

WE MUST STAND UP TO IRAN'S
PROXIES IN IRAQ

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Iran is continuing its march across the Middle East. At this moment, it is consolidating its gains in Yemen, Syria, Lebanon, Bahrain, and Iraq. Through its network of violent proxies, it is exerting influence to subject millions to the will of the mullahs in Tehran and to launch terrorist attacks against us and our allies. Iran's sectarian proxies are sowing division across the region through their brutal rule, giving Sunni extremists like al-Qaeda and ISIS an opportunity to recruit among the oppressed. Whenever there is weak governance in the Middle East, Iran moves to expand its conquests and challenge the rule of law.

Currently, Iraq is particularly vulnerable to Iran's proxy subversion. The country is attempting to rebuild—with our help—after years of battling ISIS. Hundreds of thousands still remain displaced from their homes and the damage to the country's infrastructure is immense. Yet despite ISIS's defeat on the battlefield and the liberation of all major towns and cities, corruption and Iranian meddling present major obstacles towards allowing Iraq to heal. Iranian-backed militias are not disbanding, but instead are controlling territory, infiltrating government institutions, and attempting to seize political power. They do not respect democracy or care for the interests of average Iraqis. These proxies serve only the goals of their masters in Tehran who want to keep their neighbor weak. Their presence undermines the Iraqi government's authority and ultimately hinders reconciliation amongst the country's religious sects.

After President Obama foolishly withdrew our forces in 2011, it was these thugs and their Iranian patrons who filled the void, creating the sectarian conditions for Iraq to unravel and ISIS to be born. We must not allow this to happen again. By working to restore Iraqi sovereignty and diminish the power of Iran's agents, we can prevent ISIS from returning and another generation of Americans having to go fight in the Middle East.

Unfortunately, Iran's proxies in Iraq are gaining power and despite legislation to target these groups, our own State Department is getting in the way. For too long they have tried diplomatic niceties to urge Iraqis to stand up to their countrymen who are doing Tehran's bidding. But this method is failing as Iranian-backed groups such as Asaib Ahl al-Haq win more seats in Iraq's parliament. Al-Haq is a militia group that has killed dozens of Americans, Iraqis, Kurds, and Syrians, yet no one will stand up to them—not even our foreign service officers. It's time to stop doing a dance with the devils in Iraq and Iran, and send a clear message that these groups should be designated as terrorists and cast out of the halls of power in Baghdad. If we do not, the future of Iraq as a strong independent nation is in jeopardy.

Iranian-controlled militias, like Asaib Ahl al-Haq and their comrades in Harakat Hezbollah Al-Nujaba must be targeted so that those freedom-loving Iraqis who hope to rebuild their country can see that America stands with

them. Already we are seeing in the streets of southern Iraq that some Iraqis are demonstrating courage in the face of Iran's proxies. They, like the Iranian people, are demanding that the mullahs' corruption be removed from their country. The era of bending the knee to Tehran is over.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY
OF HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Hollin Hall Village neighborhood in Fairfax County. This historic milestone is a testament to the strength and spirit of both Fairfax County and Northern Virginia.

The neighborhood of Hollin Hall Village was established in 1943 under the leadership of developer John McPherson, Sr., who believed in the future of both the community and Fairfax County. During the 1950s, the fledgling Hollin Hall Village witnessed an explosion of home development and expansion. Since then, generations of residents have called Hollin Hall Village their home and enjoyed the small-town feel located just 10 miles south of Washington, D.C.

Today, Hollin Hall Village is a community of approximately 700 single-family homes and businesses located in Fairfax County's Mount Vernon District. Hollin Hall Village contains two shopping centers with community staples and specialty stores, a seniors' center, Mount Vernon Park, and a baseball field that countless little league teams call home.

A community's health can be judged by its level of civic engagement. The Hollin Hall Village Citizen's Association brings together locals who faithfully volunteer to support their community, represent their neighborhood at County meetings, and serve on County boards and committees. Thanks to those efforts, Hollin Hall Village has grown and thrived while maintaining the small-town feeling that early residents envisioned.

Mr. Speaker, Virginia's 8th Congressional District remains one of the best places in the country in which to live, work, and raise a family. Behind this achievement are generations of individuals who have, in the spirit of Hollin Hall Village's founders, worked tirelessly to maintain the area's undeniable charm. I commend the Hollin Hall Village Citizen's Association for its work and congratulate the citizens of Hollin Hall Village for reaching this historic milestone. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing them great success in their future endeavors.

