

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RESTORING AMERICANS' HEALTHCARE FREEDOM RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2015—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my profound disappointment in President Obama's recent decision to veto H.R. 3762, the Restoring Americans' Healthcare Freedom Reconciliation Act of 2015. It is important to be clear and stand with my constituents in voting to override the President's veto of legislation that is a story of broken promises by President Obama and the Democrats who voted in favor of this legislation.

I want to spend a few minutes describing just a few of the promises made during consideration of Obamacare which have sadly failed to come to fruition. First, Mr. Speaker, President Obama repeatedly told the American people that "if you like your health care plan, you'll be able to keep it". Sadly, in reality, it couldn't be further from the truth. More than 4.7 million people received cancellation notices in the fall of 2013, right before Obamacare went into effect. Politifact, no friend to conservatives, even went as far as labeling the President's promise the "Lie of the Year."

Secondly, while Obamacare promised lower healthcare costs and lower premiums, this couldn't be further from the truth. First, on lower healthcare costs, according to CMS' own actuaries, overall spending on healthcare is expected to rise by \$621 billion over 10 years due to the law, at an average of 5.8% per year. That's more than double our projected GDP growth, and a higher rate than before Obamacare. The story on premiums is no better. While President Obama promised lower premiums, as John Adams stated, "facts are stubborn things". The facts are that the average premium for a family plan has increased by \$18,610 from 2009–2013, and the overall cost of premium increases have been over \$1.2 trillion.

Third, Mr. Speaker, Obamacare promised more choice, more competition, and lower costs. Well, unfortunately, that is just not the case in Oklahoma, like many other states across the country. In fact, fewer insurers offer fewer options at higher prices than when Obamacare was passed, over my objections. Obamacare is not the answer and the American people know that.

Instead, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to co-sponsor the American Health Care Reform Act of 2015 (AHCA), which I support as an alternative to a government-managed health care law. This legislation would provide a number of market-driven solutions to ensure everyone seeking coverage will be able to obtain it. First, it expands federal support for state high

risk pools. Unlike Obamacare, which created an already oversubscribed Federal high risk pool, AHCA returns those concerns to the states, provides the necessary funding to sustain them, and caps the premiums in those plans. Additionally, AHCA tax incentives to equalize the treatment of employer-sponsored coverage and those purchased in the private market. In addition to ensuring healthy competition across the market place, it also ensures that if one loses their job, they do not necessarily have to lose their health insurance. Third, AHCA would provide real competition among insurers, by allowing Americans to purchase health insurance products across state lines and by permitting small businesses to pool together to negotiate better rates. AHCA is the type of legislation needed to replace a bloated, government-run healthcare system which has left a trail of broken promises in its wake.

I am pleased to vote to override the President's veto of H.R. 3762. While I know this vote will not be successful, I am pleased that the President has finally had to confront the issues that the American people have with his signature piece of legislation, the so-called Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Unfortunately, Obamacare is none of these things. I urge all my colleagues to vote in favor of overriding the President's veto.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS: THE FLINT, MICHIGAN, WATER CRISIS

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2016

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I'd like to thank Congressman DAN KILDEE for his tireless work to bring justice for the residents of Flint. His work, and the work of Congressman JOHN CONYERS, Congresswoman BRENDA LAWRENCE, Congresswoman DEBBIE DINGELL, and so many Members of the Michigan Delegation, is essential to providing the families of Flint a voice as we address this crisis.

Madam Speaker, the situation in Flint is nothing short of a tragedy—and a tragedy that could have been prevented.

Every day, we learn more information about how Michigan public officials sacrificed the health and futures of Flint residents in order to save a few dollars in water costs.

This is a shame and a disgrace. The people of Flint deserve better from their leaders.

As Members of Congress, we cannot stand silent while Americans are poisoned.

First, to truly understand this crisis—you have to understand Flint.

Flint is a majority African American city and the average household income is just \$24,834 a year—that's barely HALF the average household income for the state. Let me say that again, the average household in Flint

earns JUST half of what other Michigan households earn.

Even before the water switched from Detroit to the Flint River, Flint had fallen on hard times.

It was a city in need and instead of taking action, Governor Rick Snyder balanced the budget at the expense of Flint children, their health and their safety.

Even after residents complained of brown water coming out of the taps, the state insisted nothing was wrong.

But not everyone got the same treatment.

Last January—a full year ago—state workers complained about the quality of water. While Flint residents were told the water was perfectly safe, the state employees were provided with bottled water.

Even before that, in October 2014, the Flint General Motors factory complained that the water was corroding car parts. The city helped General Motors tap into a different, safer water line.

While officials lined up to protect state employees and corporate profits, the residents of Flint were fed lies and lead.

Madam Speaker—I have to ask:

Would this have happened in another city, where the residents had the advantage of wealth?

Or do these gross breaches of public trust only happen in cities where politicians see the residents as expendable?

Sadly, I think we all know the answer to that question.

Tragically, this isn't the first time a poor town has been poisoned—and then ignored.

In far too many low-income communities and communities of color across the country, this story is very familiar.

They, like the families in Flint, have had their health, their well-being and their futures traded in by callous politicians more concerned with expanding corporate profits than serving the public good.

It's past time for Congress to take steps to address environmental racism and ensure that everyone—no matter their zipcode—has the opportunity to grow up safe and healthy.

President Obama took the first step by declaring a state of emergency and extending \$80 million in federal funding.

But more can and must be done to address this public health crisis and ensure that this never happens again—in any community, anywhere.

When I was in the California legislature, I worked to pass one of the first state bills regulating lead. This toxin was disproportionately impacting communities of color. I have seen firsthand the devastating impact of lead on children.

I support the work of my colleagues who are demanding state and local officials are held accountable for this man-made disaster, a disaster that never should have happened.

The tragedy in Flint reveals the real impacts of structural and institutional racism and classism on our community. I stand with the people of Flint in my outrage and will continue to demand answers.

• 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.

As we do so, we must come together to address the impacts of lead poisoning on Flint's residents, particularly Flint's children. Because, sadly, for them, this crisis is just beginning.

IN RECOGNITION OF PINE FORGE
ACADEMY

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pine Forge Academy for providing 70 years of exemplary education to Pennsylvania's 7th District.

Pine Forge Academy is a co-educational boarding school that serves grades 9 through 12. It is a part of the Seventh-Day Adventist education system, the world's second largest Christian school system.

Today, the school remains committed to providing African-American high school students with an exemplary education, a chance to develop their faith and to prepare for a life of service.

Mr. Speaker, Pine Forge Academy has been changing the lives of young men and women for the past 70 years. I congratulate the school and look forward to seeing the excellent work it will continue to do in the years to come.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF LEBANON VALLEY
COLLEGE

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the 150th Anniversary of Lebanon Valley College. Lebanon Valley College was founded on February 23, 1866. For 150 years it has delivered quality liberal arts educational instruction to its students.

During this time, the school has grown to become a vital and vibrant part of the culture and community of Lebanon County and of Annville Township.

Lebanon Valley College currently offers thirty-six undergraduate majors to its student body of approximately sixteen hundred undergraduate students. At various times, the U.S. News & World Report, the Princeton Review and Forbes have all placed the school on their respective lists recognizing America's best colleges.

Mr. Speaker, I warmly extend my congratulations to the students, faculty, employees, administrators and alumni of Lebanon Valley College on the happy occasion of their Sesquicentennial. I extend my congratulations to Lebanon Valley College for its outstanding record of successfully providing so many young men and women with a strong liberal arts education, and wish continued growth and success for the College and all of its students.

NATIONAL TRAUMA INSTITUTE
RECOGNITION

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, traumatic injury in America affects everyone, claiming over 190,000 lives and costing hundreds of billions of dollars in healthcare annually. It is the number one cause of death for Americans between 1 and 46 years old. As a result, in 2006, the National Trauma Institute was founded in San Antonio, Texas, to stop unnecessary suffering from trauma through prevention, education and research. Ten years later, the National Trauma Institute celebrates a decade of trauma research advocacy and funding.

The National Trauma Institute has enjoyed much success throughout its first decade in existence advocating for federal appropriations for trauma-related research so that patients can receive care faster and more efficiently. To date, the organization has been responsible for securing \$55 million in funding for trauma-related research, special projects and research infrastructure. That \$55 million has made an incredible impact on millions of Americans, allowing them to survive injuries that were once unthinkable and go on to lead healthy productive lives.

There is no question that the National Trauma Institute, founded in San Antonio, Texas, has contributed to trauma research that has saved and dramatically improved lives. The organization has become a pillar of the community and is now the leading voice of advocacy for the funding of clinical trauma research. I am proud to congratulate The National Trauma Institute for its incredible achievements for San Antonio and the rest of the nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I missed several votes last week while meeting with the Speaker of Parliament of the Republic of the Sudan. I wish to state how I would have voted had I been present:

Roll Call No. 55—No

Roll Call No. 56—No

COMMEMORATING THE 75TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF PEORIA CHARTER
COACH COMPANY

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor a remarkable business, Peoria Charter Coach Company, an icon of Central Illinois celebrating their 75th anniversary.

Peoria Charter Coach Company started in Lacon, Illinois under Walter Winkler who had nothing but the earnest desire to put his community first. After seeing his fellow citizens struggle to travel to work due to the World War II gas rations, he opened a bus service so that others around him could safely commute to work to earn their paychecks.

Seventy-five years later and now headquartered in Peoria, Illinois, four generations of Winklers have found many other ways to serve their community. From transporting war-time United States Defense Workers and Military Personnel to serve their country to helping schoolchildren to attend classes, from assisting college students returning home for the holidays to serving locals looking to catch a ball game in Chicago, the Winklers continue to pride themselves on assisting others. To date, the Peoria Charter Coach Company now carries an impressive half million passengers over four million miles annually.

I am thankful that America has been a country where hard-working families with a vision, such as the Winklers can grow their small business, employ others, and serve their fellow Americans. I extend my sincere congratulations to the Winkler Family and Peoria Charter Coach Company for their impressive accomplishments and thank them for their continued service to the 18th District. I wish them seventy-five more years of good fortune and safe travels.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF MRS. WAYEDEAN BEATRICE
MCGRAW

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Mrs. Wayedean Beatrice McGraw of Broward County, Florida, who sadly passed away on Friday, January 1, 2016 at age 73. Wayedean was born in Leeds, Alabama where she attended Moton High School. She later moved to Florida where she worked providing private home health care in various locations throughout Broward County. She worshipped at Bethel Baptist and Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church, now known as Greater Providence Baptist Church.

Wayedean is survived by her three loving children, Bruce, Annette and Ronald; seven wonderful grandchildren: Cornelius Sr., Valencia, Antwon Sr., Calvin Sr., Marquis, Brittany and Lauren; ten great grandchildren: Roy, Cornelius Jr., D'Naisah, Kristian, Antwon Jr., A'Niyah, Nakyla, Calonni, Calvin Jr., and Makai; one sister, Nancy of Oakland Park, Florida; and many loving nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Her mother, Arlene, and four siblings: Jean, Mary, Paul and Charles all preceded her in death.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly honored to celebrate the incredible life of Mrs. Wayedean Beatrice McGraw, and express my deepest condolences to her family. I know that her spirit, loving memory, and legacy will always live on.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LIBRADA
PAYAN

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 101st birthday of Mrs. Librada Payan of El Paso, Texas.

A beloved mother of 7 children, 30 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, and several more great-great grandchildren, Mrs. Payan is known for her cheerful outlook and devotion to her beloved family.

Mrs. Payan was born in 1915, and moved to the El Paso area in 1918. She was happily married to the love of her life for over 65 years. She never ceases to be amazed at the changes of the world around her, and greets each day with an enthusiasm that eludes even the most optimistic of people.

On behalf of the Twenty-Third Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Librada Payan on turning 101 years old, and may she celebrate many more.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DR. JAMES H. BILLINGTON

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the accomplishments of James H. Billington as founding chairman of the Open World Leadership Center in Washington, DC, in recognition of his retirement in September 2015.

James H. Billington served as the 13th Librarian of Congress from 1987 until his retirement in 2015.

“Jim”, a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is an accomplished author, scholar, educator, and administrator and has earned the respect and admiration of his students, colleagues, peers, and fellow Trustees.

Librarian Billington earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Princeton University in 1950 and a doctorate from Balliol College, Oxford, where he was a Rhodes Scholar.

After serving with the United States Army and in the Office of National Estimates, Mr. Billington taught history at Harvard University from 1957 to 1962 and subsequently at Princeton University where he was professor of history from 1964 to 1973.

James H. Billington became director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in September 1973, an institution created by the United States Congress in 1968 as a living memorial to the 28th President. He grew the Woodrow Wilson Center International Center for Scholars allowing American and invited foreign scholars to spend time reflecting on issues central to understanding a complex world.

He then helped create the Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies in 1974, believing that the relationship with the Soviet Union was America's most important international challenge.

As a scholar of Russian history and culture, Dr. Billington has accompanied 10 congress-

sional delegations to Russia and the former Soviet Union, and joined President Reagan at the summit meeting in June, 1988.

On September 14, 1987, Professor Billington was sworn in as the 13th Librarian of Congress where he oversaw the largest collection of books, maps, photographs, recordings, and motion pictures in the world.

Dr. Billington is the author of *Mikhailovsky and Russian Populism* (1956), *The Icon and the Axe* (1966), *Fire in the Minds of Men* (1980), *Russia Transformed: Breakthrough to Hope*, August 1991 (1992), *The Face of Russia* (1998)—a companion book to the three-part television series of the same name, which he wrote and narrated for the Public Broadcasting Service, and *Russia in Search of Itself* (2004), books translated and published in a variety of languages.

James H. Billington has received over 40 honorary doctorates—including from the University of Tbilisi in Georgia (1999), the Russian State University for the Humanities in Moscow (2001), and the University of Oxford (2002), has been awarded the Woodrow Wilson Award from Princeton University (1992), the UCLA Medal (1999), the Pushkin Medal of the International Association of the Teachers of Russian Language and Culture (2000), the Karamzin Prize (2005) from the Foreign Literature Library in Moscow, the Likhachev Prize (2006) from the Likhachev Foundation in St. Petersburg, the inaugural Lafayette Prize by the French-American Cultural Foundation, the EastWest Institute Outstanding Leadership Award, and the Presidential Citizens Medal by President Bush in 2008.

Dr. Billington is a member of the Russian Academy of Sciences. He was decorated as Commander of the Order of Arts and Letters and as Chevalier of the Legion of Honor by the President of France, as Commander of the National Order of the Southern Cross of Brazil, the Order of Merit of Italy, a Knight Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit by the Federal Republic of Germany, the Gwanghwa Medal by the Republic of Korea, the Chingiz Aitmatov Gold Medal by the Kyrgyz Republic and the Order of Friendship by the President of the Russian Federation; the highest state order that a foreign citizen may receive.

Dr. Billington will continue to study and write on important Russian-American issues, after retiring as the second-longest-serving Librarian of Congress, and as Founding Chairman of the Open World Leadership Center.

It is fitting that the United States Congress recognize his deeds throughout his 28 years of service as Librarian of Congress and the accomplishments and achievements of James H. Billington as founding Chairman of the Open World Leadership Center throughout his 16 years of service.

HONORING DR. JAMES BILLINGTON

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate and thank Dr. James Billington upon completion of his 42 years of distinguished public service, culminating in 28 years as the 13th Librarian of Congress. He

presided over a doubling of the Library's holdings and a major enhancement of the Library's role in American cultural life.

Dr. Billington, a Rhodes Scholar and a distinguished expert on Russia, began his career as a professor of history at Harvard University and Princeton University. He served as director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and helped found the Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies before coming to the Library of Congress in 1987.

Dr. Billington recognized that the Library must be a great public asset, an educational resource for all Americans, not just for academics and Members of Congress. He set about digitizing many of the Library's collections and arranging the purchase and display of dozens of important relics that had long been hidden from public view. He also created the National Book Festival, which has brought hundreds of thousands of book lovers to Washington to celebrate our literary history.

As a Member of Congress and a leader of the House Democracy Partnership (HDP), I have particularly appreciated Dr. Billington's application of his background as a scholar of Russia and his extensive international experience to the establishment of the Open World Leadership Center, a unique legislative branch initiative that has brought some 24,000 young leaders from post-Soviet states to the U.S. for intensive exposure to our people and community life. I have enjoyed hosting these delegations in North Carolina, parliamentary colleagues but also teachers, doctors, provincial leaders, and others from all walks of life.

The Library and the Congressional Research Service (CRS) have also been invaluable in HDP's outreach to parliaments in democratizing countries, helping build their staff, research, and IT capabilities. This work began with the Frost-Solomon Task Force in the early 1990s, when post-communist states faced the challenge of equipping and operating modern parliaments. It has continued over the past decade as HDP has helped establish research facilities and personnel, with the help of CRS, in countries ranging from Liberia to Afghanistan to Timor-Leste.

I congratulate Dr. Billington on his historic career, and I wish him and his family the very best for a well-deserved retirement.

HONORING TERRY'S HOUSE AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Terry's House, a hospitality home dedicated to providing affordable and convenient lodging for families of patients in critical care units at the Community Regional Medical Center. This year Terry's House is celebrating its five year anniversary of continuous service in Downtown Fresno, California. Since its inception in 2011, Terry's House has served over 3,600 families, from forty-two states and twenty-three countries around the world. Operating solely on donations, Terry's House has been made possible by the generosity of the community, and it is their hope that they may continue to assist families of those in critical care for many years to come.

This residential facility is named in honor of Terry Richards who suffered and survived a serious trauma at the age of five when he was injured in a car accident. For nearly five months, his mother, Marie Richards traveled nearly 80 miles a day to see her son while he was recovering in the hospital. Her story was the story of many people before Terry's House opened its doors. Many families had to seek accommodations miles from the hospital, and many who couldn't afford lodging slept in waiting rooms, in their cars, or had to try their best to find a spot in a busy hospital. Often, patients' loved ones had no alternative but to the leave the hospital and make the long drive home. Terry's House addresses this need, and has provided families with a home away from home, while their love ones receive care.

Terry's House is situated on 17,000 square feet and features two stories of living quarters located across the street from the Community Regional Medical Center, so families can visit their loved ones daily. The twenty hotel and suite style rooms at Terry's House have a capacity of up to four individuals and feature various amenities, including balcony seating areas, in-room refrigerators, access to adjoining rooms for increased capacity, and various common areas including a kitchen, dining area, laundry facility, and children's play room.

Terry's House was made possible by the tireless work of Terry Richards's brother, Tom Richards, a local community developer and CEO of the Penstar Group. With the dedication of Tom Richards, Leta Ciavaglia, Christa Short, the Terry's House Development Council, the Community Regional Medical Center Foundation and many generous members of the community, a family dream has become a reality.

The sustainability of Terry's House is entirely dependent on private gifts, contributions from generous individuals, and organizations. More than \$5 million was raised to initially build and furnish the home. In addition to generous gifts from Tom Richards and Bank of America, a large number of in-kind donations also continue to assist in sustaining the ongoing operations of the home. Terry's House has been fortunate enough to receive staffing support from the Community Medical Centers. To minimize costs, volunteers generously perform many of the daily operations of the home.

Mr. Speaker, for the last five years, Terry's House has had the privilege and responsibility of housing families as they face some of the most difficult days of their lives. Terry's House has been there for them, and will continue to be there thanks to the generosity and support of our community. Through their selfless service, Terry's House has made an immense difference in the lives of so many individuals, and it is important that we recognize them for all that they have done and will continue to do for years to come.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HELEN
FORBRICH

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 103rd birthday of Helen Virginia Forbrich, of San Antonio, Texas.

Helen was born in Adkins, Texas on February 25th, 1913. She was married to the love of her life for 45 years. She had 4 wonderful children, and 4 grandchildren. She has always enjoyed cooking and is known for her home-made biscuits. In 1921, at the age of 8, she began the life-long habit of drinking four ounces of red wine every night before bed, which her family attributes to her wonderful longevity.

On behalf of the Twenty-third Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Helen Virginia Forbrich on turning 103 years old, and may she celebrate many more.

RECOGNIZING HARRY BOWEN AS
VETERAN OF THE YEAR

HON. MARTHA MCSALLY

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Harry Bowen, a veteran from Sierra Vista who was recently selected as the Veteran of the Year by the Greater Sierra Vista Area United Veterans' Council. Mr. Bowen has continued the proud tradition of service to our country long after leaving the military.

Mr. Bowen served in the United States Army during Vietnam and retired as a Chief Warrant Officer 3. After his service in the Army, Mr. Bowen has actively served in the Military Officers Association of America in many capacities including as the Employer Support to the Guard and Reserve Outreach coordinator who works to educate companies on the benefits of hiring veterans as employees. He is also active in the Warrant Officers' Association, and the American Legion Post 52.

Recently, Mr. Bowen joined the Cochise Serving Veterans Committee—as a founding member—to aid in helping homeless and at-risk veterans in Cochise County. He has served on the board for the Cochise County Stand-down event for two years and his involvement is credited with making the Cochise County Stand-down the largest event of its kind in Southern Arizona.

The extent of Mr. Bowen's service and civic involvement is not limited to Veteran Service Organizations. He has also served the Kiwanis club in several capacities since 1993, and has led the American Cancer Society Relay for Life event in Sierra Vista for 9 years.

To quote his friend, "It is clear he does not perform his duties or take on these leadership roles for any kind of recognition, but for the love of service to his fellow veterans and countrymen." Harry Bowen is an excellent representative of the veterans of Southeastern Arizona who have continued to exemplify the time-honored values at the core of our military: duty, service, and an abiding commitment to a cause greater than any one individual. Congratulations to Mr. Bowen for being selected as Veteran of the Year, a well-deserved honor.

IN RECOGNITION OF BOB CHERECK

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of an outstanding Texan, Robert A. Chereck, as he recently concluded his distinguished work as the long-term Chairman of the Board for the Children's Health Systems of Texas (CHST) in Dallas. While serving as Chairman for the Children's Health Systems of Texas, Mr. Chereck also served as the Executive Chairman and President/CEO of Southwest Securities FSB and previously served as the Executive Vice President of Wells Fargo Bank.

The Children's Health Systems of Texas' original location is in Dallas and has now grown to include the several other specialty and pediatric care centers located throughout North Texas. The Children's Health Systems of Texas remains the seventh largest pediatric health care provider in the country—receiving more than 760,000 patients annually and performing more than 26,588 surgeries at its two full-service campuses in Dallas and Plano. The Dallas campus serves as the main campus as well as the only academic healthcare system in the Dallas-Fort Worth area dedicated solely to the comprehensive care of children from birth to age 18. Children's Health has also been recognized as (1) one of the most connected hospitals in the nation for its excellence in patient safety, patient engagement and clinical connectedness; (2) one of only six STS three-star designations for congenital heart surgery; (3) a Level IV Neonatal Intensive Care Unit—the highest qualification for such programs; and (4) a Level 1 Trauma Center for pediatric care.

I have seen the power of the Children's Health System of Texas as both a Member of Congress and as the father of a patient. Our region is blessed to have the resources and expertise of the CHST medical professionals and staff available to meet the needs of our children. So much of the CHST success story is due to the involved engagement of civic leaders like Bob Chereck. Together, those leaders have ensured the children of our region would never have to leave home to have the best possible medical care.

I have personally had the opportunity to work with Mr. Chereck over the years in Dallas on a number of issues important to our community, region and state. Besides serving as Chairman of the Board at CHST, Bob has served as Chairman of the Dallas Regional Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of the Dallas Citizens Council, a member of the Downtown Dallas Association Board, the Youth Services Council, and a number of initiatives at his beloved University of Texas. Over the years, my work with Bob via any number of these organizations has forged a strong bond and friendship with both Bob and his wife Donna.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in wishing Bob and Donna Chereck all the best in their future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE 200TH BIRTHDAY OF THE CITY OF JACKSON

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 200th birthday of Jackson, Alabama, which is located in Alabama's First Congressional District. Over the past 200 years, the City of Jackson has had a rich and storied history that is reflected in all of the hardworking residents of Jackson today.

Situated on a rise overlooking the east bank of the Tombigbee River is where you will find Jackson's historic downtown. In 1815, a stock company, the Pine Level Land Company, was formed by a group of investors who believed they could promote the site to attract settlers. Formerly known as "Pine Level," and "Republicville," it was finally decided that the little village would be named Jackson, in honor of General Andrew Jackson, hero of the War of 1812 as well as the Creek Indian War of 1813-14, who would later become our seventh president. Jackson was incorporated by an act of the Mississippi Territorial Legislature on November 27, 1816, which also created the town's first governing body.

Like many of our country's communities, Jackson has experienced both ups and downs throughout its history. In 1816, the prosperous Jackson had a population of 1,500, which was quite large for a rural frontier town. The town experienced growth and success through the Civil War, but then declined. By 1875, the town was home to only 15 families. With the arrival of the railroad in 1886 and the hard work and dedication of the people of Jackson, the town once again boomed. The railroad brought with it the timber industry, which was instrumental in reviving the tiny town. Throughout the early 20th century, Jackson experienced economic growth and expansion. The town experienced another setback during the Great Depression, but was sparked yet again by economic growth in the 1930s. This year is not only Jackson's 200th birthday; it is also a year that will bring even more success to Jackson with the opening of the new iSpice food manufacturing and distributing plant.

The Post Civil War Era and the Depression could have easily led to a different fate for Jackson, but the people of this quaint timber town refused to give up on their home. The hardworking men and women of Jackson are not only pillars of their community, but they also represent the true backbone of the United States. Their hard work and perseverance through troubling times serves as an example that should be followed by all Americans. Success is not given, it is earned, and Jackson has earned it throughout its 200-year existence.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate Jackson on its bicentennial.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF KIRBY HIGHT

HON. BRUCE POLIQUIN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. POLIQUIN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join loving family members, dear friends and

the entire Skowhegan community in recognizing the 100th birthday of Kirby Hight. I am honored to extend birthday greetings on this truly special occasion.

I congratulate Mr. Hight on this major milestone but also express profound gratitude for his valiant service to our Nation as a proud member of the United States Navy.

We are forever grateful and humbled by his heroism and selflessness during World War II as a Captain of one of our naval destroyers.

Upon returning to Maine after the war, he continued to give back to his community. He developed a successful family business, gave his time to the local Rotary Club and served as a member on the board of the Skowhegan Fair Association and Redington Fairview Hospital, not to mention the numerous local causes his late wife, Grace, and he supported.

The fantastic turnout expected for his birthday celebration will be but a small testament to the magnificent impact his hard work and unwavering generosity has had on his family, community and country.

Happy 100th Birthday to Mr. Hight—I wish him many more years of continued good health and happiness. May we all be so lucky to live such a long and meaningful life. God Bless America and God Bless you, Mr. Hight.

TRIBUTE TO MURIEL LOIS CORRIN DAVIS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 90th birthday of a very incredible constituent, Muriel Lois Corrin Davis. Muriel was born on February 9, 1926 in Sea Bright, New Jersey. At the age of 1, her family moved to East Orange, New Jersey. She graduated from East Orange High School in 1944 and left for Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia in 1945. She received her B.A. in English and Spanish in 1950. An avid moviegoer, her dream was to see the world she had only seen onscreen.

After graduation in August 1950, Muriel was the first African American woman to be hired by Doubleday Publishers. Her position was Assistant Secretary in the Executive Office of Doubleday. Her courtship with Morehouse College graduate (Class of 1947) Griffith "Griff" Davis began while he lived in the Harlem home of Langston Hughes. Mr. Hughes used them as the prototype for his Simple book series.

Liberia President William V. S. Tubman commissioned Griff to do the first photography exhibit on Liberia at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City and the filming of Liberia's first promotional film entitled "Pepperbird Land." In March 1952, Muriel flew to Liberia to marry Griff. Their "Global Honeymoon" on three continents was written and photographed by Griff and appeared in the September 1952 issue of Ebony magazine.

Upon returning from their honeymoon, Griff took the Foreign Service exam in Washington, DC. In November 1952, they returned to Liberia as African-American pioneers in President Harry Truman's Point Four Program for foreign aid.

As the spouse of a U.S. Foreign Service Officer during the family's tours of duty in Liberia

from 1952 to 1957, Muriel was unofficially responsible for developing, cultivating and maintaining diplomatic relationships with President Tubman, key business and government officials of Liberia, citizens and high level visitors to the country: like the future Prime Minister of Ghana Kwame Nkrumah in January 1953.

Muriel was the first Bank Teller for the first indigenous bank in Liberia (Bank of Liberia) founded by her former Morehouse classmate A. Romeo Horton. She taught Early European History and Political Science at Monrovia High School. She gave birth to her two children in Monrovia: Dorothy Davis and Ben Davis.

In 1957, the family was posted to newly independent Tunisia. Muriel repeated the same unofficial diplomatic duties she had in Liberia but faced an even more multicultural and potentially hostile environment. Although women could not attend government activities, Muriel was able to meet Tunisia's first President Habib Bourguiba.

Muriel returned to New Jersey in 1959 to enroll her two children in private school. When she met the principal of The Carteret School of West Orange, he rescinded the school's initial offer for admission to her daughter, Dorothy, because she was African American. On behalf of her daughter, Muriel filed a complaint with the State of New Jersey Division Against Discrimination of the Department of Education in 1959. She won the next year. This decision enabled African Americans to attend New Jersey's private schools. In June 1967, Muriel taught pre-schoolers at East Orange Co-op Day Care Center until 1980. She became an Investigator for the Essex County Probation Department's Bail Program in Newark until she retired in 1994.

Since her retirement in February 1994, Muriel has traveled across the United States and to France, Ghana, Switzerland, Barbados and the U.S. Virgin Islands and remains friends with people from around the world. She has volunteered for several institutions including the United Black Episcopalians, the Church of the Epiphany, the United Nations International School (UNIS), and the Women's Africa Committee of the African-American Institute.

Ms. Davis is the proud grandmother of Joelle Joseph, Anne-Laure Davis and Daniel Davis. She has lived a life that makes me honored to acknowledge her 90th birthday and wish her another year of happiness.

INAUGURATION OF THE FORT MCDOWELL YAVAPAI NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL

HON. DAVID SCHWEIKERT

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my warmest congratulations to the newly elected members of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Tribal Council. Bernadine Burnett was elected to the Council as President, Pamela Mott has been reelected as Treasurer, and Gerald Doka has been reelected as Council Member. I wish them all the best as they govern the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation.

COMMENDING THE SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS WHO PROVIDED HEROIC SERVICE DURING WINTER STORM JONAS

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the selfless assistance provided by many of the volunteer fire department and public assistance agencies from southern and central Pennsylvania during the recent Winter Storm Jonas.

While many of us sought shelter during the recent winter storm that struck the East Coast, some of us were not so fortunate, as was made evident by the miles and miles of cars that were stranded on the Pennsylvania Turnpike. Many of these travelers had gotten trapped on the turnpike as a number of crashes stopped traffic while a huge amount of snow fell. Fortunately for the beleaguered travelers, a number of local volunteer fire departments from the surrounding communities braved the weather to assist those in need.

For the drivers stranded overnight, these volunteer emergency responders were the only ones who could reach the area to help. As snow continued to fall, these volunteers worked together to ensure the well-being of those stranded by traveling car to car and offering supplies to many. To aid the cause, many local stores and restaurants contributed food and water to be distributed. It was truly a community effort.

On behalf of the 9th Congressional District of Pennsylvania and all of those who were assisted by the area's volunteers, I would like to thank these public servants for their selflessness. It is my honor to highlight this tremendous effort and its illustration of the neighborly commitment my constituents embody.

To the volunteer organizations and governmental agencies listed below, we thank you for your generous dedication to serving the public:

New Baltimore Vol. Fire Co.
Shawnee Valley Vol. Fire Co.
Shawnee Valley EMS
Bedford Fire Co.
Everett Fire Co.
Breezewood Fire Co.
Southern Cove Fire Co.
Alum Bank Fire Co.
Chestnut Ridge EMS
Blue Knob Fire Co.
Claysburg Fire Co.
Martinsburg Fire Co.
Imler Fire Co.
Bedford American Legion
Pa. National Guard
SCMRTF Incident Management Team
DCNR
PEMA
Pa. State Police
Pa. Turnpike
Somerset Co. EMA & 9-1-1
Bedford County EMA & 9-1-1
American Red Cross
Salvation Army.

RECOGNIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FLOTILLA 77 OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY DIVISION 7

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the chartering of Flotilla 77 of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 7. Flotilla 77 was officially recognized in a chartering ceremony on January 23, 2016, in Polk County, Florida.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is the volunteer corps that assists the U.S. Coast Guard in promoting boating safety. Formed originally as the Coast Guard volunteer Reserve on June 23, 1939, the volunteer Reserve was renamed the Auxiliary two years later. During World War II, the Auxiliary rapidly expanded as Auxiliarists provided oversight assistance in many of the Coast Guard surface and air operations, which freed up active duty Coast Guardsmen for wartime missions. Today the Auxiliarists support and augment the non-military and non-law enforcement operations including communication watchstanding, public education programs, marine safety, and assisting with search and rescue missions.

The selflessness by which they voluntarily serve and put their lives on the line for our safety and security is inspiring. We honor these brave men and women whose dedication to our great nation have and continue to ensure the safety and security of our ports, waterways and coastal regions.

It is my distinct pleasure, as a representative of the people of Central Florida, to recognize and honor the establishment of Flotilla 77 of the United States Coast Guard. I thank them and their loved ones for their dedication and service to our community and country.

CONGRATULATING DAVID JOHNSON AND JAMES FERENTZ ON REMARKABLE NFL SEASONS

HON. DAVID LOESACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. LOESACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate two of my constituents, Arizona Cardinals running back David Johnson and Denver Broncos center James Ferentz, on a remarkable 2015-2016 NFL season. David and James each helped lead their teams to the AFC and NFC conference championship games, and James now has the distinct honor of being called a Super Bowl champion.

Having grown up in Clinton and Iowa City, David and James both know the meaning of hard work. This hard work ethic propelled them from the gridirons of the University of Northern Iowa and University of Iowa to the top of their profession.

Currently in their rookie and sophomore NFL seasons, each has achieved so much in just a few short years. Their successes can be attributed to the family, friends, teachers, and coaches that continue to challenge the future David Johnsons and James Ferentzes of Iowa.

I am honored to represent these men in Congress and look forward to seeing them achieve much more in their careers. The state of Iowa looks forward to watching these young men play on Sundays for years to come.

Congratulations on a great season, David and congratulations on becoming Iowa's Super Bowl champion, James.

HONORING THE LIFE, ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF MAURICE WHITE

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Memphis singer, drummer, songwriter, producer and founder of the world-renowned band Earth, Wind & Fire, Maurice White. Maurice White was born in Memphis, Tennessee on December 19, 1941, and attended Booker T. Washington High School where he was in the drum corps. After graduating, he and his family moved to Chicago, Illinois and Maurice White enrolled at the Chicago Conservatory of Music. Having developed a love for drums while singing in his church choir in Memphis and watching marching bands, Maurice found work as a drummer in nightclubs and in 1963, he became a session drummer for Chess Records.

While at Chess Records, Maurice recorded with music legends Etta James, Fontella Bass, Muddy Waters, The Impressions, Betty Everett and many more. In 1966, he joined the Ramsey Lewis Trio during a time when the group was one of only a few jazz groups to rise to the upper levels of the pop charts. Maurice White left the group to form the Salty Peppers in 1969 alongside his two friends, Wade Flemons and Don Whitehead. After little success, he moved to Los Angeles, California, recruited new band members including his brother Verdine White and, drawing inspiration from the astrological chart, changed the group's name to Earth, Wind & Fire.

Earth, Wind & Fire signed with Warner Bros. in 1971 but did not gain renowned fame until Maurice, again, brought on new band members, with the exception of Verdine, and signed the band with Columbia. It was then that Earth, Wind & Fire infused its sound with jazz, funk, soul and pop, and recorded the album Head to the Sky in 1973, which sold over 500,000 copies and included hit songs Evil and Keep Your Head to the Sky. In 1974, Earth, Wind & Fire released the album Open Our Eyes and reached the pop Top 40 for the first time with the song Mighty Mighty. Their next album released just a year later, That's the Way of the World, included the group's first and only No. 1 pop hit, Shining Star. Earth, Wind & Fire also recorded hit songs Reasons (1975), That's the Way of the World (1975), Fantasy (1977), September (1978), Boogie Wonderland (1979), and Let's Groove (1981), including many more hits and popular songs. Maurice White helped produce seven double platinum albums, two platinum albums, two gold albums and two gold singles.

In addition to writing or co-writing many of the songs for Earth, Wind & Fire, Maurice White produced music for the Emotions, Ramsey Lewis and Deniece Williams, and in

1985, he released a solo, eponymous album and earned a hit with his cover of Ben E. King's Stand by Me.

In all, Earth, Wind & Fire had 16 Top 40 singles and sold an estimated 90 million albums worldwide. The group has won six Grammy Awards from seventeen nominations, four American Music Awards from twelve nominations, the BET Lifetime Achievement Award, the NAACP Hall of Fame Award, Soul Train's Legend Award, and has been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the Vocal Group Hall of Fame as well as earned a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. In 2010, Maurice White was inducted into the Songwriter's Hall of Fame along with band members Verdine White, Philip Bailey, Al McKay and Larry Dunn. Earth, Wind & Fire has earned a list of other awards and recognitions and will receive the 2016 Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award.

Maurice White's music was written and produced to inspire and bring all people together. Maurice once said, "Being joyful and positive was the whole objective of our group. Our goal was to reach all the people and to keep a universal atmosphere—to create positive energy. All of our songs had that positive energy. To create uplifting music was the objective." Maurice's goal was easily recognized by all who heard and loved his work. President Barack Obama stated, "Only Maurice could make such sophisticated songs so catchy. Only he could inspire generations of such diverse artists. And only he could get everyone—old and young, black and white—to let the groove move them on the dance floor."

Maurice's universal sound was remembered by Flea, bassist for Red Hot Chili Peppers, who said, "In my junior high school, the white kids loved Zeppelin, the black kids loved funk [Parliament Funkadelic], the freaky kids loved Bowie, but everyone loved Earth, Wind & Fire. They were just undeniable. Old people loved 'em, kids loved 'em, every race and economic class loved 'em. They just crossed every line with the power of incredible music and amazing performances." Tributes from artists from all genres include mentions of Maurice as a genius, a king, a masterful artist, a leader and a teacher.

Maurice White passed away on February 3, 2016 in Los Angeles at 74 years of age. He was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 1992. The music community has lost one of the greatest musical minds of our time. Maurice White's influence cannot be denied and his contributions are lasting. Maurice White was a true "shining star" and his legacy will shine on for generations to come.

HONORING LORI FLORES

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Lori Flores, a South Texas native and a leading researcher in the fields of Latino and labor history.

Lori attended Yale University, and she was the first woman in her family to earn a college degree. At Yale, she realized her passion to study Mexican American history, ultimately leading her to earn a PhD from Stanford Uni-

versity. Lori's dissertation explored the political development of Mexican Americans and immigrants in California's Salinas Valley during the mid-1900s. Her research on the Latino civil rights movement culminated in the publication of a book which will be released this year.

Lori now teaches at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, where she nurtures the thinkers and dreamers of tomorrow. Dr. Flores has received numerous awards, and she continues to be a role model for young people in her community.

RECOGNIZING DOMINION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR THEIR DISTRACTED DRIVING CAMPAIGN

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize three students from Dominion High School who recently led a Distracted Driving Campaign at Dominion High School in Sterling, Virginia. Kirsten Chun, Bryce Griffin, and Joseph Pavich took on this campaign as part of their Creative Marketing Project, which focused on Distracted Driving and Joshua's Hands. Joshua's Hands is a non-profit organization based in the 10th District whose mission focuses on community service and teen safe driving, founded in memory of Joshua Guthrie who died in a car accident. Their mission is to keep roads safe and to educate teens about the consequences of distracted driving. To create a visualization to meet this awareness goal, these students removed 15 students from classes throughout the day and instructed them to dress in black and not interact with their classmates. This exercise served to represent the 15 people that are killed each day due to distracted driving. Ms. Chun, Mr. Griffin, and Mr. Pavich utilized the school announcement system to convey their message, in addition to selling t-shirts which said "Take Action STOP the Distraction." Students at Dominion also took a distracted driving survey in order to gain a better understanding of their peers' views of distracted driving. These students partnered with Chantilly Autobody in addition to Joshua's Hands for their project.

Driving while distracted seems to plague many of our drivers today, and young people are particularly susceptible to this. I am honored to recognize these students today for their mission to educate their peers about the grave consequences of texting while driving. It is my sincere hope that their project will facilitate more awareness in the future about the growing problem of distracted driving so that our community will remain safe.

DR. AJANWACHUKU TO RECEIVE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Vincent Ajanwachuku, who will be honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Dreamers, Visionaries, and Leaders

Project on February 6, 2016. Currently, Dr. Ajanwachuku serves as the chief of surgery at St. Mary Hospital in Apple Valley, California, a position he's held since 2004.

Dr. Ajanwachuku's journey is a remarkable one. Born and raised in Nigeria, he arrived in the United States in 1973 to pursue his undergraduate education at New York University. Eventually, he earned his medical degree from the Howard University School of Medicine and was selected to teach medical students in the discipline of surgery.

During his career in medicine, Dr. Ajanwachuku has received a number of accolades, including "Humanitarian of the Year" from St. Mary Hospital. He was given this award because of his dedication to improving the educational growth and practical experiences of nurses and medical technicians at his hospital. He has also been honored with a "Values in Action" award from St. Mary Hospital for being a servant leader.

It is long overdue that Dr. Ajanwachuku is receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award. He has persevered through significant obstacles during his life, yet he continues to give back to his community and improve the lives of those around him. I want to congratulate Dr. Ajanwachuku for this notable achievement and for being a role model to the youth in the Victor Valley.

RECOGNIZING THE BOCA POINTE CHAPTER OF AFMDA

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Boca Pointe Chapter of the American Friends of Magen David Adom on the occasion of their ambulance dedication.

Magen David Adom is Israel's emergency medical service, blood bank, and disaster-relief organization. The American Friends of Magen David Adom (AFMDA), a nonprofit organization, is the largest supporter of MDA worldwide. Today, the AFMDA Boca Pointe Chapter will dedicate a fully-equipped ambulance to the people and State of Israel. This is the fourth such ambulance they have donated, a generous gift that truly saves lives.

I express deep appreciation for the Boca Pointe Chapter's selfless humanitarian endeavors. Their unwavering support for the State of Israel not only sets an example for the future but for the South Florida Jewish community as a whole. I am proud to honor them and thank them for their work and service.

HONORING MICHAEL BURNETT, THE DON SHULA NFL HIGH SCHOOL COACH OF THE YEAR

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, Michael Burnett, who the NFL and Washington Redskins recently recognized as the Don Shula NFL High

School Coach of the Year. The award was created to honor exemplary high school football coaches who exhibit a commitment to the health and safety of their players as well as integrity in leadership. Michael is the head coach of Tuscarora High School's Varsity Football Team. Following a coaching career in California, he led Broad Run High School in Ashburn, Virginia to two consecutive state titles. He moved to Tuscarora High School to start their football program. Michael has taken the opportunity as a high school football coach to build character in his players and ensure their growth as both players and leaders. It is fitting that he earned this high honor from the NFL because of his commitment to personal growth in youth and their overall health and safety.

In addition to his recognition by the NFL, Michael will receive \$25,000 from the NFL Foundation which he plans to donate to the Adam Fortune Scholarship Fund, which was created in honor of his close friend and former defensive coordinator at Broad Run and Tuscarora, who died in 2014. The fund is designed for players who exemplify strong character on and off the field. In addition to coaching, Michael teaches Advanced Placement (AP) Economics and serves as Department Chair of Social Studies at Tuscarora High School. I am honored to recognize him today for helping shape young athletes in our community to lead lives of integrity.

CONGRATULATING LAURA KRAUS
ON HER VOLUNTEER WORK WITH
THE LEARN TO READ PROGRAM

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Laura Kraus for her outstanding service to her country through her volunteer work with the Learn to Read program.

Since 1975, Laura's volunteer work has exemplified her love for people and her tireless efforts to give back to the community. Her commitment was no secret: the neighborhood held banquets in her honor, television stations recognized her, and even the nation's leaders honored her service. President Barack Obama signed a letter of recognition and Neal Bush presented the Presidential Bronze Medal of Volunteering Service.

Still, she found the most satisfaction seeing the impact from the people she helped themselves. Her work has always extended to those in the greatest need regardless of physical or psychological obstacles. Volunteering with the Arthritis Foundation, Laura spent time with physically disabled members of the community through Horses for Therapy. In addition, victims of domestic abuse in a Hubbard House, a 24-hour hotline and emergency shelter, were touched by her support as well.

Laura began her training with the Learn to Read program as an intern, eager to assist adults and already willing to persist with compassion and patience through the challenges that were to come. Only a year and a half into the work with her first student, the impact that Laura had on her student was not only evident but incredibly touching, particularly for Laura herself.

Anthony was only 23 years old when he became Laura's first student in the Learn to Read program, struggling to read because of a learning disability. Yet Anthony was dedicated to his goal to create a better future and he never failed to be prompt and respectful every session. After a year and three months of the hour and a half routine, he articulated a simple and profound truth representative of the impact Laura's work has had for many: "Miss Laura, you have changed my life."

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of Congress to join me in recognizing Laura Kraus for her tireless dedication to serving each person with the care and opportunities that they deserve as a citizen of this great nation.

HONORING THE NAPA COUNTY
LIBRARY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Napa County Library (NCL), which is celebrating its 100th anniversary as a county library system.

In 1916, the California State Legislature authorized the creation of free county libraries around the state. As a result, in February of that year, the unincorporated areas of Napa County gained library services when the Napa County Board of Supervisors established the Napa County Free Library.

The NCL offers reading programs for all ages, outreach services, literacy initiatives, job-search and small business resources, information services, computer training, Internet access, and other means of community support and enrichment. More generally, the library enables individuals to make informed decisions about their self-governance by promoting unrestricted access to information and by serving as a community center for lifelong learning. In the last fiscal year, over 18,000 people received technology-related help, while 567,192 individuals visited the NCL. And over 4,000 adults, children and teens participated in the NCL's summer reading program.

