

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

SPEECH OF

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 13, 2015*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to address the ongoing debate over the Confederate battle flag and its placement on state and federal government property. As a daughter of Selma, Alabama, I have a great respect and understanding of the deep heritage and tradition that every Southerner holds close to their heart. But as an American, I find it very troubling that some continue to defend a symbol of obvious and demonstrated hatred. From its creation, the flag was a denotation of the intention to segregate and enslave African Americans.

While some people genuinely revere the Confederate Battle Flag because of its connection to their ancestors, there can be little doubt that it is cherished by groups and individuals expressing racial hatred. As my colleague and friend JOHN LEWIS declared in this Chamber last week, the state troopers wore the flag on their helmets as they beat him and nearly took his life at the foot of the Edmund Pettus Bridge in 1965. It is clear that the flag is overwhelmingly associated with some of the darkest sins of our nation's past. The original intention of the flag saw resurgence in the 1950s as an expression of resistance to the Civil Rights Movement and desegregation. In 1963, Governor George Wallace raised the Confederate Battle Flag over the Alabama State Capitol as a protest to then U.S. Attorney General Robert Kennedy's visit to Alabama to urge desegregation. This very reaction to the rise of civil rights for African-Americans proves its symbolism as one of racial segregation and not one of heritage.

But let there be no mistake. The removal of this divisive symbol does not cure our society of all discrimination. Hatred stubbornly lingers on even after these flags are lowered. Removing flags from federally owned property or from a state's capitol grounds is a strong step forward, but it is not a final solution to our society's deeply entrenched structural oppression. Much more needs to be done to combat discrimination in our society and in our public institutions.

The United States has always been a beacon of progress and equality, so it stuns me that we continue to be shackled to these discriminatory symbols. The destiny of America is always in the future, not the past. We can learn from the past, both good and ill, but it is to the future that we must always direct our focus and our ambitions. We must forge a path forward, away from the symbols of the darkest times in our nation's history. Racism will end when we confront the hate behind the heritage with unity and reconciliation.

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM LAWSON  
LITTLE III

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of William Lawson Little III, an important community leader whose integrity, compassion, and business acumen enriched the lives of his family, friends and the entire Monterey Peninsula. Lawson passed away on June 29, 2015. As his family and friends gather to honor and remember his wonderful life, I ask all my colleagues to join me in saluting one of the Monterey Peninsula's most well-respected figures.

Lawson was born in 1957 to William Lawson Little Jr. and Dorothy Hurd. He grew up along the golf links of Pebble Beach, and followed in the footsteps of his father, a Hall of Fame Golfer, as a true lover of the game of golf. He attended Carmel High School, Monterey Peninsula College, and San Jose State University. After college he played in professional golf tournaments around the world and spent a time as a tennis pro in Palm Desert. In 2009, Lawson was inducted into the California Golf Writers Hall of Fame and in 2010 he was inducted into the Monterey Peninsula College Hall of Fame.

In 1974, Lawson left professional sports and began a remarkable career at Quail Lodge Golf and Country Club, where he made a lasting mark beyond the golf course and in our community. He was a key leader in the development of Quail Meadows and would rise to become Vice President and President of Quail Lodge. While at Quail Lodge, Lawson brought a number of notable events to the Monterey Peninsula, including The Quail, A Motorsports Gathering, The Quail Rally, and the Eagle Cup. All of these events brought joy to thousands of people and raised much needed funding for a variety of local charities.

Mindful of the importance of serving one's community, Lawson made time to serve a number of local civic organizations, including the Jim Tunney Youth Foundation Board, G16 Coalition, Coalition for Monterey Peninsula Business, Monterey County Sheriffs Advisory Board, Carmel River Watershed Conservancy, Monterey County Emergency Assistance Team, as well as many others.

In 1977, Lawson married the love of his life, Rose and they would raise their two children, Chris and Sarah Rose in Carmel Valley. Despite his professional success and civic engagement, more than anything, Lawson will be remembered for being a role model, mentor, friend, and family man. He was a man who always put others above himself. He offered countless people counsel in their time of need and steady guidance to those that needed it. He was a man of undeniable strength and

quiet wisdom. He was incredibly fun, lived in the moment, and loved playing games. He cherished classic cars, the San Francisco Giants, and making lasting memories with his family. Put simply, Lawson improved the lives of all of those around him.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in honoring Lawson's lifetime of achievement and in extending our heartfelt condolences to his friends, and family members, including his wife Rose, son Chris, daughter Sarah Rose and sisters Linda, Sandy, and Sonya. I ask all my colleagues to pause and join me in paying respect to an extraordinary man, William Lawson Little III.

RECOGNIZING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF SAND CREEK, WISCONSIN

**HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, this weekend we recognize the sesquicentennial celebration of Sand Creek, Wisconsin. On this historic occasion, it is only fitting that we reflect on and celebrate the rich history of this town, whose agricultural heritage is a reflection of western and central Wisconsin values.

Since the town's founding in 1865, the agricultural fertility of the land and the beautiful Red Cedar River have driven the development of the community. Norwegian settlers who decided to homestead in the area were the first to recognize the potential of the land in the Sand Creek region. Despite the wild land that these settlers first encountered, they were able to see through the wilderness and envision the future success that the land and water in the area could provide.

With a population of about 600 residents today, the Township of Sand Creek should be proud of its countless close-knit community connections. Those connections—and the people of Sand Creek who form them—are what make this community so special and what will lead the community to continued success.

Throughout this weekend's celebration, Sand Creek residents will come together for a full slate of exciting activities, all put on by their fellow community members. While they enjoy the weekend activities that commemorate Sand Creek's 150 years, we remember the past, reflect on the present, and look to the future.

Congratulations on 150 proud and prosperous years. Best wishes and many more to come.

● 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.

CONGRATULATING FRANCIS HOWELL CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL FOR ITS PLACEMENT IN THE TOP 25 MISSOURI RANKED HIGH SCHOOLS

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Francis Howell Central High School for its placement in the top 25 Missouri high schools as ranked by U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Francis Howell Central High School for a job well done.

HONORING KATIE ARROYO AND JARED BAILEY OF THE FLORIDA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA FOR RECEIVING THE FLORIDA INNOVATIVE SERVICE AND BEST PRACTICE AWARD OF 2015

**HON. ANDER CRENSHAW**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Katie Arroyo and Jared Bailey of the Florida Small Business Development Center at the University of North Florida for receiving the Florida Innovative Service and Best Practice Award of 2015. Katie and Jared received this prestigious award for their hard work and expertise in creating the International Marketing Metrics tool.

Using the International Marketing Metrics tool as part of the network's international trade services, small business exporters are able to quickly compare dozens of markets via the interactive country ranking matrix and illustrative graphing system. Jared and Katie developed this new and progressive tool for the Small Business Development Center at the University of North Florida.

