

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## STOP SETTLEMENT SLUSH FUNDS ACT OF 2016

SPEECH OF

**HON. KEITH ELLISON**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 7, 2016*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5063) to limit donations made pursuant to settlement agreements to which the United States is a party, and for other purposes:

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to this bill. I offered an amendment to rename it Another Wall Street Request to Avoid Accountability for Fraud. But, my amendment for a more accurate title was not accepted.

Today, the majority wants to defund the organizations and attorneys that help people have a fighting chance against deep-pocketed multi-national corporations and banks.

Mr. Speaker, Congress returns after a seven-week district work period. During that time, I held many constituent meetings. Not one person asked me to weaken regulations on hedge fund managers or Wall Street bankers. And yet, Wall Street requests are what the majority prioritized for our first week back.

This bill would defund the network of housing counselors and legal aid attorneys who help homeowners facing foreclosure.

Homeowners who were tricked into buying a home with teaser rates that exploded into unaffordable payments.

Homeowners who deserved a chance to catch up after a missed payment or two but were unable to get a response from their lender.

And homeowners like Alan Schroit. Alan, a retired cancer researcher, visited his rental house in Galveston, Texas. He found the locks had been changed, the electricity shut off and a notice on the door said Bank of America was foreclosing on his home. Alan did not have a mortgage with Bank of America. Alan didn't even have a mortgage. His home was paid off. It took him 30 days to get someone at Bank of America to call him back.

Homeowners like Nilly Mauck who lost all her possessions when a company mistakenly evicted her instead of her neighbor.

Or homeowners like Charlie and Maria Cardoso who bought their retirement home with cash in 2005. While they continued living in their primary home, they rented their retirement home out. Their tenants came home one day to find the house cleared of all the possessions—again by Bank of America.

Nilly, Alan and Charlie and Maria's foreclosures were some of thirteen million between 2006–2010. Far too many of them were fraudulent, people foreclosed on by firms who did not have clear title to the property. A significant number of these foreclosures could have been prevented if the lenders involved had followed the law. The new book, Chain of

Title, by David Dayen reports that across our nation, homeowners who should have received assistance with a loan modification, or allowed to cure a delinquency, instead were hit with outrageous late fines, sold over-priced forced-placed insurance, punished with monthly property inspection and other junk fees. Using robo-signing, their eviction papers were signed by people who had no ownership of the loan.

Congress and the states demanded change. Legal settlements pursued by the Department of Justice, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the banking regulators and the states made sure that people have a fighting chance against deep-pocketed multi-national corporations.

And yes, to correct this massive wrongdoing required that Bank of America, JPMorgan Chase, Citigroup, Ally Financial and others pay fines. Some of those fines supported non-profit agencies who knew how to get banks to respond to homeowners and follow the law. The funds supported legal aid attorneys who knew how to ensure the banking doing the eviction actually had a right to the property. When lenders foreclose on the wrong people, or lie about their ownership of a mortgage, there should be consequences.

When we require banks to fund housing counseling and legal aid agencies, we leveled the playing field. We realized it was unfair to require each individual person to figure out the unresponsive, complicated and too often predatory home mortgage market on their own.

I oppose gutting initiatives to help homeowners, small business owners and families do battle with global corporations who have defrauded them out of their home or business, polluted their water or land or harmed their health.

Therefore I will oppose H.R. 5063.  
I urge my colleagues to do the same.

## COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY

SPEECH OF

**HON. BRIAN BABIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 8, 2016*

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of conservative icon and founder of the Eagle Forum Phyllis Schlafly.

Phyllis Schlafly was a courageous and determined leader who spent her entire adult life fighting for America and our traditional family values. She stood up and spoke up when others did not.

She was a fearless and outspoken defender of the unborn—and a leading voice in protecting America's sovereignty and supporting the U.S. military.

Until her final day on Earth, Phyllis Schlafly fought tirelessly for these commonsense principles and the conservative foundations that

have made America strong. She never stopped exposing the absurdity of the liberal left and the appalling failures of the policies they advocate.

Often referred to as the "First Lady of the Conservative Movement," Phyllis Schlafly's leadership, candor and tenacity was a breath of fresh air—and it will be greatly missed.

While we have lost a powerful voice and advocate for the American people, we can be certain that Phyllis Schlafly's tremendous pride in America and passion for the conservative movement will undoubtedly live on and continue to inspire future conservative leaders for generations to come.

My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Schlafly family during this very difficult time. On behalf of the many Americans she inspired, we say thank you.

## INTRODUCING THE IRAQ AND SYRIA GENOCIDE RELIEF AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2016

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 5961, the Iraq and Syria Genocide Relief and Accountability Act of 2016. Since ISIS' blitzkrieg across the multi-ethnic and religiously diverse mosaic of eastern Syria and western Iraq in 2014, I have chaired four hearings focused on the implications of this appalling advance for religious and ethnic minorities in those areas. Events in the region and the expert testimony of witnesses quickly revealed that ISIS was not merely focused on territorial conquest—the group was ideologically committed to exterminating ancient religious communities and cleansing its self-proclaimed caliphate of anything but its vicious and fundamentalist interpretation of Islam. Many of my colleagues and I were certain early on that ISIS was committing genocide. We pressed the Administration to formally acknowledge that fact until the Secretary of State did so in March of this year. But the most pressing question issue has always been the lives of those religious minorities right now that face extinction under this tyranny of terror.

