the nation and to public service. Despite recent shootings at schools across the country, Congress has

failed to pass any meaningful reform to school safety or firearm regulations.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the house not to forget that at the core of this discussion is the fact that the lives of children like Ms. Bilston are impacted every day by gun violence. It is with great pride that I include in the RECORD the powerful words of Ms. Bilston.

ROSA BILSTON, AGE 11—SPEECH ON GUN VIOLENCE

Today I would like to talk about gun violence. A few months ago, 17 people were killed at Parkland school in Florida. Then, a few weeks ago, 10 people were killed in a shooting in a Texas school.

Hearing about this was very hard for me because my family is from Texas. It shook me to know that children were killed in a place I feel so close to.

When I was in Kindergarten, there was a shooting in Sandy Hook, Connecticut. Many children died. This was told to me at the time, but I didn't remember it for a long while. We were just about to leave for Germany, and our minds were focused on leaving the country.

I remembered it again after the Parkland shooting and at first I found it appalling that two shootings could be so close together in our country.

But then I realized there were lots more school shootings in America. In fact, this year, there have been 22 school shootings. And this spring, a friend of mine lost her friend in Guilford. He was handling a gun. It wasn't a school shooting but he was still killed by a gun. This was appalling to me and to my friend.

I'm talking about guns today for two reasons. The first is that children should be aware of this, because it is happening to children.

The second is that I strongly believe President Trump should ban assault weapons. These kill lots of people very quickly. I would also like to see more background checks: at present people who are mentally troubled are able to own war weapons which are made to kill mass numbers of people. These should not be owned by anyone other than people in the army.

I personally do not believe that anyone should own a gun, but I understand that others do not have this view. My grandmother in England has a gun. I definitely believe, and I think others can agree with this, that the conditions here for gun owning should be the same as they are for my grandmother. Her gun is kept in a locked cabinet, away from ammunition. The police check this every year, and every year she completes paperwork to prove that she is still healthy. I believe this should be the norm here too.

The way I think we should change policy is by protesting. Over the past years it has been the grown-ups who have been saying that things are not okay. Congress has not changed anything. The government has not changed anything. Obama tried to ban assault rifles during his presidency but Congress said no. So now grown-ups have tried everything they can. Congress must hear a new voice. That is the voice of children, our friends and our neighbors and classmates. It should not just be those with personal connections to those who've died, it should be all those who see something here is wrong.

If the new generation doesn't step up to the plate, nothing will happen. As Dr. Martin Luther King said, "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." We must not be silent. Thank you.

HONORING ROSETTA SEXTON

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of Rosetta Sexton, a valued, respected and devoted member of my staff. After over twenty-one years of service to the constituents of the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois, Mrs. Sexton will be retiring from her role as Senior Outreach Coordinator with the U.S. House of Representatives.

Rosetta, one of 5 children born in Chicago, Illinois to Joe and Rose Ferazzo, attended St. Angela Grade School. She attended Notre Dame High School for Girls located on the northwest side of the City of Chicago. When she was 15, she met the love of her life, John Sexton. They married in 1972 and together raised their family. John and Rosetta were very active in the 36th Ward Regular Democratic Organization working with Alderman William J.P. Banks and State Senator James DeLeo. In 2001, when John was diagnosed with throat cancer, Rosetta remained by his side offering immeasurable love and support and living up to her designation as the rock of their family. Since her husband's death in 2004, she continues to provide the same warmth and strength to her family.

Rosetta would be the first to tell you that her family is her first priority; they are the loves of her life. Her family includes her daughter, Laurie Moran and her husband, Joseph, and their children, Jack and Alyssa; her son, John Jr., and her daughter Diana Bowler, her husband, Matt, and their children, Blake, Brooklyn, Brynn, and their fourth child due in July. I am pleased that her retirement will offer her the opportunity to spend more quality time with those closest to her.

I invite my colleagues, my staff, and my constituents to join me in thanking her for her unrelenting dedication to the people of Illinois' Fifth District. I thank her for her invaluable service, professionalism and friendship and wish her well in all future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DEPUTY ZAC BUTTERCASE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Deputy Zac Buttercase of Sidney, Iowa on his selection as the 2018 Iowa American Legion Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. Zac is a Deputy with the Fremont County Sheriff's Department. The Williams-Jobe-Gibson American Legion Post No. 128 nominated Deputy Buttercase for this Award.

Deputy Buttercase has been with the Fremont County Sheriff's Department since 2014. He is a K-9 handler with his canine partner, Judge. Deputy Buttercase is a veteran of the Iowa National Guard and has served deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Deputy Zac Buttercase for his selection for

this award. Zac has 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 United States House of Representatives join me in honoring his accomplishments. I thank him for his service to the Fremont County and to his country and I wish him all the best in all his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROGER MATTES, JR., GOVERNOR OF ROTARY DISTRICT 7410

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Roger Mattes, Jr., who will become governor of Rotary District 7410 on Sunday, July 1. District 7410 covers forty-three Rotary clubs in ten counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania and serves over a thousand members. Roger joined Rotary International in 1985. Since then, he has served the organization in many capacities, including as president of his local chapter and on the Board of Directors. He is a graduate of Rotary Leadership Institute and a recipient of Rotary's Paul Harris Fellowship Award.

Roger is a 1976 graduate of Valley Forge Military Academy. He attended DePauw University, graduating in 1980 with a Bachelor's degree in English. He went on to obtain his G.R.I. from the Pennsylvania Realtors Institute. In 1991, Roger received his Juris Doctor from Drake University Law School in Des Moines, Iowa.

Roger has been practicing law for over twenty years and is president of Mattes & Mattes, P.C. in Scranton. He is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals, and the U.S. District Court Middle District of Pennsylvania, among others. His outstanding work as an attorney has earned him several awards, including the American Lawyer's Distinguished Service Citation and the Winner's Circle Award.

It is an honor to recognize Roger Mattes as he assumes the role of governor for Rotary District 7410. His achievements are significant, and his service to the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania is immeasurable. May he continue his commitment to community service, and I wish him all the best.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MARKUP

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today we held a markup on various important measures. I'd like to express support of the Democratic Republic of the Congo Democracy and Accountability Act, H.R. 6207, of which I am the proud sponsor, along with our lead Democratic cosponsor, my good friend and ranking member of our subcommittee, Rep. KAREN BASS.

I would also like to thank Chairman ED ROYCE and Ranking Member ENGEL, both of whom are original cosponsors, for scheduling this bill for markup so soon after introduction.

A sense of urgency with regard to the DR Congo is not misplaced.

As many of you know, the DRC is a strategically-located, resource-rich country which, unfortunately, has been misgoverned for most of its history.

H.R. 6207 supports the humanitarian and accountability efforts of civil society groups pushing back against civil strife and political repression. In particular, it acknowledges the role of the faith community and the Catholic Church, which educates and heals the Congolese people through its schools and hospitals while upholding the need for the rule of law and respect for constitutional principles in the DRC.

H.R. 6207 also supports a free and fair electoral process in the DRC which is long overdue. It is in our national security interest to support the Congolese people's call for democracy and accountability. Plus it is the right thing to do.

Notably, H.R. 6207 puts human rights violators and corrupt actors in the Democratic Republic of Congo under notice, codifying existing tools that allow us to sanction bad actors.

I urge my colleagues to join us by cosponsoring H.R. 6207.

I am also proud to be a sponsor of H.R. 1697, the Israel Anti-Boycott Act.

This Act will help protect Israel from unfair and punitive boycott efforts fomented by biased international organizations.

I commend my good friends PETER ROSKAM, JUAN VARGAS, and LEE ZELDIN for introducing this critical bipartisan measure to protect Israeli and American sovereignty and economic interests. I would also like to recognize our Chairman ED ROYCE's work to amend this bill to bring it to a full committee vote.

The notoriously anti-Israel agenda of the UN Human Rights Council in recent years has developed into a dangerous assault on Israel's economy. Pursuant to a March 2016 UNHRC resolution decrying businesses that operate beyond Israel's 1949 Armistice lines, the Human Rights Council in recent years has carried out an insidious blacklisting effort that is tantamount to economic warfare against the State of Israel.

