

was winning track and field titles, nine in total, while attending Marble Falls High School. After building an unparalleled resume on the track at the University of Texas, Leo began to compete professionally where, again, he continued to receive awards and special recognition. In 2008, all of Leo's hard work paid off when he earned a spot on the U.S. Olympic team. While Leo did not win a medal in 2008, when the 2012 Games came around, Leo was ready to make history. He became the first U.S. man to win a medal in the men's middle distance in 44 years.

We are proud of Leo. While we are excited about his medal and awards, we are proud of Leo because he is one of us and he represented the best of America. His story is an inspiration to our children and proves that even though you may be from a small town, no dream is too big. Again, I congratulate Leo on this amazing accomplishment, his dedication and hard work, and an outstanding career.

ST. ANTHONY BASEBALL

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the achievements of a state champion baseball team from Effingham, Illinois.

The St. Anthony Bulldogs had not visited the IHSA baseball state finals since before any of the current players were born. But this year, behind third-year coach Kenny Miller, the Bulldogs charged to a 31–8–1 record and defeated Tuscola 6–1 for the state championship.

I want to congratulate Coach Miller and Assistant Coach Grant Keller, and especially the members of the 2012 St. Anthony Bulldogs state champion baseball team: Zach Gardewine, Thomas Stephens, Ben Hecht, Jacob Lorenz, Austin Bushur, Charlie Schultz, Scott Renfrow, Kyle Burgois, Neil Williams, Michael Kabbes, Reed Willenborg, Cody Pike, Jared Having, Eli Dasenbrock, Alex Hoelsher, Conner Greene, Braden Puckett and Michael Stehens. They have represented themselves, their school and their community in a first-rate fashion, and I am proud to join with the other Members of this House in congratulating them, and wishing them all the best in their future athletic and academic endeavors.

PRESERVING HOME HEALTH CARE
UNDER MEDICARE

HON. DENNIS A. ROSS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. ROSS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the President has twice told the American public, through his budget and deficit reduction proposals, that he believes our seniors should be paying more for Medicare if they want to stay in their homes. Twice in the past two years,

President Obama has proposed mandating that Medicare beneficiaries pay—for the first time since the Medicare program came into existence—an additional out of pocket charge for their home health care services. Twice, President Obama has told seniors that they must choose between getting their care at home, where they have lived for years, and moving away from their homes, their belongings, and their communities to get their daily care at a nursing home or hospital.

Mr. Speaker, this choice is not only unnecessary, it is inefficient. Home health care providers deliver care management services, vital daily care, and in-home health care services at a low cost. We shouldn't tell our seniors, our parents, that they must choose between their home or their health care. We should keep home health care free of co-payments to ensure that they have the ability to remain in their homes, in their communities, and with their families and memories.

This is just another example of why "Medicare as we know it" will be bankrupt in ten years. Seniors who prefer home health care should always retain that option and be provided choices of plans that will ensure their wishes are granted, rather than live at the whim of unelected and unaccountable bureaucrats. Dignity, care, and being home are small comforts when one is ill, or dying. But, eliminating a cost effective provision of care that current seniors expect, paid into and bargained for, is wrong. Medicare must change for the future, and seniors deserve choice, but for those currently or near entering the system, the rules should not be changed at the last minute.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
HONORABLE SAM JOHNSON

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friend and colleague, the Honorable SAM JOHNSON. He is this year's recipient of the Maurice Acers Champion of Free Enterprise Lifetime Achievement Award from the Texas Association of Business.

Congressman JOHNSON has been a long time champion for the free enterprise system in America. After twenty-nine years of dedicated service in the United States Air Force, Congressman JOHNSON started a home-building business in North Dallas. He knows first-hand the challenges of starting a business and of the pride in building and maintaining something entirely of your own making. He has continued to advocate for the free enterprise system because he understands its importance. This notion of allowing individuals to make their own economic decisions and grasp the opportunities available in this country is the essence of the American entrepreneurial spirit. It spurs innovation, nurtures creativity, and led to the economic growth and development of our great Nation. Congressman JOHNSON's continued support for the free enterprise system speaks loudly of his belief in the individual and the tremendous potential each and every American possesses.

From a decorated military career to serving in the Texas House of Representatives and now proudly representing the 3rd Congressional District of Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman JOHNSON has devoted his life to public service. His life story is one that exemplifies the American Dream—that dedication, hard work, and perseverance can lead to great success. He has given his life to serving our country because he believes in a better tomorrow for the next generation.

It is my great honor and privilege to congratulate my friend, Congressman JOHNSON, on receiving this prestigious award. Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in congratulating Congressman JOHNSON on this great honor, and I would like to take this time to thank him for his service.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE MONTEREY COUNTY
FREE LIBRARIES

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the Monterey County Free Libraries. Author and broadcaster Studs Terkel once said, "All you need in life is truth and beauty and you can find both at the Public Library." Well, for the last century, Monterey County's library system has offered up beauty and truth in abundance.

On August 6, 1912, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors established the Monterey County Free Libraries. On September 2, 1913 Miss Anne Hadden started as the first County Librarian. In her first six months she opened five branches. By 1923 she and others had established branches in 105 locations. Some were simple reading rooms housed in private residences, schools, and stores; the Big Sur branch was located in the Post Office. In those early days Miss Hadden used every means at her disposal to distribute books to the far corners of the county: by train, by car, and even on foot. Indeed, a photograph of Anne Hadden delivering books by burro has become an iconic image of the whole library system.

Today, the Free Libraries still function under the authority of the Monterey County Board of Supervisors. The County Librarian operates seventeen branch libraries, two bookmobiles, a library-by-mail program, and also maintains collections in schools. Books for all ages and interests in regular and large print, books on tape, CD's, DVD's and videos, magazines, electronic resources and materials in English, Spanish, Korean and Vietnamese are available to the community. The libraries also maintain ten homework centers and a literacy program. All together they provide services to 220,000 people over 3,250 square miles.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Free Libraries on their 100th anniversary and know that I speak for the whole House in saluting them on this joyous occasion.