The Florida Innovative Service and Best Practice Award is given in recognition for significant contributions to organizational improvement and enhanced performance in Florida's SBDC network, which is exactly what the International Marketing Metrics tool accomplishes. They were presented this prestigious award by Florida SBDC Network CEO and State Director Michael Myhre in Miami, Florida on June 23, 2015 as part of the Florida SBDC Network's professional development conference. At the annual conference, they recognize top personnel, volunteers, and partners for their contributions to the Network's mission in helping Florida's small businesses grow and succeed.

I am honored to have two such motivated and dedicated individuals living and working in the Fourth Congressional District of Florida. They truly exemplify what it means to work

tirelessly in their effort to provide small businesses with the tools they need to grow and be successful here in Florida and across the nation.

I salute the dedicated work of both Katie Arroyo and Jared Bailey, and their well-deserved recognition upon being selected for this prestigious award.

IN HONOR OF KANNAPOLIS POLICE SERGEANT CHUCK MORGAN'S CAREER

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Police Sergeant Chuck Morgan for his faithful service with the Kannapolis Police Department located in the 8th Congressional District of North Carolina.

Sergeant Morgan began his career with the Kannapolis Police Department as a Patrol Officer in 1986 and was then promoted to the rank of Sergeant on April 7, 1999. As a Sergeant, he has served the Kannapolis community in both the Patrol and Traffic Divisions.

As a result of his exemplary service, Sergeant Morgan has received various commendations from law enforcement agencies, civic organizations, churches, and his peers. To highlight a few, he earned a 10-year safe driving award in 1996 and then the Kannapolis Police Department's Physical Fitness Award in 2013.

Equally as impressive as his excellence in the field was his dedication to becoming a better officer. Sergeant Morgan earned an Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate from the N.C. Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission having successfully completed 2,977 hours of professional training.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in thanking Sergeant Chuck Morgan for his esteemed service to our community and congratulating him on his retirement.

**21ST CENTURY CURES ACT**

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 9, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to accelerate the discovery, development, and delivery of 21st century cures, and for other purposes:

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support for H.R. 6, the 21st Century Cures Act which will help advance the discovery, development, and delivery of new treatments and cures for patients and will foster private sector innovation here in the U.S.

Arriving here today has been a long journey—full of lots of steps and some twists and turns along the way. I especially want to thank Legislative Counsel for their tireless efforts in helping translate our legislative aims into legislative language. They worked nights and weekends and were consummate profes-

sionals throughout the process. Specifically, I want to thank the following: Warren Burke, Ed Grossman, Jessica Shapiro, Michelle Vanek, Jesse Cross.

I also want to thank the health care staff of the Congressional Budget Office for all their help in recent months. In addition to their role in estimating the budgetary effects of numerous policies in the bill, they were instrumental in helping us shape a number of proposals the Committee considered. I specifically want to thank Holly Harvey, Tom Bradley, Chad Chirico, and all their colleagues for their diligence and assistance through the process.

And I would be remiss if I did not again thank the outstanding team on Energy and Commerce, and most especially the Health team, led by Chief Health Counsel, Clay Alspach, supported by Josh Trent, Paul Edattel, John Stone, Robert Horne, Carly McWilliams, Michelle Rosenberg, Katie Novaria, Adrianna Simonelli, Traci Vitek and Graham Pittman—without whose expertise, wisdom and counsel, this legislative work would not be possible.

H.R. 6 was reported from Energy and Commerce Committee by a vote of 51–0 and advances conservative fiscal and regulatory reforms. Every dollar of advanced appropriations in the bill (which will sunset at the end of FY 2020) is offset with other permanent reforms—including billions of dollars in mandatory entitlement savings in Medicare and Medicaid.

But this is no ordinary mandatory spending—like the kind we usually see in entitlement spending such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and Obamacare. This mandatory spending is for five years only and then stops or sunsets. This mandatory spending is fully paid for with mandatory spending cuts elsewhere that will not stop in five years, but are permanent reforms resulting in real savings. By comparison, the Ryan-Murray budget deal for health care savings yielded much less.

This innovative hybrid approach allows us to cut mandatory spending (entitlement spending) and use the savings to fund what would otherwise be a discretionary project—but in this case is 5-year dedicated spending on medical research.

Congressional Budget Office determined that H.R. 6 will reduce the deficit by \$500 million over the first ten years, and at least another \$7 billion over the second decade.

The funds provided to the National Institutes for Health (NIH) and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will be subject to explicit review and reprogramming through the annual appropriations process. Congress can review the dedicated funding and allocate it for specific initiatives.

Additionally, all the important policy riders that accompany federal funding through appropriations will be included—such as the Hyde Amendment and the Dickey-Wicker Amendment.

This bill also includes a policy that excludes authorized generics from Average Manufacturers' Price. This is a common sense policy from the President's budget proposal, intended to ensure the appropriate calculation of Medicaid brand name rebates paid by manufacturers. The policy is not intended to effect Medicaid programs' pharmacy reimbursements. Instead, the provision, which many states support, will result in an increase in manufacturer rebates under Medicaid and thus save money for states and the federal government.

H.R. 6 will help America to innovate its way out of our entitlement crisis. The regulatory reforms included in H.R. 6 will accelerate the pace of discovery, development and delivery of new treatments and cures, thereby providing significant health care savings to the federal budget that will only grow over time.

By modernizing clinical trials, eliminating duplicative administrative requirements, and perhaps most importantly, making FDA less bureaucratic by advancing the voice and needs of patients in the drug and device approval process—H.R. 6 will make lasting, positive changes to the entire ecosystem of Cures. Over 250 patient groups have enthusiastically said “yes” and endorsed Cures.

I urge all of my colleagues to think of the patients and vote “AYE” in support of H.R. 6.

## 21ST CENTURY CURES ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 9, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to accelerate the discovery, development, and delivery of 21st century cures, and for other purposes:

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Chair, America has been at her best when facing great challenges.

Some of our greatest challenges today are in the area of healthcare.

With over 10,000 known diseases, only 500 have cures.

We need to embrace a national vision of improving lives, and of course, saving money, through a Cures Strategy.

Sepsis is one condition that will benefit from this legislation.

Sepsis is the body's response to an overwhelming infection.

Approximately 250,000 people die from sepsis every year in the U.S. and yet most people have never heard of it.

Sepsis is the #1 most expensive condition treated in U.S. hospitals and in FY11 the aggregate hospital cost for sepsis was more than \$20 billion.

This legislation comes too late for Katie McQuestion and Rory Staunton, both who succumbed to sepsis as vibrant, health young people.

But through the work that the CURES legislation will support, we can find ways to identify sepsis earlier and even find ways to prevent sepsis.

The 21st Century Cures legislation includes language that I have authored with my friend from Texas, Rep. GENE GREEN—the SOFTWARE act.

Getting bureaucracy out of the way and allowing innovation is the goal of SOFTWARE.

SOFTWARE will codify the manner in which FDA approaches health IT—including the wonderful apps that we all use to keep us healthy.

FDA is the agency charged with assuring the safety and efficacy of drugs and medical devices.

But data is not a drug or device and it makes no sense to regulate it as such.