The library's importance extends beyond its bookshelves. Basic literacy and computer-proficiency programs have broad and positive effects on local economies, bolstering the capabilities of local workers and businesses. Furthermore, the NCL's myriad child- and employment-focused initiatives help children and adults find, evaluate and use information they need for their jobs, health, education and success.

Mr. Speaker, the NCL is a dynamic civic resource that promotes free and open access to information, while providing valuable materials and services to all members of the community. The Napa County Library continues to benefit its community immensely, and it is fitting and proper that we honor it here today.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. DINO
ANTONIO PETRUCCI

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Mr. Dino Antonio Petrucci of Madera, California who recently passed away on January 4, 2016, at the age of 85. Mr. Petrucci was a remarkable farmer, teacher, and business owner of Petrucci's catering. His commitment to family and to his community will forever live in lives of the people he touched.

Dino Antonio Petrucci was born to Italian immigrant parents, Vincenzo and Ilide Petrucci, on January 17, 1930. His parents were members of the large Italian community who helped settle and pioneer Madera, California with its rich agricultural history. A life-long resident, he attended Madera schools and enrolled at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, where he received his bachelor's degree in crop production. In 1951, he married the love of his life, Peggy Hayes, and they would have celebrated 65 years of marriage this March.

As an Agriculture Education instructor, he found joy in teaching and in expanding students' minds by showing them what they were capable of. All in all, Dino spent 40 plus years of his life devoted to Vocational Agriculture and Education. Although he was a fulltime teacher, Dino would spend evenings, and weekends helping his brother Enzo on the family grape farm.

Dino was also passionate about cooking and in 1974, he initiated his catering business, Petrucci's Catering. He expanded and bought the Howard School building and used it to host events. Saturday's were his favorite, because he loved being at the old school house serving barbecue tri tip, chicken and side dishes. His favorite place to be was at the end of the buffet line greeting everyone, and making sure their plates were full. Dino's love for food was so strong he developed his own barbecue sauce, "Petrucci's Secret Sauce" and a dry meat rub that are sold locally.

Civil service and giving back to his community were two other areas of interest to Dino. He was active in The Young Farmers, Lions Club and Italo-American Club of Madera. He served on the boards of the Madera County Farm Bureau, Madera County Food Bank, and Madera Unified School District Board of Education. In 1999, he was honored as the Madera County Senior Farmer of the Year by the Madera Chamber of Commerce.

Without question, Dino's integrity, honor, and long-lasting involvement in the Central Valley made him a reputable man; he was well known, well-liked, and shown enormous appreciation by anyone who had the pleasure of calling him a friend. Dino lived his life to the fullest surrounded by family and friends. He leaves behind his loving family, including his wife, Peggy, his two children, and grandchildren. It is my honor to join his family in celebrating the life of this amazing man, who will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Mr. Dino Antonio Petrucci. We are all better for having known Dino Petrucci, a remarkable Californian, and Central Valley Native.

RECOGNIZING PATRICIA VAIL FOR RECEIVING THE FLORIDA BAR PRESIDENT'S PRO BONO SERVICE AWARD FOR THE 4TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Patricia Vail for receiving The Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award for the 4th Judicial Circuit.

In her legal career, she has served in several capacities, from statewide coordinator for Florida Legal Services to corporate counsel for CSX Transportation. In addition, Patricia has also served on the board of Jacksonville Area Legal Aid. Upon retirement from CSX Transportation, Patricia served in The American Bar Association's Collaborative Europe and Eurasia Law Initiative program as a volunteer lawyer in Kazakhstan. Patricia's commitment to pro bono work for low-income people and her positive impact have been quite remarkable.

Since 2008, Patricia has been a regular presence in Northeast Florida senior citizen centers and HUD residential facilities, where she has become a trusted pro bono legal resource. Patricia meets with individuals and groups as legal questions arise, and she helps prepare simple wills, durable powers of attorney, designation of health care surrogate, and designation of pre-need guardian. For nearly three years, Patricia provided these services single-handedly. When it became clear that the need far exceeded one attorney's ability in 2011, Patricia initiated a program to serve more area seniors with comprehensive and scheduled legal services called Advance Directives for Seniors Project. The Project provides 60–80 seniors annually with complete advance directive packets and has expanded to include senior patients at medical clinics and seniors at the Councils on Aging in Clay and Nassau counties.

In recognition of all her countless hours spent helping needy Jacksonville area residents through pro bono legal work, Patricia Vail was selected to receive The Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award for the 4th Judicial Circuit.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of Congress to join me in congratulating Patricia Vail on winning the Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

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 \$18,996,371,521,571.14. We've added \$8,369,494,472,658.06 to our debt in 7 years. This is over \$8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREATER PEORIA CHILDREN'S HOME FOUNDATION

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor a remarkable organization in the Peoria area. The Children's Home of Greater Peoria is celebrating 150 years of improving the lives of children and families.

Children's Home (previously Christian Home Mission, Women's Christian Association, and Home for the Friendless) opened in 1866 and is divulged in the principles of lending a helping hand to those in need, specifically women and children. Christian Home Mission was founded by women looking to alleviate suffering among the poor and provide shelter for homeless women and children. The foundation quickly expanded and became too small for the services they wanted to provide.

Children's Home continued to grow and began focusing on children with behavioral and emotional disorders who were abused. By 2009, the foundation furthered their mission in helping children by offering programs focused in special education, community-based opportunities, and live-in care and treatment.

Currently, Children's Home houses six locations and are staffing over 400 professionals to provide services for over 1,700 children and families each month. With each resource, Children's Home tirelessly dedicates itself to achieve its mission: Giving children a childhood and future by protecting them, teaching them and healing them, and by building strong communities and loving families. Because of their efforts, many disadvantaged children have brighter futures.

As a proud husband and loving father of three, I applaud the continual efforts of the Children's Home. Their success equates to our future's success. Congratulations, Children's Home, for its sesquicentennial and I wish the organization many more years of great service to our children.

HONORING PETER TER FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES IN THE PEACE CORPS AFTER COMING TO THE U.S. AS A REFUGEE

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Peter Ter for his outstanding service to his country through his volunteer work with the Peace Corps.

Peter Ter was born in southern Sudan, although his exact birth date is not known because his family, like many others, did not keep these records. His father and mother, a cattle keeper and farmer respectively, were both illiterate. He lived with his family, including five sisters and three brothers, in a small hut built with wood and mud and thatched with grass.

However, Peter's childhood was cut short due to the breakout of the Second Sudanese

Civil War that began in 1983 and lasted for twenty-one years. Like thousands of other children in Sudan, Peter became a "Lost Boy," losing his family in conflict between the warring Sudanese government and the Sudanese People's Liberation Army. After fleeing the violence and enduring a grueling journey, Peter ended up in the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya, living what he described as a hopeless life.

While living in the Kakuma camp, Peter completed an application for refugee status in America. In the application, he had to write one page on why he wanted to go to America. He wrote of living a hopeless life in the refugee camp and of how he yearned to go to a place where he could restore his dignity and educate himself—the United States of America.

After two years, Peter's application was approved, and he was resettled in my congressional district in Jacksonville, Florida. Peter went on to graduate from the University of Florida and attended graduate school at Brandeis University in Boston.

After graduation, Peter knew he wanted to give back to the country that had saved him, so he volunteered for the Peace Corps. Since 2009, Peter has served as a cultural ambassador and an international development practitioner in Azerbaijan, China, and the Republic of Georgia, promoting the values of the United States along the way. In his work abroad, Peter has faced many challenges, including blatant racism. However, having faced greater challenges before, he doubled down on his commitment to service and eventually earned respect in the villages and cities where he served.

As the co-chair of the House Peace Corps Caucus, I have the privilege of interacting with and supporting the work of outstanding individuals, such as Peter Ter. America is the world's most generous country, made up of people from around the world, and Peter is proof that this generosity touches those who need it most. I am proud that Peter calls Jacksonville, FL home. Peter has fully utilized the great opportunities presented to him by the United States of America and has dedicated his life to helping others around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of Congress to join me in congratulating Peter Ter on overcoming great obstacles in his life and on his continued success abroad on behalf of our great nation.

HONORING DIANNE EDMONDSON'S LIFETIME OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dianne Edmondson for her distinguished service to the Denton County Republican Party.

Dianne Edmondson is a native Texan born in San Antonio. She attended Oklahoma State University where she was a member of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority. In 1983, she founded a successful executive search firm which she later sold in 2006. Dianne and her husband Bob live in Denton, Texas and are

blessed with two grown children (and one deceased son) and seven grandchildren. I have had the pleasure of knowing Dianne and Bob for over a decade. Dianne is actively involved in her local community where she has spent her time fulfilling a selfless passion to serve others. Dianne is a member of many civic service organizations and advisory groups including: Vice-Chair of the Denton County Citizens Budget Advisory Committee, Denton County Commissioners' Re-Districting Committee, and Board of Directors of the Denton Chamber of Commerce, among others.

Throughout her adult life, Dianne has been involved in nearly every aspect of the political arena. Dianne is the former Executive Director of Republican National Coalition for Life. She has served as a National Republican Convention Delegate in 2000, former President of the Denton Republican Women's Club, Chair of Senate District 12 Rules Committee, Chair of the 2012 and 2014 State Convention Permanent Organization Committee, and managed or volunteered in dozens of Republican candidates' campaigns for nearly 20 years in Denton County.

In 2002, Dianne was elected as Chairman of the Denton County Republican Party and serves on the Board of the Texas Republican County Chair Association. Dianne has spent countless hours educating voters on public policy and encouraging voter engagement. As a creative planner and master organizer, Dianne has the ability to bring people together around a common goal and vision. She has worked with precinct chairs and candidates to ensure that Denton County remains conservative. As a result, every county, state, and federal elected office in Denton County is held by a Republican.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I would like to thank Dianne Edmondson for her leadership as the Chairman of the Denton County Republican Party. I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing Dianne for her lifetime of service.

HONORING MR. JOSEPH FAZIO ON
HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute to the incredible life of Mr. Joseph Fazio.

Born in 1916 in the Bronx, Joseph was the oldest son of 5 children. Tragically, when Joseph was in high school his father passed away, forcing him to quit school so that he could provide for his family. After receiving a small loan from a friend, Joseph bought his own truck and subsequently started a trucking business. He worked tirelessly for his customers to ensure they received the best possible service year after year. Joseph's altruism is only one of the many qualities that make him such a wonderful and caring person.

Joseph retired at the age of 65 so that he could truly appreciate the community of Mastic Beach full-time; however, you would not know that by the way he has maintained such an active role in the town's affairs. To name a few of his many contributions to Mastic Beach:

Joseph has built floats for the Mastic Beach Parade; built benches for the docks; volunteered for the Annual Seafood Festival; was the former Director of the Mastic Beach Property Owners Association; and enjoys playing the piano for other seniors. When he's not busy helping his fellow community members, he takes great pleasure in gardening, planting hundreds of tomato plants and many varieties of vegetables. He is known as the Beloved Farmer of Mastic Beach, as he generously shared the treasures of his garden with friends throughout the Tri-Hamlet Community. Joe is also a long standing member of St. Jude Catholic Church and Knights of Columbus.

Joseph will be turning 100 years old on March 27, 2016. Joseph, and his lovely wife Ann, are the proud parents of 2 children, 5 grandchildren, and 8 great grandchildren. Good food, good family, good friends and a strong belief in God have kept him going to 100. I am blessed to serve and represent such an incredible human being like Joseph Fazio in the First Congressional District of New York, and proud to express my gratitude for all he does for his community; as well as wish him a very happy 100th birthday.

CONGRATULATING MICHAEL
WARD, CHAIRMAN AND CEO AT
CSX CORPORATION, ON RECEIVING
THE CITIZENSHIP SERVICE
AWARD BY VOICES FOR NATIONAL
SERVICE

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Michael Ward, for his outstanding service to his country through his volunteer work with City Year.

Michael has invested tremendous amounts of time, energy and resources to support City Year, an education-focused national service organization that is dedicated to helping our students and school succeed. City Year provides high-impact student, classroom and school-wide support to help students stay in school and to graduate from high school, ready for college and career success. City Year is partners with 27 urban, high-poverty communities across the United States and abroad, and Michael was instrumental in bringing City Year to Jacksonville, Florida.

In addition to serving as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of CSX Corporation, Michael is a dedicated Trustee of City Year and is the Chairman of the local City Year program. In addition to his work with City Year, Michael also serves on the board of United Way of Northeast Florida and on the board of Hubbard House, which helps victims of domestic violence.

Earlier this year, the Corporation for National and Community Service, the federal agency that oversees millions of American volunteers, faced significant budget cuts that would have forced many national service programs to close. However, Michael took action and led the effort to remind my colleagues that federal investment in national service is vital to improving lives, strengthening communities and uniting the nation.

The drive to protect federal funds for national service succeeded in no small part

thanks to the contributions of Michael Ward. In recognition of all of his many contributions to national service, Michael Ward was recently awarded the Citizen Service Award by the Voices for National Service.

As a Member of Congress, I have the privilege of supporting the work of outstanding individuals, such as Michael Ward. Michael has striven tirelessly to ensure to promote education across the country and in my district, and I am proud that Michael calls Jacksonville, Florida home.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of Congress to join me in recognizing Michael Ward for his tireless dedication to educational attainment and congratulate him on receiving the Citizenship Service award.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SARKIS
SAHATDJIAN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Sarkis Sahatdjian of Madera, California, who recently passed away on December 29, 2015—at the age of 95. Mr. Sahatdjian was a remarkable farmer of 80 years, and a generous leader who was proud of his community, and Armenian roots.

Sarkis Sahatdjian was born in Constantinople in 1920 to Armenian parents, Vagharsag and Makrouhi Sahatdjian. The Sahatdjians were survivors of the Armenian Genocide of 1915, an event Sarkis would never forget. His family set sail on an unpredictable journey when Sarkis was two years old, and his brother Haig only five days old. The Sahatdjian family first landed in Buenos Aires, Argentina where they resided for one year and a half. After this the family immigrated to the United States, arriving through Ellis Island, and eventually settling in California's San Joaquin Valley in April of 1924. The Sahatdjians started off as migrant workers, working at canneries and packing houses throughout California following the crop cycles. In 1928, the family bought their first farm—twenty acres of vineyards, where Sarkis worked after school and on weekends while attending Central High School.

After graduating from high school in 1939, Sarkis worked at the Mare Island Naval Shipyard, repairing warships. Sarkis joined the Army Air Force, serving in Guam during World War II as a military policeman guarding Japanese prisoners of war. After the war he married Iris Odabashian in 1947, and soon after had three children. The couple went on to purchase a farm in Madera, California in 1947, and Sarkis returned to farming.

In 1963, Sarkis and his brother Haig Sahatdjian, purchased raisin processing equipment, placed it on 40 acres in Madera and named it in memory of their late father: Victor Packing. Victor Packing became a full-time farming and packing business when Sarkis and his brother Haig began to process and pack their own raisins along with the raisins of other growers. The business required all hands on deck. Sarkis's wife Iris handled the payroll; their eldest child Victor and his high school friends worked as clean-up crew; and their daughter Margaret and youngest child Bill

joined in later. The family company Sarkis co-founded has grown to become a leader in the raisin industry; growing, dehydrating, processing, and packing raisins that are sold and shipped worldwide. Victor Packing remains a family business, and currently employs five of Sarkis's 12 grandchildren. Hard work, desire, and business acumen ultimately paid off for the Sahatdjian brothers.