The Iraq and Syria Genocide Relief and Accountability Act of 2016 is an answer to the question of what the United States can do to mitigate this suffering, save lives, and build a more sustainable future for Syria and Iraq. The bill tackles this overwhelming challenge on three fronts by directing the Administration to take additional measures to improve the lives of displaced genocide survivors, provide some of them with an additional lifeline to escape their war torn lands, and support efforts that will help preserve the presence of religious minority communities in those areas for years to come.

In a hearing this May that I chaired called "The ISIS Genocide Declaration: What Next?"

• 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.

Carl Anderson, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus—who has been a leader in drawing attention to the plight of Christians in this conflict—testified that “Repeatedly we hear from Church leaders in the region that Christians—and other genocide survivors—are last in line for assistance from governments.” We can and must do better. To that end, H.R. 5961 requires the Administration to assess and address the humanitarian vulnerabilities, needs, and triggers to flee, of religious and ethnic communities that were targeted for genocide or otherwise severely persecuted. It directs the Administration to fund entities that are effectively providing assistance to these communities and guarantees that faith-based organizations on the ground are not excluded from U.S. assistance.

One such example is the Chaldean Catholic Archdiocese of Erbil, which provides assistance to internally displaced families of Yazidis, Muslims, and Christians, including food and resettlement from tents to permanent housing, as well as rental assistance, for Yazidis, medical care and education to Yazidis and Muslims through its clinics, schools, and university—which are open to everyone. The Archdiocese provides some form of each of these kinds of assistance to all of the estimated 10,500 internally displaced Christian families in the greater Erbil region. Yet as it provides these critical services, it has not received a single penny from any government. H.R. 5961 is clear that the Administration must be supporting entities, regardless of whether they are faith-based, that are heroically providing assistance to genocide survivors on the ground.

In recognition of the extraordinary suffering of these religious and ethnic communities, and their extraordinary vulnerability to persecution, H.R. 5961 requires the Administration to create a Priority Two, or “P-2,” visa category of special humanitarian concern that would provide one additional avenue for genocide survivors to seek resettlement in the United States through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program. It is important to note that this is not a “fast track” to resettlement—P-2 applicants undergo the same security screening as all refugee applicants. But this special category allows them to access an overseas interview wherever the United States interviews refugee applicants, without needing a referral from the UN, an NGO, or a US Embassy, as is usually the case.

This bill also addresses a critical factor that will influence the continued presence of smaller, vulnerable religious communities in Syria and Iraq beyond this conflict: accountability for those who perpetrate heinous crimes against them. H.R. 5961 directs the Administration to prioritize supporting the criminal investigation, prosecution, and conviction of perpetrators of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes. These efforts will be focused on funding and supporting entities that are conducting criminal investigations, building Syrian and Iraqi investigative and judicial capacity, or collecting and preserving evidence for eventual use in domestic courts, hybrid courts, or internationalized domestic courts. Whether they are members of the Assad regime, ISIS, or some of the Popular Mobilization Brigades in Iraq, there can be no impunity for individuals who committed these dreadful crimes.

H.R. 5961 also directs the Administration to identify gaps in our criminal statutes to facilitate the prosecution of American perpetrators,

and non-Americans present in the United States, of crimes against humanity and war crimes.

Without accountability, without humanitarian assistance reaching these religious and ethnic communities, we risk losing the invaluable, ancient presence of these communities in these countries altogether. This will feed violent extremism and dim the future of Iraq and Syria.

I urge my House colleagues to support this measure that will deliver immediate assistance to genocide survivors, help prosecute and punish perpetrators, and invest in a sustainable future for these persecuted religious and ethnic communities in the lands in which they have lived for so many generations.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO ED MORLAN

#### HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of Mr. Ed Morlan of Bayfield, Colorado. Ed has worked tirelessly for decades to grow the economy of Southwest Colorado and provide opportunities for countless families in his community to succeed and prosper.

Ed's life of service started before his work in local economic development when he fought for his country in three tours in Vietnam. For his actions he received a Purple Heart and a Silver Star. Returning from Vietnam, Ed set his sights on making a difference in his community, becoming a town board member of Bayfield, CO, for five terms while also working with the Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado, a nonprofit organization that supports business startups, that has given more than \$19 million to advance growth and opportunity in the region which encompasses five counties and two Indian Reservations.

Through his hard work over 27 years, as Executive Director of Region 9—a fledgling organization with a \$30,000 deficit when Ed took over in 1989. Ed has overseen an expansion of the organization that now boasts an operating budget of close to \$2 million dollars and has for decades been instrumental in the economic health of Southwest Colorado.

The mining industry in Silverton, CO has faced several rounds of layoffs in recent decades. Ed's work with Region 9 has helped to offset many of these negative impacts by creating a thriving environment for small businesses. Through the years, under Ed's direction, Region 9 has assisted businesses from hardware stores, to ski areas, and even an animal hospital.

Mr. Speaker, Ed Morlan is an outstanding citizen of Colorado's Third Congressional District. He embodies the spirit of entrepreneurship and commitment to community that makes this such a special place to live. Without Ed's hard work, many rural businesses would not be thriving today. Although Ed is retiring from Region 9, he plans on continuing to help the community. On behalf of the people of Colorado's Third District I want to thank Ed for his work, and service to his country and community. We wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

#### CELEBRATING “EDDIE GAEDEL DAY”

#### HON. DENNY HECK

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. HECK of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call the attention of my House colleagues to one of the most unusual careers in our national pastime of baseball, one that began and ended with just one trip to the plate at Sportsman's Park in St. Louis on August 19, 1951. In the bottom of the first inning, during the second game of a Sunday afternoon doubleheader against the Detroit Tigers, the St. Louis Browns sent a pinch hitter to the plate, 3'7" Eddie Gaedel, whose 65 pound weight made him the shortest and lightest player in Major League Baseball history.