However obvious that is, it hasn't stopped FDA from trying to make medical device law fit health IT.

We need to modernize the FDA authorities to reflect the new technology that is health IT. SOFTWARE, as included in 21st Century Cures is an important first step in our efforts to modernize the FDA.

It is common sense legislation to provide opportunity for health IT to deliver on the promise of better health for all Americans.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate to bolster these efforts as SOFTWARE moves through the Senate.

For all the reasons I've outlined, the 21st Century Cures legislation is an important bill. But we must ensure that the new treatments, devices and drugs that will be created as a result of this legislation get to the people that need it the most. And some of the most needy are our nations seniors who get health care through Medicare.

Today, Medicare struggles with the adaption of new technology. Many seniors go years without access to the latest treatment options. We must change that. Congress receives great support from the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) who offers recommendations and policy support to Congress to improve Medicare.

But as we are on the cusp of changing how health care is delivered, MedPAC could use additional policy support including Commissioners that have real-world expertise in this area, and who understand the changes that need to be made in both Medicare payment and regulatory policies to make that happen. I've been pleased to support such candidates in the past, and will continue to do so in the future.

RECOGNIZING FRED DEHARO FOR HIS POSITIVE IMPACT ON IMPROVING HEALTH EDUCATION FOR PRESIDENTS OF THE COACHELLA VALLEY

**HON. RAUL RUIZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize the extraordinary contributions Fred Deharo has made to the health and wellbeing of residents in the Coachella Valley, making a real difference in the lives of the people I serve.

There is a dire need for quality health education and health care in the Coachella Valley. As an Emergency Physician myself, I know how critical it is for this population to have access to health care and education, and have seen first-hand the impact of Mr. Deharo's work.

For the last 35 years, Mr. Deharo has dedicated his life to expanding and improving public health. Upon graduating from UCLA with a Masters of Arts in Health Education-School of Public Health, Mr. Deharo was hired by “El Progreso Del Desierto,” a farm worker health clinic in Coachella, to run their health education program, and eventually became their Executive Director.

Mr. Deharo's genuine passion for our country's medically underserved populations steered him toward his next professional endeavor. In 1993, he began consulting and grant writing, and was instrumental in the opening of the health clinic “Clinicas Del

Pueblo” in Mecca, CA. Mecca, primarily a farming community, lacks access to basic health care and health education facilities.

Continuing with his service to underserved communities of Southern California, Mr. Deharo returned to the Coachella Valley in 1998 and in collaboration with another passionate health advocate, Rosa Lucas, they contributed to the opening of another clinic “Santa Rosa Del Valle” in Coachella, CA. Currently Mr. Deharo is Chief Contracts Officer for Borrego Community Health Foundation. And soon will be the Director of Contracting and Business Development for Clinicas Del Camino Real, Inc. in Ventura County, Ca.

Mr. Deharo recognizes the urgent needs that medically underserved communities struggle with on a daily basis. As a resident of the Coachella Valley, and as a Doctor, I thank Mr. Deharo for his life's work to provide better healthcare access to the rural and underserved communities of the Coachella Valley.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the thousands of families and children who have access to a Doctor through the health clinics that Mr. Deharo helped make possible, I would like to offer my sincerest thanks to Mr. Deharo, and look forward to continuing to support his legacy.

CONGRATULATING TIMBERLAND HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE MEDAL AWARD

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Timberland High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Timberland High School for a job well done.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL SCOTT B. AVERY

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Colonel Scott B. Avery, Commander of Martin Army Community Hospital, for his distinguished service to the United States of America. Colonel Avery was instrumental in the partnership between the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Martin Army Community Hospital at Fort Benning, Georgia to greatly improve the healthcare services provided by the VA in the Columbus, Georgia area. On Tuesday, July 14, 2015, Colonel Avery relinquished Command of Martin Army Community Hospital to Colonel Marie A. Dominguez.

Colonel Avery was commissioned as a Medical Service Corps Officer in the U.S. Army

after graduating from the University of Washington in June 1988 with a baccalaureate degree in Political Science. After completing the Medical Service Corps Officer Basic Course in November 1988, Colonel Avery was stationed in Kirchgoens, Germany as a Medical Platoon Leader for 4th BN, 32nd Armor, and 3rd Armor Division. From there, he went on to hone his leadership skills as he successfully completed numerous command and staff assignments at Fort Irwin, California; Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Ansbach, Germany; Wiesbaden, Germany; Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington; and Fort Benning, Georgia. In between his staff and command positions, Colonel Avery became a UH-60 Blackhawk pilot and a Master Navigator. He also completed numerous combat tours during his career. He deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina during Operation Joint Guard; to the Middle East in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm; to Kosovo twice in support of Operation of Joint Guardian II; and to Iraq twice in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn.

The Second Congressional District of Georgia gained a respected and compassionate leader when Colonel Avery arrived in Ft. Benning, Georgia in June 2011 to serve as Commander of the Martin Army Community Hospital. In this capacity, Colonel Avery was instrumental in improving the lives and health of veterans in the Chattahoochee Valley. Colonel Avery's partnership with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs resulted in the opening of a new 19,000-square foot Veterans Affairs Clinic at Fort Benning on July 6, 2015. The new VA clinic will improve access to health care for veterans, as well as its quality and cost effectiveness. The new clinic will offer a full complement of primary care providers with integrated mental health services which will serve more than 13,000 veterans and implement tele-health hubs to provide an additional 96 appointments per week.

Colonel Avery is the epitome of the U.S. Army values: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, and Personal Courage. The new clinic would not exist today without Colonel Avery's personal courage, selfless service, relentless desire, and tireless duty to improve the lives of those who have fought to protect our cherished liberties. His loyalty and respect to the current and former servicemen and servicewomen is commendable and should be emulated by leaders in the military and in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, the Chattahoochee Valley community, and the 730,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in honoring Colonel Scott B. Avery for his contributions to the veterans of Southwest Georgia. We extend our best wishes to Colonel Avery and his family in his next assignment and throughout his career as he continues to be a champion for veterans.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT  
AUSTIN PERRIN

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Austin

Perrin of Boy Scout Troop 218 in Shenandoah, Iowa, for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained for more than a century.

For nine years Austin has dedicated his time and efforts to the Scouts. Not only has he excelled in Scouts, but he's also been a top-notch student and role model in the community. He represents his freshman class as their President and representative on the student council. He also participates in athletics and a number of different school related activities.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout must pass specific tests organized by requirements and merit badges, and complete an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his Eagle Scout Service Project, Austin built a 28-foot cedar gazebo at Priest Park in Shenandoah. His inspiration came from seeing young students waiting for the bus in the rain without any shelter. Now, each day that it rains, students have a dry place to wait for the bus.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his service to his community demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Austin in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives will join me in congratulating him on reaching the rank of Eagle Scout, and I wish him nothing but continued success in his future education and career.