Earlier this year the Council announced that it had compiled a list of 206 companies that it believed ought to be boycotted because they operate outside Israel's old boundaries. Of these 206 UN-blacklisted companies, 143 are based in Israel and 22 in the United States. Clearly it is right to protect these companies from damaging boycotts and to stand by our stalwart ally, Israel, the only democratic country in the region.

This legislation directs the President to amend U.S. commerce and foreign trade laws to prohibit American companies from knowingly complying with boycotts targeted at American allies. I urge my colleagues to support this measure to deliver badly-needed protection to American and Israeli companies whose legitimate business should not be manipulated to serve a hateful, anti-Israel political agenda.

I further urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5898, the UNRWA Accountability Act, another bipartisan measure introduced by DAVID CICILLINE and LEE ZELDIN.

For years the United States has been the world's largest donor to an organization that amplifies a Palestinian curriculum which propagates anti-Israel and anti-Semitic animus while entrenching conflict between Israelis and Palestinians. By conferring refugee status to successive generations of displaced Palestinians, UNRWA contributes to a ballooning population of aggrieved people who in turn are manipulated by those seeking to maintain pressure upon Israel.

United States aid to UNRWA must conform to United States' interests in securing true peace for Israel and the Palestinian people. This means applying real oversight and scrutiny to UNRWA's policies. It also means identifying alternatives to UNRWA if its mandate is at odds with our interests. This legislation requires a report that will help Congress conduct this critical oversight. This bill has my full support.

I would like to thank Representative NORMA TORRES for introducing H. Res. 944. This is a simple, compassionate resolution that expresses solidarity for the people of Guatemala who lost their loved ones and their homes to the terrible volcanic eruption of Mount Fuego on the third of June.

I am proud to be the lead Republican cosponsor of this resolution, for which Ms. TORRES, along with her staffer Clay Boggs, deserve the credit.

I also want to note as an aside, that Congresswoman TORRES and I have at times found ourselves on different sides of policy debates, including toward Guatemala.

What is important, however, is that when disaster strikes, we put aside our differences and unite in solidarity with those who suffer. Indeed, we have received thanks from people in Guatemala, and I am sure Ms. TORRES has as well, who note with appreciation this bipartisan coming together to support the Guatemalan people.

I urge my colleagues, Republican and Democrat, to join us.

RECOGNIZING THE MONTANA OUTFITTERS AND GUIDES ASSOCIATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Montana Outfitters and Guides Association. The organization started Big Hearts Under the Big Sky, a program providing guided and outfitted trips at no charge to recipients. The recipients include breast cancer patients and survivors, children with serious illnesses, and veterans.

The association identifies families and matches their recreation wishes with member organizations. Recipients get to experience Montana's breath-taking scenery in backcountry outings. Some choose to fly fish the Yellowstone River, while others hunt trophy elk, moose, and other big game.

Celebrating its tenth year, Big Hearts Under the Big Sky is a testament to the restorative power of Montana's outdoors, to the hard work of Montana's more than 200 licensed outfitters and guides, and to the selflessness of the volunteers and sponsors who make this program possible.

For opening Montana's outdoor treasures to those who need it most, I recognize the Montana Outfitters and Guides Association for embodying the spirit of Montana.

CONGRATULATING MASTER TROOPER JAMES TOON ON BEING PRESENTED THE PUBLIC SAFETY VALOR AWARD

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Master Trooper James Toon for receiving the Greater Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce's Public Safety Valor Award.

A native of Whiteville, North Carolina, Master Trooper Toon moved to Fayetteville in 1989 where he was stationed at Fort Bragg while serving in the Army. After serving our country as a Demolition Sergeant, Master Trooper Toon joined the Fayetteville Police Department for three years before joining the North Carolina State Highway Patrol where he has served faithfully ever since.

While Master Trooper Toon was off-duty traveling to downtown Fayetteville, he came across a car on fire. After pulling over to investigate, he noticed individuals trapped inside the burning vehicle. He was able to free one woman from the car, and because of his heroism, she made a full recovery. I want to thank Master Trooper Toon for his courage and valor in this heroic act.

Master Trooper Toon is married to his wife Kimberly, and they have two wonderful children. I am extremely grateful for Master Trooper Toon's service to our community and I wish him continued success. The Valor Award is presented to those who execute extreme acts of heroism in order to save the lives of others in our community, and I can think of no more deserving recipient than Master Trooper Toon.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Master Trooper James Toon on receiving the Greater Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce's Public Safety Valor Award.

CHILDREN ON THE BORDER

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD this article by Ms. Phyllis Beren concerning children separated from their parents at the southern border.

CHILDREN ON THE BORDER

(By Phyllis Beren)

As I thought about the honor of separating young children from their families at the U.S. border, what came to mind was the London bombings during World War II, when many children were evacuated to the country to stay with foster families. I recalled the war nurseries of the Hampstead Clinic in London and the work of Anna Freud and Dorothy Burlingham, who ran these nurseries and observed the children who were separated from their mothers during the war. One of their observations that has

stayed with me for more than forty years of practice as a psychoanalyst and child therapist was the traumatic effect of separation from their mothers. "The war acquires comparatively little significance for children so long as it only threatens their lives, disturbs their material comfort or cuts their food rations. It becomes enormously significant the moment it breaks up family ties and uproots the first emotional attachments of the child within the family group. London children, therefore, were on the whole much less upset by bombing than by evacuation to the country as a protection against it." (p. 37 War and Children, by Anna Freud and Dorothy T. Burlingham)

I don't believe it is an exaggeration to say that our country is now engaged in a war—a war to overthrow our democracy, a war on our constitution and legal system, a war on our principles, and a war on being human. Usually the first to suffer are the most vulnerable and defenseless, as we are now witnessing in the treatment of young children at our border. We are giving no thought to the child abuse we are inflicting on these children—in fact, we are doing the opposite; we are turning a blind eye, which is the main characteristic of child abuse. Child abuse takes many forms, not only visible, external bruises. The wrenching separation that these young children are experiencing every minute they are apart from their families is a trauma inflicted that will remain an open wound. Daily, we are reading about the visible distress these children show—terror, severe separation anxiety, sleeplessness, nightmares, crying, begging for their parents.

Why is zero tolerance an acceptable policy? "Zero tolerance" implies a police state where torture or murder is necessary if one crosses the border illegally. Zero tolerance gives permission to commit child abuse by separating the children from their parents. All child experts agree that such separation is a form of child abuse that can leave the children with permanent mental and physical damage. Separation of children from parents is child abuse; it is not an attempt to enforce the law, but rather an attempt to terrorize the parents by threatening them with the permanent loss of their children. Families with children can be detained together if necessary, without resorting to abuse by separating children from their parents, destroying the family bond, and inflicting severe and often irreversible mental and physical harm on the children.

As a child, I had the good fortune to survive World War II with my parents by my side. We were together in a displaced persons camp in Germany in the American section from 1946 to 1952 before immigrating to the United States. The United States Army, our heroes, who oversaw the camp provided a safe community for the refugees. There is no comparison between my childhood in the DP camp and the children separated from their families at our border. Today, I no longer recognize the country we live in.

We adult citizens of this country and our elected representatives know of this abuse, and we are nevertheless allowing it to continue, which makes all of us complicit.

TRIBUTE TO KATELYN THOMPSON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Katelyn Thompson, from Guthrie County Hospital in Guthrie Center, Iowa. Ms. Thomp-

son was awarded the 2018 DAISY Award For Extraordinary Nurses at a ceremony on May 10, 2018.

This award is part of the DAISY Foundation's program to recognize the superhuman efforts nurses perform every day. Katelyn was nominated by patients, families, and colleagues because of her willingness to give her best efforts for the patients at GCH.

I applaud and congratulate Katelyn for her award and for providing excellent patient care in Iowa's Third District. I am proud to represent her and all the employees of the Guthrie County Hospital in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in congratulating Katelyn Thompson and wishing her well and continued success in the future.