HONORING DEPUTY MARSHAL
JOSHUA KATZ

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroic action of Deputy Marshal

Joshua Katz, a law enforcement officer in Log Lane Village, CO.

On August 3rd, while Deputy Katz was on duty, he received a call from dispatch regarding a man found unconscious in the town of Log Lane Village. Katz quickly arrived on the scene and noticed a needle in the man's arm. It was later discovered that the man had overdosed on a combination of heroin and fentanyl. Utilizing the training that he had received on drug overdose prevention, Katz administered Narcan nasal spray and performed rescue breathing until an ambulance arrived—actions which likely saved the man's life.

The use of opioids is a growing issue and Eastern Colorado has been increasingly harmed by the scourge of opioid addiction. This is why our communities rely on the training of our first responders and law enforcement officers.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join the people of Log Lane Village in thanking Deputy Marshal Joshua Katz for his courage, quick-thinking, and dedication to protecting our community.

HONORING GOLDEN VALLEY
HEALTH CENTERS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Golden Valley Health Centers in honor of National Health Center Week. Since 1972, Golden Valley Health Centers have served the people of the San Joaquin Valley with integrity and honor. During that time, they have been guided by their mission to improve the health of patients regardless of language, financial, or cultural barriers, and exemplified the benefits that health centers provide to local communities.

Golden Valley Health Centers provide affordable, comprehensive primary and preventive care to underserved communities with their 32 clinics throughout Merced, Stanislaus, and San Joaquin Counties. Their team of over 900 people includes physicians, nurse practitioners, behavior health specialists, physician assistants, and certified nurse midwives, all of whom advance the mission and vision of Golden Valley Health Centers through the various essential care services they provide.

Golden Valley Health Centers have proved it is possible to overcome barriers to healthcare access, such as geography, income, and insurance status. In doing so, health centers, such as Golden Valley, improve health care outcomes while, at the same time, reducing the costs of health care. These health centers provide services vital to the public health of our valley and nation, including healthcare for our veterans, natural disaster response, and mental health care to help battle the opioid epidemic. It has been an honor to work alongside Golden Valley Health Centers to ensure access to quality, affordable health for constituents throughout my district.

Furthermore, Golden Valley, like most health centers, is governed by patient-majority boards and locally owned and operated, ensuring that patients are engaged in their own health care decisions. With local control, health centers often serve as critical economic

engines that generate essential revenue for local communities, including those in California's San Joaquin Valley.

During National Health Center Week, we celebrate the legacy of America's health centers, and their vital role in shaping the past, present, and future of America's health care system. I encourage all Americans to take part in this week by visiting their local health center and celebrating the important partnership between America's health centers and the communities they serve.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Golden Valley Health Centers for their work to provide quality health care for the communities of the San Joaquin Valley. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor them and recognize the role they play in maintaining the wellbeing of our communities during National Health Center Week.

HONORING TECHNICAL SERGEANT
SALLY PANZAR, U.S. AIR FORCE,
ON HER RETIREMENT AFTER
NEARLY 25 YEARS OF SERVICE
TO THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Sally Panzar, a resident of York Haven, Pennsylvania, on her upcoming retirement after nearly 25 years of service to the United States of America.

Technical Sergeant Panzar currently serves as the Unit Training Manager and Unit Deployment Manager at the 193 Special Operations Wing Logistics Squadron. She entered the United States Air Force in 1993, and served in numerous assignments, to include humanitarian missions such as TROPICARE 2013, as well as Turkey and Saudi Arabia during Operation Northern Watch and Operation Southern Watch, respectively.

Her numerous commendations and awards, including the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Air Force Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and others, are a testament to her steadfast courage, personal integrity, dedication, and impeccable character. Her enduring legacy of service to our Nation is truly exceptional and sets a standard for all to follow.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I commend and congratulate my fellow soldier, Technical Sergeant Sally Panzar, upon her retirement and for her tireless service to the United States of America.

HONORING THE CITY OF SANTA
ROSA'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Santa Rosa in California's Fifth Congressional District as we celebrate the city's 150th anniversary.

