

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DALE SOWARDS TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dale Sowards of Manassa, Colorado. Mr. Sowards passed away on March 29, 2013 at his home, he was 95. A native and lifelong resident of Western Colorado, Mr. Sowards' story is one of public service and community involvement that lives on as an inspiration to us all.

Born in Manassa on May 7, 1917, Mr. Sowards went on to receive a degree in Forestry and range Management from Colorado State University and on Christmas Eve of 1937, he married his high school sweetheart Orva Nielson. Following college, Mr. Sowards spent five years serving Colorado with the U.S. Forest Service. He went on the teach biology, chemistry, and agriculture in Manassa and later taught the farm training program at Adams State College.

Mr. Sowards' life in civil service began as a member of the Manassa school board, he later served the President of the Cumbres-La Manga Cattle Association and the Manassa Land and Irrigation Company for 16 years. Mr. Sowards went on to become County Commissioner and, in 1976, was chosen as the Most Outstanding Colorado Commissioner. That same year, he was elected President of the National Association of Counties' Western Region (NaCO). As a NaCO President, Mr. Sowards played a pivotal role in the passage of Payments-In-Lieu-of-Taxes, or PILT, legislation which compensates counties for the tax revenue lost by federal holdings of land. Counties use these funds for education, public safety, and infrastructure projects. In recognition of his efforts, NaCo's annual award for outstanding service of public lands bears his name.

Mr. Sowards was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served as Superintendent of the Sunday school late in his life. He is survived by two children in Manassa, 10 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Mr. Dale Sowards for his lifelong dedication to the people of Western Colorado.

RECOGNIZING THE WOOGMS MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Wellington-Oakdale Old Glory Marching Society's Annual Memorial Day Parade, a patriotic tradition in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood. This

vibrant Chicago institution invites marchers of all ages to participate in Lakeview's only "do-it-yourself" parade, where everybody marches and nobody watches.

In 1963, Chicago resident Al Weisman began this annual tradition along with his son, Tony, and a half dozen friends marching around the block with an American flag. Today, the WOOGMS parade is led by Tony Weisman and regularly attracts more than 1,000 marchers. It is a wonderful way Chicagoans celebrate freedom and remember those who have served our country.

The WOOGMS parade's emphasis on inclusion and participation sets this wonderful event apart. Guided by Al Weisman's belief that children would rather participate in a parade than simply watch, the parade encourages Chicagoans of all ages to join in the parade and march; spectators are discouraged from sitting down and encouraged to participate. These annual parades attract parents, children and grandparents who are walking or riding strollers, bikes and wheelchairs down the parade route. Accompanied by the Jesse White Drum Corps, participants march towards St. Joseph's Hospital where they are greeted by welcoming volunteers.

As a longtime Lakeview resident, I've had the privilege of joining the WOOGMS parade since 1983. As the event has grown, so have the participants. It's been heartening to see the children who marched 30 years ago come back to join the WOOGMS parade with children of their own.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the WOOGMS parade as one of Chicago's most unique events. Let us look forward to another 50 years of continued success for this patriotic tradition.

HOMES FOR HEROES ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 384, the "Homes for Heroes Act of 2013." I support this bill because it provides much needed assistance to more than 62,000 veterans who can be found homeless on any given night. I support this bill because it will help the 12,700 homeless veterans who were involved in Iraq and Afghanistan. I support this legislation because it is unacceptable that anyone who served this nation honorably in times of war should be without a home in times of peace.

The Homes for Heroes Act creates the position of Special Assistant for Veterans Affairs in the Office of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and charges him or her with the responsibility of ensuring that veterans have fair access to housing and homeless assistance programs at HUD in addition to coordinating HUD programs and ac-

tivities of the Department relating to veterans; serving as a liaison with the Department of Veterans Affairs; serving as HUD liaison to the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness and State, and local governments, and nongovernmental organizations concerned with veterans.

The Special Assistant also will provide veterans information and advice regarding special housing programs for veterans and assisting them in obtaining housing or homeless assistance under programs administered by the Department.

There are over 304,000 veterans in my city of Houston, and 11,000 homeless men and women, more than 3,600 of which are veterans. These homeless veterans have fallen victim to the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, and often faced difficulty entering the civilian workforce where experience in military occupations and training do not easily translate. Because of these and other difficulties, a veteran commits suicide every 65 hours.

These men and women are often single, alone, and with little family connections concentrated in large urban areas where living conditions are more likely to be poor. Forty percent of our homeless veterans are African American or Hispanic despite making up a much smaller percentage of the veteran community.

The welfare of homeless veterans of our nation, who fought in World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Grenada, Panama, Lebanon, the Persian Gulf War, Afghanistan and Iraq, should always be one of our primary concerns. They should not be left to fend for themselves when they encounter difficulties upon returning home. The Homes for Heroes act help will ensure that more have a home to live in when they return home.

The sad reality is that too many of our veterans are homeless or jobless or poor. They grow younger by the year. They need our help and support. We owe it to answer the call for them.

I urge all members of the House to join in me in supporting H.R. 384, the Homes for Heroes Act of 2013.

IN HONOR OF THE STEWART HOME SCHOOL'S 120TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Stewart Home School in Frankfort, Kentucky, and to congratulate them on their 120th Anniversary. The mission of the Stewart Home School is the complete and total care of special needs students, as well as the fulfillment of all their needs—physical, educational, social, vocational and spiritual.

Since 1893, Stewart Home School has provided a community where people live in a nurturing environment and participate in programs

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

designed to specifically meet their individual needs. Their students pursue skills in self-sufficiency, academics, and vocational programs in a setting that stimulates self-confidence and encourages personal happiness.

Stewart Home School occupies the historic campus of the old Kentucky Military Institute, and is now on the National Register of Historic Places. The school offers a one-of-a-kind community where those with intellectual disabilities are appreciated for the people they are.

The Stewart Home School embraces each student as an individual who desires meaningful activity, success, friendships, and acceptance, and strives to develop skills and talents in all areas of life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Stewart Home School for the tireless efforts to improve the lives of their students and in congratulating them on their 120th anniversary. I extend my personal appreciation to the Stewart Home for all that they have done for our community. The Stewart Home School is a gem in the Sixth Congressional District of Kentucky, not only improving the lives of its students, but also bettering our Commonwealth.

DANIEL NEWMYER TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Daniel Newmyer of Center, Colorado. Mr. Newmyer is one of the many exceptional teachers in the great state of Colorado whose passion and dedication for his students make him a great example for educators everywhere and a strong community leader.

Mr. Newmyer graduated from the University of Colorado at Boulder with a degree in Science Administration and went on to receive a Master's degree from Regis University in Education. In 2009, he joined the Center Consolidated School District to teach math and science at Center High School. Since becoming a teacher, Mr. Newmyer has strived to bring science and math to life for his students, always looking for new and exciting ways to inspire his students.

Mr. Newmyer has received numerous awards and recognitions for his innovation in the classroom, and his dedication as an educator. This year, the Astronauts Memorial Foundation, NASA, and the Space Foundation jointly presented him with the Alan Shepard Technology in Education Award and Mr. Newmyer was named the San Luis Valley Teacher of the Year. Because of Mr. Newmyer's efforts, Center High School has become one of the top STEM schools in the state of Colorado. He has worked to procure grants to allow his students to participate in local, state, and national science and engineering competitions. He has also pioneered a computer-based learning system that uses flight simulators to boost math scores.

Mr. Newmyer is a perfect example of how technology can drive innovation in education. His creativity and hard work are an inspiration to teachers across the country. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Daniel Newmyer for

his dedication to his students and his outstanding accomplishments as an educator.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF REV. NIMROD Q. REYNOLDS

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the life and legacy of Rev. Nimrod Q. Reynolds, a beloved Alabamian remembered for his remarkable display of bravery and courage in his attempt to integrate the Carnegie Library in Anniston, Alabama on September 15, 1963. Rev. Reynolds passed away on Sunday, May 12 at the age of 82. While I am deeply saddened by his passing I am comforted in knowing that his legacy is one that will live on through his contributions to the state of Alabama and this nation.

Rev. Reynolds was born on April 30, 1931 in Chambers County, Alabama. In 1949, he graduated from Chambers County High School and went on to obtain a degree from Clark College in Atlanta, Georgia. He later received a Masters Degree from the Interdenominational Theological Seminary. But while Rev. Reynolds understood the power of education, he is most remembered for his lifelong commitment to ministry.

At just 17 years old. Rev. Reynolds preached his first sermon at Macedonia Baptist Church in Five Points, Alabama. He went on to Pastor First Baptist Church in Union Springs Alabama before becoming Pastor of Seventeenth Street Missionary Baptist Church in Anniston, Alabama. Rev. Reynolds would remain at Seventeenth Street for over 50 years.

In addition to serving as pastor of Seventeenth Street, Rev. Reynolds founded the Community Action Agency, an organization that was dedicated to addressing poverty in the local community. He came to Anniston in 1960 with a message that stressed the immediate importance of equality. In 1964, he hosted a mass meeting with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and in 1967, his two children fully integrated Tenth St. Elementary. In 1972, he sued the Anniston City School Board and forced full integration of the school system. In 1976, he was elected the first black president of the Anniston City Board of Education. Through his historic efforts to integrate Anniston, Rev. Reynolds became a transformative figure. He would further solidify his place in history on September 15, 1963 when he walked up the steps of Anniston's Carnegie Library. His intent was simple yet complex during these turbulent times in southern states. Rev. Reynolds wanted simply to check out a book.

Instead, he along with others were met with an angry mob that savagely beat Reynolds. The beating resulted in injuries that left him bedridden for days. However, because of his heroic efforts other clergymen returned to the library the day after his vicious attack and were successful in integrating the library. Ironically his beating occurred on the same day of the bombing of 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama.