HONORING GANNETT FLEMING

**HON. SCOTT PERRY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to take this opportunity to offer my sincere congratulations to Gannett Fleming on the 100th Anniversary of their company's founding. Their record of accomplishment and longevity truly is exceptional and praiseworthy.

When Farley Gannett partnered with Theodore Seelye to form "Farley Gannett, Consulting Engineer" in Harrisburg on August 1, 1915, they laid the foundation for a company that would become a driving force in improving our communities through a commitment to growth, ethics and technical excellence.

Whether designing water supply and flood control dams to improve the quality of drinking water and reducing the risk of flooding, building highways that strengthen our economy and allow for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods, or water and wastewater treatment plants that result in cleaner streams, Gannett Fleming's more than 2,000 employees maintain the tradition of excellence, innovation and responsiveness that began 100 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I also commend Gannett Fleming and its employees for their work on military and public service projects, including the Cancer Institute and Children's Hospital at the University's Medical Center in Hershey. Additionally, their ongoing support of community and charitable organizations throughout the region is invaluable.

Congratulations once again to Gannett Fleming and their employees on this wonderful milestone. Best wishes for continued success in the years to come.

CONGRATULATING ST. CLAIR HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE MEDAL AWARD

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating St. Clair High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing St. Clair High School for a job well done.

OLDER AMERICANS ACT 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JOYCE BEATTY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 50th anniversary of the landmark Older Americans Act, which President Lyndon Johnson signed into law on July 14, 1965.

Congress passed the Older Americans Act in response to concerns by policymakers about a lack of community social services for older persons.

The Older Americans Act is the major federal vehicle for the delivery of social and nutrition services for older persons.

It ensures seniors have transportation to medical appointments, the grocery store, adult day care and more.

It provides critical support and respite services to those caring for older adults—and, today, over 35 million Americans are family caregivers for older Americans.

The Older Americans Act also promotes health and well-being—helping manage diabetes, prevent falls, and improve behavioral health so seniors can live at home in their community.

The Older Americans Act has been serving our seniors and families well for half a century.

With 10,000 Americans turning 65 each day, we have an obligation to keep the Older Americans Act strong.

Just yesterday, President Obama spoke at the 2015 White House Conference on Aging to emphasize the importance of addressing aging issues and reauthorization of the Older Americans Act.

Across the country, older Americans are running businesses, helping to raise their grandchildren, serving as teachers, acting as mentors, and contributing their many talents for the better of their community.

I am committed to making sure that Americans are able to enjoy the secure retirement they deserve—whether they are already retired, are about to retire or are just starting out.

I will continue to work to protect and expand Social Security, improve health care affordability, and create affordable long-term care options.

Americans who have worked hard, raised families, and kept our country strong should be able to live their years in retirement with dignity and independence.

The Older Americans Act helps them do that by providing critical services to millions of senior citizens and their families.

Reauthorization of this important piece of legislation should occur as soon as possible.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote number 434. Had I been present, I would have voted aye.

#### HONORING BEAR WALLOW DISTILLERY

### HON. TODD C. YOUNG

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, small businesses across my district work every day to produce the goods and services needed to drive our economy, and today it is my honor to highlight one of them. My home state of Indiana has a long heritage of agriculture and manufacturing business, as well as a spirit of entrepreneurship and innovation. One small business in Indiana's 9th District, Bear Wallow Distillery, sits at the center of these proud Hoosier traditions.

Bear Wallow Distillery, located in scenic and historic Brown County, Indiana, is a home-grown success story. Founded and still owned by Mike and Susan Spagnuolo, their craft distillery opened its doors in August 2014. In the year since, the company has expanded its initial offering of Hoosier-made moonshine to include bourbon and several different whiskeys; all crafted from locally grown and supplied ingredients. Operating a still and a serving room, Bear Wallow has served thousands of thirsty Hoosiers. Visitors can see the distillery operation on behind-the-scene tours and sample local foods as well as drinks.

Bear Wallow does its part to support our long tradition of quality craftsmanship. The company creates its signature spirits using a traditional copper still from another family-owned small business, Vendome Brass and Copper of Louisville, KY. The small-batch, handcrafted spirits that Bear Wallow produces are then aged in charred American White Oak barrels and served-up straight or as part of a cocktail. The business is known for its "Moonshine shake-ups," made with fruit elixirs and served in a tasting area featuring Prohibition-era decorations and a bare-wood bar made from locally milled red oak.

Bear Wallow refers to itself as "the first legal distillery in Indiana." The claim rings very true, as the success of Bear Wallow would not

have been possible even two years ago. Previous Indiana law prevented would-be entrepreneurs from operating small distilleries in the state. Following changes to the law in 2013, Mike and Susan Spagnuolo were on the front line pioneering this industry that is flourishing in Indiana's 9th District. Their small business, like so many others, is helping to create needed jobs, drive our local economy, and generate tourism throughout the state.

It is an honor representing entrepreneurs like the Spagnuolos who took a risk opening Bear Wallow Distillery. I hope their example serves to inspire other would-be entrepreneurs, and am pleased to highlight their good work today in this installment of Indiana's 9th District Small Business Spotlight.

#### CONGRATULATING SECKMAN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL FOR ITS BRONZE MEDAL AWARD

### HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Seckman Senior High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Seckman Senior High School for a job well done.

#### HONORING JOANNE LEINOW ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AS PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR OF BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF THE DESERT

### HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Joanne Leinow on her retirement after 28 years of service with the Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) program, whose mission is to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported one-to-one relationships that change their lives for the better, forever.

Throughout her nearly three decades of service, Ms. Leinow has been involved in with BBBS in both large and small communities, all across the country including Cincinnati, Ohio, Los Angeles, California, and most recently here in our desert. From her contribution in 1960, in Cincinnati, Ohio, to her work with the Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters in Los Angeles in the 1990s, and finally her most recent service over the past 9 years with Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Desert, Ms. Leinow has made a tremendous impact on thousands of youth in our nation.

In 2002, Ms. Leinow was hired at the BBBS of the Desert to develop a site based mentoring program. Unfamiliar with the region, Ms. Leinow performed her BBBS "magic." In 2006

she was promoted to Partnership Development Director for her incredible job recruiting new volunteers, developing community and business partnerships, and making sure that the Coachella Valley community knew BBBS was the "go-to" agency for mentoring.

From the time Ms. Leinow became the Partnership Development Director in 2006, BBBS has seen a 108% increase in the number of children served, increasing from 333 children in 2006 to 555 in 2010.

Ms. Leinow's hard work and passion for public service does not go unnoticed. She has been recognized with numerous awards, including the Skip Walsh Award in 2011, which honors BBBS professionals who excel in the qualities of education, enthusiasm, and generosity.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Leinow's commitment to public service and particularly to stimulate children to overcome hardship through mentorship is an act of human kindness. On behalf of all those who have benefited from BBBS, and the residents of California's 36th Congressional District, I would like to offer my sincerest thanks and congratulate Ms. Leinow for her exceptional commitment. I wish her well in her well-deserved retirement.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF PERCIVAL LOWELL

### HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce an article entitled "The Bostonian astronomer who dreamed of Pluto" that was published in the Boston Globe on July 12, 2015. Written by Ted Widmer, this article reviews the life and accomplishments of Percival Lowell, the Boston astronomer that had a tremendous impact on the discovery of Pluto. As the *New Horizons* spacecraft sped past that distant planet this morning, this article stands as a tribute to ensure we do not forget Percival Lowell's part in this great human achievement of innovation and exploration.

