

plane crashed not far from here, into the Pentagon.

As thousands of people ran away from the terrorist attack in New York, a much smaller group ran in the opposite direction—towards the scene of the attack—to help. This group was comprised of emergency technicians, firefighters, and peace officers. Seventy-two peace officers gave their lives that day. They, along with other first responders, gave the ultimate sacrifice so that others could live.

This week we gather to honor peace officers from across the country for their service and sacrifice. We honor them because they truly are, as my dad said many years ago, “a cut above the rest of us.” My home state of Texas is home to some of America’s finest lawmen.

During my 22 years as a judge, I had the distinct privilege of working alongside many of them. These peace officers put their lives on the line each and every day to protect us all.

But that protection comes at a price. Almost 60,000 lawmen each year are injured in the line of duty, and an average of 150 officers are killed in the line of duty each year. In 2014, 117 law enforcement officers were killed; 11 of these brave souls were from the great state of Texas:

Mark Uland Kelley of the Trinity University Police Department;

Detective Charles Dinwiddie of the Kileen Police Department;

Sergeant Paul A. Buckles of the Potter County Sheriff’s Office;

Chief of Police Lee Dixon of the Little River Academy Police Department;

Chief of Police Michael Pimentel of the Elmerdorf Police Department;

Border Patrol Agent Tyler R. Robledo of the United States Department of Homeland Security—Customs and Border Protection—United States Border Patrol;

Senior Deputy Jessica Laura Hollis of the Travis County Sheriffs Office;

Sergeant Michael Lee Naylor of the Midland County Sheriffs Office;

Deputy Sheriff Jesse Valdez, III of the Harris County Sheriff’s Office;

Constable Robert Parker White of the El Paso County Constable’s Office—Precinct One; and

Sergeant Alejandro “Alex” Martinez of the Willacy County Sheriff’s Office.

These 10 men and 1 woman represent all that is good and right in our country. This week we remember those brave Texas officers and all officers who have been killed or wounded in the line of duty. And we say “thank you” to the thousands of men and women who continue to serve.

And that’s just the way it is.

**BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION
61ST ANNIVERSARY**

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday marks the 61st anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education.

Since that decision, countless American children of color have benefited from increased access to opportunities in education.

However, we must continue to do more to address the opportunity gap in education.

Because I have dedicated my life to education and to being a champion for disadvantaged young men and boys of color, I know that we must continue to invest time and resources.

We must expand mentorship programs like my 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project and initiatives like the President’s My Brother’s Keeper so more boys and young men of color have the support and encouragement they need to succeed.

As we commemorate Brown v. Board of Education, let us remember that, while we have come far, we must do more to lift up and support our children.

**PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIRE-
FIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RE-
SPONDERS ACT**

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this important legislation to provide for Congressional review of any final nuclear agreement with Iran.

It is the policy of the United States to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon. That is my position, and it has been the position of both President Obama and a majority in the United States Congress.

As I indicated in a statement a few weeks ago, I support President Obama’s ongoing effort to work with our P5+1 partners to achieve a strong and verifiable agreement to prevent Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon. This legislation makes clear that Congress must exercise its responsibilities in this process.

As the Administration has acknowledged, many important details remain to be worked out before the June 30 deadline. These include ensuring that inspectors are able to visit all nuclear sites in Iran, that sanctions only begin to unwind after the International Atomic Energy Agency confirms that Iran is complying with the terms of the final agreement, that the “snap back” of sanctions is assured should Iran violate the agreement, and that Iran implements an agreed set of measures to address the IAEA’s concerns regarding the possible military dimensions of its program. I will be carefully monitoring and reviewing the ongoing negotiations to determine whether the final agreement meets the objectives we established.

The legislation before us today ensures the very important role that Congress must play in this process. It provides that Congress will review this agreement and have the opportunity to act. Moreover, it makes clear that any repeal of sanctions legislation will require congressional action. As negotiations continue, I look forward to working with the president and my congressional colleagues to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon. I agree with President Obama that it would be best if we can achieve that objective by negotiating a verifiable agreement. But I also agree with him that no deal is better than a bad deal.

Madam Speaker, the President and a majority in the Congress are united in our commitment to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon. Let us continue to pursue that objective together.

HONORING JAQUON M. LOTT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student at Quitman County Middle School.

JaQuon M. Lott is the son of Tiara Lott of Lambert, MS. He has been attending Quitman County Middle School for two years. He is active in many school activities such as football, basketball, track and field, student council, and choir. He also is an active hall monitor for Quitman County Middle School. Along with his many school and academic responsibilities, JaQuon also takes part in his community and participated in Support the Vote initiative that the Student Council sponsored in November.

JaQuon hopes to one day attend Mississippi State University or Alcorn State University to fulfill his dreams of one day playing in the NFL. A second part of his dream is to receive a Master’s Degree in Engineering.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing JaQuon M. Lott as a student who is goal oriented and making a difference in his community.

**RECOGNIZING FAVIL WEST, NE-
VADA SENIOR OF THE YEAR FOR
2015**

HON. JOSEPH J. HECK

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mr. HECK of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to recognize and commend my constituent Favil West on being named Nevada Senior Citizen of the Year for 2015.

Favil is a resident of Henderson, Nevada, where he has lived with Pat, his wife of 54 years, since 2000.

A tireless advocate for southern Nevada’s senior community, Favil co-founded The Foundation Assisting Seniors to improve the lives of seniors in his own community through programs designed to assist seniors in times of illness, recovery, confinement at home, and coping with loss of a loved one.

Among the most pressing challenges facing our senior communities are the health and safety risks that come with living alone.

Favil worked with the Foundation Assisting Seniors to develop a solution to this challenge.

Last fall, Favil developed the HowRU Program, an effort specifically designed to minimize risks of living alone by maintaining daily contact with their senior clients.

The program calls the subscriber daily at a designated time to see if they are doing okay.

Think of the peace of mind that daily contact brings not only the seniors who participate, but also their family members.

That peace of mind is the result of Favil’s devotion to serving fellow senior citizens in his community. I congratulate Favil West on being named Nevada Senior Citizen of the Year for 2015.