Wearing the uniform of the Browns nine year old batboy, Eddie drew a walk on four straight pitches from Detroit pitcher Bob Cain, and was replaced by a pinch runner. His one day professional baseball career came to an abrupt halt several days later when American League president Will Harridge voided Gaedel's contract. Nevertheless, his place in baseball history was preserved in the record books as one of the only players to have a perfect 1.000 on base percentage for his entire career. Eddie Gaedel's autograph is now worth more than Babe Ruth's, and the bat he used in the game recently sold at auction for over fifty thousand dollars.

St. Louis Browns owner Bill Veeck promised Eddie Gaedel immortality when he signed him to a contract to play for the Browns. In Spokane, WA, an organization works annually to help Eddie achieve the immortality he was promised. Founded in 2011 at O'Doherty Irish Grille and Pub, the Eddie Gaedel Society, Spokane Chapter No. 1 has launched a national campaign to make each August 19th “Eddie Gaedel Fan Appreciation Day” in ballparks everywhere. The club is also seeking Eddie Gaedel's induction into the Baseball Hall of Fame, where his jersey bearing the number 1/8 was displayed for many years before being returned to St. Louis, where it now hangs in the St. Louis Cardinals Hall of Fame and Museum. I am a proud honorary member of that organization.

Several years ago, Spokane Mayor David Condon declared August 19, “Eddie Gaedel Day” and St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay did so this year, the sixty-fifth anniversary of Eddie Gaedel's one day, four pitch baseball career. In addition, the St. Louis Cardinals have made their home game on Friday, September 9, “Eddie Gaedel Bobblehead Night,” and will give away thirty thousand of the miniature statues of baseball's smallest player to fans who attend their home game against the Milwaukee Brewers.

Of particular note is the fact that the St. Louis Browns batboy who literally gave Eddie Gaedel the shirt off his back in August of 1951 so he could go to bat, Bill DeWitt, Jr., is now principal owner of the St. Louis Cardinals. His son, Bill DeWitt III, is the team president. The DeWitt family's involvement in professional baseball in both St. Louis and other cities stretches back over one hundred years. Bill DeWitt, Sr. sold the St. Louis Browns to Bill Veeck only weeks before Eddie came up to bat, and was serving as the team's general manager at the time.

Several days after his one day career ended, Eddie Gaedel told a sportswriter "Any young fellow dreams of being a big leaguer—and that's what I consider myself. I've got a Browns uniform with No. 1/8 on the back, a glove, and a contract. I've spent all my life in Chicago and never played ball, but I've always wanted to. I made up for it by becoming a red hot fan. I've followed the game for years."

Mr. Speaker, Eddie Gaedel was the one and only red hot fan who ever appeared in a Major League Baseball game, drawing a walk to first base and into the record books. On this sixty-fifth anniversary of his historic achievement, I join with his many fans in Spokane, St. Louis, and around the baseball world in a tip of the cap to the immortal Eddie Gaedel. Take a walk, Eddie.

#### HONORING KAYL AUCH

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kayl Auch. Kayl is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kayl has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kayl has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Kayl has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Kayl built a tennis backboard located at Bennett Park in Liberty, Missouri, to allow people to practice tennis by themselves, along with providing the Liberty North High School tennis team the use of this facility during their practice times and during the off-season.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kayl Auch for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### TRIBUTE TO DANIEL LEONARD

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Daniel Leonard, of Mount Ayr, Iowa for earning the Gold Medal in "Electrical Construction Wiring" at the 2016 SkillsUSA competition.

SkillsUSA is a collaborative effort among students, instructors and industry representatives to ensure the nation has a skilled workforce. The purpose of this championship is to reward students for excellence, involve industry professionals in directly evaluating students' performance and keep training relevant to employers' needs today. Daniel Leonard received the highest score ever awarded at this competition. He is a 2009 graduate of Mount Ayr High School, and earned his Associate of

Arts degree from Southwestern Community College in Creston in 2011, completing his Associate of Applied Science degree in electrical technology in 2015.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Daniel Leonard demonstrates the rewards of harnessing one's talents and sharing them with the world. His efforts embody the Iowa spirit. I am honored to represent Iowans like him in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Daniel Leonard for his achievements and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

#### HONORING DANIEL FOSTER

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Daniel Foster. Daniel is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 378, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Daniel has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Daniel has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Daniel has led his troop as the patrol leader on two separate occasions. Daniel has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Daniel collected stuffed animals and blankets for a shelter in the Kansas City area for children who have been removed from abusive situations.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Daniel Foster for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### IN HONOR OF MS. ANN JOHNSON

### HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my constituent, Ann Johnson, a recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

This prestigious award is administered by the National Science Foundation on behalf of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy and recognizes outstanding teachers across the country for their contributions to the teaching of mathematics and science. Ms. Johnson was awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching for her dedication and work at the Sageville Elementary School in Dubuque, Iowa.

Teachers like Ann enable students to realize their potential and pave the path for the next generation of doctors, engineers, and innovators. On behalf of the Dubuque community and the First District of Iowa, I sincerely thank Ann for her commitment to educating our children in mathematics and science.

Congratulations on this impressive award. I am proud to represent Ann, an extraordinary educator, in Congress.

#### RECOGNIZING THE DOPE PROJECT FOR INSPIRING MESSAGE ABOUT FLINT

### HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing The Dope Project for the educational opportunities it has provided to Flint high school students.

The Dope Project was founded in 2013 by Fred Walker to teach youth how to be business leaders of tomorrow. The Dope Project stands for The Development of Positive Energy Project. TDP allows high school students to interact with business leaders as if they were in the real workplace. The program offers six-week workshops to teach business, leadership, and life skills to students as well as expose them to future career opportunities.