THE BOSTONIAN ASTRONOMER WHO DREAMED OF PLUTO

(By Ted Widmer, The Boston Globe)

This Tuesday, July 14, at 7:49:57 a.m. EDT, the *New Horizons* spacecraft will rendezvous with Pluto at a point in space nearly 3 billion miles from Earth. It's been a long strange trip.

*New Horizons* launched nearly a decade ago, on Jan. 19, 2006. It received a gravity boost from Jupiter in 2007, and has been cruising at more than 30,000 miles per hour ever since. It won't even slow down as it passes by the planet at the end of the solar system, but it will gather data and take photos as it screams silently by.

By 7:49:58, the moment will have passed, and *New Horizons* will be seeking new adventures in the Kuiper Belt.

For New Englanders, there are a couple reasons to feel proud of the fly-by. The mission is the first in the "New Frontiers" series, named after President Kennedy. And Pluto is something of a local concern. Though Pluto was formally discovered by a Kansan named Clyde Tombaugh in 1930, he was spurred to look where he did because of calculations made years earlier by a Bostonian astronomer, Percival Lowell.

Lowell was born in 1855, near the State House—the epicenter of “the Hub of the Solar System,” as Oliver Wendell Holmes famously called the city. More than most, Lowell helped Boston live up to that claim, with his relentless research into the heavens. The astronomical symbol for Pluto, a P and L mashed together, is a tribute to him. And by laying out instructions for where to look for the celestial object he called “Planet X,” Lowell was like the owner of a shoveled-out parking spot, leaving a battered lawn chair as a space-saver, to mark his territory forever. How Boston is that?

Lowell was an unlikely astronomical pioneer. He grew up privileged, one of a brood that included Harvard’s future president, A. Lawrence Lowell, and the poet Amy Lowell (whom he called “Big Fat Baby”). He could have coasted, the way so many wealthy Americans did in the smug years that followed the Civil War. But three deep passions seized him, and helped him to achieve escape velocity—enough to leave Boston’s gravity forever.

The first of these was Japan. In 1883, after a brief period managing family investments, he set sail for what he called “the morning land,” in search of spiritual enlightenment. Americans had begun to appreciate Japanese design at the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, so fresh and direct in contrast to the grandiloquent statements of the Gilded Age. A small wavelet of Bostonians traveled there, or even established residence, including William Sturgis Bigelow (who gave 40,000 Japanese artifacts to the MFA), Isabella Stewart Gardner, Edward Sylvester Morse, and Ernest Fenollosa. Lowell happily joined this expatriate tide, which fit perfectly his desire to declare independence from the Hub.

He lived in Japan for 10 years, and wrote prolifically about Shintoism and other aspects of a culture that he found un-Bostonian in every way—except for its ancestor worship. At the same time, Boston helped him immensely, by distributing his esoteric musings through well-trusted outlets like *The Atlantic*. His writings inspired other Japanophiles, and they helped Lowell gain the confidence to explore other worlds. These he was beginning to glimpse, by climbing Japanese mountains, where it was understood that spiritual understanding came more quickly. The Buddhists revere what they call “celestial” enlightenment. Typically, Lowell found it in his own way, by searching the skies for unusual objects.

In 1893, he began to devote intense study to the planet Mars, the second of his three obsessions. Learning that Mars would be approaching close to Earth the next year, he dropped everything and began to prepare. He purchased land on an elevated plateau near Flagstaff, Ariz., brought two large telescopes, and for the next 23 years devoted his attention to the place he named Mars Hill. It became a kind of transcendental-astronomical paradise for him, and he delivered philosophical musings, like, “To stand a mile and a half nearer the stars is not to stand immune.” Lowell’s principal thesis—that Mars contained a network of canals, and was likely inhabited—was more imaginative than scientific.

But despite Lowell’s failure to find signs of extraterrestrial life, his years of close observation yielded much valuable data, and helped people see our planetary neighbor in new ways. The science fiction industry was not slow to follow his lead, and tales of Martian invaders have never failed to sell. He built an important establishment in Arizona, the Lowell Observatory. And once again, he fell in love with an exotic land—this time, the Southwest, where he wandered happily, collecting plant specimens by day, and stars by night.

Lowell’s third passion took him even further afield. Earlier in life, as a young man recently graduated from Harvard, he had tired of Boston’s predictability, and written, with the studied weariness of the young, that he was considering “migrating to another planet or ceasing to exist.”

In 1905, he began an obsessive search for a new planet, beyond Neptune, the legendary “Planet X.” He predicted where it might be found, and even photographed it in 1915, although he was not aware that he had. He died a year later, but it would have delighted this otherworldly thinker to know that his research lived on and provided a road map to the sky-gazers who followed in his wake.

In 1930, when Pluto was finally pinpointed, there was universal excitement. Walt Disney named Mickey Mouse’s dog after the discovery. The element plutonium was also named after Pluto. There were now nine planets—a number that felt right. It seemed as if Lowell had found final vindication, after all those years chasing Japanese ghosts and Martian canals.

But year by year, as scientists got to know Pluto better, they liked it less, finding it smaller than expected, icy, and dubious in other ways, including its orbit and its relationship with neighboring objects. In 2006, 101 years after Lowell began his search for it, Pluto suffered the ultimate indignity when it was downgraded to a “dwarf planet.” The fleeting fly-by this Tuesday may help restore luster to the object formerly known as Planet X. But more than likely, we will have to look elsewhere for Lowell’s vindication.

Fortunately, it’s not too hard to find. In June, scientists began to get excited again about the possibility of life on Mars, and research is coming into the Martian subsoil. A different monument to Lowell exists right here, in Cambridge’s Mount Auburn Cemetery. He is not buried there, that would be too predictable (his actual grave is at Mars Hill, in Arizona). But a piece of petrified rock, left by his instruction, gives his grave’s real location, and testifies to the enduring individuality of a Bostonian who wanted to be present, but not too present. Percival Lowell always encountered the world on his own terms.

**CONGRATULATING NEW HAVEN  
HIGH SCHOOL FOR ITS BRONZE  
MEDAL AWARD**

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating New Haven High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school’s administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing New Haven High School for a job well done.

**TRIBUTE TO STANLEY AND WILMA  
EMBREE**

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Stanley

and Wilma Embree on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary on June 17, 2015.