Not only was Sarkis a well-known businessman, he was also dedicated to serving his community. Sarkis was a board member of the local VFW; a benefactor and delegate of Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church; major donor to California State University, Fresno's Viticulture and Armenian Studies Department; major donor to Fresno Community Hospital; board member of the Armenian Community School of Fresno; founding board member of the Armenian Technology Group; and countless other local, regional and international charities. Further, he was also a major contributor in establishing the Armenian Genocide Centennial Monument, which marked 100 years since the start of the genocide in Armenia in 1915. The monument is displayed at California State University, Fresno and is the first monument on a U.S. college campus marking the genocide.

Without question, Mr. Sarkis's integrity, honor and long-lasting involvement in the Central Valley made him a reputable man; he was well known, well-liked and shown enormous appreciation by anyone who had the pleasure of calling him a friend. Sarkis lived his life to the fullest, surrounded by family and friends. He leaves behind his loving family, including his wife of 68 years, Iris, their two sons and daughter; their spouses, twelve grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. It is my honor to join his family in celebrating the life of this amazing man, who will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Sarkis Sahatdjian. His commitment to family and to his community will forever live in the lives of the people he touched. We are all better for having known Sarkis Sahatdjian, a remarkable Californian, and Central Valley native.

**DR. HAMPTON-HENRY TO RECEIVE
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Mildred Dalton Hampton-Henry for her efforts to improve educational outcomes for low-income students in San Bernardino, California. On February 6, 2016, Dr. Hampton-Henry will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Dreamers, Visionaries, and Leaders Project during their annual awards ceremony. It is an honor to highlight Dr. Hampton-Henry's professional achievements today.

A native of Arkansas, Dr. Hampton-Henry arrived in San Bernardino in 1983 and became the executive director of the Provisional Accelerated Learning Center, also known as the PAL Center. The PAL Center provides structured educational services to low-income students from urban environments. The pro-

grams at the center strive to reduce the number of high school dropouts in her community.

In addition to her work with at-risk youth, Dr. Hampton-Henry is an accomplished educator. She was the first African American professor to receive tenure at the California State University, San Bernardino College of Education. In addition, Dr. Hampton-Henry taught courses at Southern Illinois University, the same school from which she received her Ph.D. in philosophy.

I want to congratulate and thank Dr. Hampton-Henry for her passion and commitment to bettering her community. She truly embodies the spirit of selfless sacrifice and is well-deserving of the Lifetime Achievement Award that she will receive on Saturday.

**RECOGNIZING CARLY CRUMP FOR
HER RESEARCH ON THE DENGUE
VIRUS AND FOR ATTENDING
NOBEL PRIZE WEEK**

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Carly Crump on her outstanding research work on the transmission of the dengue virus and on her invitation to attend Nobel Prize Week in Stockholm, Sweden. As the U.S. Congressman of Jacksonville, Florida and the co-chair of the Caucus on Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases it is an honor to recognize Carly for her exceptional accomplishments.

Carly, a graduate of Episcopal School of Jacksonville, Florida, first began her work in her parents' garage breeding mosquitos. Eventually, Carly's work evolved from offering blood meals to these mosquitos to studying the proteins involved in the transmission of the dengue virus, related to the viruses that cause West Nile infection and yellow fever, that can lead to the dengue fever. In her most recent research at Johns Hopkins University, Carly helped identify 11 proteins that may be involved in the transmission of dengue virus 2 and could set the basis for vaccine development.

As a result of her prestigious work, Carly was invited to attend Nobel Prize Week in Stockholm, one of only 26 young people from 19 countries invited to attend. There, Carly gave a presentation to 1,000 students on her work and interacted with another 2,000 students who stopped at her booth to discuss her project.

Carly has also been recognized as one of the nation's top 16 young STEM researchers by US News and World Report and has won first place at the International Science and Engineering Fair, the Florida Science Fair, and the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.

Currently, Carly is studying microbiology at the University of Florida and hopes to be a surgeon like her father and her grandfather and to continue her research.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of Congress to join me in congratulating Carly Crump on the success of her research and on attending Nobel Prize Week in Stockholm. Her research and the research of many other rising talents will lead the world to develop cures

for this and other devastating diseases that cripple both Americans and our foreign partners alike.

**HONORING REV. JAMES ANTHONY
NOEL**

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of an outstanding member of the Bay Area community, Reverend James Anthony Noel. With his passing on Sunday, January 31st, 2016 at the age of 68, we honor his many years of faithful service.

Born on New Year's Day in 1948, in Queens, New York, Reverend Noel moved to Berkeley, California when he was a young child. He would go on to earn his B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley in 1969, as well as a Master of Divinity degree from San Francisco Theological Seminary (SFTS) in 1975, and his Ph.D. from the Graduate Theological Union (GTU) in 1999.

Reverend Noel joined the SFTS faculty in 1988, where he was the H. Eugene Farlough, Jr. Chair of African-American Christianity, as well as a professor of American Religion. He also served as a member of the Core Doctoral Faculty at the GTU, and was the convener of the Black Church/Africana Studies Certificate Program. Reverend Noel received a distinguished professor award from his colleagues at GTU, for his embodiment of scholarly standards, teaching excellence, and commitment to ecumenism.

From 1976 to 1987, Reverend Noel served as the pastor of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Marin City, CA. Following that, until his passing, he was the pastor of New Liberation Presbyterian Church in San Francisco. He also served as interim pastor of Sojourner Truth Presbyterian Church in Richmond, CA.

Considered by many a true renaissance man, Reverend Noel was a gifted painter, with his vibrant artwork on display throughout the Bay Area. Reverend Noel was also a 7th Dan Tae Kwon Do Master, having studied the Korean martial art since he was a teenager. He would also often break into song with his rich bass voice during lectures or sermons.

Reverend Noel is survived by his beautiful wife, Dianna, and his children Michelle, Kaiya, Daniel and Amada. He will be forever remembered for his love, legacy, and the impact he had on the hearts and minds of those whom he touched.

On a personal note, Reverend Noel was a prophetic and prolific preacher. He was a great leader who demonstrated what it means to live a life in service to humankind and to God. We will miss this magnificent man of God who taught us what a spirit filled life means.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes the life of an exemplary individual and devoted community member, Reverend James Anthony Noel. I join all of Reverend Noel's loved ones in celebrating his inspirational life and achievements, and offer my sincerest condolences.

HONORING THE ASIAN PACIFIC
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Asian Pacific Development Center for its ongoing service to the growing population of Asian American and Pacific Islander residents throughout the state of Colorado and to celebrate its Annual Banquet in recognition of the Asian New Year, the year of the Fire Red Monkey.

The Asian Pacific Development Center is a role model for other communities and works to provide culturally appropriate and linguistically proficient wellness and lifestyle services to enrich the lives of our state's Asian American and Pacific Islander residents.

Originally created to serve Vietnamese refugees 35 years ago, APDC has grown to include a diverse list of communities.

Every day, the Center grants self-sufficiency to these residents so that they may better navigate our shared home.

I, in addition to many community leaders in Arapahoe County and Aurora, attend the Annual Banquet each year as tribute to APDC's efforts, and I am proud to have the opportunity to speak this year in honor of the celebration's 35th anniversary.

I applaud the Asian Pacific Development Center for continuing to empower our state's Asian American and Pacific Islander refugees and immigrants, and thus, for continuing to fight poverty and to address literacy, education, and employment in Colorado.

RECOGNIZING LISC JACKSONVILLE
FOR 15 YEARS OF SERVICE TO
THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Local Initiatives Support Corporation Jacksonville for its outstanding service to the Northeast Florida community through its transformative efforts to empower citizens and to build up the neediest neighborhoods.

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) is a nationally known nonprofit that works with local leaders to invest in housing, health, education, public safety, and employment. This year marks the 15 year anniversary for its involvement in the Jacksonville community. Over the last 15 years LISC Jacksonville has leveraged almost a quarter of a billion dollars to create affordable housing and community development all while fostering financial stability within the Jacksonville community.

LISC Jacksonville's invaluable efforts within our local community from supporters across the country have turned out \$62.6 million in grants and loans, \$220.7 million in leveraged investments, and \$20 million for the Jacksonville property tax rolls from new homes developed within our community.

Much more than large dollar amounts, multiple areas in Jacksonville are building up an

infrastructure able to sustain and promote community development. Approximately 295 homes and 1,509 apartment units were built and 3,100 jobs were created. Tax credits helped to finance the first KIPP charter school of Florida, investments were made in the EverBank Stadium neighborhood, and a business incubator was established with the Beaver Street Enterprise Community.

Representing Northeast Florida, I have the privilege of interacting with and supporting the work of outstanding nonprofits such as LISC Jacksonville and its dedicated workers. The remarkable transformation of our community is proof that no neighborhood is outside the possibility of revitalization and redevelopment. I am proud that these devoted constituents call Jacksonville their home and I believe every community can experience similar success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of Congress to join me in recognizing LISC Jacksonville for its belief in holistic change, and its long-term commitment that will continue to create a flourishing community for so many people who call Jacksonville home.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT MAJOR
DEBRA J. WILCOX

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Sergeant Major Debra J. Wilcox, an honored veteran that served our country with honor and distinction. I was saddened to hear about the passing of a daughter of Jacksonville. On behalf of the constituents of Florida's Congressional District Five we salute and pay tribute to SGM Wilcox.

Sergeant Major Debra J. Wilcox was born in Jacksonville, Florida. She volunteered for the U.S. Army and took the oath of enlistment on 19 August 1979 and subsequently completed Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. She completed 35 years, 9 months, 19 days of service.

Her past assignments include: Information Management Specialist, Joint Staff, DOM; Administrative Sergeant, Defense Intelligence Agency; Command Sergeant Major, 436th Transportation Command; Command Sergeant Major, 3/318th MP OSUT; student at the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy, Ft. Bliss, Texas; Administrative NCO, J-5; Training Chief Instructor, HQ/6/80th DIV; NCOIC DCSPER, 5115th Garrison Support Unit; Force Management NCO, 97th ARCOM; PAB NCOIC, 318th Reception Battalion; Test Administrator, MEPS Los Angeles; Mail Clerk, Fort Rucker, AL; Administrative Specialist, 43rd USA Artillery Detachment, Germany.

Sergeant Major Wilcox's military and civilian education includes: Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic and Advanced Non-commissioned Officer Course, Personnel, Administrative, and Training Management Courses, a graduate of the Sergeants Major Academy. She completed a double Master's in Interdisciplinary Studies and an MBA Degree followed with a number of Graduate Certificates.

Her awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (1st OLC), Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service

Achievement Medal (3rd OLC), Army Achievement Medal (4th OLC), Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal (w/ Bronze Star), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal (w/ M, Silver H), NCO Professional Development Ribbon (w/Numeral 4), and the Overseas Service Ribbon.

As twice the Citizen Debra's civilian work includes The Aerospace Corporation, Defense Finance and Accounting Service, and the Department of the Army Inspector General Agency.

Sergeant Major Wilcox is survived by her mother, Jean Walker, two sisters, Cheryl Adams, Deandrous Wilcox; four brothers, George Wilcox, Anthony Wilcox, Vaughn Wilcox, Joe Walker; Aunties; many cousins, Angela, Joy, nieces and nephews, great-nieces and -nephews, and friend John Jackson.

CELEBRATING THE INAUGURATION
OF THE BETTY RODRIGUEZ RE-
GIONAL LIBRARY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of the late Betty Rodriguez and inauguration of the state of the art Betty Rodriguez Regional Library named in her honor. The newly reconstructed 14,000 square foot library located in east-central Fresno features 25 computers, a 3-D printer, and robotics kits, making it Fresno County's newest, most technologically advanced library. The library also features a meeting room for 50, group study spaces, and a separate quiet reading room. The site on which the Betty Rodriguez Regional Library exists, is nearly double the size of its 40 year predecessor, and creates a significant advancement for the City of Fresno. This new library serves as a reminder to all of the life of Betty Rodriguez, and the legacy she created within the community through her selfless dedication to others.

Mrs. Rodriguez was an individual of outstanding character and throughout her career, achieved a great deal of success and impacted the lives of many. Mrs. Rodriguez was an inspiration to all, especially to students and young children, teaching them that through hard work and education, they are able to achieve success in their lives. Mrs. Rodriguez dedicated her life to serving as a role model for our youth by motivating them to dream big and to work hard. Demonstrating her strong commitment to our youth, Betty was a member of Friends of the Fresno County Library, and was a great supporter of the Boys and Girls Club of Fresno County, the Boy Scouts of America, the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, and the Special Olympics.

Public service was important to Mrs. Rodriguez, and she was very active in many community organizations. For example, Betty served on Fresno's Torreon Sister City Committee, a non-profit organization that supports the development of partnerships between U.S. cities and cities around the world. She also helped to launch the League of Mexican American Women in 1973 in order to help women in her community become more politically aware and to facilitate the contribution of

their services for schools and organizations. For her contributions to the Mexican-American community, she was awarded the “Medalla de Ohtli” by the Institute of Mexicans Abroad, in 2009.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a woman who always demonstrated a strong commitment to serving others. The new library, located near Cedar and Clinton Avenues in Fresno, will rightly bear the name of someone who has positively influenced the lives of so many people in the community. Her memory will live on through her family and will continue to serve as a reminder to all who access the state of the art library. It is a beautiful tribute to the life of Mrs. Betty Rodriguez, and I know she will continue to inspire others through her ever-lasting presence at the Betty Rodriguez Regional Library.

CONGRATULATING MILDRED
OGILVIE FOR CELEBRATING HER
100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mildred Atkinson Ogilvie, for celebrating her 100th birthday on January 1, 2016.

Mildred Ogilvie was born the youngest of nine children to Jesse and Agatha Atkinson in Callahan, Florida on January 1st, 1916. Mildred's parents passed away when she was still young, but her older siblings kept the family together and continued to raise them in Callahan. In 1932 at the age of 16, Mildred married Bill Ogilvie. Mildred and Bill had four children together—Marlin, Dallas, Harold, and Cheryl.

Mildred has lived her entire life in Northeast Florida. While raising her four children, Mildred also helped her husband Bill run his many businesses, including grocery stores and laundromats.

Mildred celebrated her birthday at the Jacksonville Nursing and Rehabilitation Center surrounded by 35 family members, including nieces, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. Her niece, Gwen Harvey, fondly recalled walking to Mildred and Bill's grocery store to see their beautiful smiling aunt, knowing that she would walk away with a cold Pepsi-Cola.

Despite being orphaned at a young age, Mildred and all eight of her siblings went on to become successful adults.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of Congress to join me in congratulating Mildred Ogilvie on overcoming great obstacles, serving as a model for a life well lived, and on celebrating 100 full years of life.

IN HONOR OF DR. ANDREW J.
VITERBI RECEIVING THE
CHARLES STARK DRAPER PRIZE
FOR ENGINEERING

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of Rep. SCOTT PETERS, Rep. DUNCAN HUNTER,

and Rep. SUSAN DAVIS today to congratulate Dr. Andrew Viterbi on being awarded the Charles Stark Draper Prize for Engineering for the development of the Viterbi algorithm.

One of the world's preeminent awards for engineering achievement, The Charles Stark Draper Prize for Engineering was established in 1988 at the request of the Charles Stark Draper Laboratory Inc., to honor the memory of “Doc” Draper, the “father of inertial navigation,” and to increase public understanding of the contributions of engineering and technology. The National Academy of Engineering annually awards the prize in recognition of innovative engineering achievements and their reduction to practice in ways that have led to important benefits and significant improvement in the well-being and freedom of humanity.