The most recent TDP workshop created a commercial for the city of Flint. The commercial was created by Flint teenagers and sends an inspiring message about unity. The message of the video focuses on fighting against labels and not giving up on the city of Flint.

It is my honor to represent such active and inspiring young members of our community. The message shared by these Flint students and TDP instills hope in the community of Flint and anyone who views their video.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the work done by The Dope Project, Mr. Walker, and all the students involved in the program for their hard work and the services they have provided for the City of Flint.

#### TRIBUTE TO DONALD AND MARILYN ROBERTS

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Donald and Marilyn Roberts on the very special occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary.

Donald and Marilyn were married in the summer of 1951 and make their home in Stuart, Iowa. Their lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. As the years pass, may their love continue to grow even stronger and may they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many more years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this lovely couple on their 65 years of life together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

IN RECOGNITION OF GOLDEN  
STATE FARM CREDIT

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Golden State Farm Credit for receiving the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce Ag Supporter of the Year award at the 2016 Kings County Salute to Ag Banquet.

Golden State Farm Credit has been dedicated to lending to farmers, ranchers, and agribusiness for ninety years, despite difficult economic climate. It is the largest financial service provider in California's Central Valley. Golden State Farm Credit is a strong supporter of the agriculture industry and has helped Central Valley Farmers purchase real estate, develop property, and expand dairy facilities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing and congratulating Golden State Farm Credit for its service to Kings County and for receiving the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce Ag Supporter of the Year award at the 2016 Kings County Salute to Ag Banquet.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CLARESSA SHIELDS

**HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Claressa Shields for her history-making accomplishments as an athlete and Olympian, and continued commitment to the State of Michigan and to my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

Introduced to boxing at a young age, Claressa has built an impressive career that boasts, among many victories in national and world championships, two successive gold medals from the 2012 Olympics in London and 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. This feat makes her the first American, male or female, to win back-to-back gold medals in Boxing. On August 23, 2016, upon her return from the Games of the XXXI Olympiad in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, my home town of Flint welcomed home Claressa Shields in a celebration to spotlight her mark in history and inspiring story.

Through her victories, Claressa has breathed life into the dreams of young athletes and individuals in Michigan and across the nation. She is a remarkable woman who credits her success, her journey, to hard work and her faith. Her support system has been a small group of dedicated individuals ranging from the coaches whom have driven her to victory, to her grandmother who taught her that gender could not hold her back. Now, Claressa, who describes herself as "just a kid from Flint," is dedicating herself to supporting individuals, young and old, in Flint as they face the challenges of poverty, gun violence and the ongoing water crisis.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I submit Claressa Shields before the House as an example of

not only a great athlete, but a great American. She represents the resilience of the American dream, and the strong, proud spirit of Flint, Michigan. I applaud Claressa for her dedication to her sport, and her dedication to our community. The change that she will effect has only begun.

TRIBUTE TO THE 2016 JOHNSTON  
HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL TEAM

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Johnston High School Softball team for winning the Iowa Girls State Class 5A Softball Tournament on July 21, 2016.

I would like to congratulate each member of the Team:

Players: Brooke Sandstoe, Chloe Fehn, Kylee Walker, Olivia Goodale, Emily Flint, Hannah Espeland, Sydney Illg, Emma Ford, Alisha Rusch, Haley Pemble, Taylor Canny, Alyssa Shepherd, Mercedes Worsfold, Brooke Wilmes, Sophie Maras, Haylee Towers, Bailey Sutton, Madison Thiiges, Halle Van Roekel, Ally Schaer, Ellie Roquet

Manager: Eilise Murray

Coaches: Todd Merial, Destiny Willer, Abby Sonner, Laura Calvert, Leah Embrey

Mr. Speaker, the example set by these students and their coaches demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent them in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating these young women for competing in this rigorous competition and wishing them all nothing but continued success.

CALIFORNIA WATER SUPPLY  
SHORTAGE

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following:

ABSOLUTELY NOTHING

(By Cannon Michael, Sept. 8, 2016)

California's water supply shortage is a microcosm of what's wrong in U.S. politics. The San Joaquin Valley in Central California is the most productive agricultural area in the world and is the envy of many countries that rely on imported food supplies because their climate or soil is not suitable to sustain farming. But California's water supply to this region has been critically curtailed by the government's inability to manage water resources.

That breakdown caused President Obama to visit the Central Valley in 2014 and sit down with farmers to hear about water supply problems. Several members of his administration, including the Secretary of Interior and recently the Secretary of Commerce, have personally visited the area and listened to local business and community leaders talk about their concern for the future of the region. Former Speaker John Boehner and

numerous members of Congress, including Senate Energy Committee Chairwoman Lisa Murkowski, have toured the ravaged area and committed to work with their colleagues to assist Central Valley communities. Republican members of Congress, including Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy and Rep. David Valadao, as well as their Democratic colleagues, Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Rep. Jim Costa, have introduced legislation to try to fix the problem.

Remarkably, the highest leadership in the country has focused on the water supply problem and a bipartisan group of legislators has been working on legislative solutions. They all claim that the status quo is unacceptable. And what has happened?

Nothing.

Absolutely nothing.

This is why so many people are frustrated with politics as usual and are demanding that things change. We have an identified problem—a water delivery system that has been completely overrun and strangled by a regulatory process run amok. We have a water delivery system that was brilliantly designed and constructed decades ago to withstand five consecutive years of extreme drought, but when the state is blessed with rainfall and snowpack, as we were this year, the system still can't even provide water to communities. As a result, a key part of the U.S. food supply is in jeopardy and millions of Californians are seeing an important part of their state in decline.