THE BANKSTON FORK BAPTIST CHURCH'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the bicentennial anniversary of the Bankston Fork Baptist Church in Harrisburg, Illinois. The church was founded in 1818 by Wilson Henderson and Chester Carpenter.

The Bankston Fork Baptist Church has existed as a religious body for 200 years and has continuously given back to the community. After the church opened, they immediately started to spread their message of love, friendship and equality throughout the area. Bankston Fork Baptist Church is one of the oldest churches in Illinois and the church has occupied five different buildings in four different locations during its tenure.

I offer my congratulations to the members of Bankston Fork Baptist Church on their bicentennial anniversary. I wish them many more prosperous years in the future.

COMMEMORATING OLYMPIA MIDDLE SCHOOL ON RECEIVING THE SCHOOL TO WATCH RECOGNITION

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize Olympia Middle School as a 2018 winner of the Schools to Watch initiative. This recognition is a testament to the hard work both the faculty and students have put into another successful year.

The Schools to Watch program was developed in 1999 by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform as a way to highlight schools across the country that meet a high standard for educational excellence. The initiative chooses schools based on a holistic evaluation of academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, and social equity, all within a strong organizational support structure.

I was not surprised to hear that Olympia Middle School was selected for this honor because I know the level of hard work and dedication the staff, administration, and students all exhibit. Congratulations to Olympia Middle

School. I am proud to represent this shining example of educational excellence.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced the District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment Home Rule Act. This bill would give the District the authority to appoint all members of the D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment (Board), except when the Board is performing functions regarding an application by a foreign mission with respect to a chancery. The Board issues special exceptions, or variances, to the regulations issued by the D.C. Zoning Commission (Commission). This bill does not alter the authority of the Board.

Like every other jurisdiction in the United States, the District should be free to set its own local land-use policies. As the District continues to contend with rapid population growth and economic development, it is more important than ever that the members of the Board are accountable to District residents and local elected officials.

Under current law, in general, the Board consists of a representative each from the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) and the Commission, each of whom may be a federal official, and three mayoral appointees, subject to D.C. Council approval. The Board has no authority over federal property.

Under current law, when the Board is performing functions regarding an application by a foreign mission with respect to the location, expansion or replacement of a chancery, the Board consists of the Executive Director of NCPC; the Director of the National Park Service, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Interior, or the Administrator of General Services, as designated by the President; and the three mayoral appointees. This bill does not change this composition.

This is an important step to recognize and increase home rule for the District, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING LUKE COHEN

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Luke Cohen on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah, and for his dedication to public service. Recent events in our nation have highlighted the social and political divide that we all must work to bridge. It is with great pride that I include in the RECORD the powerful words of Mr. Cohen, delivered on the day of his Bar Mitzvah.

Mr. Speaker, while this speech encourages us all to fight for equality and protection under the law, it also reminds us that we must work to improve our society for our children and grandchildren.

BAR MITZVAH SPEECH

(By Luke Cohen)

Hello everyone, and thanks for coming. For my Bar Mitzvah, I decided to explore the consequences of hate and the importance of tolerance. I found this topic interesting because, after the tragedy at the rally in Charlottesville last August, I thought about all the people who have been killed because they were black or immigrants or just because they were different from someone else.

I believe that acceptance and tolerance are really needed in our society. Just because someone is different from you does not mean it's ok to make fun of them or be mean or hateful towards them and yet it still happens everyday, all around the world.

This year I learned about the Anti-Defamation League or "ADL." ADL is a non-profit organization whose mission is "To stop the defamation of the Jewish people, and to secure justice and fair treatment to all. . ." Their mission is pretty straight forward, but it is hard to achieve. I like that ADL is trying to stop hatred and make sure all people get treated fairly because it is an important goal. Working towards that goal can have a good impact in the world. Although ADL was founded to combat anti-Semitism and protect Jewish people, it has grown to help everyone.

On the ADL's website there is a video called the Imagine video, which imagines a world without racism, homophobia or anti-semitism, a world in which many terrible hate crimes didn't happen. So I watched the video and it really inspired me. This video was made in 2013 and shows people who were killed by hate crimes and what they could have accomplished.

Let's watch it together now. . . <https://www.adl.org/imagine-a-world-without-hate>

JEWISH CONNECTION

I hope you found this video as inspiring as I did. I found this video really sad as well, because of how in less than 2 seconds, someone can kill a person and crush out all of their potential. I also found this video inspiring because if we stop hate crimes like these, so many people can achieve their potential and greatly help the world. Just for a second, think of someone who you know about who was killed and think of what they could have accomplished if they hadn't been murdered.

For example, I think about what more Martin Luther King Jr. could have done. I think he could have worked to improve pay for poor, minority workers and continued being a voice for positive change in America.

Since I decided to explore hate crimes, I wanted to see what Judaism says about hatred and tolerance. For example, the Book of Leviticus, which is one of the books of the Old Testament, says, "You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against your countrymen. Love your fellow as yourself." This means that you should not hold anger or take revenge on people around you, and I agree with that. In my view, each person deserves fair treatment and nothing good happens if people take revenge or hate out on other people. But I don't think we should act a certain way simply because of what is in the bible or torah. We should act that way because we actually care about people and know that hatred is destructive and hurtful.

Another passage is from a Midrash or ancient commentary on the Bible that links the last quote to hatred and revenge. Rabbi Akiva says, "Thus, one should not say, 'since I am scorned, I should scorn my fellow as well; since I have been cursed, I will curse my fellow as well.'" These quotes mean that you should take revenge on people because your anger or hatred for other people.

As humanists we believe that hatred and revenge are not ok. Our reason for thinking

that we should eliminate hatred and revenge is that people shouldn't have to suffer and get hurt because of other people's hatred. We are responsible for our own actions. I will explain later, that I started the No Place For Hate club at school to raise awareness of these issues and discuss the impacts they can have.

Finally, in the book of Yoma, it says, "However, considering that the people during the Second Temple period were engaged in Torah study, observance of mitzvot, and acts of kindness, and that they did not perform the sinful acts that were performed in the First Temple, why was the Second Temple destroyed? It was destroyed due to the fact that there was wanton hatred during that period." Yoma goes on to say that the sin of wanton hatred is equivalent to the worst transgressions including bloodshed. I think this means that hatred destroys things, lives, and potential and it makes the world worse. So God thought that the good acts did not make up for hatred, which is just as bad as physically hurting people.

And, as we see with hate crimes, hate can have serious consequences even in a world of kindness and mitzvot. Also, Even as humanists we can learn a lot from the Bible's teachings. In thinking about the imagine video and the concepts of hatred and hate crimes, I decided to research three victims of hate crimes from the video: Yitzhak Rabin, an important Jewish figure, Matthew Shepard, who was killed for being gay, and James Byrd, who was killed for being black.

My dad said that I can't talk about hate crimes at a Bar Mitzvah without mentioning the Holocaust, which was a huge hate crime against the Jews. More than 6 million Jews were killed by the hatred of Adolf Hitler and the Nazis. The Nazis killed lots of other people too. But today I will talk about individual hate crimes. Like the three people I chose.

YITZHAK RABIN

First, I will focus on Yitzhak Rabin. He was a famous Prime Minister of Israel who was killed because of a hate crime. In the late 1940's, he fought in the arab-Israeli war, which was a war between Israel and five other Arab nations, over the Israeli territory. In 1967, he served as chief of staff of the Israeli military during the 6-day war against Egypt, Jordan and Syria.

In 1973, Rabin was appointed minister of labor, and served 3 years as prime minister before he was forced to resign. But, in 1992, he regained his position of Prime minister and focused his attention on the Arab-Israeli Peace Process, which is a complicated issue with many different opinions.

OSLO ACCORDS

I think there is conflict because the land given to create the state of Israel in the 1940's is coveted Jewish land and the hold land for the other two monotheistic religions as well, which are Islam and Christianity. One part of the peace process was called the Oslo accords. The Oslo accords were meant to make both Israel and Palestine recognize each other as legitimate countries, and to make peace by reaching agreement on disputed lands.

