

SUNRISE CENTER CELEBRATES
CHILDREN'S GRIEF AWARENESS
DAY

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2019

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, Children's Grief Awareness Day was created in 2009 to foster awareness and understanding about the impact of death on children. As we approach the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, we enter a particularly difficult time for grieving children. One in five children will experience the death of someone close to them by age 18, one in twenty children will experience the death of a parent by age 18, and approximately 1.9 million children under 18 have lost one or both of their parents.

The Sunrise Center helps children dealing with grief, by offering a place of hope and healing for children, teens, and their families who are experiencing grief and loss due to the advanced illness or death of a loved one or being placed in foster care. Their hard work supports children suffering from grief in a safe, loving, and understanding environment.

Children's Grief Awareness Day is an important way for all of us to remember those in our society who are dealing with the emotional trauma relating to the death or loss of a loved one. I applaud the Sunrise Center for all they do to support local children dealing with these tragic circumstances, and I sincerely thank their volunteers and staff for making a difference in children's lives.

COMMEMORATION OF THE 44TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN
WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GUAM

HON. MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2019

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Korean Women's Association of Guam (KWAG) on their 44th Anniversary. I extend my sincerest congratulations to KWAG for another outstanding event celebrating efforts to strengthen various community foundations in its spirit of charity.

The Korean Women's Association of Guam was established on June 25, 1975 and has since made it their mission to encourage benevolence and unity, enriching togetherness and friendship among Korean women, and inspiring the Korean culture to remain lively throughout the island of Guam. The association received recognition both locally and internationally for their efforts in assisting the less fortunate, abused, ill, and elderly in our community.

The Korean Women's Association of Guam has persevered in giving back to our island through their fundraising endeavors; assisting in relief efforts and collaborating with other organizations for a significant cause. Their desire to help local organizations serve our community over the years is truly something to celebrate and support.

I thank the Korean Women's Association of Guam President Sunok E. Chi, for her leadership, and its members for continuously exert-

ing their mission and exemplifying the vision, values, and traditions of the organization. Again, congratulations to another flourishing year and I look forward to the Korean Women's Association of Guam's continued contributions to the community and future success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ONE
HUNDRED FIFTIETH ANNIVER-
SARY OF JOHN DEERE

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 150th anniversary of John Deere in Kansas City, Missouri.

In 1869, Charles Deere, Vice President and son of John Deere, established a regional office for the company, known as the Kansas City Branch House in the West Bottoms of Kansas City, Missouri. Its proximity to roads, rivers and rail systems would eventually help John Deere grow and keep pace with a rapidly growing country.

Since its founding, John Deere has helped lead the way for community and economic growth as one of the first businesses and employers in Kansas City. In 2019, the company continues to thrive and remains a positive economic influence at the local, state and national level. John Deere's presence in Kansas City is a valuable reminder of the important role agriculture has played in our country and continues to play as American farmers work to feed the world's growing population.

During its 150-year presence, John Deere has employed thousands at their local dealerships and regional offices. Today, the company is a global leader in the manufacturing, distribution and sales of agricultural, turf, construction and forestry equipment.

Agricultural output must double in order to feed a global population that is estimated to reach 9.8 billion people by the year 2050. John Deere, in collaboration with American farmers, is committed to helping feed the world's population, and, consequently, they are providing the latest equipment technology and data required to meet the ever-increasing food, fiber, and fuel needs.

John Deere continues to be a strong advocate and champion for agriculture while remaining committed core values of integrity, quality, commitment and innovation. The company has a higher purpose of serving those who are linked to the land, guiding the company and its leaders as they continue a journey that I believe leads to a future filled with great promise and opportunity for the company and the broader agriculture sector.

Madam Speaker, please join me and Missouri's Fifth Congressional District in honoring the 150th anniversary of John Deere in Kansas City, Missouri.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2019

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I regret that due to a scheduling conflict on November 21, 2019, I was unable to cast the following votes.

