

program that is helping address unemployment around our Nation to the one place, perhaps, that needs help the most, the Northern Marianas.

The employment services the Wagner-Peyser programs provide have proven effective in facilitating the connection between the employers' demand for employees and the labor market's abundant supply of a willing workforce. That is why I ask my colleagues to support this bill.

We have to do more in this Congress for U.S. workers. This is not a new program. This is not a fundamental amendment to the intent of the Act. This bill merely offers equal treatment to the Northern Marianas in giving them the chance to access funding to support our local businesses and workers in need.

TRIBUTE TO PAT WOOTON

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated employee of the U.S. House of Representatives and a staunch Kentucky Republican, Mr. Dennis Patrick Wooton, upon his retirement from my Hazard district office following six years of service as my trusted Field Representative.

Pat has been my right hand on many issues impacting constituents in the eastern half of Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District, covering 18 counties. Anytime a natural disaster occurs in our region, such as flash flooding, tornadoes and damaging mudslides, Pat immediately reaches out to local officials to offer a helping hand and evaluate the potential need for federal assistance. He has been a loyal, reliable resource in the mountains of eastern Kentucky, always offering a friendly smile, his contagious humorous attitude, and word of encouragement.

Before serving as Congressional staff, Pat bravely served our U.S. Army in the Vietnam War. He was awarded several medals for his valiant efforts, including the honorable Bronze Star. He is a life-time member of V.F.W. Post 7378 and D.A.V. Chapter 64. Upon returning home, Pat was a teacher, baseball coach, and basketball coach at Buckhorn High School in Perry County, Kentucky, where he also became one of the most beloved principals in the history of the institution. In 2007, he was elected to the Kentucky High School Baseball Coach Hall of Fame. Through his dedicated efforts in the county, Pat gained the respect of the people of Perry County, who elected him Sheriff 2003–2006.

Pat has also been a dedicated advocate for conservative Republican principals and currently serves as Chairman of the Perry County Republican Party.

Pat has a true heart of service, which is displayed by his volunteer efforts across the Kentucky River region. His long list of service includes training the Buckhorn Volunteer Fire Department, serving on the Governor's Smart Growth Task Force, the ARH Family Health Service and Community Advisory Boards, Buckhorn City Council, the Hazard Community and Technical College Board of Directors, and many more.

Please join me in congratulating Mr. Pat Wooton on his retirement, and in appreciation

of his brave military service to this nation. My wife, Cynthia, and I wish Pat and his wife, Veda, the very best in the years to come.

CONGRATULATING ARMSTRONG CABLE ON THEIR FIFTIETH AN- NIVERSARY

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, Armstrong is proudly celebrating its fiftieth anniversary of providing loyal cable service to its customers. With 800 employees, Armstrong serves 282,000 subscribers. Armstrong was founded in 1946 by Jud and Ned Sedwick and remains a family-owned and operated business that maintains close ties with the communities it serves.

Cablefax Magazine, a leading telecommunications publication, recently awarded Armstrong the 2012 Best Customer Service Award for service excellence among independent cable operators nationwide.

I congratulate Armstrong on the 18th day of April in the year 2013. I heartily commend Armstrong for its dedication to customer service and offer best wishes for future success.

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL ELLENBOGEN

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I share this letter on behalf of a constituent of mine named Michael Ellenbogen. I hope his story helps others in a profound and positive way.

My name is Michael Ellenbogen. I am living with Alzheimer's disease. I spend almost every waking hour advocating for increased funding for research that will improve the treatment of this dreadful disease. In 2008, at the age of 49, I was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease after struggling to get a diagnosis since my first symptoms began at age 39. There are more than five million Americans now suffering from this devastating disease.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) funds research into critical and devastating diseases such as cancer and HIV/Aids. Yet there is much neglect and discrimination regarding the allocation of funds for research into Alzheimer's and related dementias. As a person who experiences the devastating impact of Alzheimer's disease every day I hope that research will lead eventually to postponing the onset or slow the progression of this disease, if not prevention and cure.

Currently, Alzheimer's disease only receives about \$450 million for research from NIH, compared to more than \$5 billion for cancer and more than \$3 billion for HIV/AIDS. I am astonished at the lack of funding dedicated to addressing the number one health epidemic. Historically, leadership from the federal government has helped lower the number of deaths from major diseases such as HIV/AIDS, heart disease, stroke and many types of cancers. This past experience provides hope that increased efforts directed at Alzheimer's disease will be met with similar success.

There are many more Americans living with Alzheimer's than HIV; more funding is desperately needed. If we do not act now this disease has the potential to bankrupt this country. Money allocated today will have an enormous return on investment if it leads to the kind of successes obtained for other diseases.

If you have not yet been touched by this devastating and debilitating disease it's just a matter of time. I hope that my advocacy will help prevent future generations having to suffer my fate and that of many others. You can help by increasing NIH funding for research on Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

I appeal to members of the House of Representatives, the Senate and the respective appropriations committees: Make the hard choices; increase funding for Alzheimer's disease. Do everything necessary to ensure that Alzheimer's disease gets the exposure, commitment and funding necessary to change the course of the disease before millions more Americans are affected.

My work as an advocate has provided opportunities to share my story on a national platform. I have provided public comment during meetings of the Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care and Services in addition to having my personal essay about overcoming the stigma of the disease featured in the Alzheimer's disease World Report 2012. I have also become a member of the Alzheimer's Association National Early-Stage Advisory Group, helping to raise awareness of the disease and provide insights on the most appropriate programs and services for individuals in the early stage of Alzheimer's and other dementias.

I hope that what I am doing now will allow me to leave this world knowing that I have done everything possible to make generations to come have a fighting chance. Do not forget these people or the future generations who will develop this disease. We face dying in the worst possible way.

Regards,

MICHAEL ELLENBOGEN.

TRIBUTE TO GEE'S BEND QUILT ARTISTS MARY LEE BENDOLPH AND LORETTA PETTWAY BEN- NETT

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two of my talented and distinguished constituents—Mary Lee Bendolph and Loretta Pettway Bennett. Both ladies are renowned quilt artists from Gee's Bend, Alabama. The beautiful work of these honorees and the group of women quilters from Gee's Bend has gained international recognition and is source of great pride to my district and the state of Alabama.

Gee's Bend is a beloved rural community—geographically isolated on a peninsula at a deep bend in the Alabama River, just southeast of my hometown of Selma. For nearly 200 years the women of Gee's Bend have been creating quilt art. These local women use available materials, in patterns of their own creative design. They have received widespread, critical acclaim and their work has been compared to the most valuable pieces of modern abstract art.

Mary Lee Bendolph, the seventh of 17 children, descends from generations of accomplished quilt makers in Gee's Bend. She