Yitzhak Rabin and Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian Leader shook hands on the first Oslo agreement on the White House Law in 1993. Later, Arafat, Rabin, and Israeli President Shimon Peres got the Nobel Peace prize in 1994 for these efforts. Then they signed a second agreement—Oslo 2—on September 28, 1995.

Some of the Israeli people were angry because they thought the Palestinians were trying to get the land and not make peace. Any many Palestinians believed that Israel mistreated them and came in and stole most

of their land. Many people hated each other on both sides. Shortly after Oslo 2 was signed, on November 4, 1995, Rabin was killed by Yigal Amir. Amir was an Israeli Law student and orthodox Jewish extremist. He believed that Yitzhak Rabin was giving the Palestinians too much kindness with the peace process and shouldn't allow the Palestinians any control over the land. Yitzhak Rabin's assassination was a hate crime because was killed due to Amir's hate for the Palestinians and what Rabin was trying to accomplish. And, ironically, Rabin was killed at a peace rally. Yitzhak Rabin's death was especially tragic for many reasons. He was an amazing leader and was a key force behind the peace agreements, which started to work before his death. Unfortunately, without Rabin, the peace agreements collapsed. Five years later, there were riots, attacks and suicide bombings, which ended the peace process. There has been little real progress since. Imagine what might have happened if he wasn't killed.

MATTHEW SHEPARD/JAMES BYRD, JR.

Then I researched Matthew Shepard who had a very different story. He was born in 1976 in Casper, Wyoming and he was a pretty normal kid, who did all the normal kid stuff. He had one difference though. He was gay, which was much less tolerated in the past than it is today.

He had a normal life though, or at least until an awful thing happened on October 7, 1998. On that day, he met 2 guys, Russell Henderson and Aaron McKinney, whom Shepard believed were also gay, at a bar in Chicago. When he got in their pickup truck to leave the bar with these "Gay Men," they kidnapped him. After beating him severely, they tied him to a fence in the freezing cold. He was not found for 18 hours and even though he was rushed to a nearby hospital he died 5 days later.

Both Russel Henderson and Aaron McKinney were arrested after the police found Shepard's belongings in McKinney's van. They were later convicted for the murder of Shepard and each received a life term in prison. They had no motive for the crime other than that they hated gay people and Shepard was gay. Unlike Yitzhak Rabin, who had the opportunity to do great things before he died, Matthew Shepard was only 21 when he was killed. Imagine what he could have accomplished if he lived a full life.

James Byrd Jr. was also in the imagine video and was killed in a terrible hate crime, but this was because he was black. It is hard to talk about hate crimes, especially in America, without talking about hate crimes against black people. This is an awful story. On June 7, 1998, James Byrd was 31 years old. He was walking home in Jasper, Texas, where he lived with his wife and three children. Three white men asked him if he needed a ride and then brutally murdered him. They threw his body in front of an African-American cemetery and just drove away. This was another terrible event and it saddens me just to think about it. Imagine what good he could have done is he had not been murdered.

The murders of Matthew Shepard and James Byrd were two of the worst hate crimes I've ever heard of. Both men were killed because of other people's hatred and prejudice. When Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. were killed, there was no federal law to punish these kinds of crimes. Their murders made people press for a change in the law. Years later, President Obama signed the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crime Prevention Act. This was to punish people who commit terrible hate crimes like these and hopefully prevent some of them from happening in the future.

I spoke with Fara Gold, a Civil Rights prosecutor at the Department of Justice, who prosecuted the first case under the Shepard/Byrd Act. In another sad hate crime, three white men branded swastikas on a Native American boy who accidentally wandered off the Indian Reservation. She told me that the men wouldn't have served their full jail time without this new law.

THE "NO PLACE FOR HATE" CLUB

In thinking about how to take action in my community, I created a club called "No Place for Hate" at my school. The club has about 17 members. It's a club that encourages kindness and tries to create a tolerant, inclusive school environment. On April 25, ADL recognized the efforts of our club and name Alice Deal Middle school as an official "No Place for Hate" School. A school qualifies by doing an activity that promotes a healthy school climate and having most people in the school sign a pledge saying that they will try to make the school a good place for everyone there.

Our first activity was a "Yellow Brick Road" to peace. One morning, every class in the school had a group discussion about hate and tolerance. Then, everyone around the school decorated a "brick," which was a half sheet of paper, that said "We can make. Deal an accepting community by. . ." and people had to express their ideas. We then put the completed sheets up in the gallery, which is a place that everyone walks through and can see everyday.

People also signed a Resolution of Respect. They agreed to six principles to combat prejudice and hate and promote respect and dignity. Such as, I WILL SPEAK OUT AGAINST prejudice and discrimination.

These principles are what drive the club at Alice Deal Middle School and other NPFH schools. I think these are great principles that could be used in everyday life to make the world a better place. Now, I would like to invite my fellow members of our Club to stand up and be recognized.

I will carry the club through the end of this year and into next year with the support of the club members. We hope to make the NPFH club one that carries through the Deal community for years to come.

This experience has taught me that, even though we've come a long way, hate continues to be a common problem in our communities. Through efforts like NPFH, we can try to stop some of those acts from happening. All the schools at the NPFH ceremony had done activities, which showed me that young people can make a difference. For example, there was a high school senior who was Sikh, which is a religion. After a hate crime at a sikh (seek) temple, she went out in her community to educate all kids in her county about her religion to prevent ignorance and hatred. Many of the other schools did very impressive things too.

I hope that my presentation encourages everyone to open their hearts and think about whether we truly accept people with differences. If you would like to donate to the No Place for Hate program, I would be happy to give you the information about how you can do that. Before I close, I would like to thank a few people who helped me. First, I would like to thank Rabbi Jeremy for helping me find the quotes from the Jewish texts and Norman hall for teaching our class this year. Next, I would like to thank Ms. Newman and Seth Gordon-Lipkin for their help with the club. I would also like to thank all the people who came out today to support me. And most of all I would like to thank my family, especially my parents, for their help and supportiveness and for making today possible. Finally I would like to thank Rigby and Juliet for their support and friendship

throughout this whole project and their parents for their help too. In closing, this experience has shown me that we can all make a difference and take a stand against intolerance. As Albus Dumbledore said in Book 4 of Harry Potter, "Difference of habit and language are nothing at all if our aims are identical and our hearts are open."

Thank you.

CONGRATULATING FAYETTEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINE 3, ENGINE 14 AND RESCUE 1 FOR RECEIVING THE PUBLIC SAFETY VALOR AWARD

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Assistant Chief Robert Brinson, Captain Michael Reep and Captain Jonathan Ferguson, along with Firefighters Stacy Ritchie, Corey Sasser, Albert Lockamy, Zachary Wages and Stanton James for receiving the Greater Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce's Public Safety Valor Award for their work with the Fayetteville Fire Department Engine 3, Engine 14 and Rescue 1 teams.

We are all familiar with the heroic work our firefighters do protecting our communities. Whether it is giving us peace of mind or saving the lives of others when a crisis strikes, the men and women who put on these uniforms are unsung heroes in towns and cities all across our nation. They work long hours, day and night, to ensure that we feel safe as we go about our daily lives.

The Valor Award is presented by the Greater Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce to those who execute extreme acts of heroism in order to save the lives of others in our community. The members of Fayetteville Fire Department Engine 3, Engine 14 and Rescue 1 teams were put to the test when a vehicle struck a gas line and a life-threatening fire rapidly progressed towards the car while a man laid unconscious inside. Because of the quick action and smart decisions made by the team, the victim was saved and taken to the hospital where he made a complete recovery. I'm absolutely awed by the selflessness and courage displayed by these men and women who put their lives in danger to help others on a daily basis.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the Fayetteville Fire Department Engine 3, Engine 14 and Rescue 1 on receiving the Public Safety Valor Award for their courageous service to our community.

IN HONOR OF TAMINA CEMETERY AND COMMUNITY PROJECT CDC

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize and celebrate the rich, vibrant history and perseverant spirit of the people of the Tamina Community in the Eighth Congressional District of Texas.

Tamina's roots can be traced back to 1871, when scores of freed slaves came to work on

the railroads. Under the guidance of educator R.B. Niles and businessman John Nilor, a community began to grow—marking the beginning of what would someday be known as one of the oldest and most historic communities in Texas.

Acting as a hub for railroad workers and as a home to many of the earliest employees of Grogan's Mill, Tamina quickly grew into a community largely defined by its resilience, diversity, and resourcefulness. As the world around it changed, the Tamina community adapted and thrived, all while remaining true to its values and deep roots.

Today, Tamina's heritage represents a wealth of big dreams, shared values, and common goals. A portion of this heritage, including the tombs of freed slaves, Native Americans, and the community's original settlers, has been preserved in the Tamina Sweet Rest Cemetery for over a century. Unfortunately, the rains and flooding of Hurricane Harvey and years of drainage issues have jeopardized the future of this symbol of Tamina's history.

In the spirit of comradery and resolve, which this community has embodied for decades, the descendants of Tamina's founders and its community leaders have formed the Tamina Cemetery and Community Project CDC. This group is committed to raising awareness and the money needed to fully restore and preserve the cemetery so that current and future residents can remember their history and the legacies of their forefathers.

It is my honor to represent this remarkable community in Congress, and I am proud to recognize the residents and community leaders organizing in support of the Tamina Sweet Rest Cemetery. I know that I am joined by the entire Eighth Congressional District of Texas in recognizing their tireless efforts and thanking them for their continued dedication to preserving the rich heritage of the Tamina Community for decades to come.

TRIBUTE TO CONNIE AND BOB BRUNSKILL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Connie and Bob Brunskill of Ellston, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on June 8, 1968 at the Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Connie and Bob's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, 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 ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Connie and Bob Brunskill on this meaningful occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued happiness.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6157) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes:

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chair, today, I will vote against H.R. 6157, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2019.

The legislation includes several provisions that I strongly support, including giving servicemen and women a well-deserved raise of 2.6 percent. Those who serve in uniform have made extraordinary sacrifices for our country and have earned and deserve a pay raise. It also includes funding for Ukraine and Eastern Europe security initiatives to counter Russia's heightened military provocations and annexation of Crimea.

Despite these important initiatives, I have strong concerns with H.R. 6157. This legislation authorizes more than \$674 billion, including \$68 billion to the Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) fund, an account which is not counted in the budget and is not paid for. It adds to the deficit and is used as a slush fund by the Pentagon.

Unlike every other federal agency, the Department of Defense (DOD) has yet to complete a financial audit; taxpayers deserve to know how the biggest bureaucracy in the federal government spends their money. In fact, a shocking report released in December 2016 exposed \$125 billion in waste that the Pentagon tried to hide from the public.

I refuse to support increased bureaucratic waste at the expense of American taxpayers and our men and women in uniform. A more accountable and transparent department would ensure taxpayer dollars are directed towards the needs of our troops and the benefits they deserve, rather than buying unnecessary weapon systems and giving the president a blank check to fund wars Congress hasn't authorized.

I have always advocated for maintaining Congress's constitutionally-confirmed prerogative to declare war under the War Powers Act and limiting the President's authority to engage in armed conflict without the consent of Congress. I strongly oppose this legislation's continued funding for armed conflicts and wars that are not congressionally approved. The Pentagon uses the 2001 Authorization of Use of Military Force (AUMF) to continue to justify the 17 years our troops have been fighting in the Middle East. President Trump has sent troops to Syria, Yemen, and elsewhere without seeking a new AUMF, a violation of the War Powers Act.

Additionally, the bill prohibits the closing of Guantanamo Bay, which costs more than \$100 million each year to house 41 prisoners and has been used as a top recruiting tool by terrorists. The prison at Guantanamo Bay has been a black eye for the United States, has eroded relationships with our allies, undermined U.S. missions abroad, and put U.S. citizens and our troops at risk of retaliation.

Congress can make responsible cuts to our defense budget without jeopardizing the safety of our troops or undermining our national security. Fiscal responsibility and accountability at the Pentagon would allow for funds to be better spent supporting the basic needs of our troops, meeting our obligations to veterans of past wars, and ensuring our true defense needs are prioritized.

HONORING JULIET FRANKLIN

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Juliet Franklin on the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah and for her dedication to public service. Recent events in our nation have highlighted the social and political divide that we must all work to bridge. It is with great pride that I include in the RECORD the powerful words of Ms. Franklin, delivered on the day of her Bat Mitzvah.

Mr. Speaker, while this speech not only calls us all to action to defend civil rights in our nation, this young lady's words also serve as a reminder that we must work to improve our society for our children and grandchildren.

JEWS IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

(By Juliet Franklin)

Good morning. Thank you for coming.

My B'nei mitzvah project is about Jews in the civil rights movement. I decided to do this as my project because I am really interested in history. One thing I seem to learn about over and over again in history is how certain groups of people get mistreated, and I think that is really unfair and unjust. In English class, we read *Warriors Don't Cry*, a book about integration in the civil rights movement, and it made me sad and angry how African Americans were treated in our country. I began to wonder what American Jews did to participate in this movement and what beliefs caused them to do so. I decided to look at this for my bat mitzvah.

During the 20th century, many Jews joined the African-American community in their struggle for civil rights. This is probably, in part, because certain Jewish principles are important to the idea of civil rights. The belief that Jews should do *Tikkun Olam*, an idea from a book of rabbinic teachings called the *Mishnah*, says that Jews should do acts of kindness to repair the world. Another important Jewish concept is *Tzedaka*, an idea derived from the Hebrew word "tzedek" or "justice." From this principle, Jews are directed to give *Tzedaka*, meaning justice or charity to those who are in need. Finally, a central foundation in Judaism, from *Leviticus* in the Torah, is to "love your neighbor as yourself." In our congregation, we believe that a neighbor does not have to be determined by the person's actual geography and that we can be loving, accepting, and supportive of all people.

Jews have their own long history of being discriminated against and being denied rights because they were viewed as different. These experiences of discrimination led many Jews to fight for their own civil rights. It also led some Jewish people to help African Americans in their fight for equality because of the belief that everyone deserves to have freedom, justice, and equality.

One notable example of Jews' involvement in trying to promote social change for African Americans was their help in the develop-

ment of the NAACP. At the start of the 20th century, African Americans faced huge discrimination and persecution in the U.S. They were subject to lynching and other forms of mental and physical violence, often with no efforts by the government to stop it. In 1908, things reached a boiling point when two innocent African American men were lynched in Springfield, Illinois by a white mob during what became known as the Springfield riots. In the wake of these riots, the NAACP was formed in 1909, and several Jewish people are considered to be founders. For more than 100 years and still today, the NAACP works to remove barriers in racial discrimination through legal action and other democratic processes.

Jewish people have also worked to improve long-standing problems with educational opportunities for African Americans, particularly in the South. An especially important contributor was an American Jew named Julius Rosenwald, the son of Jewish immigrants who became the President and then Chairman of Sears, Roebuck, and Company, the equivalent of Amazon.Com today.

Despite his success, social justice for African Americans became a large focus for him as he recognized that African Americans and Jewish people shared an unfortunate experience of discrimination. He said "[t]he horrors that are due to race prejudice come home to the Jew more forcefully than to others of the white race, on account of the centuries of persecution which they have suffered and still suffer."

Rosenwald turned his concern into action. Between 1917 and 1948, Rosenwald contributed funding for over 5,000 schools for African-American kids across the deep South. In fact, by 1928, one-third of the South's rural black school children and teachers were served by Rosenwald Schools. Ultimately, he donated over 70 million dollars to causes to help African Americans, and if you think that sounds like a lot of money now, just imagine how much it was back then!

Though Julius Rosenwald's work did a lot of good, African Americans were still treated very unfairly in our country, and money alone was not going to fix it. During the 1950's and 60's, many Jews continued to help blacks in the south by participating in social action. It is estimated that Jews made up about 30% of the white volunteers that took part in the civil rights movement.

One way that some Jews participated was as freedom riders. Freedom riders rode interstate buses in mixed race groups into the segregated south, in hopes to change the segregated buses law. Being a freedom rider was a dangerous job. Many freedom riders were kicked off buses, beaten up by segregationists or police, or even killed. Jews also participated in dangerous voter registration efforts.