Should I have been present, I would have voted NO on roll call 637, AYE on roll call 638, AYE on roll call 639, AYE on roll call 640, AYE on roll call 641, and AYE on roll call 642.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DWIGHT EVANS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2019

Mr. EVANS. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained due to pressing business in my Congressional District. Had I been present on Thursday, November 21, 2019 I would have voted:

No, on Byrne Amendment, Yes, on Harder Amendment, Yes, on Wexton Amendment, Yes, on Delgado Amendment, Yes, Motion to Table and Yes, on H.R. 1309.

TRIBUTE TO READ TO GROW
FOUNDER, ROXANNE J. COADY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2019

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Read to Grow, a non-profit organization in Connecticut whose mission is to improve early literacy, and to pay tribute to the organization's founder, Roxanne J. Coady, who recently stepped down as founding board chair. Roxanne's extraordinary vision has impacted thousands of families and children across Connecticut.

Roxanne's passion for books and reading led to her second career. She left her role as the first female National Tax Director at BDO Seidman, for Madison, Connecticut where she restored a downtown building, establishing RJ Julia Booksellers and she, along with an incredible group of booksellers, transformed her charming local store into a nationally recognized authority on books. She also recently opened a second location, Wesleyan RJ Julia Bookstore, in Middletown, Connecticut which not only returned a bookstore downtown, but also serves as the official bookstore for Wesleyan University.

In fact, RJ Julia's is well-known for hosting book signing events, not only with local authors but with recognized celebrities such as lifestyle and fashion icon Lauren Conrad, Today show co-anchor and Dateline NBC correspondent, Hoda Kotb, former first daughters and bestselling authors Jenna Bush Hager and Barbara Pierce Bush, and just recently

former Secretary of the State Hillary Clinton and her daughter Chelsea Clinton. Her dedication and passion have earned her a distinguished reputation and she has built a remarkable success.

Roxanne wanted to do more—she wanted to ensure that every child was exposed to the wonders and magic of the written word and that every parent was empowered as their babies' first teachers. She knew that not every child and parent had that opportunity. And so, with a small group of like-minded women, she founded Read To Grow. Read To Grow's mission is to build literacy from birth and over the last twenty years they have done just that. Under Roxanne's leadership, they have expanded their programs to include the Books for Babies Program, the Books for Kids Program, and the Early Steps to School Success Program; they have had more than two million books donated, provided more than three hundred thousand newborn literacy packets, and opened thirty-four book places, where parents can select free books for their kids. Through this variety of programs and services, Read To Grow has impacted more than one million adults, children, and babies. It has been a special experience to work with Read To Grow and Roxanne during my tenure in Congress.

I would be remiss if I did not extend a special note of thanks to Roxanne for the kindness and generosity she has extended to myself and my husband over the years, hosting book signings for each of us and providing support as well as guidance on issues of literacy to myself and my staff. I consider myself fortunate to call her my friend.

As Read To Grow marks its 20th Anniversary and Roxanne steps down as the founding board chair, she can be proud of the strong foundation on which this wonderful organization has been built. I have no doubt that it will long stand as one of her greatest legacies. Today, it is my honor to stand and extend my deepest thanks, appreciation and heartfelt congratulations to Roxanne J. Coady for her exceptional contributions to our community. Her good work has left an indelible mark on the lives of many.

TRIBUTE TO NEAL S. DUDOVITZ

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2019

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Neal Dudovitz, who recently retired from his position as Executive Director of Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County (NLSLA). A visionary leader and advocate in providing access to legal representation and justice to the underprivileged for over four decades, Mr. Dudovitz has served the Los Angeles area for the last twenty-five years at NLSLA.

During his time at NLSLA, Neal was instrumental in helping the organization reach its full potential to become one of the most prominent public interest legal services firms in the State of California. When he joined NLSLA in 1993, there was a staff of thirty members, one office and the budget was three million dollars; today, NLSLA has one hundred-fifty staff members, four offices, and a budget nearing twenty million dollars.

