

HIGHLAND PARK HIGH SCHOOL
STATE CHAMPS

HON. COLIN Z. ALLRED

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 11, 2019

Mr. ALLRED. Madam Speaker, I am honored to commemorate a historic achievement by the young student athletes at Highland Park High School.

The Highland Park High School varsity football team won the 5A state championship for the third year in a row, and the Highland Park tennis teams also won state titles this very school year.

On Saturday, January 12, 2019, at Goar Park, the Highland Park Independent School District and the cities of Highland Park and University Park will host a well deserved Parade of Champions.

As their Congressman, I am excited to celebrate these hard fought victories with them.

Achievements such as this don't happen overnight and they take the support of families, friends, teachers, coaches, faculty, staff and volunteers. It really does take a community. And this community should be proud.

As a former student athlete myself, I know the hard work it takes, day in and day out, to practice and work to win as a team. All while prioritizing work in the classroom and studying hard.

They have shown that North Texans are champions, and we couldn't be prouder of what they all have accomplished together.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 11, 2019

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, on roll call vote 20, I inadvertently voted Yea. I had intended to vote No.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DENTON
COUNTY MASTER GARDENER AS-
SOCIATION

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 11, 2019

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Denton County Master Gardener Association as it celebrates 30 years of service to the people of Denton County.

The Denton County Master Gardener Association completes more than 40 horticultural projects each year, working with local organizations such as the Texas Master Naturalists, the Denton Historical Association, and local 4-H clubs.

Volunteers from the Denton County Master Gardener Association must work to earn the title of Master Gardener. These dedicated volunteers are required to undergo over 80 hours of training to achieve the coveted title of "Texas Master Gardener." Master Gardeners volunteer on behalf of Texas A&M's AgriLife

Extension, following Texas A&M University's research-based horticultural recommendations.

The Denton County Master Gardener Association utilizes their specialized training to brighten the community and pass along their horticultural knowledge to future generations. Through their award winning Science with Attitude program, Master Gardeners share information through elementary school teachers in their community and distribute over 3000 seedlings annually to elementary schools in the Denton Independent School District.

Additionally, this organization supports community gardens throughout Denton County and work in conjunction with the Community Garden for the Town of Flower Mound, the gardens of Fair Oaks Independent Living Center, the Good Samaritan Village, and the Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area.

On behalf of the constituents of Texas's 26th District, I would like to thank the Denton County Master Gardener Association for 30 years of dedicated service, which has made Denton County a better place to live and work.

INTRODUCTION OF SENSIBLE
ENFORCEMENT OF CANNABIS ACT

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 11, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, more than a year ago, the U.S. Department of Justice rescinded the Cole Memorandum, a directive that provided a framework for states to pursue the reasonable regulation of cannabis within their borders. The Department's ill-conceived decision adversely affects California and other states that in "good faith" implemented regulatory frameworks that relied on the memo.

In November 2016, the people of California spoke up and voted in favor of Proposition 64, which legalized recreational cannabis, joining the growing number of states in our nation that have legalized recreational cannabis.

To date, ten states have legalized recreational cannabis and more than 30 states—which represent more than half of the American population—permit some form of medical cannabis use. The repeal of the Cole Memo contravenes the will of the American public. Furthermore, this decision will negatively affect numerous Americans who utilize cannabis for medical purposes. We need to provide consumers, patients, businesses, and regulators with certainty.

Therefore, I am introducing the bipartisan Sensible Enforcement of Cannabis Act. This legislation will prohibit the Attorney General from prosecuting individuals for any conduct that concerns medicinal or recreational cannabis use in states in which it is legal, with narrow exceptions provided for the safety of the public.

IN MEMORY OF BENJAMIN
EDWARD NORMAN, USN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 11, 2019

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House to commemorate Navy

Petty Officer MMN3 Benjamin Edward Norman who tragically lost his life in a weather-related car accident on December 31, 2018.

