

chapters. When The ARC was founded, there were few programs and services for the special needs population it served, and in fact many were institutionalized at the state institutions of Pennhurst and Embreeville. The founders of The ARC defied the conventional wisdom of the time by advocating and working for public education and community inclusion for their children.

The only group in Chester County whose services are completely community-based, The ARC of Chester County has celebrated many significant firsts in its illustrious 60 year history. It is responsible for the first sheltered workshop in Chester County, the first community-based classrooms for children with developmental or intellectual disabilities, the first and only recreation program of its kind in Chester County for folks with such disabilities, the first organization in Pennsylvania to advocate for public education for children with special disabilities, the first group home in Pennsylvania, and the first community-based job coaching and employment program.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating The ARC of Chester County on the occasion of its 60th anniversary and to extend best wishes for the agency's continuing work to meet the needs of the community through the 21st century and beyond.

HONORING JOSH HURLBERT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Josh Hurlbert for his dedicated service over the past three years as a member of my staff. Josh will be leaving my staff to pursue his dream of serving the people of Missouri in elected office.

Josh has been an invaluable part of my office. His was the first voice that many constituents heard when they called my office. Josh gave them the information they asked for whether it was information about a bill, a way to contact a government agency or if the latest email going around was true. He also worked with the people of Clinton, Caldwell and Daviess Counties to make sure their voices were heard in Washington.

Josh also cheerfully took on additional office duties or tasks without being asked. His professionalism and dedication to serving my constituents was a great example of how government should work.

While I am losing a valuable member of my team, I am excited for Josh to begin the next chapter of his career in public service. He knows that the best way to truly represent someone is to listen to their ideas and their concerns. Josh will be a voice for common sense and limited government the rest of his life.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Josh Hurlbert for his service to the people of the Sixth Congressional District. I, and the rest of my staff, wish him success in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 118–120. Had I been present, I would have voted “no” on #118, “no” on #119, and “yes” on #120.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2012

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes this week because of the primary election in Illinois. If I had been here, I would have voted “Yea” on Rollcall No. 111; “Yea” on Rollcall No. 112; “Yea” on Rollcall No. 113; “Yea” on Rollcall No. 114; “Nay” on Rollcall No. 115; “Nay” on Rollcall No. 116; “Yea” on Rollcall No. 117; “Yea” on Rollcall No. 118; “Yea” on Rollcall No. 119; “Yea” on Rollcall No. 120; “Yea” on Rollcall No. 121; “Yea” on Rollcall No. 122; “Nay” on Rollcall No. 123; “Yea” on Rollcall No. 124; “Nay” on Rollcall No. 125; “Yea” on Rollcall No. 126.

A TRIBUTE TO DUANE AND
PATRICIA OHLRICH

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two distinguished Nebraskans, Duane and Patricia Ohlrich of Columbus. Their company, Industrial Systems & Supply, Inc., was named the Nebraska Small Business of the Year for 2012 by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Small businesses like theirs are the engine of our economy. Over their more than 20 years in business together, Duane and Patricia built their company from \$391,000 in sales to nearly \$6 million in 2011. All the while, they successfully expanded their business into additional products to account for the changing economic climate.

Duane and Patricia's success didn't just stop with their business—they also gave back to their community. Among the many examples of their generosity was their collaboration with other Columbus area small businesses to provide seed money for Central Community College's entrepreneurship program, which offers workshops, seminars and other events to educate and promote business ownership.

The success the Ohlrich's have earned through their hard work and perseverance is what the American Dream is all about. It is stories like theirs which make both Nebraska and our nation strong and proud. I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Duane and Patricia for their achievement.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF
OBAMACARE

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the serious state of health care in our country as we approach the second anniversary of ObamaCare.

When ObamaCare was drafted behind closed doors without bipartisan input and slammed through the legislative process in 2010, President Obama and NANCY PELOSI promised us that this government takeover of health care would allow people who like the health care plan they have now to keep it.

But I and my Republican colleagues knew better when we voted against the bill—and we were right. In the two years since ObamaCare was signed into law, Americans have already experienced significant increases in premiums, loss of choice in medical coverage, and less access for seniors to obtain quality health care.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, a recent report by the Congressional Budget Office stated that as many as 20 million Americans could lose their employer-provided health care coverage as a result of ObamaCare—half of who are low-wage workers whom depend on their employer health coverage. Even the Department of Health and Human Services admitted that portions of the President's health care law, which were originally projected to lower costs, would in fact increase taxes on hardworking American taxpayers.

Americans deserve access to the quality health care they need when they need it and at a cost they can afford. Improvements must be made, but reforms need to focus on putting patients first and lowering costs. Lowering costs for hardworking American taxpayers can be achieved by expanding health care choices and tools to help families save, making it easier for small businesses to afford to offer care, ending lawsuit abuse, and protecting the doctor-patient relationship from government intrusion.

After several years of uncertainty and stagnant economic conditions, the American people need real solutions and real results. This cannot be achieved by budget tricks or accounting gimmicks that do nothing to help hardworking American taxpayers and only result in higher taxes and burdensome federal government mandates.

Efficient, effective government that spends less and serves better is the only answer to restoring genuine accountability and faith in our government. The House of Representatives has voted 25 times to repeal, defund or dismantle this law. It is my hope that before the next anniversary of ObamaCare, the Senate and President will join the House to repeal this trillion-dollar government takeover of health care and work on real reforms that lower costs for the American people.