Many people outside of California often ask why this is happening to such a productive area of the country? Unfortunately, there is no acceptable answer. The current policies restricting water deliveries are intended to protect endangered species, but those policies have failed miserably. Despite the massive redistribution of water from people, schools, communities and farms in a misguided attempt to save a fish, the fish populations have actually declined. After three very dry years, California had a wet winter in early 2016 but rather than using the water to re-supply reservoirs and communities, the government sent over 200 billion gallons of water into the ocean. The result? Dead fish, depleted reservoirs, and dying communities. Nobody wins.

This is not a recent problem; the water system has been failing for more than 20 years. Part of the problem is that progress on a solution is being held hostage by federal agencies that are serving narrow interests and creating legal issues that prohibit any progress toward achieving comprehensive solutions. The agencies' water management policies might be defensible if the policies were working and providing some beneficial result. But farmland continues to die out, jobs have been lost, fish populations are at greater risk, land subsidence and other environmental consequences are continuing, and poverty rates are rising in the impacted communities. The result, agencies hide behind the law and the Administration and Congress have been unable to agree on a solution that will reverse this horrible decline.

To be fair, there are efforts from both sides of the aisle working to solve the problem. S. 1894 or S. 2533 (Feinstein) and HR 2898 (Valadao) are proposing to modify current policies and rein in federal agencies. These are not radical proposals, but are measured policy changes designed to improve all the outcomes—increased water supply for communities, better water management, and increased funding for environmental programs. This is what government is supposed to do—find solutions that are compatible with a variety of interests.

With the critical period for California water supply system to be replenished arriving in less than six months, Congress has

very little time to act on legislation. For farmers and farmworkers, planning and financial decisions about crops and food production and hiring start long before planting season begins in February. There is no more time to waste.

Absolutely nothing is no longer acceptable. Congress needs to pass legislation that solves this decades-long problem. If they do not, absolutely nothing is what they should expect from us in return.

**RECOGNIZING DORIS M. JACQUES  
AS SHE RECEIVES THE GOV-  
ERNOR GEORGE ROMNEY LIFE-  
TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

**HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Doris M. Jacques of Saginaw for her unwavering commitment to serving her community.

The Michigan Community Service Commission will award Ms. Jacques the Governor George Romney Lifetime Achievement Award. The award honors an individual, usually a senior citizen, who has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to community involvement and volunteer service.

Ms. Jacques began her service career in the 1950's at St. Stephen's Church (now St. Dominic Parish) completing miscellaneous errands around the church, co-chaired the "First Nighter's" family entertainment series for 19 years, organized the first church library and served on the funeral luncheon ministry.

The more Ms. Jacques involved herself in service, the more friends she made, the more she accomplished and the more sense of purpose she experienced. This led her to volunteer with the Volunteer Auxiliary at St. Mary's of Michigan hospital in 1960, where she is currently the longest serving volunteer with well over 50,000 hours.

Ms. Jacques is a co-founder of the Hospital Gift Shop, frequented by hospital visitors, staff and community members seeking gifts and sundries. In 1981 she co-founded Timeless Treasures Thrift Store, dedicated to providing low-cost household and clothing items for the needy. During her 55 year tenure at the hospital, Ms. Jacques' inspiring leadership has helped raise \$3.5 million through Auxiliary fundraisers, vendor sales, and sales proceeds from the Gift Shop and the Thrift Shop. These proceeds have been used by the hospital for major medical equipment purchases, two Cancer Care Vans and renovations.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Doris M. Jacques for her magnanimity and unyielding commitment to philanthropy.

**IN RECOGNITION OF MR. TONY  
WILLIAM DEGROOT**

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the late Tony William DeGroot for

receiving the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce Lifetime Commitment to Kings County Agriculture Award.

Raised in Bennekom, Netherlands, Mr. DeGroot was the youngest of eleven children. During World War II, Mr. DeGroot's family was heavily involved in the Dutch Resistance, which led to his admiration of the bravery of the American soldiers and later his emigration to the United States at the age of twenty-one. On May 15, 1957, Mr. DeGroot and his wife, Betty, were married in Hollandale, Minnesota. They later moved to Southern California in 1959, and five years later they began their successful dairy farm operation in the Central Valley. In 1965, Mr. DeGroot became a founding member of the Visalia Christian Reformed Church where he worshiped, sang in the choir, and led song service. He was also a youth group leader and hosted Bible studies with his wife.

Having been a dairy farmer, Mr. DeGroot was significantly involved in the dairy community of the Central Valley for many years. He was passionate about involving future generations in the industry and supported participants in FFA and 4-H. He served on the board for Rabobank and Alltech, among others. Mr. DeGroot was also one of the developers of DG Bar Ranch, which he started for his wife.

In September of 2015, Mr. DeGroot passed at the age of eighty in a plane accident while on a fishing trip in Alaska, doing what he loved. He had a great sense for adventure, loved agriculture, and cared deeply for his family. He was a remarkable man who was hospitable to all who entered his life. Mr. DeGroot is survived by his loving wife, Betty, daughter, Rochelle, son, Tony, and grandson Jason.

Mr. DeGroot was unanimously selected by the Kings County Agriculture Selection Committee as the honoree for this award due to his important contributions to the agriculture industry in the Central Valley.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending the late Tony William DeGroot for receiving the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce Lifetime Commitment to Kings County Agriculture Award.