This couple was married in North Carolina in 1945 and farmed in Adams County until the 1980’s. Stanley and Wilma now live in Atlantic, Iowa in Cass County. Stanley and Wilma’s lifelong commitment to each other and to their children and family truly embodies Iowa’s values. I congratulate this devoted couple on their 70 years together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

**DISTINGUISHED OFFICER EDWARD  
ALFRED THOMAS**

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Houston Police Headquarters will soon be renamed in honor of the retired Senior Police Officer Edward Alfred Thomas, a fitting tribute to his lifelong service to the city of Houston.

Police Officer Edward Alfred Thomas, also known as “Mr. Thomas” around the station, has provided 65 years of service as an officer to the Houston Police Department.

Officer Thomas served the Houston Police Department from January 12, 1948 to July 23, 2011. His accomplishments are numerous and include The 100 Club, Officer of the Year, the Lifetime Achievement Award, and a Chief of Police Commendation.

Officer Thomas served nearly 20 years prior to the Civil Rights Movement and was one of the first African-American police officers to integrate into the Houston Police Department.

Fellow officers declare that Officer Thomas has been an incredible example of perseverance, courage, and duty to the Houston Police Force.

Several organizations support the proposal to name the Police Headquarters in Officer Thomas’s honor such as the African American Police Officer League (AAPOL), Houston Police Officer’s Union (HPOU), the Houston Organization of Public Employees (HOPE), and Houston Police Organization of Spanish Speaking Officers (OSSO).

The City Council unanimously approved the proposal to name the Houston Police Headquarters in his honor on June 15, 2015.

And that’s just the way it is.

**OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT**

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 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 \$18,151,921,010,337.51. We’ve added \$7,525,044,062,425.42 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 FT. ZUMWALT  
SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS  
BRONZE MEDAL AWARD

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ft. Zumwalt South High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Ft. Zumwalt South High School for a job well done.

DULLES ACADEMIC CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dulles High School on being named the 2015 6A Academic State Champions. This win marks Dulles' third state title in four years.

This impressive achievement brought the gold medal to Dulles for the third time in just four years. This year's win also marks the eighth consecutive academic championship title for Fort Bend ISD. Dulles earned first place team honors in Science, Math, and Speech and Debate and second place team honors in Number Sense. No doubt, these students worked diligently all year to win this championship. Their success would not have been possible without the support of their teachers, principal, and parents. We are all looking forward to the continued achievements of this bright group of students.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Dulles High School's Academic State Champions. This victory makes the entire Fort Bend ISD community proud.

RECOGNIZING MOMS2B PROGRAM

**HON. STEVE STIVERS**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Moms2B program in Columbus, Ohio for receiving the Supporting the Safety Net Award from the Association of Community Affiliated Plans (ACAP). The award was given at the 2015 ACAP CEO Summit. ACAP works with not-for-profit Safety Net Health Plans in their efforts to improve the health of lower-income and vulnerable populations.

Moms2B was founded in 2010 and began as a 10-week nutrition course. The program

has now grown into a multidisciplinary program with a variety of healthcare professionals serving the neighborhoods of Columbus.

The program is designed to address maternal and infant health issues in low-income communities with high rates of infant mortality. Specifically, there is a focus on helping pregnant women deliver full term, healthy babies. Moms2B also partners with a variety of organizations, including the American Red Cross, The Mid-Ohio Food Bank, the Ohio State University Outreach and Engagement, and many others in an effort to improve their outreach and care to the families in Central Ohio.

Moms2B has enrolled more than 350 women into the program, and has seen great success in its short time in operation. Through August 2013, program participants had a 50 percent reduction in low birth weight babies compared to the Medicaid expected number.

Winning the ACAP Supporting Safety Net Award is a true testament to the incredible impact Moms2B has had on families in Central Ohio. On behalf of the people of Ohio's 15th Congressional District, I thank Moms2B for all they do for our community and wish them continued success in the future.

CONGRATULATING FATIMA HIGH  
SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE MEDAL  
AWARD

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Fatima High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Fatima High School for a job well done.

2015 CARNEGIE HALL NATIONAL  
YOUTH ORCHESTRA

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 2015 National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America.

Each summer, Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute brings together some of the finest young musicians from across the country to form the prestigious National Youth Orchestra. The musicians, ranging from ages 16–19 years old, undergo a comprehensive audition process; the 114 talented, dedicated musicians who are selected reflect the breadth, diversity and quality of young musicians in the United States.

After an intensive two-week training residency at State University of New York Purchase College with faculty from some of the country's finest professional orchestras, the players travel the world on an annual tour to top music capitals. Our musicians have the

opportunity to interact with local young musicians and sightsee wherever they travel, and they inspire their audiences with their music-making.

In its inaugural season in 2013, the Orchestra traveled to Russia and the UK. This year, from July 10–26, they will travel from New York City to China. In Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, and four other cities, the Orchestra will share their talent with Chinese audiences while experiencing firsthand the richness of China's culture and history. As musical ambassadors for America, the orchestra will strengthen ties between citizens of the US and the People's Republic of China through culture.

I am thrilled to announce this summer's performers include two young musicians from my own Congressional district. Martine Thomas, 17, plays viola with the Rochester Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. She was a member of the National Youth Orchestra's inaugural summer tour in 2013, and this will be her second appearance with the group. She enjoys spending her weekends busking at a farmers market and performing at assisted living centers. Additionally, Helen Wong, 17, plays violin and attends Webster Schroeder High School is a performer in this year's National Youth Orchestra. She enjoys performing piano and violin at senior centers and churches in her free time.

Participating in the arts can have incredible benefits on our nation's students. From higher test scores to better behavior, stronger critical thinking skills, and better decision making skills. Team building skills along that these students will cultivate in the orchestra are essential to today's interconnected workplace.

Again, I would like to congratulate all of the young musicians of the 2015 National Youth Orchestra and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES  
SICILIANO

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. James Siciliano. Mr. Siciliano will be honored by the Italian American Memorial Association (IAMA) on July 18, 2015 and I would like to join with its members in congratulating Mr. Siciliano.

The son of first generation Italian Americans, Mr. Siciliano honors his heritage and continues to uphold the objective of the IAMA to promote social, cultural and recreational activities for the betterment of the residents of Long Branch, New Jersey. His dedication to the community and the IAMA is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

A native of Long Branch, Mr. Siciliano has been involved with the IAMA since childhood. Having participated in the IAMA Little League, Mr. Siciliano knows first-hand the positive influence the association's recreational and athletic activities have on the community's youth. As a member and President of the IAMA, he maintains active participation in the association and ensures its continued success. Under his leadership, the IAMA has grown in membership and activities. He also helped begin

the association's scholarship program and oversees the daily functions of the center.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in recognizing Mr. James Siciliano as he is honored by the Italian American Memorial Association and thanking him for his countless contributions to the community.

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HONORING THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the Older Americans Act 50th Anniversary. Originally passed in 1965, the Older Americans Act ensures that older individuals and their caregivers have access to a wide array of services. Aside from Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security, services such as community-based care, meal delivery, health prevention programs, and elder rights protection are just a few of the many vital programs that the Older Americans Act provides.