Anniston City leaders mapped out plans to slowly integrate the city to prevent violent demonstrations similar to those that had occurred in neighboring areas. But for Rev. Reynolds, the pace was unacceptable. As a result, in 1964 he galvanized yet another movement. Under his leadership, local ministers placed a one page ad in the local paper that read "We want our freedom and we want it now." The ad would be recorded in history books as the "Anniston Manifesto."

He went on to serve in countless leadership roles at various organizations aimed at meeting the needs of those in poverty and advancing the cause of blacks in Alabama and across this Nation. Today we honor him for his role in the story of America. We also remember him as a catalyst for change. As the first black woman elected to congress from Alabama I am humbled to stand before the nation and share his story of strength and courage.

Saying thank you to Rev. Reynolds seems woefully inadequate. But, we are truly grateful for the life of this extraordinary leader. On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, the State of Alabama and this nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Rev. Nimrod Q. Reynolds.

HONORING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF SACRED HEART PARISH IN OSAGE COUNTY, MO

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 175th anniversary of Sacred Heart Parish. I am proud to recognize one of the state's most historically rich Catholic communities, the Parishioners and Reverend Philip Niekamp of Sacred Heart of Rich Fountain in Osage County on Sunday May 26, 2013.

The Parish of the Sacred Heart in Rich Fountain traces its roots back to May 16, 1838, when the very first mass was celebrated by Father Ferdinand Helias; S.J., in the home of the John T. Struempf family at Struempf's Settlement. Father Helias nurtured this community for 10 years.

The town gets its name from a clear spring that was located nearby. During its early years Rich Fountain became known as Missouri's Bavaria due to the fact that some 25 Bavarian families sought to begin new lives here. Soon after, a number of families from Westfalen and the Rhineland Provinces of Germany joined them in the heart of the Osage River valley.

Sacred Heart's diverse group of parishioners has always been united by a faith in our creator and a strong community spirit.

Key events in the history of the Sacred Heart Parish include the construction of the limestone church of the Sacred Heart in 1879 and the creation of the rectory in 1892, both of which were placed on the National Register of Historic Sites in 1982.

Resting on a slope of a hill these enormous buildings of native limestone have earned the village the title "Oberammergau of Osage County."

RECOGNIZING TERRY SANFORD
HIGH SCHOOL'S CENTENNIAL
GRADUATION

HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Terry Sanford High School of Fayetteville, NC as they celebrate their centennial graduation on June 6, 2013.

Recognized by US News and World Report for receiving the Silver Medal in the annual list of America's Best High Schools in 2006, as well as being ranked one of the top 25 high schools in North Carolina this year, Terry Sanford is a shining example of a school preparing our students for the challenges of the 21st Century.

Terry Sanford offers fourteen different Advanced Placement courses as well as a variety of honors courses. In addition, Terry Sanford is home to the School of Global Studies which offers a rigorous, liberal arts college preparatory education in order to promote academic excellence, global awareness, and cultural and social growth.

I would like to congratulate Terry Sanford High School and its staff for 100 years of excellence and I commend them for their outstanding service in North Carolina education.

IMPORTANCE OF HOME
HEALTHCARE

HON. TODD C. YOUNG

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address the value of home healthcare to the people of Indiana's Ninth Congressional District. In addition to being a preferred place for care for most eligible seniors, home health consistently offers seniors the lowest cost venue. In Indiana alone, over 61,000 Medicare beneficiaries receive home health services from more than 8,000 Hoosiers who provide their care. Home health services, properly regulated, need to be encouraged rather than discouraged, to fulfill their mission of quality care for America's seniors and greater value for our Medicare program.

I appreciate the home health care community's efforts to develop their own proposal to weed out bad actors in their industry. One proposal that might save money within Medicare would place reasonable per-provider limitations on 60-day episodes of home care. Such limitations aim to ensure beneficiary access to care and stop abusive billing practices that appear to exist in a small number of counties nationwide. MedPAC's March Report to Congress referenced 25 counties in the nation where a reasonable reduction in home care utilization with an episode limit could achieve up to \$1 billion in savings per year.

A reasonable but stable reimbursement environment is necessary for home care providers to continue accomplishing their mission. Since 2010, the home care industry has been subjected to nearly \$70 billion in reimbursement cuts, 21% of their total funding. I have said time and again that our Medicare system

needs broad reform to make it sustainable for future generations. We cannot continue to impose cut after cut on our providers and expect to fix the system without shifting more of the financial burden to our senior population or harming patient care. Working together to implement creative reforms like this, we will ensure that this valuable service continues to improve the lives of our seniors in their homes in Indiana and across the nation.

BLM PREVENTS JOB OPPORTUNITIES
IN THE CENTRAL VALLEY

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, this month, the United States Bureau of Land Management indefinitely cancelled all oil and natural gas lease sales in California. This includes 1,278 acres of prime oil and natural gas land in Kern and Fresno counties located in my District—California 21.

This land is part of the Monterey Shale Formation located in the Central Valley. The Monterey Shale contains 2/3 of our country's shale oil reserves—the equivalent of 15.4 billion barrels. If tapped, it could generate half a million jobs and generate \$4.5 billion in revenue. This would have a significant impact on my district which has faced chronic unemployment for years.

However, citing sequestration, BLM is suspending all future lease sales in California. The decision was made despite the fact that these leases provide significant revenue for the federal government.

This is just another example of the Administration using sequestration to further their environmental policy agenda at the expense of American families. BLM's efforts to prevent energy development are depriving my constituents of quality jobs and increasing energy prices for hardworking families across the country.

It is unacceptable that BLM is halting lease auctions in regions that have been used for oil and gas development for over a century. These auctions generate revenue for the federal government, reduce our nation's dependency on foreign oil, and lead to direct economic benefits as well as local job creation.

Thousands in the Central Valley remain unemployed as the job-creating opportunities within lease sales remain untapped. If we took advantage of these employment opportunities, small businesses would have more customers and local government could direct more revenue dollars to public safety and education. Those of us in the Central Valley are proud of our energy and agriculture heritage.

It is time for Washington bureaucrats to get out of the way and let our valley flourish.

A TRIBUTE TO RECOGNIZE JULIUS
KNAPP AND EVAN KWEREL ON
RECEIVING PRESIDENTIAL RANK
AWARDS

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Julius Knapp and Evan Kwerel on receiving Presidential Rank Awards. Every year the President confers these prestigious awards to a select group of career senior executives with the designation of Distinguished Executive, and Meritorious Executive.

Last month, Julius Knapp, Chief of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Office of Engineering and Technology and a dedicated agency employee for nearly 39 years, received the Distinguished Executive Presidential Rank Award. This award recognizes Julius for his ongoing work to unleash new technological innovation.

Evan Kwerel, the FCC's Senior Economic Advisor and a 30-year agency employee, received the Meritorious Executive Presidential Rank Award. As the "father of FCC spectrum auctions," Evan was recognized for his keen economic analysis that has made an extraordinary impact on modern communications policy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House to join me in congratulating Julius Knapp and Evan Kwerel on receiving these very special awards and for their dedicated years of service to the Federal Communications Commission and to the people of our nation whom they have served in an exemplary fashion.

IN RECOGNITION OF LILLIAN
KAFKA

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lillian Kafka as she celebrates her ninetieth birthday this month.

Ms. Kafka, or "Libby" as she is referred to by her many friends, was born on May 18, 1923, to Louis and Mae Dubinsky of Sharon, Massachusetts. The Dubinsky family owned Sunset Lodge, a popular summer resort hotel on the idyllic shore of Lake Massapoag in Sharon. Ms. Kafka, along with her siblings Aaron and Edith, would often help their parents with the daily tasks of the family business. Upon the passing of Louis, the Dubinsky children helped their mother even more with running the hotel until it was sold to the Archdiocese of Boston several years later.

On June 18, 1944, Ms. Kafka celebrated her wedding to husband Milton Kafka at the Sunset Lodge, and the two remained happily married until Milton's passing in 2006. The Kafkas welcomed five children into their family: Louis, Millie, Benjamin, Kenneth, and Hirsh. Ms. Kafka has seen her family grow exponentially over the years, and is now the proud grandmother of twelve and great-grandmother of seventeen.

Today, Ms. Kafka stays quite active with her large family, and spends much time in particular with her great-grandchildren, who lovingly refer to her as "G.G." When she is not

busy with family, music and theater take up most of her free time. Ms. Kafka is an active volunteer at the Sharon Community Theater and the Actors Collaborative. She has performed onstage at the Mansfield Music and Arts Society, and she now fills the role of the organization's official backstage hostess. Her love of volunteering and positive outlook are representative of the extraordinary person that Ms. Kafka is, and the entire community has benefited from her many accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Lillian Kafka on this joyous occasion of her ninetieth birthday. She is an outstanding member of our community, and I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing her many more years of health and happiness.

RECOGNIZING RANDY JOYCE AS
THE 2013 AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Randy Joyce, the 2013 Air Force Association Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Joyce received his Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education, with minors in Sports Medicine and Social Sciences, from the University of Mobile in 2000. Five years later, he earned a Certification in Gifted Education from the Okaloosa County Alternative Certification Program. He also is affiliated with the Air Force Association, the Civil Air Patrol, and the Okaloosa County Education Association. These achievements and affiliations prepared Mr. Joyce for his career in educating the students of Northwest Florida in the science, aviation, and aerospace fields.

For the last nine years, Mr. Joyce has been dedicated to serving the students of Crestview, Florida. Mr. Joyce began his teaching career at Richbourg Middle School. After five years at Richbourg, Mr. Joyce moved to Shoal River Middle School (SRMS) to teach classes in comprehensive sciences. He has spent the last six years teaching Aerospace and Aviation Science, a program in the Community High Okaloosa Institutes of Career Education (CHOICE) Aviation Institute. Mr. Joyce's dynamic and engaging teaching style has built tremendous interest in aviation studies at his school and has garnered him multiple nominations for the Teacher of the Year Award. This year, he has won that award.