Under Mr. Dudovitz' leadership, NLSLA developed an efficient model of service delivery that combined impact litigation, policy advocacy and direct representation to support opportunities for families to move themselves out of poverty, reduce the effects of poverty, and to enforce and protect the legal rights of the underprivileged by ensuring access to the justice system. The organization now has one of the largest networks of self-help legal access centers in the country. In addition, NLSLA directed an innovative project of Medical Legal Community Partnerships which places NLSLA attorneys in community hospital and clinics, led a collaborative of programs in Los Angeles that provides legal representation to those facing eviction in impoverished neighborhoods, and initiated the Health Consumer Center, which has helped thousands of people access critical care, and which led to successful lawsuits that altered how Los Angeles County administered its Medi-Cal program. Additionally, Mr. Dudovitz has been a tireless and effective advocate for legal services for the underserved and underprivileged, and has been a partner to me in my efforts to support the Legal Services Corporation.

The awards that Mr. Dudovitz has received and the organizations he has been active in throughout his career is indicative of his prominence as a leader, mentor and agent of change. He received the Section Achievement Award from the State Bar of California Legal Services and was named one of the San Fernando Valley Business Journals' Top 25 lawyers. In addition, Neal served as a delegate to The White House Conference on Aging and was an active member of the Lawyer's Advisory for the Legal Aid Association of California.

I ask all members to join me in honoring Neal Dudovitz for his outstanding contributions to the Los Angeles community and offering our best wishes upon his retirement.

TRIBUTE FOR SUSAN MISKIN

HON. MAX ROSE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2019

Mr. ROSE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Susan Miskin on the occasion of her upcoming retirement from a career of dedicated service to her fellow Staten Islanders, particularly those with special needs. Throughout her 26 years as a speech therapist in New York City's school system, Susan has impacted the lives of countless students, and most recently, families of children with special needs.

Susan started her career in Brooklyn, working with students in grades 6 through 8. Since 2006, she has worked on Staten Island at Susan E. Wagner High School. There, she began working with students on the Autism spectrum. As many of these students stay in high school for a longer period of time, Susan got to know her students over the course of many years and help guide them into adulthood.

Susan went above and beyond to help these students. She has always thought of new and innovative ways to ensure that her students' needs were met. For example, she created a buddy program at Susan E. Wag-

ner, pairing incoming freshmen who have special needs with a senior student at the school. This program is designed to ensure a smooth transition to the high school for these students and has been a great success.

In fact, even in retirement, Susan's commitment to serving these students is not going anywhere, as she has promised to continue working as a volunteer with this buddy program. Susan represents the best of Staten Island and South Brooklyn. She is a hard-working individual who has dedicated her life to helping others. We all would do well to follow her lead. So, Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the career of Susan Miskin, for all of the hard work she has done and will continue to do to help her students, and to wish her the best in her upcoming retirement.

21ST CENTURY YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP ACT

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2019

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, this week is Global Entrepreneurship Week—a time to recognize the importance of entrepreneurship in our communities and economy. Entrepreneurship kindles the spark of creativity and ingenuity that has been such a cornerstone of our economy. Fostering more entrepreneurs is also a poverty alleviation solution. Studies showed that for every one-percentage point increase in the rate of entrepreneurship in a state, there is a two-percentage point decrease in the poverty rate.

Furthermore, additional studies show that two-thirds of adults worldwide are financially illiterate while 57 percent of U.S. adults overall are financially literate—ranking the U.S. 14th in the world in financial literacy. Only 17 states require high school students to take a course in personal finance, and students without a financial education are more likely to have low credit scores and other financial problems.

Madam Speaker, we already know that entrepreneurship requires creative problem-solving skills, leadership, teamwork, and adaptability, which are skills necessary for the 21st century workforce. Forty percent of American middle and high school students say they plan to start a business, and 29 percent said they planned to invent something that will change the world. These rates increase significantly for students who participate in entrepreneurship programs.

That is why I will be introducing the 21st Century Youth Entrepreneurship Act—to create a pathway to empower our youth to become next generation of leaders and innovators through the inclusion of entrepreneurship programs within our K–12 public school system, community colleges, libraries, and other community spaces.

Specifically, the 21st Century Youth Entrepreneurship Act would:

Amend Title IV of ESEA to allow for local and state educational agencies to include entrepreneurship programs, financial literacy programs, and leadership programs within existing curricula, utilizing pre-existing funds; and

Amend the Perkins Career and Technical Education Act to explicitly include “entrepreneurship education programs” as an allowable use of funds.