

and for her years of leadership in our community.

Ms. Rosen has been an active member of the Santa Barbara community for 50 years. She has long been a dedicated and active member of the Jewish Federation, which has been a strong force for good in the Santa Barbara community for many years. During her years of service, she has served as President of the Jewish Federation's Women's Division and currently serves on its Women's Planning Commission. In addition to her work with the Jewish Federation, Ms. Rosen is the director of the non-profit Beyond Tolerance Education Center in Santa Barbara. This center has been a wonderful contribution to our community, working to teach thousands of school children about the causes, instruments, and dangers of discrimination and violence.

Ms. Rosen has also served as a board member of CALM, which strives to prevent, assess and treat child abuse in Santa Barbara County, a sustaining member of the Women's Board of the Santa Barbara Art Museum, a life member of Hadassah and Congregation B'nai Brith Sisterhood, Friend of Ensemble Theater, and the Santa Barbara Symphony.

Ms. Rosen's commitment to helping others and strengthening our community is truly an inspiration. May we all find the perseverance and passion that has inspired Ms. Rosen to leave her indelible mark upon our community.

PENBROOK LEO CLUB

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Penbrook Leo Club which is celebrating five years of service to the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania community.

Penbrook Leo Club was chartered in 2009 as a way for teenagers in Harrisburg to serve their community through volunteerism. Since that time, the members of this organization have engaged in many projects to improve the local area. They have helped beautify Harrisburg by adopting a mile of the Capital Area Greenbelt, participating in park and street cleaning, and maintaining a Memorial Garden at the community park. Members actively engage with local residents by visiting nursing homes, assisting with holiday parades and dinners, and participating in events such as National Night Out. The club has also raised money for organizations such as Diabetes Education and Research, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Lions Clubs International Foundation, and the Northeast Pennsylvania Lions Eye. Today, the 20 current members of this club continue to find ways to improve lives for the residents of South Central Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, for the last five years, the Penbrook Leo Club has served as an invaluable asset to the Harrisburg community. Therefore, I commend all the members of this organization that have devoted their time and energy to bettering their community.

TRIBUTE TO BRETT ADAMS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Brett Adams of Trilix in Johnston, Iowa for being named a 2014 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Since 2000, *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2014 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of nearly 600 business leaders and growing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Brett in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Adams for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Brett on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2014 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO THE VERDUGO HILLS FAMILY YMCA

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Verdugo Hills Family YMCA of Tujunga, CA upon its 25th anniversary.

The Verdugo Hills Family YMCA has had a strong presence in the Sunland-Tujunga area for many decades. Originally started in the early 1950s, the YMCA became a centralized gathering place for community activity. As a result of increasing popularity and financial support throughout the 1980s, the Verdugo Hills Family YMCA sought to expand in order to better meet the needs of the community, and so 25 years ago, the YMCA moved into its 6840 Foothill Boulevard facility in Tujunga. Since then, the Verdugo Hills Family YMCA has played a vital role in strengthening the community by providing quality programs for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility, not just for young people, but for people of all ages.

The Verdugo Hills Family YMCA offers Sunland-Tujunga area residents many opportunities for involvement with a wide variety of programs and services, including camp, adult fitness, chaplain services, photography, preschool, an art and literature club, and many community events and lectures. One particular focus is the YMCA's effort to promote youth

fitness. The Verdugo Hills Family YMCA is dedicated to combating childhood obesity and has developed an outreach program with elementary schools in the Sunland-Tujunga area to teach physical education classes. In addition, the YMCA's swimming training programs helps encourage young people from an early age to maintain safe and healthy lifestyles, and they provide students from the local elementary school with free swimming lessons.

In recognition of its 25th anniversary, the Verdugo Hills Family YMCA will honor its many volunteers, who have donated more than 4,000 hours of their time, with the President's Call to Service Award.

I ask all members to join me in congratulating the Verdugo Hills Family YMCA for its 25 years of service in the Sunland-Tujunga area.

HONORING MR. DON COATES AND HIS 40 YEARS OF MUSIC AT ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to recognize Mr. Don Coates for his leadership of the music department at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, ABAC. It is appropriate at this milestone to reflect on and celebrate his achievements.

For a small agricultural college of just 3,665 students, ABAC has a rich musical history. Each year the university sponsors a major jazz festival that attracts participation from well-known jazz performing artists as well as top high school jazz bands from across the state. This festival has seen performances from jazz greats including Maynard Ferguson, Nat Adderly, Jamie Abersold, Ron Diehl, and Bobby Shew.

Also included in this annual festival is the accomplished ABAC Jazz Ensemble. The ensemble has entertained audiences throughout the southeastern United States, Mexico, and even Europe. Additionally, they performed on the world stage on three occasions: in 1996, as part of the Olympic Games opening ceremony in Atlanta, GA, in 1982 and 1984, when they played at the Knoxville, TN, and New Orleans, LA, world's fairs, respectively.

Forty years ago, none of this would have been imagined possible, for no such music program existed at ABAC. Mr. Don Coates started the music program at ABAC upon joining the staff after he received his masters in musical education from Florida State University in 1974. A colleague lauded, "For many years, he was the entire program—directing concert band, jazz band, and choir, in addition to teaching most of the music classes." His dedication has brought music to Georgia and to the world. For that, his 40 years as a musical educator should be celebrated.

Mr. Speaker, please join me, on behalf of the great people of Georgia's Eighth Congressional District, in recognizing Mr. Coates for his service to our community and our state.

THE OCCASION OF AFFIRMATIONS TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF SERVICE TO THE LGBT COMMUNITY OF GREATER DETROIT

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the staff and supporters of Affirmations on reaching a great milestone in their organization's history—twenty-five years of service to the Greater Detroit LGBT community.