Andrew J. Viterbi is president of the Viterbi Group, which advises and invests in startups in the digital and wireless communication fields. As cofounder of Linkabit in 1968 and Qualcomm in 1985, he led the development of innovative technologies based on code division multiple access. In addition to his career in the communication industry, Viterbi was a professor at the UCLA School of Engineering and Applied Science from 1963 to 1973 and then taught part-time at the University of California, San Diego, where he has been professor emeritus since 2004. Viterbi received his Ph.D. from the University of Southern California (USC), where he and his wife Erna Viterbi made a naming gift to rename the USC engineering school the Viterbi School of Engineering. Viterbi was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1978 and the National Academy of Sciences in 1996.

Andrew J. Viterbi developed the Viterbi algorithm as a method for enhancing error-correcting code used in telecommunication, making it easier to eliminate static in transmissions. The Viterbi algorithm has had the greatest impact in digital cellular phones, but it is also used in other applications such as cable, DSL modems, and Ethernet. The Viterbi algorithm has also been instrumental in interplanetary communication signals, allowing for greater signal strength in deep space missions such as the Mars Pathfinder, the Mars Exploration Rover and the Cassini probe to Saturn. Usage of the Viterbi algorithm has been expanded to include speech recognition, speech synthesis, keyword spotting, computational linguistics, and bioinformatics.

Mr. Speaker, we would echo the National Academy of Engineering President C. D. Mote, Jr. who said “The Viterbi algorithm has led to significant benefits to the health, safety, and well-being of the world's citizen. His work embodies the prize's mission, which is to recognize an engineer whose accomplishments have meaningfully impacted society.”

COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING
BRIGADIER GENERAL
TRACY L. SMITH ON BECOMING
THE FIRST WOMAN GENERAL
OFFICER FROM GUAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Tracy L. Smith

on her promotion to Brigadier General in the U.S. Army. BG Smith is the first woman from Guam to attain a general officer rank in the U.S. military, and she currently serves as the Deputy Commander, U.S. Army Reserve Medical Command. She was nominated by President Barack Obama on April 13, 2015 and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on April 30, 2015. She received her first star during a ceremony at the Army Reserve Medical Command in Pinellas Park, Florida on January 24, 2016.

BG Smith is part of a strong heritage of exceptional men and women from Guam who have bravely and dutifully served our nation in uniform. Her promotion to Brigadier General is an important milestone in her career and a reflection of her perseverance, dedication, and commitment to service. As the first woman general officer from Guam in any of the U.S. military services, BG Smith is a role model for future woman servicemembers and her promotion is source of pride for our island.

Brigadier General Smith was born on Guam and started her career of service nearly thirty years ago. She, like many families from Guam, comes from a proud military family; her father, Franklin Artero, is a retired Sergeant Major in the U.S. Army, and her brother, Audie Artero, is a Lieutenant Colonel in the Guam National Guard. She was commissioned as Second Lieutenant after completing the Reserve Officers Training Corps program at the University of Guam. Since then, she has held a number of posts in the military medical field. A natural trailblazer, she earned the recognition of being the first Active Guard and Reserve Commander of the 865th Combat Support Hospital in Utica, New York. During her military career, BG Smith has earned numerous awards and recognitions, including the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star.

I join the people of Guam in commending and congratulating Tracy L. Smith on her distinguished career and promotion to Brigadier General in the U.S. Army. I look forward to her continued service to our nation, and I am confident that as she assumes this new position, she will continue to inspire not only the soldiers she commands, but also women in Guam and throughout our country. I also extend my congratulations and appreciation to husband, retired Army Sergeant Scott Smith, and her entire Artero and Smith families.

HONORING BASMA ALAWEE FOR
HER OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY
SERVICE ADVOCATING ON BEHALF
OF FELLOW REFUGEES

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Basma Alawee for her outstanding service to her country through her work in the community advocating on behalf of fellow refugees.

Basma's impact began two years ago, when she came with her husband, Ali Aljubouri, and their daughter Dana, to Jacksonville, Florida from Iraq in order to escape persecution resulting from their assistance to the United States. Not only did they come to America for

a better life, but they have bettered the lives of those now around them.

Now in North Florida, the two have both given much back to their adopted community. Basma teaches middle school girls at the Foundation Academy much more than just math and science. Through example, she instills the value of taking initiatives and the importance of making a difference in the lives of others. To do this, she brings her classes to visit a local nursing home and organizes clothing at the church's thrift store. Her husband, Ali, contributes to the Christian academy through his work as a chef and a soccer coach, both bridging gaps in different religious communities.

For Basma, the work doesn't end when the school day is over. Basma has been volunteering with refugee-resettlement agencies, working as the Florida delegate to the UNHCR, and even founding the Iraqi Family Organization so that the Iraqi community could support one another.

The increasing conflict in the Middle East has threatened the future of refugees to the United States. Basma, who became an American citizen in July, wrote an essay with great courage, telling her own story in response to the political rhetoric about banning Muslims and refugees from certain countries. Her expressions of the struggles she faced and the love she had for America were simple, yet the message was clear and powerful.

As a Member of Congress, I have the privilege of interacting with and supporting the work of outstanding individuals, such as Basma Alawee. America is the world's most generous and diverse country, and Basma is proof that this generosity touches those who need it most. I am proud that Basma and her family call Jacksonville, FL their home. Basma has fully utilized the great opportunities presented to her by the United States of America and has dedicated her life to fostering community in Jacksonville and around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of Congress to join me in recognizing Basma Alawee, not only for overcoming incredible challenges as a refugee, but for her dedication making this country a home for her family, her neighbors, and those who have dreams of escaping conflict for a better life.

HONORING MR. DOUGLAS HEUSER
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT
FROM THE SEE SCIENCE CENTER

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to Douglas Heuser on his retirement from the SEE Science Center after 32 years, and thank him for the outstanding work he did during his career.

Mr. Heuser's commitment to promoting and instilling a love of science in people across the Granite state has been a critical aspect of his dedication to education. Under Mr. Heuser's leadership, the SEE Science Center has grown from a staff of one to a staff of 23 and the center has grown from 4,500 square feet to 45,000. This expansion exemplifies Mr. Heuser's outstanding management abilities and successful marketing techniques.

The creativity, knowledge and experience Mr. Heuser brought to New Hampshire during his time at the SEE Science Center has been invaluable, and it's clear he leaves an example of strong leadership for others to emulate in his wake.

It is with great admiration that I congratulate Mr. Heuser on his retirement, and wish him the best on all future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF GEORGIE CLARK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments and celebrate the tourism award being presented to a truly remarkable woman and dear friend, Georgiana Clark. Today, the National Tour Association at their annual convention in Atlanta, Georgia, is recognizing Mrs. Clark with the Pioneer Award for her lifetime dedication to the tourism industry in the United States. I have known Georgie and her late husband, Norman, since the early 1980s. They are the founders and operators of a family attraction in Santa Cruz County: Roaring Camp Railroads. The goal of the Clark Family was to freeze a period in time so visitors can step across the authentic wooden covered bridge and step back in time to the 1880's.

Norman and Georgiana Clark realized their family owned tourist attraction would never be able to financially afford the worldwide marketing needed to make their attraction a success, but they believed in cooperative marketing. Georgiana and Norman were the founders of what is today Cal Travel but was founded as the California Travel Industry Association and were the founders of what today is known as US Travel but was founded as the Travel Industry Association of America.

After Norman's passing in 1985, Georgiana went on to launch the company's second rail service, the Santa Cruz, Big Trees & Pacific Railway, the train from the California Redwoods to the beaches of Santa Cruz, Monterey Bay and the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk. I'm proud to say I was part of the original dedication ceremony when this tourist attraction began in Santa Cruz County. Today Roaring Camp is a thriving tourist attraction hosting many historical events and one of the largest Day Out With Thomas (Thomas the Tank Engine) events in the world.

Georgiana Collins Clark was born in 1935 Honolulu, Hawaii. She learned the importance of tourism at a very young age. Georgie and her sisters would make leis and sell them to arriving visitors to Honolulu as they disembarked off of cruise ships. Remember—back then there was no commercial air services. Georgiana later became a stewardess for Aloha Airlines where she met her husband, Norman on a flight. After Norman and Georgiana were married they settled in to their new home on the property of Roaring Camp where together they raised their three daughters Chemene, Melani and Kapiolani. Today two of their daughters work in tourism; Melani is the CEO for Roaring Camp Railroads and Kapiolani is an Operations Director at the Disneyland Resort in Anaheim.

Georgiana has played such a huge part in so many lives but especially to her family and

friends. As the National Tour Association recognizing Georgiana P. Clark for her lifetime contribution to tourism, I am proud to say I have watched this family owned and operated attraction grow and flourish over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in celebrating Georgiana P. Clark's amazing spirit and offering our congratulations to her on her lifetime of dedication to the tourism industry.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF
JAMES J. PAVLICIN

HON. DAVID W. JOLLY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jim Pavlicin, a resident of Gulfport, Florida, who passed away on January 7, 2016. James Joseph Pavlicin was born and raised in Westbury, New York, the son of United States Navy veteran and Nassau County Police Detective Michael Thomas Pavlicin and his wife, Margaret Josephine (née Clay).

During World War II, Jim's mother sewed three blue stars on her Military Service flag, as all three of her sons, members of the Greatest Generation, defended our nation overseas. Following his older brothers—Mike, who served in the United States Navy, and George, who served in the United States Marine Corps—Jim joined the United States Army. In the post-war period, he was assigned to the Military Police Honor Guard, IX Corps Headquarters, in Sendai, Japan.

Returning home, he married his beloved wife of sixty years and eight months, Mary (née Horton). Settling on Long Island, New York, Mary and Jim raised four children: James (Annie), William (Debra), Jo Ann (Van), and Robert (Melissa); had seven grandchildren: Jessica (Sean), Amy (Matt), Kellie (Brandon), William, Rachel, Matthew, and Rebecca; and five great-grandchildren: Kaelyn, Matthew, Sam, Jacob, and Thomas. A sixth great-grandchild, Brandon Jr., will be born this month. He is also survived by two sisters, Mary Elliott and Margaret Clark, and dozens of nieces and nephews.

Jim was a proud member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers for fifty-five years. He enjoyed gardening, sport aviation, and travel, and was a master woodworker. Mary and Jim retired to Gulfport in 1998 after four years of living in a recreational vehicle and seeing this beautiful country. They belonged to the Gulfport Presbyterian Church, and were active and avid volunteers with the Experimental Aircraft Association, and the Sun 'n Fun Fly-In & Expo, Florida's largest convention. In 2012, Jim and his daughter Jo Ann participated in an Honor Flight, along with many other veterans from the Tampa area, traveling to Washington to visit the National World War II Memorial along the Mall.

Jim's goal in life was to "build a better mouse trap"—and most of the time, he did. He always had a smile on his face, and was happiest when he was with his family, helping others, telling a story, or singing. At his funeral, his grandchildren recounted how meaningful it was to hear their grandfather say to them, "Good job. I'm proud of you."

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor James J. Pavlicin, whose life and service reflect great credit upon himself, his family, and his community. He will be remembered as a man who selflessly answered his country's call; as a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, son, brother, and uncle; and as an important part of Florida's 13th Congressional District. My wife Laura and I offer our prayers for his wife, Mary; children, Jim, Bill, Jo, and Bob; and the rest of his large, loving family, as we remember and honor the life of Jim Pavlicin.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MAY
YING MARY YANG

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of May Ying Mary Yang of Merced, California who passed away on November 22, 2015, at the age of 69. Mrs. Yang's family and friends will miss her greatly as she dedicated her life to assisting those she met and always strived to make a difference in the community.

May Ying Mary Yang was born on October 1, 1946 in Xieng Khouang, Laos. When she was 15 years old, she married a military man, Ge Paul Yang, whom she would spend the rest of her life with. In 1975, the Yang family made the decision to flee from the war in Vietnam with their 8 children in order to seek refuge in a refugee camp in Thailand, prior to immigrating to the United States. When they arrived to the refugee camp, the Yang family had no money or food for their children and faced numerous hardships. Additionally, while living in the refugee camp, the family witnessed many children dying from malnutrition and diseases. It goes without saying that Mrs. Yang overcame many struggles in her life and managed to persevere in order to provide her family with a safe future lifestyle.

Throughout her life, Mrs. Yang touched many lives. Her commitment to her husband, Ge Paul Yang played a huge role in his career. Further, Mrs. Yang was known as an intelligent woman with a big heart, who was compassionate and always encouraging. She actively made a difference in her community alongside her husband, preparing meals, planning community events, and engaging in social work. The Yang family did this as a means to maintain a strong Hmong group within the community.

Mrs. Yang's work led to more Hmong individuals believing in the concept of "giving more than what one is called upon to give." Her work was instrumental to the development of the belief that women should be equal and that equality is not based on gender. These beliefs were instilled in Mrs. Yang's children and she always encouraged them to succeed.

Further, the dedication Mrs. Yang had to serving her community; her integrity, honor, and long service to the Central Valley made her a cherished figure. Her commitment to family and to her community will forever live in the lives of the people she touched. It is my honor to join Mrs. Yang's family in celebrating a life that will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a great woman of tireless service and dedication to her community. Mrs. Yang's memory will live on through her family and be remembered by our entire community.

TO AMPLIFY CONCERNS OF IMMIGRANT DEATHS IN PRIVATE PRISONS

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the first sections of a terrific article, entitled, "This Man Will Almost Certainly Die" by Seth Freed Wessler, and published by The Nation. As we continue to discuss Criminal Justice Reform, I hope that this article can be invaluable resource to my colleagues.

Where Claudio Fagardo-Saucedo grew up, on the colonial streets of the Mexican city of Durango, migrating to the United States was almost a rite of passage. It was following the stream of departures from Durango in the 1980s that the lanky young man left his family and traveled north. His mother, Julieta Saucedo Salazar, heard that he'd found jobs working as a laborer in Los Angeles. But they soon lost touch. "We did not know much about him, really," his younger sister told me.

This article was reported in partnership with the Investigative Fund at the Nation Institute, with support from the Puffin Foundation. It will be part of the February 6 episode of Reveal, a new podcast and public radio show produced by The Center for Investigative Reporting and PRX. Fagardo-Saucedo worked, his jobs sometimes taking him out of California, and occasionally he got into trouble—once for "possession for sale" of cocaine, another time for stealing jewelry. Every seven or eight years, his mother recalled, he'd return to her house—but never by choice. "They caught him all the time for being illegal," Julieta said. She always hoped her wandering son might stay, get to know the family again, but he never did. "He would be here a month, and then he'd go again."

In the summer of 2003, immigration agents detained Fagardo-Saucedo on his way back to California, but this time the Border Patrol referred him to federal prosecutors, who charged him with "illegal re-entry," or returning to the United States after deportation. He served nearly five years before being sent back to Mexico. Again, he tried to return. Early one morning in August of 2008, Fagardo-Saucedo triggered an infrared sensor as he and two others ran across the border near Tijuana. He pleaded guilty in a U.S. District Court to another "illegal re-entry" charge. The judge sentenced him to four years in federal prison.

When Fagardo-Saucedo arrived at Reeves, a prison complex in rural West Texas, he entered a little-known segment of the federal prison system. Over the previous decade, elected officials and federal agencies had quietly recast the relationship between criminal justice and immigration enforcement. These changes have done as much to bloat the federal prison population as the War on Drugs; they have also helped make Latinos the largest racial or ethnic group sentenced to federal custody.

Until the 1990s, border crossing was almost always treated as a civil offense, punishable by deportation. But in the late 1980s, Congress started to change that. By 1996, cross-

ing the border after deportation was punishable by years of imprisonment, with enhanced sentences for people previously convicted of crimes—most often drug offenses. Though federal investigators have found no evidence that criminalization has reduced the pace of border crossings over the long term, prosecutions for illegal entry and re-entry rose from fewer than 4,000 a year at the start of Bill Clinton's presidency, to 31,000 in 2004 under George W. Bush, to a high of 91,000 in 2013 under President Obama.

By the late 1990s, the flood of inmates from this new class of prisoner, coupled with a raging War on Drugs, sent the Bureau of Prisons searching for places to put them. The BOP turned to private companies to operate a new type of facility, low-security prisons designed to hold only noncitizens convicted of federal crimes. As of June 2015, these facilities—which are distinct from immigration detention centers, where people are held pending deportation—housed nearly 23,000 people.

Three private companies now run 11 immigrant-only contract prisons. Five are run by the GEO Group, four by the Corrections Corporation of America, and two by a privately held company called the Management & Training Corporation. (A third MTC prison was recently shut down after inmates ransacked it in a protest.) Except for a prison largely used to house inmates from Washington, DC, these 11 facilities are the only privately run prisons in the federal criminal-justice system. In 2013, the BOP spent roughly \$625 million on them. The contracts include the provision of medical care, for which the companies often hire health-services subcontractors. In one such facility in Reeves County, Texas, the BOP entered into an agreement with the county, which in turn hired GEO to operate the prison and Correct Care Solutions to manage prison healthcare.

The BOP's contracts with these facilities are meant to cut costs. Though the prisons are part of the federal infrastructure, the companies that run them operate under a different—and less stringent—set of rules in order to allow cost-cutting innovations. As a retired BOP contracting official said in an interview, "The more specificity you put in the contract, the more money the contractors are going to want for performing the service."

At least five times since 2008, inmates have rioted in the BOP's contract prisons. The unrest has often come after medical-care complaints. (Pecos Enterprise, Smokey Briggs / AP)

Repeated federal audits and reports have found these facilities to be in crisis. Prison medical care is notoriously bad, but for years, immigrant- and prisoner-rights advocates have sounded the alarm about these sites in particular, describing them as separate and unequal, segregated on the basis of citizenship. "These prisons operate without the same systems of accountability as regular Bureau of Prisons facilities, and prisoners suffer," said Carl Takei, an ACLU attorney who coauthored a 2014 report documenting the subpar conditions.

Yet the full scale of the medical neglect at these immigrant-only contract prisons has remained opaque—until now. After two years of negotiations with the BOP in and out of federal court over an open-records request, I obtained more than 9,000 pages of medical records that contractors submitted to the BOP. They include the records for 103 of at least 137 people who have died in federal contract prisons from 1998 (the year after the first one opened) through the end of 2014. The records all concern men; women are sent to regular BOP-run prisons. The documents include nurse and doctor notes, records from hospital visits, psychological files, autopsies,

and secret internal investigations. In their pages can be found striking tales of neglect. Each case file—sometimes hundreds of pages long—was reviewed by at least two independent doctors who rendered opinions on the adequacy of the medical care provided. Some of the case files are meager and appear to be missing pages. But of the 77 that provided enough information to render a judgment, the doctors found that 38 contained indications of inadequate medical care. In 25 of these—a third of the total—the reviewers said the inadequacies likely contributed to the premature deaths of the prisoners. In only 39 cases did at least one reviewer find indications that the care had likely been in accordance with recognized medical standards.

Combined with interviews with relatives and cellmates of the deceased inmates, and with correctional officers and medical staff, the files tell the story of men sick with cancer, AIDS, mental illness, and liver and heart disease, forced to endure critical delays in care. They show prison medical units repeatedly failing to diagnose patients correctly despite obvious and painful symptoms, as well as the use of underqualified workers pressed to operate on the borders of their legal scope of practice. The files also show men dying of treatable diseases—men who very likely would have survived had they been given access to adequate care.

Fagardo-Saucedo, then 43, was booked into Reeves, run by the GEO Group and a separate medical contractor, on January 27, 2009. When he arrived, the facility was in tumult. Six weeks earlier, inmates at the sprawling 3,700-bed complex had rioted, protesting the death of a man who was left in solitary confinement for a month without proper treatment for his epilepsy; he died after suffering a seizure. Four days after Fagardo-Saucedo's arrival, the prisoners rioted again when another sick man was reportedly placed in segregation.

According to the BOP, prisons holding people who will be deported don't require the same level of inmate services as regular prisons. (Josh Begley)

Reeves was still recovering from the unrest when a prison physician scrawled a cursory note in Fagardo-Saucedo's file. The doctor noted that the inmate had arrived from pretrial detention with records indicating that he'd tested positive for latent tuberculosis and had complained of headaches. BOP rules require that TB-positive inmates also be tested for HIV, but an HIV test was never performed. Indeed, over the next two years, Fagardo-Saucedo wasn't seen by a medical doctor even once.

After three weeks in Reeves, he began to show up in the clinic complaining of pain—first tooth pain, then headaches, then nausea and back pain. Over two years, Fagardo-Saucedo went to the clinic 18 times. He was seen on nearly all of these occasions by one of a rotating group of licensed vocational nurses, or LVNs. Usually, the LVN sent him back to his bed with a prescription for Tylenol or ibuprofen. Meanwhile, his body was signaling a fatal breakdown, something that doctors who reviewed his case said should have been caught by the facility's care providers.

The training for LVNs (known as licensed practical nurses, or LPNs, in some states) takes only a year. They are taught to change dressings, check blood pressure, help patients bathe, and gather basic information. They're often hired to provide routine care in nursing homes or to assist registered nurses in hospitals. Unlike the RNs, who provide patients with substantive medical care and perform triage and evaluations, LVNs are intended as support staff.

This is the reason that BOP-run prisons rarely hire LVNs, said Sandy Parr, a vice

president in the federal correctional officers' union and formerly a registered nurse in a federal prison. "LVNs are too limited to make sense to hire," she said. Yet in the BOP's immigrant-only contract prisons, LVNs often appear in the files as the sole caregivers that sick prisoners see for days or weeks. They seem to perform jobs equivalent to those of registered nurses, a practice that prison medical staff confirm. In 19 of the cases reviewed, at least one medical doctor flagged the overextension of LVNs as a factor impeding proper medical care.

In only 39 of 77 cases did a reviewer find that the care had likely been in accordance with recognized medical standards.

Martin Acosta, a Salvadoran man who served time in Reeves for illegal re-entry at the same time as Fagardo-Saucedo, began complaining of abdominal pain late in the summer of 2010. Over four and half months, he went to the clinic more than 20 times. Other than a doctor's visit a month after his complaints began, he saw only nursing staff until the last two weeks of his incarceration; on 14 of those occasions, he saw only LVNs. Notes in the handwritten medical logs and nursing templates reveal a cascade of missed signs indicating serious illness, said doctors who reviewed the files. The prison medical staff described Acosta as a difficult patient; one thought he was simply trying to obtain a prescription for narcotics. Acosta was sent back to his room with nothing but Maalox nine times. Physicians who reviewed the files said the nurses appear to have missed the larger story of a protracted medical condition.

"For prison medicine to work, a doctor has to be able to trust the people who work there," said Dr. Neal Collins, a retired BOP and immigration detention-center physician and clinical director who reviewed the Acosta files. "If they have competent nurse practitioners, then they can trust that the system is catching it. But when people don't know what to look for, that's what you worry about."

In significant discomfort on one of his many trips to plead for help, Acosta told an LVN that he'd vomited a dark substance and had seen blood in his stool. He asked to be sent to a hospital, and the LVN took a stool sample. Leafing through the file, I expected to find a hospital referral or at least the test results. Instead, the records suggest that the LVN eyeballed the stool sample and deemed it unremarkable. There's no indication in the files that lab tests were performed or a doctor was called. When Acosta finally saw a physician at Reeves in December 2010, he could no longer eat. He was transferred to a hospital, where a massive tumor was found in his abdomen. Acosta was ultimately diagnosed with severe metastatic stomach cancer.

In early 2014, an LVN at another facility—this one run by MTC—similarly failed to complete a basic test. Tasked with evaluating a man who complained of chest pains, the LVN attempted to use an electrocardiogram machine. But he wrote in his notes that he couldn't get the machine to work because the patient's "skin is oily and electroids [sic] did not stick." Rather than call a doctor, the LVN checked a box marked "No action indicated at this time on the form for chest-pain complaints. The patient later died of a heart attack, despite subsequent treatment. Doctors who reviewed the file were divided about whether the shoddy care contributed to his death. In the aftermath of the 2008 and 2009 riots at Reeves, BOP monitors began to visit the facility more regularly to check on healthcare conditions. But the increased oversight accomplished little: Each time the monitors returned, they found that Reeves had failed to

fix the problems. One year after the riots, Reeves remained derelict. "The lack of an internal system of administrative and clinical controls has contributed to the provision of less than adequate medical care," the monitors wrote.

Acosta's common-law wife, Guillermina Yanez, showed me a photograph of him before his illness. Acosta appeared youthful and strong, his T-shirt hugging muscular arms. Then Guillermina showed me a picture taken after she and the couple's 2-year-old daughter, Tania, boarded a bus from Atlanta to visit him in the hospital. Acosta's frame was now skeletal, his face sunken, his chest tattoo pinned to paper-thin skin. "I asked a question to the guards: 'Looking at him, how could you have left him to look like that?'" Guillermina recalled.

Acosta died in late January 2011. In a will that a nurse's assistant at the hospital helped him prepare, Acosta wrote: "I want the deed to my house and land"—in a small town by a river on El Salvador's far eastern edge—"to be placed in the name of the mother of my daughter." Salvadoran officials facilitated the return of Acosta's body to the country of his birth. Martin Acosta's daughter, Tania, shows pictures of her father before and after stomach cancer drained away his body, and life. (Courtesy of the Martin Acosta family)

"By the time he got to the hospital, it was too late," said Collins, the retired prison doctor. "If this case went to court, would they win a malpractice suit? Yes, I think they would."

Reeves continued to fall short. The Justice Department's inspector general, Michael Horowitz, released the results of an audit of the facility in April 2015. The audit found that Reeves's medical contractor at the time, Correctional Healthcare Companies, had failed to meet contractual staffing obligations in the medical unit for at least 34 of the 37 months from 2010 to 2013. The BOP may have incentivized the understaffing: The financial penalties for failing to fill open LVN positions were so modest that it cost CHC less simply to leave them vacant. The inspector general is currently conducting a broader investigation of the BOP's contracting. About the understaffing in the medical unit at Reeves, Horowitz asks: "Why was it happening for 34 to 37 months? Why wasn't that caught before we showed up?"

The rest of the article can be found at <http://www.thenation.com/article/privatized-immigrant-prison-deaths/?nc=1>.

IN RECOGNITION OF OUR STELLAR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard working School Board members of Clear Creek Independent School District.

Our school board members of Clear Creek ISD in the 22nd Congressional District of Texas play a critical role in the success of our schools. Our district is the most diverse and fastest growing congressional district in America, due largely in part to the hardworking and caring educators and school board members that dedicate their time and energy on our schools; ensuring that our children can achieve whatever they set their mind to. Our school board members were elected or hired

to be the caretakers of the American Dream—any child can be anything they want—if they receive the education that will give them the necessary tools to achieve their dream. Our schools are stronger because each of them embrace the challenge.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, thank you again to Clear Creek ISD for being Super-Heroes in developing our leaders of tomorrow.

AMERICAN HEART MONTH

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize American Heart Month and to acknowledge the tireless advocacy of the staff and volunteers of the American Heart Association, and the organizations in my home state of New Jersey and across the country. They work this month, and year round, in the effort to raise awareness of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases. The Association is leading the charge in increasing visibility of American Heart Month through coordinated campaigns, such as National Wear Red Day on February 5, Go Red For Women, and a congressional briefing on February 24.

American Heart Month provides a critical platform to promote public awareness and heart-healthy lifestyles. The American Heart Association focuses on seven health factors and behaviors that increase the risk of cardiovascular disease, or CVD. These areas of prevention include smoking cessation, physical activity, healthy diet and body weight, as well as managing cholesterol, blood pressure, and blood sugar. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the leading cause of heart disease and stroke is uncontrolled high blood pressure. Outlining these areas gives us the knowledge to focus our prevention efforts in the fight against CVD.

The statistics speak for themselves. CVD is the leading cause of death nationally and globally. One in three American deaths is caused by CVD, a disease which claims the life of an American every forty seconds. To fully understand what that means, in 2013, the most recent year for which data is available, CVD killed over 800,000 people in America. In addition to the lives it claims, over eighty-five million Americans are currently living with CVD and its effects. CVD also has a real impact on our national economy. Annually, the economic cost of CVD is over \$316 billion. \$1 of every \$6 spent on health care in this country is spent treating CVD.

That said, there is good news. The efforts of the advocates are working. The mortality rate from heart disease has fallen by 38 percent. This is encouraging, but there remains so much more to be done.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the good work being done in my home state in the fight against CVD. The American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association are funding nineteen Founders Affiliate research awards in the state of New Jersey.

In my own Congressional district, the Meridian Health Foundation's "Women's Heart Fund"—focused on promoting heart health in Monmouth and Ocean Counties—has worked

to promote heart health awareness and raise funds for heart health at the Meridian Health System including the Jersey Shore University Medical Center, Riverview Medical Center, K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital, and Bayshore Community Hospital.

Each year, the Fund selects and supports a cardiac initiative. In 2015, the Fund supported the Community of LifeSavers program. Working together with the American Heart Association, Community of LifeSavers equips everyday people with the skills to perform CPR. Over 5,000 students from seventeen schools have been trained, at no cost to the schools or students, since the program's inception.

I am honored to have served as co-chair of the Congressional Heart and Stroke Coalition since the 113th Congress. This year marks the twentieth anniversary of the Coalition's establishment and our numbers have grown to over one hundred members of Congress. Over the past twenty years our bi-cameral, bi-partisan Coalition has served as a resource for all members of Congress and worked to advance federal policies that raise the quality of life for individuals with heart disease.

The American Heart Association and the Coalition work in partnership to raise awareness of CVD and provide those of us making funding and policy decisions with the tools and information to address the problems most critical to those affected by CVD.

Heart and stroke patients, as well as their loved ones and caregivers, need vocal advocates on Capitol Hill to ensure access to quality care and treatments. We have a duty to see that programs aimed at combating CVD, as well as medical research for prevention and treatment of stroke and heart attacks are supported appropriately at the federal level.

As we look forward to promoting awareness during American Heart Month, it is important to remember that the work continues year round. Finally, I would like to acknowledge my colleagues who are fellow members of the Congressional Heart and Stroke Coalition and thank them for their efforts. I encourage those members who have not yet joined the Coalition to do so. The Coalition will continue to work with the Association throughout the year in the fight against America's number one killer.

IN RECOGNITION OF OUR STELLAR
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard-working School Board members of Needville Independent School District.