Rabbi Allan Levine is an amazing man who was a freedom rider and fought for civil rights. He was arrested for eating at a restaurant with black people in Jacksonville, Mississippi. He also marched from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama to demand voting rights for African Americans, facing violent state troopers on the Edmund Pettus bridge. His son Ori Levine said of his dad, "Every time he went to the south he made sure to wear his yamakah." He wanted people to know that he was a Jew who came to fight for their rights. It was important for him that everyone knew that Jews fight for the rights of weaker people."

Andrew Goodman and Mickey Schwerner were Jewish men from the north who traveled to the south to participate in civil rights actions in 1964. They worked with James Cheney, an African American, to help register African Americans to vote in Mississippi with the Congress for Racial Equality. While they were there, the three of them

were murdered by Ku Klux Klan members, and their dead bodies were hidden. Not until 2005, exactly 41 years after the murders to the day, was a man charged and ultimately convicted of direct involvement in the murders.

During this same period of time, on August 28, 1963, a man delivered a great speech during the March on Washington . . .

You probably think I'm talking about Martin Luther King Jr., but I'm actually not. Though Martin Luther King Jr.'s I Have a Dream speech truly was amazing, I am talking about someone who is less well known—a Rabbi named Joachim Prinz—and he had an amazing speech too!

Joachim Prinz was born in Berlin, Germany in 1902, and, at age 24, he became a rabbi. He was an unconventional rabbi who spoke out strongly against Hitler, the Nazis, and the treatment of the Jews. He was arrested 3 times by the Gestapo, and finally kicked out of Germany in 1937. Still, because of his warnings about the Nazis, thousands of Jews left Germany and their lives were saved.

When Prinz left Germany, he came to America and spoke out against the government in Germany, as well as the US government's policies towards African Americans. While some of the members of the congregation liked those ideas, others felt the Civil Rights Movement should not be a Jewish problem. In response, Prinz stated "I would not morally say justice to the Jews without saying justice to the blacks. It is indivisible."

In 1963, he was invited to give that speech I mentioned before at the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. He spoke about the Jews' historic quest for freedom and justice, and stated:

"When I was the rabbi of the Jewish community in Berlin under the Hitler regime, I learned many things. The most important thing that I learned under those tragic circumstances was that bigotry and hatred are not 'the most urgent problem. The most urgent, the most disgraceful, the most shameful and the most tragic problem is silence.'

It is too bad that his speech came right before Martin Luther King's powerful I Have a Dream speech, because Prinz's speech was pretty great too, and now no one remembers it! What he wanted us to remember is that the we must not be a nation of silent onlookers. We should take action and not ignore injustice. Recently, I had the opportunity to interview his daughter, Deborah Prinz. My great-aunt Micki was kind enough to put me in touch with her. Ms. Prinz told me that he was very loving and determined to speak his mind even if he thought people wouldn't agree. For example, in his synagogue, even though it wasn't popular, he allowed girls to have bat mitzvahs. I asked her if she was inspired by her father and she replied yes. I agree, because she created a program called the Achieve Foundation, an organization where more than 2,000 children and adult volunteers tutor kids who need help in school but cannot afford tutors. She is following in her father's footsteps to make the world a better place, just like everyone else who puts their mind to it can.

I have mentioned a number of famous Jewish men who had important roles in the civil rights movement. Now, I want to tell you about a woman, maybe not as famous, but still very important. Her name is Millie Goodman, and she is an 89-year-old Jewish, African-American woman who has been committed to fighting for civil rights throughout her life. She is also a cofounder of our DC Chapter of Machar, and she was generous enough to tell me about her experiences.

Growing up, she went to a Rosenwald school in the deep south. Millie started her

career as a clerk and typist in Washington D.C. with the federal government during the 1950s. Early on, she recognized the challenges of being an African-American woman in the government. For example, she watched white secretaries advance quickly, while African-American secretaries remained in the lower positions. One day, an office administrator stopped her and told her that he had tried to help black people but he did not think they appreciated it, and that this was why he could not take the chance to promote her. She said she 'went blind' with rage and threw her notes, inkwell, and paper on him, ruining his shirt. Her supervisor, a white woman from Texas, remained calm and did not let her get fired. Millie left that job and ultimately had a highly successful career, moving from an entry level position of GS-3 to GS-15, the highest level for a career civil servant.

Throughout her career, Millie volunteered with the NAACP. Having grown up in the South, she knew the role of the NAACP and participated in civil rights activities, including the 1965 march from Selma to Montgomery. Millie's family worried that she would be killed during the march and leave her 14 year-old daughter, Cheryl, without a mother, but Millie believed that she had to march to make Cheryl's life better.

While Millie had been born a Southern Baptist, she decided to convert to Judaism, saying that Judaism let her be free. Millie and her husband Joe found what they were looking for in Machar, as it had social justice as its foundation. Among the many things I learned from Millie, she taught me the importance of determination and commitment. She said "You don't know what you can do until you do it." Looking back at Millie's life, I have realized that one person can certainly do a lot. With resilience, persistence, and passion, people can do whatever they put their mind to.

Another personal and important part of my project this year was a trip I took with my family to Birmingham, Selma, and Montgomery, Alabama. In Birmingham, we went to the 16th Street Baptist Church, a site where the Ku Klux Klan placed a bomb that killed four African American little girls. There was a park across the street where many children and adults protested, and the police responded with tear gas, water hoses, and dogs. It was really sad to imagine what happened there. We saw the real cell Martin Luther King Jr. was held in at the Birmingham jail where he wrote the "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," a very famous letter where he describes his belief in non-violent civil action.

We went to the Civil Right Voting Institute and learned all of the ways that African Americans were denied the right to vote. For example, the government set up a lot of impossible tests that African Americans had to pass, like guessing the number of bubbles on a bar of soap, the number of jelly beans or cotton balls in a jar, or writing out the entire constitution word for word.

In Selma, we walked across the Edmund Pettus Bridge, where the police charged and beat many people during the first attempt to march from Selma to Montgomery on what is now called Bloody Sunday.

In Montgomery, we learned was it was like when Rosa Parks wouldn't move to the back of the bus. We also walked to the Capitol building, the very spot where the march from Selma ended and Martin Luther King spoke.

But, though our trip was so jam-packed with those things, we made sure to have time for other things like eating good Southern soul food, having a dip in the hotel hot tub outside in the cold air, and even escaping from an escape room with only 6 seconds left!!

Despite progress, African Americans and other people of color still face civil rights challenges including discriminatory police practices, gerrymandering, voter intimidation at polls, and voter identification laws.

But, you don't need to be a Martin Luther King Jr., a Julius Rosenwald, or a Joachim Prinz to have an impact, and you don't need to have a bat mitzvah project to get involved in working for civil rights for oppressed people.

I first started to learn about civil rights issues through books I read for fun or for school classes. Books like the March series by Congressman John Lewis, The Lions of Little Rock, Warriors Don't Cry, Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom, and many other books helped me learn about the experiences of others.

There are great DVDs you can watch that describe the lives of important people like Julius Rosenwald and Joachim Prinz.

You can also learn through visits to museums and other landmarks around DC and in different states like Alabama.

Second, speak up when you see discrimination happening around just like Luke is doing with his No Place for Hate Club.

Third, if you can find the time and get the support of your parents, look for ways to get involved through volunteering and social action. Many of you are already doing this. For example.

Many of us participated in the Black Lives Matter Protest, the Women's March, and the March Against Guns;

My dad and I volunteered at a Rock-the-Vote rally for students coming into D.C. for the gun march;

My friends Margaret, Luke, and I volunteer weekly at a soup kitchen; and Rigby tutors a young girl whose family recently immigrated to the US. Or, Machar's Social Action Committee is another great resource.

Finally, even if you don't have the time to participate in social action efforts, you can follow the Jewish principle of Tzedakah to help people and groups with money. You can pressure your parents to do this!

These actions, no matter how small, can make a difference in the lives and experiences of others and, by extension, yourself. Even though the freedom riders completed their task of integrating the busses, there is more to be done and we can all still get on-board the ride for freedom!

