

through those “White Only” signs—to see the reality that all men, and women, regardless of their place of origin, their gender, or their creed, are created equal.

Dr. King was a dreamer and through dreams he was able to lift his mind beyond the reality of his segregated society to a beloved place where it was possible that white and black, red and brown, and all others live, work, and prosper together in harmony.

But the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was not an idle daydreamer.

He shared his visions through speeches that motivated others to join in his nonviolent effort to lift themselves from poverty and isolation by creating a new America where equal justice and institutions were facts of life.

In the Declaration of Independence in 1776, Thomas Jefferson wrote, “We hold these truths to be self evident, that all Men are Created Equal.”

At that time and for centuries to come, African-Americans were historically, culturally, and legally excluded from inclusion in that declaration.

Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King’s “I Have a Dream” Speech, delivered 54 years ago, on August 28, 1963, was a clarion call to each citizen of this great nation that we still hear today.

His request was simply and eloquently conveyed—he asked America to allow of its citizens to live out the words written in its Declaration of Independence and to have a place in this nation’s Bill of Rights.

The 1960s were a time of great crisis and conflict.

It was the decade of the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Vietnam War, and the assassinations of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Malcolm X, Presidential Candidate Robert Kennedy, and the man we honor here today.

The dream expressed and shared by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. helped win major victories in the battle for civil rights.

It started when Dr. King led the Montgomery Bus Boycott, with Rosa Parks and others, which lasted for 381 days, and ended when the United States Supreme Court outlawed racial segregation on all public transportation.

But the dream did not die there.

It continued with a peaceful march for suffrage that started in Selma, Alabama on March 7, 1965, a day that was immediately known and will always be remembered as “Bloody Sunday,” when a peaceful march for voting rights ended in bloodshed and violence at the hands of law enforcement officers as the marchers crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

When the life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King was stolen from us, he was a very young 39 years old.

People remember that Dr. King died in Memphis, but few can remember why he was there.

On that fateful day in 1968 Dr. King came to Memphis to support a strike by the city’s sanitation workers.

The garbage men there had recently formed a chapter of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees to demand better wages and working conditions.

But the city refused to recognize their union, and when the 1,300 employees walked off their jobs the police broke up the rally with mace and Billy clubs.

It was then that union leaders invited Dr. King to Memphis.

Despite the danger he might face entering such a volatile situation, it was an invitation he could not refuse.

Not because he longed for danger, but because the labor movement was intertwined with the civil rights movement for which he had given up so many years of his life.

The death of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will never overshadow his life.

That is his legacy as a dreamer and a man of action.

It is a legacy of hope, tempered with peace. It is a legacy not quite yet fulfilled.

I hope that Dr. King’s vision of equality under the law is never lost to us, because without that vision—without that dream—we can never continue to improve the human condition.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. understood that a life well lived, and all of the noblest virtues—courage, wisdom, grace, love—were rooted in service to others.

And he memorably expressed this idea in his last sermon, the one given at Mason Temple in Memphis on April 3, 1968, the evening before he was felled by an assassin:

But then the Good Samaritan came by. And he reversed the question: “If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?”

That’s the question before you tonight. Not, “If I stop to help the sanitation workers, what will happen to my job. Not, “If I stop to help the sanitation workers what will happen to all of the hours that I usually spend in my office every day and every week as a pastor?” The question is not, “If I stop to help this man in need, what will happen to me?” The question is, “If I do not stop to help the sanitation workers, what will happen to them?” That’s the question.

Let us rise up tonight with a greater readiness. Let us stand with a greater determination. And let us move on in these powerful days, these days of challenge to make America what it ought to be. We have an opportunity to make America a better nation. And I want to thank God, once more, for allowing me to be here with you.

So in these difficult days of challenge, let us remember and take inspiration from the remarkable, extraordinary, and consequential life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and move forward together, with greater readiness and determination, to make America a place where all of her people enjoy the blessings of justice, equality, and human dignity.

Let us, the living, continue that struggle today and forever, in the incandescent spirit of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

RECOGNIZING JUSTIN DOWNS OF MOLT

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Justin Downs of Molt for rescuing a severely injured man amid harsh winter conditions.

A rancher from northwest of Billings, Justin is a volunteer firefighter with the Broadview Fire Department. On a day in early March with challenging winter weather, he was called upon to aid a man injured in a ranching accident. The man was immobile, and because of

snow-drifted roads and fields, emergency vehicles were unable to reach him.

As he has done countless times before, Justin responded to the call. Using his farm tractor, he and a medic began crossing the fields of deep snow about two miles from where conditions had forced emergency vehicles to stop.

Upon arrival, the medic provided initial treatment for the man’s injuries. Justin and the medic then loaded the man into the cab of Justin’s tractor. Justin drove through the snow-covered fields to the rescue vehicles where he left the man with emergency personnel. He then crossed the fields again to get the medic, who had stayed behind because of limited space in the tractor’s cab.

“I know people would help me out if I needed it. We just do what needs to be done when it needs to be done,” Justin said.

Winters in Montana can be harsh and produce dangerous conditions, especially in rural areas where travel can be disrupted for days. It’s encouraging to know neighbors stand ready to lend a hand in times of need.

Madam Speaker, for his selfless service to his community and for coming to the aid of an injured rancher without hesitation and amid hostile winter conditions, I recognize Justin Downs for his spirit of Montana.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE WYOMING SEMINARY FIELD HOCKEY TEAM, 2018 PIAA STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Wyoming Seminary Field Hockey team on winning their state championship in Pennsylvania. The Blue Knights were named the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association’s Class 1A Field Hockey State Champions on November 17, 2018, after they won the final game against the Newport Buffalos by a final score of 2–0. The team also earned the WVC Division 1 and District 2 Class A Field Hockey Championships.

Head Coach Karen Klassner, Assistant Coach Kim Barbacci, and Assistant Coach Margaret Kerrick led the team to victory during the season. The state champions team roster includes: Grace Aiello, Kate Barilla, Maggie Barilla, Emma Bean, Ava Bufalino, Cristiana Burcovschii, Reese Butcher, Shawna Casey, Julia Christian, Ahna Dinsmore, Halle Kehl, Bari Lefkowitz, Mia Magnotta, Hannah Maxwell, Tyra McCormick, Abby McDaniel, Quinn Medico, Anna Mozeleski, Aubrey Mytych, Grace Parsons, Coty Pinero, Dani Reiser, Kelsey Reznick, Katie Ritsick, Abby Santo, Elisabeth Seyfarth, Alex Wesneski, Emily Williams, Tyler Wood, and Tiana Wren.

Senior midfielder Kelsey Reznick scored the initial point during a penalty stroke in the final minutes of the first half. In the opening minutes of the second half, forward Hannah Maxwell scored the additional point for her team. Keeper Mia Magnotta made two saves for Wyoming Seminary throughout the course of the game.

It is an honor to recognize the outstanding achievement of these young women and their