A large part of Mr. Joyce's curriculum involves engaging his seventh and eighth grade students with hands-on educational tools. For instance, his classes visit Pensacola Naval Air Station twice per year to experience the evolution of military aviation while witnessing the impact that aviation and aerospace have on their lives. Mr. Joyce also takes his students to Challenger Learning Center every year to better connect the students with the roles they can play in the future of space exploration. The students participate in numerous labs during the course of the year that begin with learning the basics of lift, drag, gravity, and thrust, and culminate with building their own rockets, complete with making their own fuel mixtures. These exercises and experiences in-

still an interest in exploring the frontiers of aerospace and aviation in the many students who participate in these courses.

Mr. Joyce has demonstrated his commitment to the success of each of his students. The growing student interest in his Aerospace and Aviation Science course has led Mr. Joyce to push for devoting an entire school day to aviation coursework. He also serves as the Wellness Coordinator and the Academic Team Sponsor at SRMS, which is a further testament to his tireless efforts to benefit his students.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Mr. Randy Joyce for his great achievements and honorable service. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing him all of the best for continued success.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE
INVESTIGATION OF THE MURDER
OF HUMAN RIGHTS ATTORNEY
PATRICK FINUCANE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing to assess progress on the unfulfilled British commitment—broken commitment, unless the British Government reverses course—in the Finucane collusion case, and how this affects the peace process in Northern Ireland.

In connection with the Good Friday peace agreement, the British Government promised to conduct public inquiries into the Finucane and three other cases where government collusion in a paramilitary murder was suspected. Subsequently the British government backtracked in regard to the Finucane case—the 1989 murder of human rights lawyer Patrick Finucane. The British backtracking came despite the recommendation to hold an inquiry, which, again, the British Government agreed to abide by, of the internationally respected jurist and former Canadian Supreme Court Justice Peter Cory in 2004.

I'd like to thank Judge Cory again, who testified about his recommendation, at a congressional hearing which I chaired in May of 2004. That is now nine years ago—and we are all still trying to get the British government to live up to its commitment. The Finucane family has testified at many hearings—Geraldine, Patrick's widow, and his son John, his son Michael, who testified yesterday—going back sixteen years. And of course there have been many others—and all of these witnesses, advocates, and experts have advocated a full, independent, and public judicial inquiry into the police collusion with loyalist paramilitaries responsible for brutally murdering Pat Finucane.

Over these years the dedicated human rights activists and experts have established much of what happened, and, after facts have been established, the British Government has acknowledged many of them. In 2011 the British Government admitted that it did collude in the Finucane murder and apologized for it.

Much of the credit for this admission goes to the many of you who have done the work on

all the reports that documented collusion, until it was pointless for the British Government to continue denying it.

So that is progress. But the work is not done because the British Government has reserved one final, yet massive injustice: it continues to protect those responsible for the murder of Pat Finucane. Prime Minister Cameron told the Finucane family that the government would not conduct the promised public inquiry into the collusion.

The deliberate decision not to proceed with a public inquiry is a glaring, public breach of faith. It is the source of enormous frustration to Patrick Finucane's family and friends. It resonates throughout Northern Ireland, calling into question the British Government's commitment to peace and reconciliation.

This is particularly sad because the British Government has taken so many other positive, truly honorable steps, many of which were painful for large sectors of British public and official opinion—such as the Bloody Sunday inquiry, released in 2010. To call all that into question by renegeing on the promised Finucane inquiry is a tragedy.

Most recently, in December 2012, Sir Desmond De Silva released a new report on collusion in the Finucane murder—really a review of existing case files rather than the gathering of new evidence that the promised inquiry would produce. The De Silva report detailed what Prime Minister Cameron admitted were “shocking” levels of state collusion in the murder, including that it was RUC officers who proposed the killing of Finucane, passed information to his killers, and obstructed the investigation, and that British domestic security had intelligence of the murder threats months before the actual crime yet took no steps to protect him.

It is admirable that Prime the Minister has admitted collusion and apologized for it, but it is really too much to admit a government crime and then to say it will not be investigated—particularly when the government has undertaken a commitment to do so. The question asks itself—after so many positive steps, is the British Government really going to diminish the good it's done since 1998 in order to protect the identity of people who share responsibility for a murder?

I'm sure Congress will continue to maintain a strong voice on this case, which goes to the core of human rights and rule of law.

IN HONOR OF GARDEN STATE
PATHWAYS GRADUATES

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the graduating students of the Garden State Pathways Program at Camden County College.

For the past two years, these remarkable students have acquired valuable expertise in career skills while experiencing a college campus atmosphere. The students graduating May 18, 2013 from the program are Ashley Cousins, Kevin Joseph Hillegas, Wesley Jay Johns, Austin Jarrett Parrish, Ashley M. Smollock, and Lucas Alexander Tavlas.

None of this, of course, would have been possible without the invaluable dedication of

their teachers and mentors. The staff of the Garden State Pathways is headed by Ms. Bernadette Gismonde, who is the program coordinator. Her staff includes Ms. Bernadette Stettler, Administrative Assistant; Ms. Danielle Brittin, Job Coach; Ms. Hazel Thompson, Lead Mentor; and Ms. Joyce Howie, Assistant Mentor.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate these young men and women on the hard work they've put in and they have already accomplished. These students have bright futures ahead of them, and I wish them the best in all coming endeavors.

ATTACK ON THE U.S. CONSULATE
IN BENGHAZI

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, on March 21, 2013 I joined as a cosponsor of H. Res. 36 to establish a select committee to investigate and report on the attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi. That action was taken to insure a thorough review of the loss of four Americans.

Officials including our U.S. Ambassador and the Obama Administration's attempt to keep witnesses and information from Congress. Fortunately, five committees in the U.S. House acted and produced a joint report on April 23, 2013. The House Government Oversight and Reform Committee, which has government-wide investigative powers and authority, has since begun a series of hearings to examine the Benghazi matter.

It is my belief with this thorough review underway, it is no longer necessary to pursue a select committee on this matter.

Therefore, I am withdrawing my cosponsorship of H. Res. 36.

With the extensive work now underway in the House Government Oversight Reform Committee, a select committee would delay, add cost and not benefit the urgent need to properly review the Benghazi matter.

CONGRATULATING JOE IRONSIDE

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend Joe Ironside on his retirement as Directing Business Agent for District 6 of the Machinists union, which includes Iowa, Illinois and Nebraska. Joe has been an influential and important leader for the Iowa labor community.

Joe began his career in 1972 at the old Iowa Steel and Iron Works factory in Cedar Rapids. Joe was initiated into the Machinists union in March of that year, and wore the badge for 41 years. In 1978, Joe went to Rockwell Goss where he was chief steward, committee person and committee chairperson. He was later elected Business Representative before assuming his current responsibilities. He also served as Vice President of the Iowa Federation of Labor.

Joe's leadership in the labor movement has been felt around the state of Iowa and across

the country. He has been awarded numerous awards over the years including the Gary Ketchum Union Citizen of the Year Award. Anyone who knows Joe will tell you that he is a force to be reckoned with, and that he will be missed.

I'm proud to call Joe my constituent and my friend. I congratulate him on his successful career and more importantly for the work he has done to strengthen the labor movement and expand Iowa's middle class. I wish Joe and his wife Debbie all the best in their future plans.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
EVERY CHILD DESERVES A FAMILY
ACT

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today with my good friend, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN), to introduce the Every Child Deserves a Family Act in honor of National Foster Care Awareness Month. Our colleague, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) will sponsor the companion legislation in the Senate.

First, I would like to thank my friend, my sister, Congresswoman ROS-LEHTINEN for being my partner in this important fight. I would also like to pay tribute to our former colleague, Congressman Stark, and the hard work of his staff, Jeff Hild, in first championing this important bill. I am fully committed to moving this landmark legislation across the finish line.

Last week, our constituents—including Philip McAadoo and his son Zaden from Atlanta—came to Washington, DC to highlight how essential a loving home can be to a child in need of support and understanding. Philip, his partner Sean Cavanaugh, and Zaden are a beautiful, loving, globe-trotting family; simply being with them just warms your heart. Their story is the happy ending which every foster care youth and potential parent should have the opportunity to experience.

Today, there are more than 400,000 children in our foster care system, with over 104,000 of them waiting for a permanent family. There are ample "qualified" adoptive and foster parents who are overlooked. As result, far too many youth "age out" without any family to support and love them. This bill would fix this problem—saving money and heartache and restoring hope and happiness in the process.

The Every Child Deserves a Family Act is a simple and straightforward proposal. It would prohibit any entity that receives federal child welfare funds from discriminating against prospective adoptive or foster parents on the basis of their sexual orientation, gender identification, or marital status. This bill also prevents discrimination against foster care youth on the basis of the sexual orientation or gender identity.

Mr. Speaker, I fought too long and too hard against discrimination of every kind. This is a problem that is fixable. Our common-sense legislation is supported by nearly 100 child welfare, civil rights, GLBT advocacy, and faith-based organizations because it places the best interest of every child first.

Today, we are joined by over 50 Members of Congress in introducing this bill, and I hope all of my colleagues will join us in support of this good will effort. Simply said, the Every Child Deserves a Family Act is just the right thing to do.

RESOLVING INTERNATIONAL PARENTAL CHILD ABDUCTIONS TO NON-HAGUE CONVENTION COUNTRIES

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last week, the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, which I chair, held a hearing focused on the persistent and devastating problem of international parental child abduction, which occurs when one parent unlawfully moves a child from his or her country of residence, often for the purpose of denying the other parent access to the child.

The damage to the child and the left behind parent is incalculable and too often life-long. The children especially are at risk of serious emotional and psychological problems and may experience anxiety, eating problems, nightmares, mood swings, sleep disturbances, aggressive behavior, resentment, guilt and fearfulness. These victims are American citizens who need the help of their government when normal legal processes are unavailable or fail.

In 1983, the United States ratified the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction to try to address this serious issue. This Convention creates a civil framework for the quick return of abducted children, and for rights of access to both parents. Absent extenuating circumstances, the child is to be returned within 6 weeks to their country of habitual residence for the courts there to decide on custody or to enforce any previous custody determinations.

The Convention has helped return many children, but it is far from a silver bullet. Even in countries where the Convention is allegedly working, only about 40 percent of children are returned. Other cases are "resolved," but too often with dubious application of the Convention.

Susceptible to abuse by taking parents or unwilling judges, the Convention has too often been stretched to provide cover for abduction rather than recovery of the child. Taking parents have figured out that they can drag out hearing after hearing, appeal after appeal for years until the courts can claim that, "Yes, the child should have been returned but that the child is settled in the new country now and does not have to be returned under an exception in the Convention."

Some Hague Convention signatories are simply not enforcing legitimate return orders. The State Department's 2012 Hague Convention Compliance Report highlights six countries—Argentina, Australia, France, Mexico, Netherlands, and Romania—for failing to enforce return orders. Other countries—Costa Rica, Guatemala, The Bahamas, Brazil, and Panama—are non-compliant with the Convention or showing patterns non-compliance.

In other words, abducted American children are not coming home from these countries and American families need other options.

The same is true for many countries that have not signed the Hague Convention. In 2012 alone, more than 634 children were abducted to countries that have not signed the Hague Convention—countries like Japan, Egypt, and India.

More than 300 children have suffered abduction from the United States to Japan since 1994. Congress does not know of a single case in which the Government of Japan has issued and enforced an order for the return of an abducted child to the United States. According to U.S. State Department statistics, the United States is monitoring 54 ongoing cases involving 74 children who were abducted from the United States to Japan and 21 additional children from the United States who may not have been abducted, but who are being denied access to their American parent.

Although Japan has recently taken steps to join the Hague Convention, Japan's ratification will not address current cases for return. Moreover, experts question whether the ratification includes reservations that will make it impossible for even new abduction cases to be resolved with returns.

The United States does not have a bilateral or other agreement with Japan to facilitate the return of American citizen children who are currently abducted-citizens like Jade and Michael Elias, whose father will testify before us today.

Under the Convention alone, if ratified by Japan, the best that American parents of currently abducted children can hope for is a visit with their child. Such visits are projected to be one hour long, once a month, in a secure facility—hardly dignified or unfettered.

Despite our multi-billion dollar investment in Egypt, neither the Mubarak government nor the Morsi government has seen fit to return abducted American citizen children Noor and Ramsey Bower. They, along with 30 other American children in Egypt, are forced to live without half of their culture, half of their identity, and without the love and guidance of an American parent who daily fights for their return. The United States does not have a bilateral agreement with Egypt to facilitate the return of American citizen children, and has so far been unwilling to make prioritization of these cases a condition for the continued funding of the Egyptian Government.

India also has been a source of immense frustration and grief for American parents. In 2012, 32 more children were abducted to India, bringing the total number to 78 open abduction cases involving 95 children. Although some Indian courts make "Hague-like" decisions to return some children, returns are uneven. Parents attempting to utilize India's courts for the return of abducted children report corruption and incessant delays. The United States does not have a bilateral agreement with India to facilitate the return of American citizen children Convention.

In the last Congress I introduced legislation—the Sean and David Goldman Child Abduction Prevention and Return Act—to impress upon both Hague and non-Hague Convention countries that the United States will not tolerate child abduction or have patience with countries that hide abductors behind the Hague Convention. The bill would empower

the President and Department of State with new tools and authorities to secure the return of abducted American children.

When a country has shown a "pattern of non-cooperation" in resolving child abduction cases, the President will be able to respond decisively with a range of 18 actions and penalties. Based on past experience—particularly with the Goldman case in Brazil—we know that penalties manage to get the attention of other governments, and help them prioritize resolution.

The bill also calls for the State Department to work out memorandums of understanding with countries that have not signed the Hague Convention in order to create agreed-upon routes to abduction resolution between countries, rather than the never-ending and torturous maze American are currently forced to run.

The status quo is simply not adequate, while well meaning and sincere, current policy has failed far too many children and their left behind, broken hearted, parents. To combat the cruelty and exploitation of human trafficking, over a decade ago I authored the Trafficking Victims Protection Act. To tangibly assist abducted American children and their left behind parents I introduced "The Sean and David Goldman Child Abduction Prevention and Return Act" this week. The United States can and must do more to protect innocent American children and their left behind parents from the horrors of international child abduction.

IN HONOR OF THE VALLEY FORGE
ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA
SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.
AND THE 20-YEAR ANNIVERSARY
OF THE PATRIOTS OF AFRICAN
DESCENT MONUMENT

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Valley Forge Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and the 20-year anniversary of the Patriots of African Descent Monument.

One hundred years ago, the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority started with 22 women at Howard University. Since then, it has grown to more than 300,000 members in 1,000 chapters worldwide. Today, more than one hundred dedicated alumna from the Valley Forge chapter live in and serve the greater Philadelphia area.

On May 18, 2013, the women of the Valley Forge Alumnae Chapter will pay tribute to the Patriots of African Descent with a wreath laying ceremony commemorating its 20th Anniversary. The Patriots of African Descent Monument, sponsored by the Valley Forge Alumnae chapter in 1993, pays tribute to the service and sacrifice African-American soldiers of the Continental Army provided to our young nation during the Valley Forge Encampment of 1777–1778 and throughout the Revolutionary War.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Valley Forge Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority for its continued efforts to honor African-American patriots who have served this country bravely and honorably.

IN RECOGNITION OF DON WOOTEN

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say a few words about Don Wooten, a man I greatly admire and am honored to call a friend. Tonight, Don is being honored by Augustana College in Rock Island, his alma mater. Due to votes here in Washington, I won't be able to make it, but I want to talk about Don and what he has meant to me, and our community in Illinois.

Don is a former award-winning television reporter and producer. He has also been a teacher, a print columnist and has served on the board of numerous local and state organizations. Don went on to become a public servant, and served two terms in the Illinois State Senate. Afterward, he returned to his roots and founded WVIK radio station at Augustana College in 1980, where he still hosts two weekly radio programs at the ripe age of 85.

Don has been married for more than 50 years to Bernadette and they have 5 children and three grandchildren. As someone who spent years as a journalist herself and has now entered public service, I couldn't ask for a better role model than Don Wooten. He has influenced so many over his life and is a true community leader.

Mr. Speaker, I want to Congratulate Don, and I look forward to hearing his voice on the radio for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE DR.
IRENE H. BRODIE

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant from my district, The Honorable Dr. Irene H. Brodie, Mayor of the Village of Robbins. As Mayor Brodie retires after 24 years of service to the Village I wanted to take this opportunity to recognize her many achievements.

Irene Brodie began her career in Robbins as a teacher at Kellar Elementary School where she worked alongside her husband, J. Edmon Brodie, who served as the school's principal. Through her hard work and diligence she later became Assistant Principal at Turner Elementary School. In addition to her professional responsibilities, Brodie continued to be a loving and devoted wife and mother. While doing this, and in spite of her busy schedule, she earned her Doctorate in Education at Northeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Now a recognized educator in the region, Dr. Brodie joined the staff of a small junior college that, at the time, had only a few buildings to accommodate its 12,000 students. After two years of serving as a professor, Dr. Brodie became the first African-American Dean at Moraine Valley Community College. During her tenure, Moraine Valley grew to become the second largest community college in Illinois with a student population that now numbers well over 30,000.

Despite her having left the field, Dr. Brodie's dedication to education has never ceased. She has hired, financially supported, tutored, counseled, and graduated hundreds of residents from Robbins and the surrounding communities. Additionally, under her tutelage, the Mayor's Scholarship Fund has funded tuition costs for hundreds of students through the years and her individual efforts have produced teachers, lawyers, doctors, engineers, and educators around the world. Her contributions to education were recognized when Moraine Valley named the "Dr. Irene H. Brodie Academic Skills Center" in her honor. This center serves as a critical area of academic enrichment for Moraine Valley students.

During her tenure at Moraine Valley, Brodie also served as Village Clerk for the Village of Robbins for 12 years. Her service there led her to be recognized as a leader by a group of constituents who asked her to lead Robbins as its Mayor. Her election as Mayor marked her retirement from Moraine Valley and a shift in her career from educator to elected leader.

Mr. Speaker, throughout her career Dr. Brodie has served in such leadership positions as Vice-President of the Illinois Municipal League, Executive Board Member and Assistant Secretary of the National Conference of Black Mayors, and Chair of the Education and Scholarship Committee for the National Conference of Black Mayors. Additionally she has served as a member of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, numerous Gubernatorial Transition Teams, various state and federal advisory boards, and as a member of President Clinton's Environmental Think Tank Group.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to once again thank Mayor Brodie for her decades of service and congratulate her on her retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO IOWA'S CIVIL WAR HEROES

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the invaluable contribution of Iowa's servicemembers during the United States Civil War as the Kinsman Monument in Council Bluffs, Iowa is rededicated on May 18, 2013. This event will mark the 150th anniversary of the passing of Colonel William H. Kinsman of Council Bluffs, for whom the monument is named.

Born in Canada in 1832, William Kinsman studied in New York and Cleveland before setting off for Iowa in 1858. After travelling across the entire state by foot, Colonel Kinsman settled in Council Bluffs, where he was admitted to the bar, taught school and wrote for the local press. He volunteered at the outbreak of the war and was elected a lieutenant under famed Iowa war hero General Grenville Dodge in Iowa's 4th Volunteer Infantry Regiment. Kinsman was ultimately promoted to the colonelcy of the 23rd Iowa Infantry following a stretch of valiant service, and in 1863 he and his troops joined General Grant's campaign to capture Vicksburg, Mississippi. On May 17 of that year, Colonel Kinsman fought and was mortally wounded in a pivotal battle at Big Black River Bridge that helped isolate the

Confederates, leading to their eventual surrender in Vicksburg weeks later. Although Colonel Kinsman passed the following morning, he gave his life for our state, our country, and the cause of freedom.