**IN RECOGNITION OF THE 80TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF SCHUYLKILL  
UNITED WAY**

**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Schuylkill United Way, which celebrates its 80th anniversary today, September 9, 2016. The Schuylkill United Way is dedicated to providing funding, guidance, and encouragement to partner organizations that provide a variety of programs and services to the residents of Schuylkill County. The Schuylkill United Way supports fifteen organizations and has provided invaluable assistance to the Schuylkill County community over the last 80 years.

The organization was founded in 1936 to help local groups that offered human services at little or no cost. Originally known as the Community Chest, the organization became

an independent member of United Way Worldwide in 1976 and changed its name to Schuylkill United Way.

Today, Schuylkill United Way partners with entities such as American Red Cross, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Salvation Army, Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania and Meals on Wheels. Partnering efforts and contributions come from local businesses and individuals alike, and ninety-nine percent of the assistance marshalled stays within Schuylkill County. Schuylkill United Way organizes events like Stuff the Bus, which provides school supplies to children in need, and the Captain Jason B. Jones Day of Caring, where volunteers donate their time working at nonprofit and government locations.

It is an honor to recognize the Schuylkill United Way as it celebrates 80 years of helping others. I am deeply grateful for the many services they provide to the people of Schuylkill County. May they continue their great work for welfare of their neighbors for many years to come.

**TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA YOUNG**

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Patricia Young of Jamaica, Iowa for receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD).

Ms. Young manages the Iowa HIV and Hepatitis Prevention Program. She earned the award because of her passion, leadership and dedication in working to improve the lives of people living with HIV and hepatitis as well as her tireless service and devotion to NASTAD. She has engaged in HIV prevention and care for nearly three decades and has held many roles in the Iowa Department of Health including prevention, care and community planning.

Mr. Speaker, it's an honor to represent Iowans like Patricia Young in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating her on receiving this award and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

**RECOGNIZING DOCTOR SAMUEL  
SHAHEEN AND THE SHAHEEN  
FAMILY AS THEY RECEIVE THE  
COMMUNITY PHILANTHROPY  
AWARD**

**HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Dr. Samuel J. Shaheen and his family for their unwavering commitment to the betterment of their local community. The Shaheen family was selected as the 2016 recipient for the Community Philanthropy Award presented by the Council of Michigan Foundations, the Michigan Nonprofit Association and the Governor's office.

The members of the family honored as recipients include Dr. Samuel Shaheen and his wife, Holly, brother and sister-in-law, Peter and Kari Shaheen, sister and brother-in-law, Sabrina and Kevin Cronin, and parents Patricia and the late Dr. Samuel "Doc" Shaheen.

As the Member of Congress representing the Fifth District of Michigan, I am honored to have constituents like Dr. Samuel J. Shaheen and his family. Much can be said of the many charitable accomplishments of this wonderful family. The Temple Theatre, the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra, the Mid-Michigan Children's Museum and the Saginaw Art Museum have all benefitted so much as a result of Dr. Shaheen's personal contributions of time, effort, fundraising and selfless giving.

Through his efforts with the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce and Saginaw Future, Sam has also worked diligently for the economic betterment of the local community—developing both a thriving surgical practice and building a dynamic real estate development company. These results have provided community leaders with inspiration, hope and an unprecedented level of optimism.

Dr. Samuel J. Shaheen and his family are people of tremendous substance and accomplishment. Sam has vision and makes things happen through an unwavering commitment to achieving results for his community. The charitable impact he has made is immeasurable.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Dr. Samuel J. Shaheen and his family for their strong leadership and unyielding commitment to philanthropy.

#### CONGRATULATING JEFF KESTER ON WINNING THE R. LAYNE MORRILL AWARD

##### HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jeff Kester, current board president of the Greater Springfield Board of REALTORS, on being presented the R. Layne Morrill Award by the Member Boards and Associations of the Missouri REALTORS.

The R. Layne Morrill Award aims to recognize one person who has made it their goal, through political involvement, to advance REALTORS in Missouri's legislative agenda.

Jeff Kester has spent 21 years as an advocate for Missouri REALTORS.

I am honored to recognize Jeff Kester, and I congratulate him on receiving the 2016 R. Layne Morrill Award.

FRANCESC DE PAULA SOLER

##### HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to once again pay tribute to Francesc de Paula Soler, a gifted and world-renowned musician.

Mr. Soler grew up in Spain and comes from a Catalan family of well-known artists. He began studying the guitar at the age of six and was completely immersed in it by age 11,

earning the highest honors in the prestigious Conservatorio Superior de Musica in Barcelona, Spain. Mr. Soler received rigorous training from legendary guitarists Andres Segovia, known as the "Father of Classical Guitar," and Narciso Yepes.

Mr. Soler has become a legend in his own right due to his unique skills in conveying emotions through the strings of his guitar. Mr. Soler has performed in music halls and auditoriums throughout the United States and Europe for audiences of all ages and backgrounds. Some of the venues include the Library of Congress, the Levine School of Music and the Acheson Auditorium at the United States Department of State.

Commonly known as the "Poet of the Guitar," Mr. Soler has received numerous awards and recognitions, including: Medal of St. Vladimir of the Russian Orthodox Church, Honorary Citizen of Dallas, Honorary Citizen of Corpus Christi, Golden Key of the Corpus Christi City, Medal of the U.S. Military Academy and the Plaque of the Catalan Catholic Church Council.