The population age 65 and over increased by 24.7 percent between 2003 and 2013 and the number of individuals in need of aging programs continues to rise. Nearly 50 million older Americans and Americans with disabilities rely on Medicare coverage and more than 70 million individuals depend on Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program for their health care needs. Nearly 42 million Americans receive Social Security retirement benefits and for 6 out of 10 seniors, Social Security provides most of their income. I strongly believe in solvent Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security systems that give older Americans the security they need.

As for the impact of the community and social services provided by the Older Americans Act, the aging network serves an average of 11 million people each year. For example, over a five year period, 130 million rides to doctors' offices, grocery stores, and other locations were provided. More than 1 billion meals were served and 95 percent of those served would recommend the nutrition program. Nearly 20 million hours of case management, over 60 million hours of homemaker services, and more than 30 million hours of respite care were provided, helping older adults continue to live in their own homes. Through the Senior Community Service Employment Program, more than 200,000 participants provided almost 248 million hours of community service, effectively allowing seniors to give back to their community.

As the Baby Boomer Generation enters the 65 and over age bracket and the average life expectancy lengthens, it is clear that we cannot afford a shortage of services. As we celebrate the Older Americans Act 50th Anniversary, we must also keep in mind that these services often end up on the chopping block. On this historic day, I hope that we can all work together to find ways to continue to provide these vital services to our older Americans.

CONGRATULATING THE CHAMOIS HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE MEDAL AWARD

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Chamois High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Chamois High School for a job well done.

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HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Texas A&M University has recently announced the new Texas A&M-Chevron Engineering Academies at two year colleges across Texas, including Houston Community College. This allows more students to receive a high quality engineering degree. The Texas Workforce Commission projects that by 2022 the state of Texas will need 62,000 more engineers, and this program is one of the ways Texas is going to get there.

In this program, students can complete their first two years of core classes at HCC and be granted full emission into Texas A&M to complete their major specific classes. Students will be able to learn in smaller environments for a fraction of the price. It combines the best from both schools, the atmospheres and learning setting. HCC already offers a wide variety of engineering majors, and now with A&Ms majors available to them, the possibilities for these students are endless.

Texas A&M is one of the top engineering programs not only in the state of Texas, not only in the country, but the world. Much like the 19th century British empire, the sun never sets in Aggieland, for they have campuses set all over the world.

Houston Community College has 60,000 students annually and serves Houston as one of the top schools to earn a degree from. This partnership is ensuring that more students have access to a top engineering education and the connections they make through this will benefit not only them, but our future economy and industrial developments throughout the world.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING OUR NATION'S COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PROFESSIONALS

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the invaluable contribution to public safety made by community corrections professionals in the United States and throughout the world. Every year, the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) and its allied members set aside a week to honor these valued public servants, and this year, they have chosen July 12–18 to mark Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week 2015. I am proud to stand in support of corrections professionals not only in the District of Columbia but around the world.

In the nation's capital, thousands of women and men serve as pretrial, probation and parole officers or administrators. As public servants, these constituents, along with many other Americans, commit themselves on a daily basis to helping improve the lives of those involved in the criminal justice system. Mr. Speaker, the work of these professionals ultimately results in stronger and safer communities for all.

Community corrections professionals are responsible for supervising adult and juvenile offenders in communities throughout our nation. In many cases, these trained professionals go above and beyond the call of duty by providing their clients supportive services or referrals to critical community-based resources, employment opportunities and housing programs. Additionally, community corrections professionals provide services, support, and protection for victims, while continuously promoting the importance of crime prevention and restorative justice.

In honor of Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week 2015, I recognize, in particular, the community corrections and supervision services carried out here in the District of Columbia by the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA) and the Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia (PSA). CSOSA and PSA stand out as model community supervision agencies due to both their professionalism and their novel, partnership-based approach to reentry and public safety in the District of Columbia.

On any given day, CSOSA is responsible for supervising approximately 12,000 individuals on probation, parole or supervised release, whereas PSA supervises roughly 20,000 defendants. Charged with having to balance issues of public safety with social services and reentry support, the employees of CSOSA and PSA help to enhance the security of everyone that lives, works or visits the District of Columbia.

I extend my gratitude to these public servants for their commitment, compassion and contributions to healthier and safer communities throughout the District of Columbia.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in acknowledging the impact community corrections professionals have on the quality of life of so many Americans, and recognizing July 12–18 as Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week 2015.

CONGRATULATING THE LAKE COUNTY VETERANS AND FAMILY SERVICES FOUNDATION ON THE OPENING OF THE NEW DRYHOOTCH DROP-IN CENTER AND OFFICES

**HON. ROBERT J. DOLD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lake County Veterans and Family Services Foundation (LCVFSF) of Grayslake, Illinois on the opening of their new Dryhootch Drop-in Center and Offices on July 16, 2015. The new center provides a welcoming atmosphere for active service members, veterans, and their families to come and enjoy a cup of coffee, meet others who have shared their military experience, or learn more about the many services available to them through LCVFSF from a veteran peer specialist.

The new facility was made possible through a joint partnership between LCVFSF and Dryhootch of America—a nonprofit organization formed by combat veterans to help veterans in their return home. Dryhootch was envisioned as a place where veterans could gather informally in a drug and alcohol free coffeehouse environment that is safe and comfortable. LCVFSF's goal is to make veterans' transition to civilian life easier and safer by providing support from those who have been there in the past. Their vision is to embed 100 percent free and confidential care for Lake County veterans, reservists, guardsmen, and their families—regardless of their discharge status—into the community through a network of veteran volunteers, veteran peer-to-peer specialists, and critical community resources.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the LCVFSF Board of Directors and staff on the opening of this new facility to help veterans and families in their time of need. I look forward to working with them in the future as they bring employment and peer support services to the veterans of Illinois' 10th District.

CONGRATULATING BLAIR OAKS HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE MEDAL AWARD

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Blair Oaks High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Blair Oaks High School for a job well done.

HONORING MARÍA DEHARO ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AS DIRECTOR OF MIGRANT EDUCATION FOR THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

**HON. RAUL RUIZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mrs. Deharo on her well-deserved retirement as Director of Migrant Education, after 35 years of educational service in various capacities in Coachella Valley, especially on behalf of migrant farmworkers families and children in Riverside County.

For more than thirty years, Mrs. Deharo dedicated both her career and her life to improving the lives of hundreds of migrant children and their families. In the face of adversity, and despite a chronic lack of resources, Mrs. Deharo has successfully helped students graduate from high school and attend college, enhancing not only their lives, but their community as a whole.

Mrs. Deharo's involvement with students goes beyond the classroom. She routinely participated in countless student and family events, from after-school tutoring and summer college institutes, to home visits. Mrs. Deharo vision to bring services to students in their communities became a reality when she fought and received funding for a bookmobile, which helps migrant children and families by strengthening their literacy skills through computer training, story time, arts and crafts and free books.