Kinsman was interred on the battlefield, but nearly 40 years later in 1904, General Dodge, by then a former U.S. Congressman, secured the necessary financial resources to bring his remains home to Council Bluffs to be permanently laid to rest. Today, the Kinsman Monument reminds us of the sacrifice of Iowa's veterans during the Civil War and the strength of our nation's resolve.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to represent the people of Iowa, the city of Council Bluffs, and the legacies of Colonel Kinsman and General Dodge in the United States Congress. Their stories represent just a fragment of Iowa's extensive contributions to this great country made by our selfless veterans and their family members. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in thanking the Iowa Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War for this historic ceremony, and I humbly express my unending gratitude to all of our nation's veterans, servicemembers, and their families for their service and sacrifice.

HONORING ANDREW GOTZON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew Gotzon. Andrew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1260, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Andrew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Andrew has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Andrew contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Andrew cleaned and renovated 13 playgrounds, sanding off the old paint, applying a fresh coat of paint and cleaning up the playground area.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Andrew Gotzon for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

THE LEGACY OF SRI LANKA'S CIVIL WAR

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, four years ago this week, the Sri Lankan military declared victory over the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) after more than 25 years of conflict. Thus ended one of the most devastating civil wars of the century, offering hope of a brighter future for the Sri Lankan people characterized by peace, reconciliation, and economic prosperity.

Unfortunately, four years later this brighter future remains elusive for much of Sri Lanka's population. The Sri Lankan military's final offensive against the LTTE left hundreds of thousands of civilians—most of them Tamils—in a situation of forced relocation, humanitarian disaster, and precarious political rights. We have also learned that the government likely committed serious abuses during the fighting itself, leading to the death, torture, or disappearance of tens of thousands of Tamil civilians. A recent report by Human Rights Watch sheds a startling light on these abuses, documenting widespread and potentially systematic incidences of rape, torture, and sexual assault of Tamil detainees by Sri Lankan forces.

Since the end of the conflict, the Sri Lankan government has blatantly and repeatedly defied the demands of the international community and commonly accepted norms of justice and human rights by failing to reintegrate large numbers of Tamil citizens in a timely manner, denying access by journalists and humanitarian organizations to conflict-affected areas, and detaining former combatants indefinitely without access to legal recourse. The government has also persistently rejected calls by a growing number of governments, international bodies, and human rights organizations for an independent investigation into potential war crimes. If the government truly has nothing to hide, why resist even this basic measure of accountability?

On this anniversary of the end of the 2009 conflict, I call on the government of Sri Lanka to act expeditiously to reintegrate Tamil civilians into their communities, provide ex-combatants with appropriate legal recourse and a path toward reintegration, and open its doors to a truly independent international investigation. I also call on our own government to redouble its efforts to pursue accountability for atrocities committed by all sides of this tragic conflict. In the meantime, I urge Congress to expand current conditions on aid to the Sri Lankan government to cover all forms of military assistance.

It is past time for the international community to finally bring an end to this dark chapter in Sri Lanka's history so that the Sri Lankan people can realize the future they so badly deserve.

RECOGNIZING IGANCIO "NASH" CANTU FOR HIS DEDICATION TO BETTERING THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Igancio "Nash" Cantu and his devotion to enriching the lives of people with disabilities in my district. Nash, a resident of Carrollton, TX who works as a Direct Support Professional (DSP) at Mosaic in Dallas, was recently named by the American Network for Community Options and Resources (ANCOR) as Texas' Direct Support Professional of the Year for 2013.

DSPs across the nation are vital in helping people with significant disabilities lead a healthier and more meaningful life. This award

honors only those DSPs who have demonstrated an exemplary commitment to bettering the lives of the individuals they serve. Thanks to Nash's incredible work, the people he supports have a greater opportunity to participate and contribute in their community. I am extremely grateful to have Nash as a constituent and am very proud to recognize his devoted service to the people of my district and the state of Texas.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the amazing work of Igancio "Nash" Cantu. We must always honor those who devote themselves to enriching the lives of others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained yesterday and missed roll No. 149. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING MIKALA JOHOKU JOHN
JEFFERSON ZUBER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Mikala Johoku John Jefferson Zuber. Mikala is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Mikala has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Mikala has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Mikala has earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and the Four Star Religious Award. Mikala has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Mikala constructed book shelves for Gracemor Elementary School in Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Mikala Johoku John Jefferson Zuber for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for rollcall votes #144, #145, and #146 on Tuesday, May 14, 2013. I was at-

tending a funeral. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all three votes.

TRIBUTE TO MAXINE P. CLARKE

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, there are many individuals who are called to contribute to the needs of our community through leadership and service; and

Whereas, Mrs. Maxine P. Clarke has answered that call by giving of herself as an educator at Dunaire Elementary School, and as a beloved wife, mother and friend; and

Whereas, Mrs. Clarke has been chosen as the 2013 Teacher of the Year, representing Dunaire Elementary School; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents for the betterment of our community and our nation through her tireless works, motivational speeches and words of wisdom; and

Whereas, Mrs. Clarke is a virtuous woman, a courageous woman and a fearless leader who has shared her vision, talents and passion to help ensure that our children receive an education that is relevant not only for today, but well into the future, as she truly understands that our children are the future; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Maxine P. Clarke for her leadership and service for our District and in recognition of this singular honor as 2013 Teacher of the Year at Dunaire Elementary School; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim May 2, 2013 as Mrs. Maxine P. Clarke Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 2nd day of May, 2013.

STATEMENT ON AZERBAIJAN
REPUBLIC DAY

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Republic of Azerbaijan in celebration of the 95th anniversary of Republic Day on May 28th. Later this year, Azerbaijan will also celebrate the 22nd anniversary of its freedom from the Soviet Union and the beginning of diplomatic relations with the United States.

Located at the crossroads of Western Asia and Eastern Europe, Azerbaijan was established in 1918 becoming the first democratic and secular republic in the Muslim world before being incorporated into the Soviet Union in 1920. The country regained its independence in 1991.

The U.S. and Azerbaijan have developed a strong relationship through the opening of Caspian energy sources for development by American companies, which has also allowed the country to emerge as an essential player

in global energy security. The Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline project has become a vital part of delivering Caspian Sea resources to world markets and serves as a prime example of the development of the South Caucasus region.

Azerbaijan has continually assisted the United States on matters of international security, supporting and participating in operations in both Kosovo and Iraq as well as being actively engaged in Afghanistan. Azerbaijan has regularly facilitated landing and refueling operations for U.S. and NATO forces in the region. Furthermore, Azerbaijan offered strong and immediate aid to the United States directly following the devastating events of 9/11.

Again, it is my distinct pleasure to honor the Republic of Azerbaijan in celebration of the 95th anniversary of Republic Day, and to recognize the valuable bilateral relationship between the United States and Azerbaijan.

HONORING JAMES DOUGLAS
HOOTEN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize James Douglas Hooten. James is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

James has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years James has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, James has earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and the Four Star Religious Award. James has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. James designed and planted landscaping for an outdoor classroom at Davidson Elementary School in Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending James Douglas Hooten for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,765,040,725,133.72. We've added \$6,138,163,676,220.64 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

INTRODUCTION OF STOP DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING FOR WOMEN'S SERVICES ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing important legislation that will protect the rights of women seeking information on family planning services.

This week is National Women's Health Week, a weeklong effort to empower women to live happier, healthier lives. We want to encourage women to prioritize their health, but not deceive them about what medical options are available. Unfortunately, there are some centers that deliberately misinform or mislead women seeking information on family planning services. Called Crisis Pregnancy Centers (CPCs), they pose as sources of unbiased pregnancy counseling, using deceptive propaganda to dissuade women from considering comprehensive birth-control options or legal abortion. Fake reproductive health clinics entice women with unintended pregnancies through their doors under the pretense of providing the full range of reproductive options and services.

The Stop Deceptive Advertising for Women's Services Act directs the Federal Trade Commission to promulgate rules under the Federal Trade Commission Act, declaring it an unfair or deceptive act for an entity, such as a crisis pregnancy center, to advertise as a provider of abortion services if the entity does not provide abortion services.

Deception has no place when a woman is seeking information about her pregnancy. Working together we can help stop the fraud and confusion these Crisis Pregnancy Centers are perpetrating on the women of America.

CONCERNS REGARDING PROPOSED CUTS TO FUNDING FOR FOOD STAMPS

HON. ALBIO SIRES

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my serious concern about the proposed cuts to funding for food stamps in the 2013 Farm Bill.

Food stamps are critical to the health and wellbeing of our Nation's most vulnerable populations. In my home State of New Jersey, nearly 870,000 households rely on this benefit to feed their families. Of that number, 45 percent are children and nearly 25 percent are either elderly or disabled adults.

As it stands, food stamp benefits average less than \$1.50 per person for each meal, and that number is already set to drop to about \$1.40 this fall when a temporary boost from the Recovery Act ends.

Every one of us knows how difficult it would be to feed their children or aging parents a nutritious meal for that amount of money. And yet, the farm bill would slash federal spending for food stamps by more than \$21 billion over the next decade, eliminating food assistance to nearly 2 million people.

I understand the need to bring our budget under control, but I encourage my colleagues to find a smarter path forward. Let us not balance the budget on the backs of those among us who are the most vulnerable.