Santa Rosa was officially incorporated in 1868 as the third city in Sonoma County. Currently, the city has a population of over 175,000 residents living within its 41.5 square miles. Santa Rosa is the largest city in the North Bay and the fifth most populous city in the San Francisco Bay Area and the 28th most populous in California. Santa Rosa is known to be one of the great centers of California's viticulture community. The city and its surrounding region is home to hundreds of wineries, big and small, which play a central and dominant role in our region's tourism industry.

Santa Rosa has a vibrant arts community and has been the setting of numerous films for many decades. Our town's historic buildings have been backdrops for movies including *Shadow of a Doubt*, *Pollyanna*, *Peggy Sue Got Married* and *Cheaper by the Dozen*. The city is also home to the Summer Repertory Theater, Santa Rosa Symphony, Sonoma County Philharmonic and many other world-class arts organizations.

Santa Rosa is also known for being the home of Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC), one of the most renowned community colleges in California and the whole of the United States. SRJC is an important institution in our city that serves recent high school graduates and people who are continuing their education alike.

Santa Rosa has been home to numerous significant Americans for over a century. Renowned horticulturalist Luther Burbank, actress Natalie Wood and nationally celebrated cartoonist Charles M. Schultz all called Santa Rosa home at one point during their lives. Mr. Burbank summed up the beauty and special character of Santa Rosa as "the chosen spot of all this earth as far as Nature is concerned."

Mr. Speaker, the City of Santa Rosa is the home of prominent historical and cultural assets. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor its 150th anniversary here today.

CONGRATULATING THE NEHEMIAH
PROJECT FOR 30 YEARS OF
SERVICE IN NORTHERN MICHIGAN

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it's my honor to recognize the Nehemiah Project on the occasion of its 30th anniversary. Through exceptional leadership and steadfast devotion to their community, the men and women of the Nehemiah Project have become indispensable parts of Michigan's First District.

Named after the biblical man who helped rebuild Jerusalem, the Nehemiah Project has worked for three decades to help those in need rebuild the broken parts of their lives. The group was formed in 1988 after several area churches came together to create a non-denominational ministry to help Northern Michigan's homeless and opened their first shelter, the Nehemiah House, in Petoskey. Since then, the group has opened three other locations nearby: the Mary Margaret House, which accommodates women and children; the Grace House, a transitional apartment;

and Hope Hall, which is used as office space for Nehemiah staff. Hope Hall also serves as a warming area in the winter and houses Bible study sessions and classes on job and computer skills, budgeting, and parenting. Over the last 30 years, the Nehemiah Project's focus on community, self-fulfillment, and motivation have directly improved the lives of hundreds of Michiganders that have fallen on hard times. In honor of its 30th anniversary, the Nehemiah Project will host an open house from noon to 3 p.m. on Sunday, August 19, at its 36 Bridge Street location in Petoskey.

Mr. Speaker, it's my honor to recognize the administrators and volunteers of the Nehemiah Project for three decades of excellence in service to the people of Northern Michigan. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such a dedicated and selfless group of people. On behalf of my constituents, I wish the Nehemiah Project all the best in its future endeavors.

CELEBRATING RAPOPORT
ACADEMY'S 20TH

HON. BILL FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate Rapoport Academy's 20-year milestone of educating economically disadvantaged students in Waco, Texas.

Rapoport Academy focuses on serving its student population by providing an exceptional education that prepares them for college, career, and life. It is an honor to represent Rapoport Academy, as well as its staff, students, and families in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Under the leadership of Dr. Nancy Grayson, East Waco Innovative School Development, Inc., now known as Rapoport Academy, was awarded a charter by the Texas State Board of Education in March 1998. The Academy opened as a public charter school in the fall of 1998 for pre-kindergarten through second grade. The school has since expanded in both size and grade levels, and currently has over 850 students enrolled.

In 2003, middle school classes were added, and in 2006, the Academy was awarded a second charter to develop a high school. The high school was awarded both the Texas Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (T-STEM), and the Texas Early College High School (ECHS) designations as part of the Texas High School Project through the Communities Foundation of Texas, which is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation.

For 20 years, Rapoport Academy has followed six core values: Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Curiosity, Creativity and Hard Work. The staff, teachers, and students at the Academy are committed to these values, and they encourage one another to strive for them.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commemorating Rapoport Academy for reaching this noteworthy 20-year milestone while preparing students to reach their full potential, discover their passions, embrace diversity, and become independent thinkers.

I have requested that a United States flag be flown over the United States Capitol to honor Rapoport Academy's 20th anniversary.