Created in 1989, Affirmations began as the LGBT community's answer for a need to have a safe haven, with a mission to provide a welcoming space where individuals of all sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, and cultures would be able to find support and acceptance. Operated entirely by volunteers during its first 2 years, Affirmations' first service was a toll-free phone line, where community members could call for information and assistance. Under the leadership of Affirmations' first executive director, Jan Stevenson, programs quickly expanded to include several support groups, where community members could find reassurance and acceptance among their peers.

From its humble beginnings, Affirmations quickly grew to address the evolving needs of Greater Detroit's LGBT community. At the center of its operating philosophy is the goal of empowering and educating volunteers to effect positive change in their own lives and in the broader community. Early on in its existence tragedy struck. In 1992 as Susan Pittmann and Christine Puckett, two of Affirmations founding members and leaders in Michigan's LGBT community, were murdered. Affirmations worked with other LGBT advocacy organizations in Michigan to rally the community and engage the public in a discussion on the need to protect all individuals from hate crimes.

The mission of advocacy has not waned in the years that have followed as Affirmations has held countless community forums and created many programs to assist its community members. Among these programs are health services geared toward practices that are sensitive to an individual's sexual orientation and gender identity. In a state and a country where it is still unfortunately legal for companies to fire someone based on their perceived orientation or gender identity, Affirmations provides LGBT youth with an internship program where they can gain valuable workplace skills in a supportive environment, and works with other local organizations to assist community members that have been the victims of discrimination in the workplace.

Over my many years in public service, as a proud ally of the LGBT community in Michigan, it has been a pleasure to support Affirmations' endeavors. Whether it is marriage equality, health services funding, or protecting LGBT people in the workplace and at school, Affirmations has been at the forefront of advocating for a more just, informed, and tolerant discussion of these important issues. Just two weekends ago, I was gratified to see that Affirmations rallied the community following Judge Friedman's historical ruling on marriage equality in Michigan to ensure that so many loving

LGBT couples were able to finally have all of the same protections under the law that other loving couples enjoy. I was proud to work with my fellow Democratic members of Michigan's Congressional delegation to successfully push for Federal recognition of those marriages.

Mr. Speaker, as a long time friend, supporter and ally of Affirmations and Michigan's LGBT community, I am proud to recognize the profound impact this organization has made in Michigan over the last 25 years. The staff, supporters and volunteers of Affirmations have touched so many lives through their years of dedication and advocacy—fostering a dialogue and taking actions that have seen great steps forward in the ongoing endeavor to obtain full equality for the LGBT community. In its first 25 years, Affirmations has worked hard to fulfill its mission and I look forward to continuing to partner with its staff, supporters and volunteers as we make more progress to ensure that our entire state is safe and supportive for Michigan's LGBT residents.

TRIBUTE TO PHILIP BLUMBERG

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Philip Blumberg of Des Moines University for being named a 2014 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2014 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of nearly 600 business leaders and growing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Philip in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Blumberg for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Philip on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2014 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF MALAYSIA AIRLINES FLIGHT 370

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to extend my sympathies to the families and loved ones of the 239 passengers and crew members of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, which departed Kuala Lumpur enroute to Beijing on March 8, 2014, but disappeared some-

where over the Indian Ocean and has yet to be found.

In an age where powerful technology is capable of interconnecting the expanses of our world and able to provide real-time information globally, the haunting question must be asked: How can a sophisticated commercial airliner carrying 12 highly trained crew members and 227 passengers disappear without a trace?

Mr. Speaker, we owe it to families of those who appear to have perished on Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 to find answers and to take all necessary measures and make all necessary improvements to ensure that a tragedy like this never happens again.

Modern aircraft are technological marvels, capable of unrivaled aeronautical feats. The advances in aircraft technology have helped make possible many of the smart devices we use daily. But a disaster involving the disappearance of Malaysia Flight 370 has revealed glaring weaknesses in aviation technology areas of flight safety, information monitoring, and recovery.

The modern commercial airliner is among the safest machines ever built. Fail-safes, system redundancies, automated controls, and sophisticated radar systems ensure that almost any crisis can be prevented if the best practices of flight are observed. However, if the technology was perfected, disasters like that of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 could be eliminated.

In the case of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, the transponders—devices important to tracking the aircraft via radar—were disabled, effectively eliminating most modern methods for tracking the aircraft. Whether the tracking technology was powered down or disabled as a result of a catastrophic failure is irrelevant to the question of safety. The fact that tracking technology important to the recovery of an aircraft can be manually disabled in the air is a technological flaw that must be corrected.

Design processes that do not adequately exploit engineering technology or that prevent life-saving recovery efforts and lower safety standards need to be fixed immediately. In addition to critical safety measures, advanced methods of aircraft systems information monitoring need to be employed. Radar and tracking systems are as important to aircraft in the air as they are to monitoring systems on the ground.

During the search for Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, experts were required to rely on unreliable "pings" from satellites that were only able to provide poor insight as to the location of the aircraft.

Mr. Speaker, monitoring information regarding the status of aircraft systems is vital in understanding whether operator error or system failure is responsible for aircraft disasters. Unfortunately, the majority of this monitoring information is stored internal to the aircraft, in flight data recorders.

In the case of a disappearance like that of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, system status information is essentially lost with the loss of the aircraft, or depends entirely on the recoverability of the aircraft.

Advanced technology can be employed to send real-time information on airborne aircraft to monitoring stations on the ground. If ground operators were able to monitor the system information normally contained in the flight data recorder, recovery operations would be streamlined and yield much more information,