HONORING TYLER TILTON-LAGERMANN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Tyler Tilton-Lagermann. Tyler is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 393, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Tyler has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Tyler has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Tyler contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Tyler Tilton-Lagermann for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING UCP OF CENTRAL FLORIDA'S GRAND OPENING OF THEIR NEW WEST ORANGE CAMPUS

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize that on May 1, 2013, UCP of Central Florida celebrated the grand opening of their new West Orange campus location in Winter Garden, Florida. UCP of Central Florida is a tuition free public charter school that seeks to serve our young people with disabilities. The communities and families of Central Florida are blessed to have an organization such as UCP of Central Florida that is dedicated to helping improve the lives of thousands of children.

The mission and vision of UCP of Central Florida to open their doors to children, with or without special needs, is to be commended and celebrated. UCP of Central Florida offers the necessary development tools, including counseling, educational services and specialized therapy programs, to help build a foundation of success for children and families. This organization has achieved remarkable results. I am grateful to all those involved with making this organization such a successful part of our community.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am pleased to congratulate and recognize UCP of Central Florida on the grand opening of their new West Orange campus. I wish them many more successful years of providing quality care to the Central Florida community.

HONORING KBBF RADIO

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Congressman JARED HUFFMAN, to recognize and honor radio station KBBF 89.1 FM as it celebrates 40 years of operation.

KBBF was the first bilingual public radio station in the United States, launching its inaugural broadcast on May 31, 1973. Its success has led to the creation 35 other radio stations throughout the country that now serve their local Hispanic and Latino communities.

For 40 years, KBBF and its program hosts have delivered an ever-evolving level of service to Spanish and English speakers alike by providing a diverse mix of information, commentary and culture. Airtime is devoted to public affairs, news commentary, literature, financial and health news, youth and women's issues and news, indigenous programming and music from all over the world.

The radio station was founded by an eclectic group of individuals including a farm worker, a lawyer, a housewife, a college professor and a college student who wanted to provide cultural, educational and informational radio programming to a community that had historically been underrepresented in traditional radio formats.

The vision of a bilingual public radio station captured the imagination of both the local community and the Nation. The late United States Senator Ted Kennedy personally directed a helicopter to fly KBBF's antenna to the top of Mt. St. Helena, the finishing touch before broadcasts could begin.

Mr. Speaker, KBBF 89.1 FM Public Radio is a true pioneer in every sense of the word and it is therefore appropriate that we honor KBBF today on its 40th anniversary.

HONORING WILLIAM W. McCLANNAHAN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize William W. McClannahan. William is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 393, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

William has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years William has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, William contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending William W. McClannahan for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN HONOR OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JOYCE ZONGRONE, U.S. NAVY (RETIRED)

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to honor Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Joyce Zongrone, who retired after 35 years of courageous service in both the active and reserve service on June 30, 2008.

LCDR Joyce Zongrone has been consistently recognized throughout her career for her service in the Vietnam War, Operation Desert Storm, and the Global War on Terrorists. LCDR Zongrone originally earned her commission in 1974 after graduating Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island. She then went on to serve with great distinction, being awarded the Woman of Military Achievement Award by the San Diego Chapter of the U.S. Navy League for three consecutive years: 1975, 1976, and 1977.

LCDR Zongrone also received the U.S. Navy Commendation Medal for her service in Operation Restore Hope in Somalia and her duties as the Navy Central Command's liaison to General Colin Powell's Farewell Tour. LCDR Zongrone received a Coast Guard Unit Commendation for her development of a joint anti-submarine warfare curriculum for the Coast Guard and the Navy; and the Humanitarian Service Medal for Operation Babylift, a U.S. initiative that airlifted over 2,500 Vietnamese orphans out of Vietnam after the war.

In addition to her service to our great nation, once released from active duty by the U.S. Navy, LCDR Zongrone worked as a freelance producer, investigative reporter, technical writer for NASA, a teacher, and adjunct professor. In her post-military life, LCDR Zongrone won a Texas Gulf Coast Press Association Award, an Attaway Newspaper Group Color Photography Award, and was included in the 2005–2006 edition of Who's Who in American Teachers. Furthermore, due to her distinction and success, LCDR Zongrone currently serves on the Military Academy Selection Board of the Ninth Congressional District of Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I am blessed to have the opportunity to pay tribute to such a selfless veteran as LCDR Zongrone. For those of us who know LCDR Zongrone, we are always in awe of her intelligence and willingness to serve worthy causes. It is an honor to know that as Americans and freedom-loving people, we owe our liberty and security to brave individuals like LCDR Zongrone, who put their liberty and security at risk for us.

GIRLS OF STEEL ROBOTICS TEAM

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Girls of Steel robotics team on winning the Engineering Inspiration Award at the 2013 Pittsburgh Regional F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Competition.

This is the second year in a row in which they have won the Engineering Inspiration

Award. This prestigious award, which recognizes the team's outstanding efforts to advance respect for the engineering profession, also qualified the team to compete at the F.I.R.S.T. Championship in St. Louis for the third year in a row. The championship is the final and largest competition of the robotics season and features teams from across the world.

F.I.R.S.T., which stands for "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology," is an organization dedicated to introducing our youth to the world of science and technology. This year alone, hundreds of thousands of students are gaining practical, team-based engineering experiences by participating in F.I.R.S.T.

As a founder and co-chair of the Congressional Robotics Caucus, I think competitions such as these are outstanding tools for getting students interested in careers in science, technology, engineering, and math. I believe our nation's future economic growth and prosperity depends upon getting young people interested and engaged in scientific pursuits, and I want to commend organizations like F.I.R.S.T. for the important work they do in that regard. The F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Competition instills a sense of pride in the individuals who participate in it and allows them to apply their natural creativity in the demanding and competitive field of robotics.

The Girls of Steel team is made up of 40 young women from high schools in and around the Pittsburgh area. In recognition of their hard work, intelligence, and teamwork, I want to mention each of these inspiring young ladies by name. They are Sonia Appasamy, Katie Ashwood, Tammy Bevilacqua, Elizabeth Bianchini, Britt Bovbjerg, Aaminah Bray, Grace Brueggman, Dakota Calvert, Abby Ceraso, Tristan Close-Abuyen, Claudia Contreras, Laurel Donatelli, Samantha Eppinger, Clarisa Espinoza-Delgado, Mackenzie Ferris, Naoka Gunawardena, Heather Harrington, Rosanne Harrison, Kathryn Hendrickson, Imani Horton, Campbell Konrad, Elizabeth Kysel, Sylvie Lee, Sophia Lee, Shana Leshko, Pragna Mannam, Genevieve Nieson, Raina Oravec, Simran Parwani, Korryn Resetar, Kaylyn Rocher, Alex Roth, Rachel Round, Katie Shreve, Lynn Urbina, Molly Urbina, Bryce Volk, Becca Volk, Giulia Watkins, and Natalie Young.

I also want to mention that one of the Girls of Steel—Naoka Gunawardena from The Ellis School—was one of two students at the Pittsburgh Regional who won the prestigious F.I.R.S.T. Dean's List Award, which recognizes student leaders who are outstanding at pursuing and achieving F.I.R.S.T.'s ideals.

I also want to express my appreciation to the staff of the Carnegie Mellon University Field Robotics Center, which has mentored the Girls of Steel. As a result of their efforts, more young women are gaining real-world technological experiences which will certainly aid them in the future.

I congratulate the Girls of Steel and wish them continued success in their academic and professional pursuits.

HONORING JACOB SHIPLEY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Shipley. Jacob is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 320, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jacob contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jacob researched and led a restoration of destroyed quail habitat on federal wetlands in northern Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob Shipley for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

INTRODUCTION OF MEDICAL NEUTRALITY PROTECTION ACT OF 2013

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Medical Neutrality Protection Act of 2013, which is an updated version of the bill I introduced in the 112th Congress. I have been encouraged by the tremendous support that this bill received since then, including major human rights advocacy groups, medical professionals, U.S. government officials, and medics living abroad who have been persecuted while serving in times of civil unrest.

Since I first introduced this bill in July 2011, we have heard of widespread cases, particularly in the Middle East, where the independence of physicians and medics was severely hindered. Unfortunately, the situation remains dire. Many have been arrested, detained, interrogated, and even tortured for caring for the wounded. Countries that do this to their medical professionals do not deserve our military assistance.

This bill elevates the protection of medical professionals as a foreign policy priority for the U.S. Government so that countries that violate norms of medical neutrality will no longer be able to receive U.S. military assistance.

I first became aware of this issue back in the 1980s during the civil war in El Salvador. The conflict ended in the early 1990s with over 75,000 people killed, some of whom were medical workers who were caught in combat or working in refugee camps. Then, as now, I was concerned that the United States was not doing enough to stop government forces from harming medical workers, who are some of the only unbiased eyewitnesses that we have on the ground.

Protecting doctors and health care workers is a nonpartisan issue that should get broad support in Congress and our government.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

COMMEMORATING THE 1980
OLYMPIC MEDICAL STAFF

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to provide long-overdue recognition for a group of Americans who were denied the opportunity and honor of representing our country at the 1980 Olympic Games: the U.S. Olympic medical staff.

In response to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979, the United States led a global effort to boycott the 1980 summer Olympic Games in Moscow. Sixty-five nations participated in the boycott, in an unprecedented display of international solidarity against Communist aggression.

Today, we look back at the 1980 Olympic boycott as a dramatic and triumphant moment in Cold War history. For the members of the U.S. Olympic team, however, it also represented a foregone opportunity to fulfill a once-in-a-lifetime dream of representing their country at the pinnacle of international athletic competition.

In recognition of the hard work, determination, and sacrifice of our Olympic athletes, the 96th Congress commissioned gold-plated medals to be minted for each member of the team. In July of 1980, Congress held a ceremony on the East Front Steps to hand-deliver the medals; more than 450 Olympic athletes were in attendance, as was President Jimmy Carter.