In her long and successful career, Mrs. Deharo, worked as a teacher for ten years at the Coachella Valley Unified School District, she was a School Facilitator for three years, Bilingual Coordinator for three years, and a Principal for 9 years. Mrs. Deharo also served as the Riverside County Office of Education Director of Migrant Education for 11 years. As proof of her achievement and leadership, county offices and district from across the great state of California have requested her assistance with their migrant education programs.

Mrs. Deharo understands firsthand the difficulties that these children face. Having someone like Mrs. Deharo by our side is a blessing and an inspiration to achieve the American Dream.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all the thousands of children and families that had the opportunity to work with Mrs. Deharo, and the residents of California's 36th Congressional District, I would like to offer my sincerest thanks and congratulate Mrs. Deharo for her passion and pride for educational excellence. I wish her well in her well-deserved retirement.

HONORING MAINE VETERAN SAMUEL ALDERETE FOR HEROIC SERVICE IN WWII

**HON. CHELLIE PINGREE**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate one of my constituents—94-year-

old Samuel Alderete of Topsham, Maine—on receiving the prestigious French Legion of Honour and to applaud the courageous actions for which it is being awarded.

As a young Army warrant officer in WWII, Mr. Alderete fought his way across France, Belgium, and Germany with the 980th Field Artillery Battalion. He fought in and survived the infamous Battle of the Bulge. The actions of Mr. Alderete and his brothers in arms, many of whom didn't make it home, directly contributed to the liberation of France. I sincerely thank the French Government for recognizing Mr. Alderete and other American veterans who fought to save the French people.

I am deeply grateful for Mr. Alderete's brave service—both in WWII and his later combat experience in Korea—and also admire him for exhibiting the kind of humility that characterizes the Maine veterans I've had the pleasure of meeting. When asked for any heroic actions or battles he participated in, Mr. Alderete simply replies, "Nothing heroic. Just soldiered in combat."

Despite Mr. Alderete's assertion, Mr. Speaker, I find his actions to be quite heroic. He fought with courage and honor at great personal danger, in terrible conditions, far from home. The 70 years that have passed since then have done nothing to diminish his distinguished service. I wholeheartedly congratulate him on receiving this well-deserved honor from the French people.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I was not present during roll call vote number 434 on July 13, 2015, due to a flight delay.

On roll call vote no. 434 I would have voted YES.

HONORING ALBUQUERQUE SOL

**HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend all those involved in assembling a remarkable and successful professional international soccer match that took place in Albuquerque, New Mexico on Saturday, June 27, 2015 between Lobos de la BUAP of Ascenso, Mexico and Albuquerque Sol Football Club (FC) of the Premier Development League.

The Sore No More Summer Clasico was organized by PinVaca & Associates, LLC, a local sports marketing firm committed to bringing quality sporting events to New Mexico. Under the leadership of New Mexico State Representative Antonio "Moe" Maestas, a local company which manufactures and distributes a natural pain relieving gel, "Sore No More," agreed to be the title sponsor.

Professional Club de Futbol Lobos de la Benemerita Universidad Autonoma de Puebla is based in Puebla, Mexico and is a professional team representing the Autonomous University of Puebla. The club conducted a youth

soccer clinic while in Albuquerque and brought several dignitaries from Puebla, including the University President.

Lobos de la BUAP felt right at home, as the club's mascot is also the mascot of the University of New Mexico—where the match was played.

Albuquerque Sol FC was founded in 2013 by Ron Patel, a native of Liverpool, England who played soccer with his local team, grew up playing soccer with his dad in the front yard and watching his national team compete for the European and World Cups. His passion for “the beautiful game” has contributed greatly to Albuquerque's growing soccer culture.

The fans in attendance were treated to an exciting match featuring world class play. Both teams demonstrated exceptional defense and attacking offense that ended in a 0–0 draw. This type of competition brings the community together and emphasizes to New Mexico's youth the importance of dedication, teamwork and camaraderie. We look forward to more international friendlies in the future. I thank the sponsors for reaching out to talented soccer clubs around the world and bringing them to New Mexico.

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REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF  
FRANK E. MILLER

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the life and achievements of Frank E. Miller, who passed from this life at the dawn of Spring, not long after the first ships began arriving after winter's break. Frank was instrumental in the development of Toledo, Ohio's seaport.

Frank Miller was born in Marion, Ohio in 1929 to Carl and Alverta Miller. He married his wife Vera in 1951 and together they raised

three children, Gary, Brian and Linda. Frank served in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers during the Korean War. After coming home, he moved to Toledo, Ohio to work as a crane operator.

In 1962 he became an equipment operator and overseas docks supervisor for the Toledo Lucas County Port Authority. With his 1976 appointment as Director of the Seaport Frank moved the port forward to become a major seaport both domestically and internationally. His claim to fame was as “the man behind the seaport's ‘Big Lucas’ gantry crane. He designed and operated the large cargo handling crane for many years and taught many others to do the same.” Frank was a pathbreaking, early leader for development of Toledo's Port, its cranes and storage capacity, now the busiest on the lower Great Lakes. He mounted the equipment and literally, made the Port hum with activity. He was an enthusiastic, persevering advocate for the Port and its global potential.

Frank was a leader in the Association of Great Lakes Ports and served as a director of the American Association of Port Authorities. He also was a self published author and good humored observer of everyday life.

After leaving his imprimatur on the Toledo Lucas County Port Authority, Frank started his own business, Toledo World Industries located in Toledo's East Side. He was also owner and publisher of Business Venture Magazine until his retirement in the 1990s.

A community leader, Frank Miller also found time to enjoy “golf, Ohio State University football, Detroit Red Wings hockey and spending time on the docks at the Port Authority.” Most important was his family and he was a supportive grandpa to his five grandchildren.

To Vera, their children, grandchildren and great-grandchild, we offer our prayers that they find comfort in their memories of a wonderful, devoted man who understood what it takes to create a close family and an enterprising community.

HONORING APHRODITE LOUTAS

**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2015*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of Aphrodite Loutas. After over 28 years of government service, Ms. Loutas will be retiring as Chief of Staff for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

A Chicago resident since 1972, Ms. Loutas began her outstanding career with Immigration and Naturalization Services in 1987 as a Supervisory Legalization Officer for the Legalization Program. She joined the District in 1990 as Immigration Examiner and became a supervisor in citizenship from 1991 through 1997. In 1997, she was asked to serve in headquarters for a year as Central Region Coordinator for the Headquarters Office of Naturalization Operations.

In 1999, Ms. Loutas was appointed to Special Assistant to the District Director in the Chicago district in and contributed to that capacity until 2005.

Ms. Loutas then served as the Assistant Director for Mission Support, where she worked diligently to secure America's promise as a nation of immigrants and ensure the integrity of our immigration system to constituents. She was named Chief of Staff of the Chicago's 14th District office in 2009. In 2011, she was honored with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Director's Heritage Award for her outstanding service and dedication.

I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Aphrodite Loutas for the work she has done for the 14th District, her community, and this great nation. I thank her for her invaluable service, and wish her well in all future endeavors.