I want to thank Norm, Heather, Rabbi Jeremy, and Marlene for their help. I want to thank my Grandma and Steve for listening to me practice and offering advice. Of course, I want to thank my parents for all of their help with this project and taking me to Alabama and making me practice even when I didn't want to. And thanks to my sister too—she played a lot of Yahtzee while I was practicing! Finally, I want to say mazel toy and thanks to Luke and Rigby for being great friends and b'nei mitzvah partners and all my friends and family like my Nana from California for coming and giving me this opportunity to speak.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, on June 14, 2018, I was unable to be present to cast my vote on the Securing the International Mail Against Opioids Act (H.R. 5788). Had I been present for Roll Call No. 265, I would have voted "AYE."

I was also unable to be present to cast my vote on the THRIVE Act (H.R. 5735). Had I been present for Roll Call No. 266, I would have voted "NAY."

SUBSTANCE USE-DISORDER PREVENTION THAT PROMOTES OPIOID RECOVERY AND TREATMENT FOR PATIENTS AND COMMUNITIES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 22, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 6) to provide for opioid use disorder prevention, recovery, and treatment, and for other purposes:

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of the bipartisan legislation, SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (H.R. 6). This legislation includes several provisions which would improve access to health care and treatment services for low-income and at-risk Minnesotans.

In particular, I support allowing nurse practitioners and physician assistants to prescribe treatment for opioid use disorder, and increasing providers who can prescribe buprenorphine. These policies are particularly important for those living with addiction in Greater Minnesota and urban areas facing shortages or lack in treatment facilities and physicians. The legislation also includes provisions that ensure foster and incarcerated youth are covered under Medicaid and do not experience gaps in coverage and care.

I am committed to ensuring prevention and substance use treatment programs are properly funded, and all Americans have access to the services they need to live a sustainable and healthy life. We need solutions to these problems facing some of the most vulnerable Americans, and although H.R. 6 doesn't address all the issues we face in this crisis, it is a step in the right direction. However, Congress must continue to fund programs to support all communities impacted by the opioid epidemic.

RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING JON TAITANO ON BEING CHOSEN AS ONE OF THE U.S. AIR FORCE'S TWELVE OUTSTANDING AIRMEN OF THE YEAR

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Senior Airman Jon Taitano, a combat communications specialist and client systems technician at Andersen Air Force Base on Guam. Senior Airman Taitano was recognized this weekend as one of the U.S. Air Force's Twelve Outstanding Airmen of the Year.

Airman Taitano was nominated by his unit, the 644th Combat Communications Squadron, for his superior leadership, job performance,

and personal achievements. The 644th CCS is part of the 36th Contingency Response Group in Andersen Air Force Base's 36th Wing and is positioned to rapidly deploy combat ready Airmen and communications in support of Pacific Theater contingencies.

Senior Airman Taitano's work maintaining and troubleshooting classified and unclassified combat communications systems is critical to our national defense and the protection of Guam and the strategic military assets based there. I speak on behalf of the people of Guam when I say we are immensely proud to see a University of Guam graduate like Senior Airman Taitano recognized as one of the top performers in the U.S. Air Force.

TRIBUTE TO GARRET CALTRIDER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Garret Caltrider of West Central Valley High School. Garret was recently honored for outstanding academic achievement at the Sixteenth Annual Governor's Scholar Recognition on April 29, 2018.

This statewide program is sponsored by the Iowa Governor's Office, the Iowa High School Athletic Association and the Iowa Farm Bureau. Each Iowa High School was invited to select a senior with the highest academic ranking. Not only are they academically gifted, but the selected students are often the youth who are successful in extra-curricular activities and community endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Garret Caltrider in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to reach his goals. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Garret on receiving this esteemed designation, and wishing him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

HONORING RIGBY ZENTNER

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Rigby Zentner on the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah, and for her dedication to public service. Recent events in our nation have highlighted the need for comprehensive and compassionate immigration reform. It is with great pride that I include in the RECORD the powerful words of Ms. Zentner, delivered on the day of her Bat Mitzvah. As she has written, we have a moral duty to welcome those in need.

Mr. Speaker, this speech should serve as a reminder that we must work to improve our society for our children and grandchildren, and that our society is truly made richer and stronger by immigrants.

WELCOMING THE STRANGER
(Rigby Maya Zentner)

"Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The

wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!" Emma Lazarus

Thank you for coming. I really appreciate everyone being here today. Over the past year I have been researching Jewish values on welcoming the stranger, and how it relates to immigration in the past and today. I explored lessons from the Torah; the Jewish experience during their migrations; and my personal experience with helping to welcome a newcomer to America.

At the time I was choosing my Bat Mitzvah topic, there was a political uproar about immigration. The Trump Administration was working to:

Limit the rights of immigrants in the US
Put a travel ban on Muslim countries, and
Build a wall on the Mexican border.

I couldn't believe this was happening in our homeland and my core values and beliefs led me to want to do more research on how people are treated and welcomed in this country. I also wanted to find a way to help a stranger to America adjust to life in the United States.

All of us in this room have been a stranger before, whether it was being new to a country, school or activity. We all know what it is like when you are somewhere where everybody knows each other and you don't know any of them and, most importantly, we all know how we would like to be treated and welcomed in those situations.

I am fortunate because I have almost always been surrounded by my friends and family. The times in my life when I have felt like a stranger are nothing compared to what some people have gone through in their lives as immigrants or refugees . . . but even some of my experiences have made me feel nervous and afraid.

For example, there was a time when my family and I used to go to my neighbors Super Bowl parties. My neighbor, who was around my age, would invite all her friends to the party as well. I only knew my neighbor and one of her friends. I would try to get myself included but it was really hard because all of them knew each other and went to the same school so they would talk about things that were happening at their school, or play games I didn't know how to play. They were not trying to be mean and I doubt the even noticed, but I felt really excluded and upset. After this experience I tried imagining what it would have been like to come to a new country and not know anybody or speak a different language, and I couldn't.

To get started on my research, and because this is my Bat Mitzvah, I wanted to explore my Jewish culture. I decided to understand what the Torah, The five books of Moses, says about how to treat foreigners. I know that it is important to explore our history and culture because it shapes our morals and values.

My research led me to believe that Jewish people have welcomed foreigners with open arms. The Torah gives instructions on how to welcome strangers as many as 36 times. Exodus 22:20 says "you shall not wrong nor oppress a stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." In other words, since Jews have been strangers we should feel empathy toward others and not harm them.

Leviticus 19:33-34 tells us, "When strangers reside with you in your land, you shall not wrong them. The strangers who reside with you shall be to you as your citizens; you shall love each one as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt."

Nevertheless, as I learned more about the history of these original Torah passages, it became clear that not everybody interpreted the Torah in this way.

Rabbi Jeremy told me that in these verses the Hebrew word *ger* is used, which can

translate to “immigrant” OR “convert”. In the middle ages Rabbis interpreted ger as convert, so the Torah might be saying that you should treat converts to Judaism nicely INSTEAD of saying that Jews should treat all strangers well.

Because today the messages of the Torah are not always clear, I prefer to assume that my religion is instructing me to be kind to ALL strangers, and not just to Jews. It is important to always review our history and reflect on our actions so that we can learn from our mistakes.

In the past, Jews were not always welcomed to new communities in a kind way. And, it is this history that influenced Jewish culture and our ethics on welcoming strangers and helping others.

Around the world the treatment of Jews was frequently terrible. For example, . . .

In Spain, in 1492, the inquisition forced Jews to convert or be killed;

In 1508 German people were allowed to confiscate and destroy all Jewish books

In 1547 Jews weren't allowed to live in Russia at all;

In France, in 1615, King Louis XIII declared that all Jews had to leave or be killed;

Between 1622 and 1629 Persian Jews were forced to convert to Islam

In 1654 Jews were expelled from Brazil.

The treatment of Jews became so bad, that, in 1848, a German newspaper said that killing a Jew should be treated as a misdemeanor instead of a serious crime.