During the 110th Congress, it was brought to the attention of Congress that, because of a clerical interpretation, these Americans were not listed as recipients of the Congressional Gold Medal by the Clerk of the House. In response, former Representative Todd Tiahrt worked with the Clerk's office and the U.S. Olympic Committee to officially recognize the members of the 1980 Summer U.S. Olympic Team as recipients of the Congressional Gold Medal.

Unfortunately, this was not the only oversight on the part of Congress. Our athletes were not the only Americans affected by our government's decision to boycott the 1980 Summer Games; our Olympic medical and training personnel also lost the chance to represent their country on the world stage. Like our Olympic athletes, these medical and training professionals were leaders in their fields selected specifically for this honor, but they were never properly recognized for their contributions and their sacrifice.

As a small and belated gesture of gratitude, I stand here today, 33 years later, to recognize the following members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic medical staff for their service to our country: Physicians Tony Daly, Roy Bergman, Jerry Patmont, Doug Shaw, and Tim Taft (of my home State of North Carolina); and Athletic Trainers Bob Beeten, Sherry Babagian, Dave Blanchard, Tina Bonci, Chuck Demers, Tim Kerin, Mike Linkovich, Bob Moore, Al Ortolani, Tony Russo, Larry Standifer, Gail Weldon, and Troy Young.

IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE
LYDIA GARDNER

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of a devoted public servant, a community leader and a special friend, Orange County Clerk of Courts Lydia Gardner. With her passing on May 8, 2013, her family has lost a loved one and our community and the State of Florida have lost a respected and accomplished leader.

Lydia was born in Michigan and graduated from the University of Michigan. She also attended Rollins College and the prestigious John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. However, it was with an early passion for politics that she won the position of Student Council President at Central High School in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Prior to serving as Clerk of Courts, Mrs. Gardner distinguished herself as an educator, achieved success in real estate and as an executive with a Fortune 100 telecommunications company and was later elected as member and chairman of the Orange County School Board.

Lydia was first elected in 2000 and then a subsequent four terms as Orange County, Florida's Clerk of Courts. In 2008 her office received the Sterling Award for operational excellence awarded by the Governor. She has been appointed by the Florida Supreme Court to a number of special committees, most recently one to study privacy and court records. Lydia lent her support to causes important to her and the Central Florida community. She was a strong advocate for the mentally ill and was the recipient of the Central Florida Mental Health Association's Golden Bell Award. She played a key role in establishing the Domestic Violence Commission in Orange County, served on the Jail Oversight Committee, Juvenile Justice Commission as well as the Board of Directors for the Central Receiving Center. In addition, she has served on the Board of the Orlando Science Center and Winter Park Chamber of Commerce, which elected her chairman in 2003.

A devoted wife, mother and grandmother, she truly made an indelible mark on her family, community and our judicial system. My deepest condolences are extended to her husband John, her son Chris and daughter Betsy. In addition, Lydia is remembered by her four grandchildren and three siblings. Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members of the U.S. House of Representatives join me in recognizing the distinguished life and service of Lydia Gardner.

RECOGNIZING THE WINNERS OF
THE NINTH ANNUAL TECHNOLOGY AND ARTS COMPETITION HOSTED BY SAIC AND THE COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS OF HERNDON

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate the participants and

winners from the Council for the Arts of Herndon's Ninth Annual SAIC Technology and the Arts Competition.

The Technology and the Arts program grew out of a desire to offer computer savvy teens a way to showcase their abilities in an artistic format. The innovative program challenges students in all Fairfax and Arlington county high schools to create works of animation, digital art, digital music, and digital photography by blending technology and artistry into one cutting-edge masterpiece. Students submit entries at their schools, and teachers are tasked with selecting which works will be entered into the contest. Works are judged by professionals and experts in the field, and awards are given for first place through honorable mention in each category.

This program also showcases how creativity extends beyond the arts into a crucial component of our local and national economies. Technology has been the driving force behind Fairfax County's economic expansion for the past two decades. Knowledge-based enterprises directly employ more than 140,000 people in Fairfax County and some of the world's leading technology firms are headquartered here. America remains the world's leader in technology innovation primarily because of the creativity and ingenuity of these companies. This event is not just about art, it is also about laying the foundation for America's competitiveness in a global market place.

I am pleased to congratulate the following winners of the Technology and the Arts Competition and to enter their names into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

SAIC Sponsor Award: Briana Bui—Taken By The Wind.

CAH Board of Director's Choice: Dean Dickinson Effects of Music.

Digital Art: 1st Place, Kelly Park—Bottle Memories, 2nd Place, Marvin Funes—Untitled, 3rd Place, Aileen Kenny—Bite Your Lip and Tell a Lie, Honorable Mention, J Lash—Found, Honorable Mention, Lauve Gladstone—Feather Brush, Honorable Mention, Dylan Staniszewski—Painting with Poison, Honorable Mention, Heather—Pham Dream, Honorable Mention, Kevin Jo—Jazz Player, Honorable Mention, Roya Sodeifi—Fourth, Honorable Mention, Tony Lunsford—Ticking Transformation.

Digital Photography: 1st Place, Dakota James—Spring Snow, 2nd Place, Wray Sinclair—Photography, 3rd Place, Kyle Kirkpatrick—Hit the Nail on the Head, Honorable Mention, Marisa Ross—Dryer.

Animation: 1st Place, Max Johnson—Dispense, 2nd Place, Samuel Eddy—Neerstorten, 3rd Place, Ian Jelliffe—Fat Lady Sings, Honorable Mention, Kevin Dang—A Day in the Life of a Pencil—Falls Church High School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating this year's winners and thanking SAIC, the Council for the Arts of Herndon, as well as the educators, parents, and community partners for their support of these students and this competition.

HONORING HAGEN R. KIMSEY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Hagen R. Kimsey. Hagen is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 10, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Hagen has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Hagen has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned 41 merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Hagen contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Hagen painted the physical therapy room at the United Cerebral Palsy of Northwest Missouri facility in St. Joseph, Missouri. Hagen's work allowed the facility to maintain its license and provide children with developmental disabilities an opportunity for physical activity.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Hagen R. Kimsey for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MIKE CONDOLEON

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Michael J. "Mike" Condoleon, 81, who passed away March 27, 2013 at St. Joseph Health Center in the presence of his loving family. Mike was born the son of John M. and Angela Condoleon on Nov. 6, 1931, in Warren, Ohio.

Northeast Ohio is known for hard working, honest Americans that work day in and day out to help drive this nation; Mike was no exception to this. He proudly served our nation in the U.S. Army during both World War II and the Korean War. In the early 1960s, Mike was the proud owner and operator of the McKinley Market. He also provided for his family while working at Penn Ohio Towel Co., St. Demetrios Community Center and most recently at Condo Inc.

Mike was a member of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church and AHEPA Zeus 88. He found joy in reading, landscaping, doing home projects and studying history. Although Mike enjoyed these hobbies, none of them can compare to the love Mike had for his family. Mike is survived by his loving wife, Christina "Tina" Condoleon, whom he married August 18, 1963; three children, John (Tricia) Condoleon of Howland, Harry (Hollie) Condoleon of Algona, Iowa, and Angela (Steve) Zervas of Cortland; ten grandchildren, Kristin, Michael, Kurt, Caitlyn, Michael John, Nicholas, Gabriel and Laney Condoleon, Christopher and Melena Zervas; one sister, Peggy Kontos of Warren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mike's son John is my dear friend, Mr. Speaker. And I know how proud he was of his son and all of his family. I know that his children continue to pass on to their children the values and integrity they witnessed in their father. And isn't that what it is all about? That is why I am honored to take this opportunity to commemorate the life of Michael J. Condoleon. He will be remembered as a friend, a colleague and a mentor to many—but most importantly, he will be remembered as a loving husband, father, and grandfather. His contributions to this his family, our community and our nation will not be forgotten.

HONORING AND RECOGNIZING ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of St. Mary's Bundschu Memorial High School, an historic and admirable educational institution that has been a proud part of my district for well over a century. At this time, I would like to join with my friends and neighbors to say goodbye and thank you to St. Mary's High School, recognizing all that the teachers, staff, and administration have done for generations of our community.

Few institutions can claim the vibrant history that St. Mary's can. It can trace its roots back to 1853, when Father Bernard Donnelly founded the school on a small plot of land, donated by Susan A. Hamilton. On this land was a small one and a half story building, which Father Donnelly converted into a school. From humble beginnings came bold and bountiful blessings.

At that time Independence, Missouri was the farthest point westward to which steamboats could travel on the Missouri River. It would be twelve more years before the city of Independence even opened its first public school, so St. Mary's served as the first public school for the frontier town. The children of merchants, explorers, and pioneers began their education together.

As the town grew, so did St. Mary's. Throughout its history—even in 1876 when part of the building was destroyed by a cyclone—St. Mary's has served the students of this community. In 1946, the cornerstone of the co-educational St. Mary's High School was laid, and by the very next year, a new building was completed and accredited. By 1968, the school opened its doors wide, expanding enrollment to neighboring communities, from greater Independence and Sugar Creek, to Northeastern Kansas City, Blue Springs, Lee's Summit, Raytown, Buckner, Smithville, and Liberty.

Over the years, St. Mary's has dedicated itself to the education and development of young men and women, teaching them to realize their unique potential through an extensive curriculum, instructional excellence, global awareness, service and extra-curricular programs. Thousands of young adults spent their formative years learning and growing in the classroom, on the field, on the stage, and in the pews on North Main Street.

It is with these facts in mind that Mayor of Independence Don B. Reimal dedicated May

14, 2013, to be St. Mary's High School Day, recognizing the positive impact this school has had on the lives of all of us, and urging all citizens to join in promoting the welfare of all children and youth.

As this school year comes to a close, so too do the doors of St. Mary's. But what will go on in these days, months, and years to come, is the lasting legacy of education and experience, living on in the hearts and minds of St. Mary's alumni.

