

CONGRATULATING LOUIS GRIESEMER, SPRINGFIELD UNDERGROUND PRESIDENT, ON RECEIVING JAMES CHRISTIE SAFETY AND HEALTH PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 4, 2015*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Louis Griesemer, president of Springfield Underground, on receiving the 2014 James Christie Safety and Health Professional of the Year Award presented by the National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association (NSSGA).

The James Christie Safety and Health Professional of the Year Award recognizes those that contribute generous efforts towards maintaining proficient health and safety standards at their workplace. The award was created in 1987 in recognition of James Christie, who challenged the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) to focus on the safety practices of workers and not just the facility.

In addition to his duties as president of Springfield Underground, Louis Griesemer has been an active member of the NSSGA. He served as the association's chairman of the board in 2007.

Louis Griesemer understands that in order for American business to succeed, we need employers to act responsibly in protecting workers from safety and health hazards. The fact that Louis has been certified by the MSHA as a safety instructor stands as just one illustration of his commitment to this important goal. Further, our nation is strengthened when business leaders like Louis go "the extra mile" to bolster understanding both of and by the regulator and the regulated community. His leadership on the MSHA-NSSGA Alliance for education and training has achieved substantial results in this effort.

I am honored to recognize Louis Griesemer, and I congratulate him on receiving the 2014 James Christie Safety and Health Professional of the Year Award.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 4, 2015*

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 \$18,153,537,817,364.77. We've added \$7,526,660,768,451.69 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

CONGRATULATING DR. JAMES CAPOLUPO

**HON. PATRICK MEEHAN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 4, 2015*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Dr. James Capolupo of Springfield, Pennsylvania for being named the Superintendent of the Year by the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators.

Dr. Capolupo began his career as a music teacher and band director before rising to serve as an administrator in the Springfield Township School District. His talents and dedication to his students led him to be named the district's superintendent in 2005. Under his leadership, the district has become a model for innovative and effective instruction. His reputation has spread beyond the district, with representatives from more than 120 other school districts having visited Springfield to learn more about Dr. Capolupo's methods.

Dr. Capolupo earned national recognition last year when he was named a finalist for National Superintendent of the Year by the National Association of School Superintendents. This distinction is awarded to five superintendents around the country who have created a "model of uncompromising dedication to literacy and academic achievement." So it is no surprise to learn of his recognition as Pennsylvania Superintendent of the Year.

I wish to congratulate Dr. Capolupo and the entire staff at Springfield School District for their hard work on our children's behalf.

HORSE TRANSPORTATION SAFETY ACT

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 4, 2015*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the Horse Transportation Safety Act with Rep. WHITFIELD, my esteemed colleague from Kentucky. I believe that the way we treat animals is a reflection of who we are as human beings so I have introduced this bill to halt the transport of horses in double-deck trailers, a practice that is dangerous for the animals and considered inhumane by many animal welfare advocates. Horses transported in these trailers often endure long journeys in cramped positions and suffer serious injuries as a result. Upon enactment, the Horse Transportation Safety Act would outlaw the transportation of horses in these two-tiered trailers. Violators of the law would be subject to civil penalties.

I encourage my colleagues to support this important legislation.

CONGRESSIONAL COMMENDATION FOR THE LIFE OF DR. LOIS DAVIS GIBSON

**HON. CORRINE BROWN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 4, 2015*

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of Dr. Lois Gibson. We

are all saddened by the loss of this gentle and loving spirit, Lois Gibson, wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, aunt, sister-in-law, educator, Delta Sigma Theta Soror, Director of Nursing Program/FCCJ, Dean of Health Services/FCCJ, loved one, friend and so much more. A very proud and spiritual lady who gave so much to so many at every level of her being. Dr. Gibson was warmly considered the "Proverbial Woman" as she would touch you in her special and endearing way. She gave us a sense of pride and accomplishment, and she inspired us to go beyond our potential through learning and sharing.

As a mother, she raised generations to be proud and use the past to make a better future. As an educator, she dared us to be more than ordinary, she encouraged and pushed us to be better than we even knew; and as a citizen of the world, she made us understand and appreciate our individual differences, and all that we hold in common. As a true believer, she simply made us believe by her example. Her standards were high, yet attainable; her truths were straightforward and without embellishment; her voice was strong with reason and reassurance; her directions were clear, simple and intended for keeping our feet on the right path; her love was great and powerful and shown brightly in her eyes and heart.

Though our hearts ache, our tears of pain are mixed with loving memories of her smile, her touch and that gleam in her eyes telling all who knew her, that she loved you and always will. And in her remembrance, we are drawn to the words of Paul, in the book of 2nd Timothy, "For I am now ready to be offered, the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept my faith". May the Lord bless and keep you now and forevermore and may the memory of my dear friend, Dr. Lois Davis Gibson remain with us for all times.

HONORING JOHN CORONA

**HON. MARK TAKANO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 4, 2015*

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate fellow educator John Corona, as he retires after 36 years of devoted public service.

Mr. Corona has been a valued leader in Riverside classrooms since 1979. Whether it was teaching courses, chairing the Martin Luther King High School Social Studies department, or serving as head coach of the Track and Field team, Mr. Corona has been an invaluable resource for students in our community.

For the past decade and a half, Mr. Corona's oral history project called King High School Remembers has connected hundreds of students with veterans to learn about history from those who wrote it. This program helps preserve the legacy of these heroes. Because of its impact, King High School Remembers has received widespread acclaim and numerous awards, and is recognized as an exemplary educational program.

I want to thank Mr. Corona for his devotion to his students, colleagues, and our community over the years, and wish him all the best as he begins this new chapter in his life.