In the early 1900s there were Pogroms in Russia where they rounded up all the Jews and either killed them, beat them, and made them leave. My great great grandfather fled these Pogroms and spent 7 years traveling across China and Asia Koshering meat for Jewish communities. When he finally got to America he sent for the rest of his family, including my great grandma, Yetta Greenberg.

America is known as a country of immigrants. Today, according to the Pew Research Center, the U.S. has more immigrants than any other country in the world. In the past 25 years, the U.S. immigrant population doubled from 23 million to 46 million foreign born people. Our country hasn't always been perfect, and our current situation is very upsetting, but America has a pretty great culture around letting in strangers and being welcoming to everybody.

Nevertheless, it is more complicated than that.

Jews came to America to escape the harsh treatment they received in Europe, Russia, Brazil and other places, in hopes that their lives would improve. Some things were better when they arrived, but it wasn't perfect.

Books, school, and, yes, even schoolhouse rock, taught me that American is the land of opportunity and in most instances it is . . . but not always.

In 1654, the first Jews arrived in America from Recife, Brazil to what is now New York City.

Initially, some parts of America tolerated different religions, but other places didn't. For example, for years Jews were banned from living in places like Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Hampshire. Furthermore, Jewish tradition made it hard to live in the colonies. There were laws against working on Sunday, the Christian Sabbath, so if Jews didn't work on Saturdays, the Jewish Sabbath, they could only work a five day week, making it harder for them to support their families.

In spite of these challenges, the early Jewish settlers to America were more able to worship freely and generally had more rights than they did in Europe. And, with the First Amendment protecting religion and free speech, America became one for the safest places in the world for Jews to settle.

Still, as I looked closer back in our history I found the treatment of immigrants and refugees in America to be inconsistent. One of our best presidents, Franklin D. Roosevelt, made a terrible decision about Jewish refugees. During the Holocaust when many Jews needed a safe place, FDR and Congress turned them away. Congress turned down a bill that would have allowed 20,000 Jewish children from Germany to find safe haven in the U.S. Furthermore, when a ship with about 1,000 Jewish people trying to escape persecution tried to enter the United States it was turned away. After the ship was turned away TWICE it sailed back to Europe where many of the Jews were caught and sent to Nazi concentration camps.

Unfortunately, today we are experiencing a lot of anti-immigrant feelings. President Trump and his administration have repeatedly tried to place a travel ban on immigrants from several Muslim-majority countries.

Additionally, the Trump Administration is also trying to cancel DACA, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, which will directly impact about 690,000 people.

The Trump administration has started separating parents from children to try to make people not want to immigrate illegally. One example of this comes from an El Salvadoran family whose father fled to America to escape gang violence. After the Dad left, the gang tried to kill his 16 year-old son. So the Mom took the 16 year old, as well as her 3 year old son and 11 year old daughter across the border into America where she thought they would be safe. They were caught and her kids were taken from her and placed in foster care while the mother went through a trial to consider her application for refuge. The kids spent months in foster where they weren't even allowed to hug each other. How is it acceptable for our country to punish a 3 year old by separating him from his Mom and family—for any reason—is beyond me.

Many Americans believe that immigrants come and take jobs and resources and bring crime and other evils. When I first learned about immigrants, I thought that most barely spoke English, worked at fast food restaurants, and lived in tiny one bedroom apartments. These beliefs including my own early impressions are based on inaccurate stereotypes.

In fact, America needs immigrants. They help our economy; they are often job-makers and entrepreneurs, taxpayers and consumers. “Compared with all Americans, U.S.-born children of immigrants are more likely to go to college, less likely to live in poverty, and equally likely to be homeowners.” Furthermore, immigrant-headed households who are close to the poverty line rely less on government help than U.S.-headed households in the same position.

The facts are clear—it is simply not true that most immigrants come over to America and sit around doing no work and relying on the social safety net.

Moreover, many undocumented immigrants in America are here because they are fleeing severe economic hardship, violence, or persecution. Because Jews have often been in a similar situation of fleeing to safety, I believe that we in particular need to welcome these strangers. Given the Jewish experience through the ages, and notably the Holocaust, the current situation in Syria should be especially meaningful to Jews.

We watch what is happening in Syria where hundreds of thousands of children and families have died since the start of the Syrian War. Yet, in the first three months of 2018, the U.S.—the richest, most powerful, greatest country in the world—has accepted only 11 Syrian refugees. You heard right—11 Syrian refugees in three months. This is un-

believable and I am speechless to as how our government is responding to this tragedy.

Still, there is room for hope. Individuals around the country are working tirelessly to assist Syrian refugees I am proud to say that my Machar congregation and people like Hannah in my B'nei Mitzvah class, are working to help Syrian refugees in the U.S.

REMEMBERING MAJOR CHRISTOPHER T. ZANETIS

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of a true American hero, Major Christopher “Tripp” Zanetis who gave his country the last full measure of devotion. On March 15, 2018, Major Zanetis and six other American soldiers were killed when their helicopter crashed during a mission in Iraq. Major Zanetis served with the 106th Rescue Wing, New York Air National Guard and was deployed in support of Operation Inherent Resolve in Iraq. I, along with all Americans, stand in eternal gratitude for the dedication, service and sacrifice of this young man. As we celebrate our nation's 242nd birthday and our freedoms on July 4th I would like to take a moment to honor and recognize the service of Major Zanetis who gave his life to protect the liberties Americans hold dear.

A native of Carmel, Indiana, Tripp graduated from Carmel High School in 1999, where he was on the Greyhounds' diving team and a member of the Ambassador's show choir. His education led him to New York City, where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Politics from New York University and graduated cum laude. Tripp quickly stood out as a leader serving on the student senate and as President of the student body. He was also a member of the NYU swimming and diving team.

On September 11, 2001, Tripp was living three blocks from the World Trade Center. In the midst of the terrorist attacks, Tripp volunteered at Ground Zero helping first responders aid victims. Tripp stayed at Ground Zero for hours assisting with the response. His experience on 9/11 inspired him to join the New York City Fire Department in 2004, where he ultimately became a Fire Marshal and was assigned to the Bureau of Fire Investigation's Citywide South in Brooklyn. In 2014, Tripp received a commendation for bravery for his role in the investigative unit.

Tripp joined the Air National Guard in 2008 and trained to fly the Air Force's combat search and rescue helicopter—the HH60G PaveHawk. He was later deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq in 2011 and 2012 with Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation New Dawn. During his service with the Air National Guard, he flew search and rescue helicopters with the 106th Rescue Wing. Tripp received the Meritorious Service Medal and five Air Medals for combat missions. While still on active duty, Tripp enrolled at Stanford Law School. There, he served as co-president of the Stanford Law Veterans organization, co-produced the Stanford Law musical, and facilitated Stanford Law's inaugural OutLaw Conference on LGBTQ Advocacy in the workplace. Tripp was also a member of both the International Refugee Assistance Project and the Stanford

Journal of International Law. He graduated with pro bono distinction in 2017.

His many awards are a testament to the exceptional character of this incredibly talented, compassionate, and immensely brave young man. A true public servant, Tripp continued striving for success beyond the combat field and advocated for LGBTQ and human rights. Tripp strived to make a difference, taking an internship with the Office of Legal Affairs at NATO Headquarters in Brussels. He was also a participant of the Stanford International

Human Rights Conflict Resolution Clinic and was awarded the National LGBT Bar Association's Student Leadership Award.

Major Zanetis will forever be remembered as an extraordinary individual who gave his life defending the freedoms that we so cherish. Tripp came from a family of true patriots, following the example set by his maternal and paternal grandfathers who were both World War II veterans. Major Zanetis is survived by his parents, Sarah and John Zanetis; sisters, Angela and Britt Zanetis; nephew, Beau

Zanetis; grandmother, Joyce Galbreath; numerous loving Aunts and Uncles; and his boyfriend, Jean Pouget-Abadie. Tripp also leaves behind his beloved Malinois, Nyx. I extend my deepest condolences to Tripp's family and friends who mourn his loss. On a day we gather together to honor our independence, may we remember the sacrifices made by patriots like Major Zanetis who so selflessly defend our rights and freedoms.