Mr. Speaker, it is my wish that this Congress pay tribute to this valued part of our community.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF MAYO STUNTZ

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the extraordinary life of one of Fairfax County's more iconic figures, Mayo Sturdevant Stuntz, who passed away May 9, at the age of 97. Mr. Stuntz not only witnessed the historical events that shaped our community, but he and his family also dedicated themselves to documenting, sharing, and preserving that history for future generations.

A native of Vienna, Va., Mr. Stuntz spent his early years serving his country. After graduating from Cornell University, he served with the U.S. Army for five years during World War II, where he was a member of the renowned Alamo Scouts reconnaissance unit based in the South Pacific. He went on to serve 25 years with the Central Intelligence Agency. Those accomplishments alone merit our great praise and thanks, but it was what Mr. Stuntz did during his retirement that will leave a lasting imprint on our community.

Mr. Stuntz inherited from his parents an interest in history that grew into a hobby and ultimately became his true passion. His family is steeped in Fairfax County and our nation's history. He was a descendent of a Hessian soldier who came to the colonies during the Revolutionary War to fight for the British but wound up switching sides once he learned the impetus for the war. Mr. Stuntz also was a descendent of the Fitzhugh family, which traces its roots in America to the early 1600s. The family owned a large tract of what later became Fairfax County. At one point, the Fitzhughs were close family friends of George and Martha Washington, who had settled in eastern Fairfax, and another Fitzhugh descendant married Robert E. Lee.

Concerned with the disappearing character along the main street in Vienna that he recalled from his youth, Mr. Stuntz set out in the 1960s to photograph every house on Route 123 between Tysons Corner and Oakton. His wife, Connie, was soon pulled into the project, which eventually led the publishing of three books: "This Was Vienna," "This Was Tysons Corner," and "This Was Virginia." It was also during the mid-1960s that Mr. Stuntz was recruited to join the Fairfax Landmarks Preservation Committee, which would serve as a precursor to the Fairfax History Commission. In a 2005 oral history interview, he said his initial goal was to create a book of historical

buildings and homes similar to one he had seen done in neighboring Arlington County. "I didn't realize Arlington is about one-tenth the size of Fairfax County, and I bit off a great deal to chew . . . and I'm still chewing."

All told, Mr. Stuntz spent 47 years on the Commission, chronicling and preserving our community's rich history and culture. In addition to the books he and his wife published, he regularly lectured in local classrooms and community centers. He readily acknowledged that he was not a trained historian, but his local knowledge went back a piece, and he understood the value in connecting the past with our present. It was those connections that continued to drive him, even in his later years, when he lost his sight.

I had the great pleasure of collaborating with Mr. Stuntz on Civil War preservation and a number of historic marker dedications during my tenure on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. You could not help but get carried along by his vast knowledge and passion for our local history. I was able to spend time with Mr. Stuntz earlier this spring when we celebrated the Freeman Store, a local Civil War landmark, being added to the National Register of Historic Places. It was particularly poignant for him as he was the first chairman of the Freeman House ad hoc Historical Commission. His daughter, Anne, is now president of the Commission's successor, Historic Vienna. As we reflected on this latest addition to his historic tally, he pulled me aside to ask me if I had purchased my plot at Flint Hill Cemetery. It is believed to be the oldest cemetery in Fairfax County, and Mr. Stuntz had served as president of the cemetery association for 50 years. He had long encouraged me to get a plot before they were all gone, and even now was still trying to close the deal. He was truly a character.

Mr. Stuntz is survived by his wife of 66 years, Connie, their three children, eight grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and in commemorating the remarkable life of Mayo Stuntz for his tremendous service to our country and community and in extending our deepest sympathies to his family. His strong connection and commitment to our community became a lifelong passion that has preserved milestones in our history for future generations and inspired others to pick up where he left off. He also was my friend, and I shall miss his smile and warm presence terribly.

HONORING DR. GENE JOHNSON

HON. KEVIN YODER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Gene Johnson, Superintendent of the Shawnee Mission School District in Johnson County Kansas, for his unwavering service to our country's greatest natural resource—our children. Dr. Johnson has tirelessly served the children of Kansas during his educational career as teacher, principal, administrative leader, and during the last five years as the Superintendent of one of the largest school districts in Kansas. He will be ending his life-long service in public education at the end of June.

During his time of leadership Dr. Johnson has led through the difficulties of economic challenge and a changing demographic in student population, while continuing to raise the bar of academic excellence and achievement—a great example of excellence in leadership through diversity. He has quietly and brilliantly led this national award winning school district in the increase of their International Baccalaureate programs in the high schools and Advanced Placement Courses; Signature Programs in Bio-Science/Medical Studies, Bio-Technology, Engineering, Legal Studies, Culinary Arts and others while strengthening focus on early childhood education and academic rigor in the Middle Schools.

Thank you, Dr. Johnson, for your servant leadership. You are a hero and champion, and we wish you the best in your retirement.

STRENGTH IN HONOR

HON. E. SCOTT RIGELL

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of United States Navy SEAL Lt. Jason Redman. In September 2007, while in the midst of an intense fire fight to capture an Al Qaeda High Value Individual, he was severely wounded. Shot in the face and other parts of his body, he came very close to death. With the help of his devoted wife Erica, Lt. Redman has made a miraculous recovery. The one word he uses which embodies his life and attitude is OVERCOME! He and his wife have started up a new company in Virginia called Wounded Wear. Through their company they are devoted to providing clothing and other gear for those injured in combat. Their goal is to help make the transition easier for American wounded warriors and their families. Lt. Redman and his family make us all so very proud to be Americans and I ask that this poem penned in their honor by Albert Carey Caswell, be placed in the RECORD.

TO OVERCOME

STRENGTH IN HONOR

Strength!

Strength In Honor!

When, hearts caress!

All in life,

all in life and death!

But To Be The Best!

While, all in the throws of death!

All in these,

our most heroic of all quests!

All in those,

moments that which we have so left . . .

Will it be The Angel of Light,

or Angel of Death?

As somehow Jay . . .

you so fought onward . . . with all that you had so left!

While, all in those darkest of all hours . . .

As upon your heart as was so showered,

the determination to so etch!

To so summon up the strength and power

. . .

TO OVERCOME!

To rise above,

all in this battle to which your heart had now so come!

To somehow find the light,

from somewhere deep down inside!

As there you were Jay,

all in your SEAL OF HONOR,

as your courage out to all so cried!

All in this battle that you had so begun!

TO OVERCOME!

As upon you,

the dark hand of death would descend!

As you could so see its face,

and felt its hand!

When, life and death could not so wait!

As the tears ran down your most heroic face!

As you so said No to The Angel of Death,

as The Angel of Light came upon your

breath!

To so help you find the grace . . .

To so reach deep down from within . . .

To fine THE STRENGTH IN HONOR,

with but your faith to so begin!

TO OVERCOME!

As death so wanted you to own!

As you have gotten stronger,

as your gait has gotten longer!!

TO OVERCOME!

As this battle SEAL,

YOU HAVE SO WON!

Because NAVY SEALS,

are everything Superman wishes he could so become!

As now you've rebuild your new life against all odds,

TO OVERCOME!

Almost like a God!

All in this your most heroic song!

For a town called pity,

is not some where you so belong!

Halfway to Heaven,

halfway to death!

As inch by inch,

step by step!

As you Lt Redman,

quantum leaps you so leapt!

As with you we could not so keep pace,

as all out in front you've so won this race!

That race to recovery,

TO OVERCOME!

All in those most magnificent moments,

that your fine soul so stretched!

To win that battle,

to win that fight . . .

as to our world you so brought your light!

For Faith and Courage,

are but the words you so live by!

And you wounded warrior,

have so brought such tears even to The Angels eyes!

As you fine wife Erica so stood by your side, as upon her you could so rely!

For some people are put upon this earth,

to so teach us all what so comes first!

To so show us all that even in the very worst!

How to OVERCOME!

As Thy Will Be Done,

as On Earth As It Is In Heaven!

ALL IN THEIR STRENGTH IN HONOR,

TO SO SHINE LIKE THE MORNING SUN!

TO SO OVERCOME!

HONORING THE SACRIFICE OF
ARMY STAFF SERGEANT
FRANCIS G. PHILLIPS IV

HON. DANIEL B. MAFFEI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. MAFFEI. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor fallen Army Staff Sergeant Francis G. Phillips, IV, who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect and defend the freedoms of the United States of America. He was 28 years old.

This week, he returned home to Auburn, New York, and his family will lay him to rest next week at Arlington National Cemetery.

Staff Sergeant Francis G. Phillips, IV was killed on May 4, 2013 in Maiwand, Afghanistan along with four other members of his unit when their vehicle was struck by an enemy improvised explosive device. Francis Phillips, or Frankie as he was affectionately called by his family, embodied the same values that make this country extraordinary: Dedication, Honor and Pride.

Staff Sergeant Phillips, of Meridian, New York was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 36th

Infantry, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, Fort Bliss, Texas. Francis joined the Army in 2004 and served one tour in Iraq and two previous tours in Afghanistan. This was Frankie's fourth deployment and third to Afghanistan.

Francis is survived by his wife and daughter, Christine and Sophia Phillips, El Paso, TX; his mother, Cherie Phillips and fiancée, Greg Race, Auburn; his dad, Francis "Frank" Phillips III, Lyons, NY; maternal grandmother,

Jonnie Maxson-Manker, Springfield, Missouri; paternal grandparents, Betty Roberts, Seneca Falls, NY, Frank F. Phillips Jr. Savannah, NY; a brother, David Phillips, Auburn; a sister, Danielle Nicole Phillips, Land O'Lakes, FL; several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Mr. Speaker, in appreciation of this young man's love for country, who gave his life protecting this great nation, I ask this Honorable Body to join me in honoring the legacy of Army Staff Sergeant Francis G. Phillips, IV.