

an inspiring young woman in my district. She suffers from a severe form of epilepsy. Without CBD oil, she suffers upwards of 200 seizures each and every day.

For Sophie and children suffering like her, I helped introduce a bill to stop the government from standing in the way of this lifesaving relief. In honor of Epilepsy Awareness Month, I call on my colleagues to join me so that we can pass the Charlotte's Web Medical Hemp Act of 2015 and ensure no other family has to endure the loss of a child as they wait for the approval of this natural, lifesaving option.

#### SYRIAN REFUGEE CRISIS

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, since the passage of the American SAFE Act, the constituents that I serve have reached out to me through phone calls, email, and social media to voice their concerns.

I want to be clear that I did not view the SAFE Act as a vote against Syrian or Iraqi refugees or the greater refugee community. But it is my duty in serving my constituents in Congress to share some of the views that they called me about.

One resident who previously taught Syrian refugees said, "Support of this bill and the accompanying shameful public comments about refugees make us less safe and respond from fear, not strength."

Messages in support of refugees continue to pour in, stating loud and clear that America cannot turn its back on refugees. I want to thank the constituents that I serve for their continued feedback.

Tomorrow, I will be addressing the House once more about this subject at length. I don't want to remain silent about this issue because the district that I serve has made it very clear that they care very deeply about it.

#### IMPORTANCE OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as co-chairman of the bipartisan Career and Technical Education Caucus, I rise today to emphasize the importance of quality CTE programs, which allow students to succeed in areas that keep our Nation competitive in the global economy.

Last week, I visited a lab at Penn State University, where three-dimensional printers were used to create parts for a wide variety of industries, including those which support our national defense. These students are also among those leading the way in creating metal parts which once could only be fabricated at powdered metal plants.

I was also proud to see very similar programs being offered at the high school level. I spoke to the superintendent of the St. Marys School District in Elk County and was pleased to learn that students at St. Marys High School are graduating with many of the skills needed to succeed in these growing vocational and technical fields.

I am hopeful that with the next reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act we can enhance the partnerships that bridge the gap between our high schools, technical schools, colleges, universities, and employers.

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#### HONORING VILLAGE OF PINECREST POLICE OFFICER VERNA GAY

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Officer Verna Gay, who was recently named Officer of the Third Quarter of 2015 of my hometown Village of Pinecrest Police Department.

During one particular incident earlier this year, Verna showed brilliant situational awareness in helping to investigate the burglary of a local business. Responding to the scene as a backup, Verna's proactive efforts led to the capture and arrest of two subjects who were involved in the crime.

I commend Officer Gay for her impressive actions in support of the safety of the people of my hometown, the Village of Pinecrest. Verna's continued dedication and service help make sure our hometown remains a safe place in which to live, raise a family, and conduct business.

Congratulations once again to Officer Verna Gay on this well-deserved honor.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF DONALD R. BOYER

(Mr. YODER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service and sacrifice of one of my constituents and my friend, Donald R. Boyer, who passed away on November 21, 2015.

Don was a World War II veteran, fought bravely in the Battle of the Bulge, was captured by German forces, and spent many months as a prisoner of war, for which he was awarded the Purple Heart.

After World War II, Don worked for the Chrysler Corporation as a zone real estate manager for 27 years. Throughout his career, Don found several ways to continue to serve our Nation and fellow veterans.

He was commander of Post 370 and Second District commander of the

American Legion, trustee of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 846, and was serving as local chapter commander of the American Ex-Prisoners of War when he unfortunately passed away.

Don also served on my Veterans Advisory Committee for more than 5 years, providing great insight to issues involving our Armed Forces, veterans, and their families.

Mr. Speaker, without Don's service and sacrifice, along with all the men and women of the Greatest Generation, our Nation would not be as resilient and flourishing as it is today, and we remain ever thankful for their service.

#### EMBRACE MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, medical technology makes a huge difference for millions of Americans by giving them access to life-improving and lifesaving technologies, devices, and treatments. With new developments, we should be encouraging the use of these innovations to achieve better outcomes and lower long-term health costs.

However, the agency that oversees Medicare has continuously made decisions that threaten the use of this technology. As Yogi Berra once said, "It's *deja vu* all over again."

First, the agency proposed rules that would limit access to critical speech-generating devices. Then, it was patients that use lower limb prosthetics that could see reduced access.

Recently, we have seen proposed rules now that would limit access to pneumatic compression pumps for those managing a condition called lymphedema and those using individually configured Complex Rehab.

Mr. Speaker, Congress has been forced to take action in some of these instances, like when we passed the Steve Gleason Act earlier this year. But the series of proposed rules are now alarming, in that they will raise long-term health costs and result in worse outcomes.

We need to look at a new path forward when it comes to embracing and protecting access to medical technology.

#### CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois?