

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Chair, I was absent during roll call votes No. 416 through No. 425 due to my spouse's health situation in California. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on the Perry Amendment. I would have also voted "nay" on the Griffith Amendment. I would have also voted "yea" on the Takano Amendment. I would have also voted "nay" on the King (IA) Amendment. I would have also voted "yea" on the Castor Amendment. I would have also voted "yea" on the Norcross Amendment. I would have also voted "yea" on the Esty Amendment. I would have also voted "yea" on the Garamendi Amendment. I would have also voted "yea" on the Pingree Amendment. I would have also voted "yea" on the Jackson Lee Amendment.

CONGRATULATING DAVID DAUGHERTY ON HIS RETIREMENT AS GOSHEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESIDENT

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate David Daugherty on his retirement as President of the Goshen Chamber of Commerce and to thank him for his 14 years of serving northern Indiana Hoosiers.

As Chamber president, David was committed to fostering opportunities that advanced our growing workforce, supported existing businesses, attracted new ones, and united our community under a common vision for a brighter future. I am grateful for the outstanding leadership and insight David brought to the Chamber. In tackling important issues like redevelopment, our community saw David's keen ability to build valuable relationships among community members and strong partnerships with education and government leaders.

David's work at the Chamber was guided by the values of integrity, respect, collaboration, and the belief that thriving businesses build stronger communities. A forward thinker, David has consistently led efforts that aim to improve the quality of life for Hoosiers, their families, and our local businesses. In doing so he encouraged greater inclusion and empowerment through the Chamber's efforts to work "Together, Growing Goshen."

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Indiana's 2nd District I want to thank David for all he has done to make Goshen a wonderful place to live and work. His impact on the community is sure to last far into the future, and I have no doubt the Chamber will continue to honor David's legacy by working to strengthen our business community and welcome growth and innovation.

IN HONOR OF CHERYL NIMMO

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Cheryl Nimmo, CRNA, DNP, MSHSA. Ms. Nimmo will soon complete her year as national president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA). It is an incredible honor that Ms. Nimmo was elected as the 2016–2017 president of this prestigious national organization.

As a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) for nearly 38 years, Ms. Nimmo has contributed greatly to the healthcare community in Rhode Island and nationwide. Ms. Nimmo is currently assistant professor and assistant program director for the nurse anesthesia program at the University of New England, in Portland, Maine. Hospitals in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Missouri have all benefited from Ms. Nimmo's work as both staff and chief CRNA. In addition to serving as an airway skills and pediatric anesthesia instructor, locum tenens CRNA, and clinical preceptor, she has provided expertise in office-based orthopedics and coronary care.

Ms. Nimmo has also modeled lifelong commitment to her professional education and development. She was awarded her nursing diploma from Newport Hospital School of Nursing, in Newport, R.I.; her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Evangel University in Springfield, Mo.; her certificate in nurse anesthesia from St. John's School of Anesthesia at Missouri State University in Springfield; her Master's Degree in Health Service Administration from Salve Regina University in Newport, R.I.; and her Doctorate of Nursing Practice from Northeastern University, in Boston.

During her AANA Presidency, Ms. Nimmo has been a prominent advocate for patients and for the practice of nurse anesthesia. In addition to her service as AANA President, Ms. Nimmo has long been an active member of her state and national professional associations. She has served in multiple capacities on various committees, boards of directors, and the AANA Foundation.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Ms. Nimmo today on a job well done. Her service to the AANA and her patients and her commitment to high quality healthcare nationwide are commendable, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing her notable career and outstanding achievements.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY SERGEANT (SGT) TAUREAN TRAVANTI' HARRIS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Army Sergeant (SGT) Taurean Travanti' Harris who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our great nation on August 2, 2007, during Operation Enduring Freedom. SGT Harris died of wounds he received from an improvised explosive de-

vice in Kala Gush, Afghanistan. SGT Harris was assigned to the 202nd Military Intelligence Battalion, 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, Fort Gordon, GA.

SGT Harris, a Liberty native, attended Amite County High School. He served as a Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) cadet throughout high school. He graduated with honors in 2003. SGT Harris followed in the footsteps of his uncle, Frederick Wagner, and joined the U.S. Army.

SGT Harris' mother, Yolanda Wagner, said that her son was loved by all who knew him.

"Taurean truly was a beautiful person," Mrs. Wagner said. "He was the man every girl wanted to marry. Everybody loved him. He strived for excellence. He always wanted to better himself."

Mrs. Wagner said SGT Harris' memorial service, held at the Jerusalem Baptist Church, was unforgettable.

"I was so emotional," Mrs. Wagner said. "It was an honor to see so many people come out to honor him and support us. It was amazing."

According to the Associated Press, hundreds of family, friends, and military personnel came to the funeral. Mrs. Wagner says over 100 members of The Patriot Guard led the procession.

During the service, Brigadier General (BG) Jeffrey Foley commended SGT Harris for his positive attitude. "He was able to bring joy to whatever we would do," BG Foley said. "No matter what the task."

For his service, SGT Harris earned the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, and a Good Conduct medal.

Mrs. Wagner says SGT Harris was honored for his service during a ceremony held on the tenth anniversary of his death. A portion of Highway 48, close to the Jerusalem Community where he grew up, was named in his honor by Mississippi Department of Transportation Commissioner Mike Tagert.

SGT Harris is survived by his daughter, Tiana Marie Harris; his daughter's mother, Joanie Poleder; his parents, Cecil Harris and Yolanda Wagner; his four brothers, Justin Davis, William Harris, Christian Harris, and Okoye Harris; and his sisters, Tara Cockerham and Bianca Sesson.

HONORING ROTAPLAST INTERNATIONAL

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rotaplast International's 25th Anniversary of enabling children across the world with cleft lips and palates to receive life-changing surgery.

Founded in 1992 as part of the Rotary Club of San Francisco by its members Dr. Angelo Capozzi and Peter Lagarias, Rotaplast has since sponsored over 200 missions that have helped over 18,000 children worldwide. From the fast mission to La Serena in northern Chile, Rotaplast has been saving smiles and changing lives in 26 countries, including Chile, Columbia, Guatemala, Mexico, the Philippines, India, Ethiopia, and Tanzania.

Rotaplast is able to do this tremendous work because of the thousands of medical

professionals and Rotarians who volunteer countless hours of their time to this worthy endeavor. Multi-disciplinary teams of medical professionals travel around the world to provide free training to care for the children, in addition to the free reconstructive surgery. These volunteers help foster Rotaplast's mission of building goodwill among people from different countries, languages, cultures, and ways of life, and the education Rotaplast provides its patients and their families will help improve lives long after Rotaplast leaves.

Thanks to the support of Rotary International and the many Rotary Clubs and Districts around the world who have participated in this program, Rotaplast International's work in my district and around the world has been exemplary. It is therefore fitting to honor and thank Rotaplast for 25 years of success in changing children's lives and adhering to Rotary International's motto of "doing good in the world." I offer them my sincere congratulations and best wishes for many more years of service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE STATE STREET ART FAIR'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the organizers and artists of the Ann Arbor State Street Art Fair. For 50 years, the Art Fair has showcased work from thousands of artists around the country and helped establish Ann Arbor as a center of art and culture.

Originally established in 1967, the State Street Art Fair hosts approximately 300 artists and their works each summer in Ann Arbor for four days by the campus of the University of Michigan. As one of the four independently juried art fairs that operate concurrently each summer as the Ann Arbor Art Fair, the State Street Art Fair is a key part of the city's cultural scene and has helped establish the city as a nexus for artistic excellence. The State Street Art Fair and other Ann Arbor art fairs collectively attract around 400,000 visitors each year and serve as an exhibition of award-winning artists as well as the city at large. The State Street Art Fair's rigorous screening process for prospective exhibitions by a jury of artistic professionals, as well as its high standards for entry, have resulted in a renowned art fair that helps draw outstanding artists and visitors to the Ann Arbor area.

The work of the organizers and participants have helped make State Street Art Fair one of the nation's premier showcases of artistic talent. The fair continues to attract a vibrant community with expertise in traditional crafts of glass, painting and photography, as well as new innovative and contemporary mediums of expression. In addition to the merchant displays, the State Street Art Fair also offers live entertainment, food from local vendors and outdoor shopping. These offerings continue to help attract hundreds of thousands of individuals each year while supporting the local community, and it is my hope that the State Street Art Fair continues to build on its successful showings in the coming years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the organizers and participants of the State Street Art Fair on the 50th Anniversary of its establishment. The fair continues to attract outstanding artists and visitors from around the country.

BORDER WALL

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I have a few questions for my colleagues across the aisle—what can we do with 1.6 billion dollars?

How many highways and roads could we fix?

How many Americans could we train for good paying jobs, for that amount of money?

And didn't the President promise that Americans wouldn't have to pay for a wall?

Now in one big bill that's out of regular order we are being asked to waste 1.6 billion dollars on a wall that would be ineffective and offensive to our neighbors?

In my district, we know that our border is our strength, not our weakness.

San Diego and Tijuana are two regions, but we are one community.

We have worked for years to create an efficient border that allows thousands of people to safely cross into our country every day; spending money in our stores, paying taxes that support our infrastructure, and bringing economic stability to our region.

We cannot allow fear and uncertainty to isolate us from the rest of the world, and building a wall along our expansive southern border would do just that.

RECOGNIZING BYRON-BETHANY IRRIGATION DISTRICT

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Byron-Bethany Irrigation District for being awarded the Association of California Water Agencies' 2017 Excellence in Water Leaders Award.

Byron-Bethany Irrigation District serves crucial farming communities in California's Central Valley including the city of Tracy, which is located in my district. The water they distribute allows their customers to cultivate successful farmland that both promotes a successful economy and feeds the world.

This award is in recognition of BBID's bold actions in defending the water rights of the farming communities within their area of service. In the face of the California drought, the State Water Resources Control Board issued curtailment orders for the local community that would drastically affect the crucial farmland that BBID serves. The District General Manager, Rick Gilmore, and the district's seven member Board of Directors launched an effective legal effort to protect the water rights of local farming communities. They argued that the state's analysis of available water was in-

accurate. The state's dismissal of the case against BBID in 2016 was a victory for small farming districts, and cemented the water rights that serve as a foundation for BBID's community.

The Excellence in Water Leaders Award is presented annually by the Association of California Water Agencies to an individual or group that has made a visible contribution to California water. ACWA is a statewide association of public agencies and their members are responsible for about 90% of water delivered in California. ACWA's recognition of Byron-Bethany Irrigation District's impact on the water rights for small farming communities is an immense honor.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending the Byron-Bethany Irrigation District for receiving this impressive award and for their exuberance and dedication to our local farming communities within California's Central Valley.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALEXANDER X. MOONEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on Monday I accompanied President Donald J. Trump to his speech at the 2017 National Boy Scout Jamboree and thus missed votes Monday night.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 408, and YEA on Roll Call No. 409.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO BAN PRESIDENTS FROM PARDONING THEMSELVES

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I joined as an original cosponsor of the Constitutional Amendment of AL GREEN of Texas. That Amendment states that a President may not pardon him or herself for violations of United States law.

I believe that the Amendment is likely unnecessary. I believe that the Supreme Court, in construing the existing Constitution, would reach the conclusion that the President's power to pardon does not include the power to pardon the President.

However it is always useful to provide a clarification of a meaning of a statute, or even a Constitutional provision, whenever any doubt its meaning or construction.

I doubt that the amendment could be adopted and ratified with sufficient speed to prevent the current President from pardoning himself. I believe the adoption of the amendment could still be useful in providing a clarification should this issue arise in future presidencies.