Our school board members of Needville ISD in the 22nd Congressional District of Texas play a critical role in the success of our schools. Our district is the most diverse and fastest growing congressional district in America, due largely in part to the hard-working and caring educators and school board members that dedicate their time and energy on our schools; ensuring that our children can achieve whatever they set their mind to. Our school board members were elected or hired to be the caretakers of the American Dream—

any child can be anything they want—if they receive the education that will give them the necessary tools to achieve their dream. Our schools are stronger because each of them embrace the challenge.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, thank you again to Needville ISD for being Super-Heroes in developing our leaders of tomorrow.

KINGWOOD HIGH SCHOOL AT THE
PAN AMERICAN DEBATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Kingwood High School Debate team has been invited to compete at the Pan American Schools Debate Championships in Vancouver, Canada on March 16th, 2016. The competition is organized by the Pan-American Debate Organization (PADO) and aims "to promote debate in the Americas, and to encourage high school students to participate in international competitions."

Members of Team Kingwood include Morgan Lee, junior; Reese Grayson, senior; Colette Faulkner, junior—also the designated alternate to Team USA; Connor Smith, junior; Gaurav Gawankar, junior. The team is coached by Audra and Jason Langston. These students will not only be representing their high school, but the state of Texas as well. As they enter the competition, the Texas students will face competitors representing Argentina, Bermuda, Canada, Chile, Mexico, Peru, USA and Venezuela. The Kingwood team will be the only team that will represent a high school, rather than a country.

The principles of open debate have long been a lifeblood to our democracy. Society is shaped every day by open conversation, public opinion and debate. The great debaters, men like Patrick Henry, Daniel Webster, and John C. Calhoun shaped American society, bringing democracy to a new born nation. Debaters like Margaret Thatcher broke barriers, improved economies, and shaped their countries' policies for an entire generation. Great Debaters are leaders who have had an impact on our society.

These students have taken the first step towards becoming future leaders. Debate teaches students how to speak both powerfully and persuasively, fosters critical thinking, and how to defend their point of view. As a former debater, Judge and Congressman, I know that it's important to learn how to make a point.

Congratulations to the Kingwood Debate team. Good luck at the Pan American Championships.

And that is just the way it is.

IN RECOGNITION OF OUR STELLAR
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard working School Board members of Stafford Municipal School District.

Our school board members of Stafford MSD in the 22nd Congressional District of Texas play a critical role in the success of our schools. Our district is the most diverse and fastest growing congressional district in America, due largely in part to the hardworking and caring educators and school board members that dedicate their time and energy on our schools, ensuring that our children can achieve whatever they set their mind to. Our school board members were elected or hired to be the caretakers of the American Dream—any child can be anything they want—if they receive the education that will give them the necessary tools to achieve their dream. Our schools are stronger because each of them embrace the challenge.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, thank you again to Stafford MSD for being Super-Heroes in developing our leaders of tomorrow.

RESTORE THE VOTE

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today is both Restoration Tuesday, and the New Hampshire Primary, our nation's first primary of the election season. As Americans head to the polls today, let us all be reminded that today will be the first presidential primary in the past 50 years where Americans will not be afforded the full protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

New Hampshire is one of 16 states with new voting restrictions that have been implemented since the Supreme Court gutted Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act. Unfortunately for voters in New Hampshire, a new voter-ID law will be in full effect for the first time today.

New Hampshire's voter ID law is designed to require those without a photo ID to sign an affidavit and have their picture taken, a motif clearly designed to intimidate and imply suspicion of criminality. The authors and proponents of the law have yet to make the case for the need or intended use of the photos. In addition to intimidation, the law will undoubtedly lead to longer lines at the polls, further inhibiting access for those who have to return to work.

Congress has had two years to answer the Supreme Court's call to develop a modern day formula for preclearance under the Voting Rights Act, and therefore prevent such dangerous laws from being implemented. But here we are, on the day of the New Hampshire Primary, and nothing has been done to restore the vote. Election season has commenced, and Americans cannot wait any longer.

Thousands of our constituents will face new barriers to voting throughout this election cycle. From African American communities in my home state of Alabama, to Native American communities in Alaska, Asian American communities in California and Latino communities in Texas, thousands of minority communities across America will be met with modern-day barriers to the ballot box due to our inaction. Any attempt to restrict a certain portion of our electorate is a threat to our democracy, whether that is through voter ID laws, the closure of driver's license offices, or the scaling back of early voting.

While these don't appear to be as egregious as literacy tests and poll taxes, they represent modern-day attempts to achieve the same goal—to restrict the voice of a portion of the electorate.

I respect the differing opinions of my colleagues on issues of economic, energy, education, and foreign policy. However, I cannot comprehend how we can disagree on something as American as protecting the right to vote. Voting Rights is not a partisan issue. It is a pillar of our democracy.

As the primary season begins, I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor the Voting Rights Advancement Act and join me and many others in urging Speaker Ryan to bring this bill to the floor for a vote.

IN RECOGNITION OF OUR STELLAR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard working School Board members of Alvin Independent School District.

Our school board members of Alvin ISD in the 22nd Congressional District of Texas play a critical role in the success of our schools. Our district is the most diverse and fastest growing congressional district in America, due largely in part to the hard-working and caring educators and school board members that dedicate their time and energy on our schools; ensuring that our children can achieve whatever they set their mind to. Our school board members were elected or hired to be the caretakers of the American Dream—any child can be anything they want—if they receive the education that will give them the necessary tools to achieve their dream. Our schools are stronger because each of them embrace the challenge.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, thank you again to Alvin ISD for being Super-Heroes in developing our leaders of tomorrow.

TEXAS 4000

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, during the summer months of 2016, TEXAS 4000, a University of Texas non-profit organization, will host their annual summer bike ride: the longest charity bicycle ride in the world (as they say, everything's bigger in Texas). The ride starts in Austin, TX and stretches 4,000 miles across the country to Anchorage, Alaska. Participating in this ride are 75, carefully selected, University of Texas college students. These 75 UT students will commit 70 days of their summer to complete the 4,000-mile ride, utilizing each day to raise awareness about cancer prevention, detection, and research in the communities they visit along the way. One of the 75 UT students, Jeffery Saeling, happens to be a constituent of mine.

Jeffery attended Kingwood High School in Texas from 2008 to 2012. During his senior

year, in 2012, he was nominated as the Kingwood High School student of character for exhibiting responsibility, respect, trustworthiness, fairness, caring and citizenship; consequently, I, along with Dr. Guy Sconzo, the superintendent of Humble ISD, and Texas State Representative, Dan Huberty had the pleasure of meeting Jeffery, where we experienced firsthand the quality of his character. Four years later, in 2016, Jeffery's continued display of character is one of the reasons he was selected to participate in the TEXAS 4000's summer ride. However, selection for the ride is only the beginning.

Once selected to participate, each rider is expected to raise \$4,500 and volunteer at least 50 hours in their community. On top of this, riders must commit to dedicate time and effort in the planning, preparation, and execution of the summer ride. These lofty expectations coupled with the physicality of the ride work in tandem to cultivate volunteers and philanthropists dedicated to eradicating cancer. However, this wouldn't be possible without TEXAS 4000, the non-profit organization responsible for the 4000-mile ride.

Their mission: to share "hope, knowledge, and charity through leadership development, grant making, and their 4,000 plus mile bike ride from Austin to Anchorage: They share hope by letting those affected by cancer know that they are riding for them and fighting for a world without cancer; they share knowledge by bringing life-saving information about cancer prevention to communities and providing leadership development training to tomorrow's leaders; and they share charity by contributing to cancer research and cancer support services while developing the next generation of volunteers and philanthropists."

To date, TEXAS 4000 has raised over \$5 million for distribution to various organizations such as M.D. Anderson and the American Cancer Society. Their impact and influence is not contained by the boundaries of the community they operate within, it spans nationwide.

Organizations, like TEXAS 4000, and people, like Jeffery Saeling, represent some of the best my district and Texas has to offer. Their selflessness, dedication, and volunteerism stand as a shining example of the type of quality Americans who call Texas home. Their mission is honorable and their hearts huge.

And that's just the way it is.

HAPPY 25TH ANNIVERSARY TO COLONY ONE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Colony One Auto in Stafford, Texas on its upcoming 25th anniversary. Colony One has been open since April 15, 1991.

This quarter century anniversary reflects 25 years of hard work, commendable service and quality relationships built within the community. Colony One's commitment to excellence and their customers has resulted in high praise and positive reviews on Angie's List, among other service review websites. Their dedication to their business and their community has also enabled them to be on track to

work on their 250,000th automobile during this year, averaging 11,000–12,000 a year since the business opened. Colony One has remained a friendly, reputable business for the community. We appreciate their business and are proud to see their success.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Colony One Auto for 25 years of successful, quality service.

THANKING JUANITA CAMPBELL
FOR HER SERVICE TO THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Ms. Juanita Campbell, who is retiring after more than forty-two years of outstanding service to the United States Congress.

Ms. Campbell retired in January as a Manager of Legislative Data, with more than four decades of service to the Library of Congress. She first started working for the Library in 1973 as a high school student, at which time she served as a Library Aide working on the National Union Catalog. Ms. Campbell went on to become a Clerk Typist in 1974 and, soon after, joined the Congressional Research Service's Economic Division as an Editorial Assistant. Three years later, she moved to the American Law Division, originally called the Bill Digest Section, where she helped track and summarize all pending public legislation. Since 1996, Ms. Campbell has served as a Manager of Legislative Data. Through the years, she has been a highly reliable and knowledgeable liaison to House and Senate staff, relaying bill status information and sharing her expertise on the interaction of the different legislative information management systems.

Ms. Campbell has been focused intently on improving access to legislative proceedings. She aided in the transition of where transcripts and details of legislative proceedings could be found: from only being available through a Library of Congress database, with a limited range of users, to their availability on the internet through the THOMAS website, which everyone can access. Ms. Campbell's knowledge was invaluable during the recent transition to the more modern Congress.gov.

Ms. Campbell has been instrumental at increasing legislative transparency and moving Congress into the digital age. The services she helped develop are invaluable to Congress, the public, and our democracy. The work of her unit, particularly on bill status information, has vastly increased accessibility to the legislative database as well as documentation. Her keen attention to detail has been largely responsible for the high quality of work the Library and CRS's legislative service provides.

Throughout her career, Ms. Campbell's thoughtfulness and positive attitude have earned her the respect and confidence of countless Congressional and CRS staff. As a manager responsible for much of what makes complex information not merely reliable but understandable, she has always demonstrated a passion for teamwork, learning, and problem-solving.

Although Ms. Campbell will be retiring, her many accomplishments will stand as a fitting tribute to her as a professional and as a patriot. Ms. Campbell's presence will be greatly missed. On behalf of this House, I congratulate Juanita Campbell on her retirement and thank her for her dedication and outstanding contributions to the institution. I wish her the best in all her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF OUR STELLAR
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard working School Board members of Katy Independent School District.

Our school board members of Katy ISD in the 22nd Congressional District of Texas play a critical role in the success of our schools. Our district is the most diverse and fastest growing congressional district in America, due largely in part to the hard-working and caring educators and school board members that dedicate their time and energy on our schools; ensuring that our children can achieve whatever they set their mind to. Our school board members were elected or hired to be the caretakers of the American Dream—any child can be anything they want—if they receive the education that will give them the necessary tools to achieve their dream. Our schools are stronger because each of them embrace the challenge.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, thank you again to Katy ISD for being Super-Heroes in developing our leaders of tomorrow.

MOURNING THE LOSS AND HONORING THE UNFORGETTABLE
LIFE OF MAURICE WHITE

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a deep sadness and a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to Maurice White, a man who touched the hearts of millions of Americans as a founding member of the legendary band called Earth, Wind & Fire.

Maurice "Reese" White was born on December 19, 1941, in Memphis, Tennessee.

From a young age he displayed a true talent for playing music.

He left Memphis to study music in Chicago at the elite Chicago Conservatory of Music.

In 1963, Maurice White began working as a session drummer for Chess Records. Soon after, he began playing with the Ramsey Lewis Trio. In 1969, he formed his own band, the Salty Peppers. After moving to Los Angeles, California, Maurice White renamed the band as Earth, Wind & Fire. He asked his younger brother, bassist Verdine White, to join his band. The band's first album failed to become a break out hit, which prompted Maurice White to shuffle the membership. Maurice White brought in several new members that

included singer Philip Bailey, keyboardist Larry Dunn, and guitarist Al McKay. The band began experimenting with jazz, R&B, funk, soul, pop music, and African sounds.

Then in 1973, with the new band members and a new sound, Earth, Wind & Fire released their first hit album titled *Head to the Sky*, selling more than 500,000 copies. The group continued to build on that success by producing a succession of gold and platinum albums throughout the 1970s and the early 1980s. Maurice White helped compose many of the band's hits and the songs that helped define the decade: "Shining Star," "That's the Way of the World," "Reasons," "September," and "Let's Groove." Maurice White won six Grammys with Earth, Wind & Fire, and received a solo award for his arrangement of "Got To Get You Into My Life." Maurice White and Earth Wind & Fire were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2000.

Also, in 2000, Maurice White revealed to the world that he had been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. This announcement served as an explanation to his legion of loyal fans around the world for his decision to withdraw from performing. Despite the effects of his health condition, Maurice White decided to remain active in the Music industry by founding a new recording label called Kalimba Records. He also collaborated on Hot Feet, which was a musical set to Earth, Wind & Fire songs. Then in 2010, Maurice White was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. After a long battle with Parkinson's disease, Maurice White passed away in his sleep on February 3, 2016 in Los Angeles, California. Mr. Speaker, Maurice White leaves behind a legacy as one of the most innovative and unique artists and songwriters of the 21st century.

IN RECOGNITION OF OUR STELLAR
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard working School Board members of Pearland Independent School District.

Our school board members of Pearland ISD in the 22nd Congressional District of Texas play a critical role in the success of our schools. Our district is the most diverse and fastest growing congressional district in America, due largely in part to the hardworking and caring educators and school board members that dedicate their time and energy on our schools; ensuring that our children can achieve whatever they set their mind to. Our school board members were elected or hired to be the caretakers of the American Dream—any child can be anything they want—if they receive the education that will give them the necessary tools to achieve their dream. Our schools are stronger because each of them embrace the challenge.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, thank you again to Pearland ISD for being Super-Heroes in developing our leaders of tomorrow.

IN RECOGNITION OF OUR STELLAR
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard working School Board members of Fort Bend Independent School District.

Our school board members of Fort Bend ISD in the 22nd Congressional District of Texas play a critical role in the success of our schools. Our district is the most diverse and fastest growing congressional district in America, due largely in part to the hardworking and caring educators and school board members that dedicate their time and energy on our schools; ensuring that our children can achieve whatever they set their mind to. Our school board members were elected or hired

to be the caretakers of the American Dream—any child can be anything they want—if they receive the education that will give them the necessary tools to achieve their dream. Our schools are stronger because each of them embrace the challenge.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, thank you again to Fort Bend ISD for being Super-Heroes in developing our leaders of tomorrow.

IN RECOGNITION OF OUR STELLAR
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard working School Board members of Lamar Consolidated Independent School District.

Our school board members of Lamar Consolidated ISD in the 22nd Congressional District of Texas play a critical role in the success of our schools. Our district is the most diverse and fastest growing congressional district in America, due largely in part to the hard-working and caring educators and school board members that dedicate their time and energy on our schools; ensuring that our children can achieve whatever they set their mind to. Our school board members were elected or hired to be the caretakers of the American Dream—any child can be anything they want—if they receive the education that will give them the necessary tools to achieve their dream. Our schools are stronger because each of them embrace the challenge.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, thank you again to Lamar Consolidated ISD for being Super-Heroes in developing our leaders of tomorrow.