In commemoration of Hispanic Heritage Month and the positive contributions of Hispanic-Americans throughout our nation's history, Mr. Soler will once again grace the Library of Congress with his music. I encourage all of my colleagues to attend Mr. Soler's concert on September 16, 2016 as we commemorate the 400th Anniversary of the death of Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra, author of the most influential work of literature in the Spanish language—Don Quijote de la Mancha.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Francesc de Paula Soler for his contributions to the world of music.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MR. GARY ESAJIAN

##### HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Gary Esajian on being honored as the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce 2016 Agriculturalist of the Year.

Mr. Gary Esajian's family has lived in the Central Valley since the 1920's, and as a third generation Kings County farmer, he has greatly contributed to the community throughout his life. Mr. Esajian has shown dedication to his hometown of Lemoore and the Central Valley for decades through both his community work and success as a farmer. As a farmer, Mr. Esajian grows many different crops including almonds, pistachios, garlic, tomatoes, wine grapes, walnuts, and onions.

Mr. Esajian has further shown his service to the community by serving as the Westlands Water District Board of Directors for fourteen years, as a Board member of the San Joaquin Valley Cotton Board, and as the Director of a Suncrest Bank in Visalia. In regards to California's current drought issue, Mr. Esajian conducted a study on water in California, specifically the impacts to Kings and Fresno Counties, which has benefited his peers greatly.

Known for being unassuming and humble, upon receiving his award Mr. Esajian credited his family's long agricultural history and not his own success. He is also known for being a

hardworking and organized man, who successfully achieves whatever he puts his mind to.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Mr. Gary Esajian on his dedicated service to the Central Valley and on being honored as the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce 2016 Agriculturalist of the Year.

#### TRIBUTE TO KIM AVEY

##### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Kim Avey for being honored in her community as the 2016 Good Egg Days Citizen of the Year.

Ms. Avey is a great volunteer throughout the community, helping at Scoop the Loop and the local skating rink. She also works as a rural mail delivery person, well-known to go out of her way to make sure her route patrons get their mail in the best shape and in a timely manner.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Kim Avey in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating her on receiving this award and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, September 8, 2016, I was unavoidably detained and missed a roll call vote. Had I been present, I would have voted: "aye" on roll call vote No. 491.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF OTIS REDDING, JR.

##### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a brilliant artist, homegrown legend, and loving father, the Late Great Otis Redding, Jr. In recognition of Otis Redding's contribution to music that touched souls across the world, the Redding Foundation will be celebrating what would be his 75th birthday the weekend of September 9 through September 11, 2016 in Macon, Georgia.

Otis Redding was born in Dawson, Georgia on September 9, 1941. At a young age, he and his family moved to Macon, where he began singing at Vineville Baptist Church. Embracing his budding musicianship, he joined the school band at Ballard-Hudson High School and competed in the Douglass Theatre talent show. After winning the talent show fifteen consecutive times, he was no longer allowed to compete. However, this certainly did



not discourage him from embarking on his path to becoming the King of Soul.

In 1958, Otis Redding officially began his professional music career when he joined Johnny Jenkins and the Pinetoppers. After the group finished recording with Booker T. and the MGs, Mr. Redding wanted to use the last few minutes at the end of the session to sing for everyone. As he started to sing what would become his first hit single of 17 hit singles in a row, "These Arms of Mine," everyone in the studio became captivated by his voice. Jim Stewart, then co-owner of Stax Records, came running into the studio and began yelling, "That's it! That's it! Where is everybody? We gotta get this on tape!"

A man with his own voice and a unique sound, Otis Redding's short but spectacular music career led to his releasing hit single after hit single, including "I've Been Loving You Too Long," "Respect," and "Try A Little Tenderness." On his journey to becoming the King of Soul, he performed across the country and the world with shows in the United States, Canada, Europe, and the Caribbean. In 1965, his business acumen allowed him to create his own label: Jotis Records. His concerts were box office smashes, some of the biggest of any performer during his time.

In 1966, Otis Redding received the NAACP Lifetime Membership Award. The National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences (NARAS) nominated him for awards in three categories for his recordings from 1967. He also accrued countless other honors and recognition for his music after his passing in December 1967, most notably of which are two 1969 Grammys for Best R&B Vocal Performance and Best Rhythm & Blues Song for his number one hit single, "(Sittin' On) The Dock of the Bay," the 1999 Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award; and his 1998, 2011, and 2015 Grammy Hall of Fame Inductions.

Otis Redding was much more than his beautiful voice. Above all else, he was a family man. He married his wife, Zelma, in August of 1961 and together, they raised three wonderful children: Dexter, Karla, and Otis Redding, III. Mrs. Redding also adopted Demetria after Mr. Redding's passing. There was a special place in Otis Redding's heart and soul reserved only for his family. He worked tirelessly to provide for them. His ambition, drive, and sacrifices paid off when he was able to move his family to "The Big O Ranch" in 1965, a 300-acre property in Round Oak, Georgia.

Reflected in the mission of the Otis Redding Foundation, which was established in 2007 by Mrs. Zelma Redding in her late husband's honor, Otis Redding was dedicated to improving the quality of life for his community through education and empowerment. Those who knew Otis Redding personally speak fondly of him and his closest friends described him as a wonderful person to be around, and always 100 percent full of energy. They remember him being big in every way: physically, in his talent, in wisdom about other people, and in his love for his family and community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, and the more than 730,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in recognizing Otis Redding, Jr. for his remarkable accomplishments as a pioneering and world-renowned musician. His timeless talent and everlasting legacy live on in the hearts of those who loved him and will

continue to be remembered by generations to come.

#### TRIBUTE TO NANCY AND WALTER COZIAHR

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Nancy and Walter Coziahr of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married June 8, 1956 in Council Bluffs.