Ben was born October 4, 1998 in Manchester, CT to Sam and Teresa. Having moved to Coventry as a teenager, Ben graduated from Coventry High School in 2016. Soon thereafter, Ben, an accomplished Eagle Scout, enlisted in the U.S. Navy. His service was just beginning to take shape in recent months when he was selected to serve in the prestigious Nuclear Propulsion Training Program, a demanding assignment that requires high intellect and diligent work habits. Last year I had the opportunity to meet Ben and his father Sam, and Ben was excited to begin this new mission that would have taken him to the most advanced naval platforms in our nation's fleet.

Ben was also on course to marry his beloved fiancée, Asia Jurkiewicz, a native of Poland whom he met during a Boy Scout exchange program in Krakow, Poland. Madam Speaker, Ben's passing is a terrible loss for Asia, Ben's family and our nation. His public-spirited approach to life and willingness to volunteer to wear our nation's uniform in the U.S. Navy pointed to a life of great accomplishment. Hopefully his memory will inspire others to follow his example. I ask my colleagues to please join me in honoring the life and memory of Ben Norman and expressing our deepest sympathies for his family and friends.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
PATRICIA TANQUARY

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 11, 2019

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Patricia Tanquary for her dedicated and passionate service to our community.

Patricia has a Masters in social work from San Diego State University and both a Masters in public health administration and a Doctorate in social welfare from University of California, Berkeley. Before working for Contra Costa County, Patricia was employed at Kaiser Permanente for 18 years, holding positions such as Director of Member Services, Hospital and Health Plan Administrator, Continuing Care Leader, and Director of National Provider Contracting.

In 2007, Patricia was named the Chief Executive Officer of the Contra Costa Health Plan (CCHP). Over the past 11 years, Patricia managed an innovative and complex plan that became one of the original Covered California Health Plans. Her time as CEO is characterized by her partnerships and her commitment to serving low-income and vulnerable populations.

Through her work, CCHP added over 7,200 contracts with local providers to meet the demand of an expanding membership. She also managed a strong relationship with County Mental Health to administer effective mental health care. Under her leadership, CCHP also provided one of the first Special Needs Plans for seniors and persons with disabilities and worked with the Contra Costa Regional Medical Center to create a Center of Excellence for Autism diagnoses.

Patricia's leadership as CEO of the Contra Costa Health Plan will be truly missed. Patricia has left a positive impact on Contra Costa County's health care system, its patients, and the community at large. I am thankful for Patricia's service and I wish her the best in her retirement.

CONGRATULATING THE MERAMEC
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 11, 2019

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Meramec Re-

gional Planning Commission on their 50th anniversary.

On January 23, 1969, Governor Warren E. Hearnes signed a proclamation establishing the Meramec Regional Planning Commission. Dent County Presiding Judge J.E. Bergman, Salem Mayor Jack Masters, Washington County Presiding Judge Jesse Essmyer, Potosi Mayor Leon Camillo, and Dent County Clerk Don Prewitt were all in attendance to mark the historic occasion. A 5,154-square mile radius of beautiful gently rolling hills, deep valleys, and numerous rivers make up the region. Thirty-six towns serve as industrial havens and are surrounded by countryside where the small farmer continues to prevail.

The commission successfully serves 8 counties: Gasconade, Dent, Crawford, Maries, Osage, Phelps, Pulaski, and Washington. Throughout the commission's longstanding history, a strong reputation has been built with

a variety of programs being offered including grant writing and administration, economic development, community planning, emergency planning, training and grant administration, hazard mitigation planning, solid waste planning, grant administration and program implementation, small business loans, HUD housing rental assistance and family self-sufficiency programs, promotion/administration/growth of community foundations, project development, and legislative advocacy. From these programs, many businesses have been welcomed into the small towns where they have been successful while enjoying Missouri's picturesque natural beauty and diverse cultural heritage.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating the Meramec Regional Planning Commission on their 50th anniversary. This milestone is a great testament of their commitment to the counties they serve.