Nancy and Walter's lifelong commitment to each other and their children, Mary, David, Tom, and Jane, as well as their eight grandchildren, truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories and for continued hope for the future.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

#### HONORING GEORGE ALTAMURA

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor George Altamura, who is being recognized for his support of young Latino leaders at the 33rd Annual Napa County Hispanic Network Scholarship Gala.

Mr. Altamura was born in Buffalo, New York, and fulfilled a long-held dream when he moved to California in 1949 following his high school graduation. After settling in Napa County, Mr. Altamura worked as a carpenter's apprentice before he eventually earned his contractor's license. Only three years after moving to Napa County, Mr. Altamura started his own company, Altamura Enterprises and embarked on a successful career purchasing and developing property.

Just as impressive as Mr. Altamura's professional successes is his dedication to giving back to our community. Together with his wife Jackie, Mr. Altamura has been an incredible supporter of our Latino community and has sponsored multiple scholarships through the Hispanic Network each year for more than two decades. Many of the young leaders the Altamuras' have supported now live and work throughout Napa County, ensuring that the Altamuras' legacy of civic engagement and community service will be carried on for generations to come.

Mr. Altamura is the founder and president of Hands Across the Valley and the Napa Sheriff's Youth Activity, both of which aim to help those in need, and young people in particular, throughout our community. Furthermore, Mr. Altamura has supported the important work of organizations like Queen of the Valley Hospital, Uptown Theater Napa, and Meals on Wheels.

Mr. Speaker, George Altamura has not only achieved his own American dream, but he has worked hard to ensure that young people throughout our community will have a fair shot at achieving theirs, too. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

#### 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

#### HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2016

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in honoring the Department of the Navy Office of the General Counsel as it celebrates 75 years of providing timely, effective, and candid legal advice and counsel to the Navy and Marine Corps.

The origins of DON OGC can be traced back to 1862, when the first civilian attorney was appointed to serve as Solicitor of the Navy. However, it was not until September 10, 1941, when James Forrestal, then Under Secretary of the Navy, recruited attorneys from private practice and formally established DON OGC's predecessor organization, the Procurement Legal Division, to consistently address the numerous legal issues surrounding the rapid increase in volume and complexity of ship and aircraft acquisition during World War II mobilization efforts.

Over the last three quarters of a century, what began as a small cadre of civilian attorneys has evolved into an elite government law firm composed of civilian and military attorneys, and professional support staff, located in 140 offices worldwide. In addition, DON OGC has expanded its practice areas beyond business and commercial law to include acquisition integrity, federal employment/labor law, environmental law, fiscal law, intellectual property law, real estate law, ethics and standards of conduct, energy law, Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act, intelligence law, cyber security law, arms control law, legislation, and litigation, to ensure its attorneys possess the expertise needed to support the multifaceted mission of the warfighter.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate DON OGC on 75 years of dedicated service to our Sailors and Marines across the globe, and wish DON OGC continued success in expertly navigating the legal challenges confronting the Navy and the Marine Corps and significantly contributing to the national defense.

#### TRIBUTE TO LOIS AND DAVID AISTROPE

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Lois and David Aistrophe of Randolph, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on June 10, 2016.

Lois and David's lifelong commitment to each other and their children, Duane, Doug,

and Dalene, seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren, truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

#### COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

#### HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus of the 114th Congress to commemorate the sesquicentennial anniversary of Mount Zion Baptist Church, located in Arlington, Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, Mount Zion Baptist Church has been blessed to serve as the spiritual home and faith community for thousands of people over the last 150 years. Founded in 1866, a year after the U.S. Congress passed the 13th Amendment to abolish slavery; Mount Zion Baptist Church was organized under the leadership of Reverend Joseph Matthews.

In 1914, Reverend James E. Green was elected pastor after many years of service. The Church relocated twice during Reverend Green's pastorate with property being purchased at 19th and Lowell Streets in 1944. In 1956, Doctor Oswald G. Smith had the vision to establish a Deacon's Fund to assist the community in meeting emergency costs for medicine, shelter, and other necessities.

Finally, in March 1992, Bishop Leonard N. Smith was installed as Mount Zion's ninth senior minister. Today, under Bishop Smith's leadership, the Church remains a place of worship and fellowship for its community and surrounding communities.

With a mission focused on preserving the precepts of its rich heritage, Mount Zion continues to experience blessings in ways that were once thought to be unimaginable. Recent accomplishments of Mount Zion include significant growth in membership, rededication of a refurbished and modernized facility in 2012, purchase of 22 acres of land in Woodbridge, VA in order to further the mission, and wide community outreach that spans from radio to social media. I am confident that Mount Zion will continue to serve its congregants and community for generations to come.

By the grace of God, Mount Zion Baptist Church has survived the test of time and is still going strong today. While the frame of Mount Zion has undergone many renovations, its faith remains the same—firmly rooted in Christ.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the rich history and accomplishments of Mount Zion Baptist Church in Arlington, Virginia. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Bishop Smith, the congregation, and the residents of Arlington on this truly momentous occasion.

#### RECOGNIZING THE EXTRAORDINARY AUGUSTO BORDELOIS

#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Augusto Bordelois, an internationally acclaimed artist who is opening a new art studio, Augusto Fine Art, in Berea, Ohio, this week.

Augusto has a deep connection to Berea, as the city has been his home since 1999. Augusto Fine Art studio will establish a dedicated art space for the entire community, building Berea, brick by brick, in the same way Augusto creates his own artwork.

At the new location Augusto will be teaching jointly with watercolorist Nancy Notarianni, who will also have a gallery in the Berea studio. His vision is to create a centralized space that will foster community and collaboration among local Cleveland-area artists who wish to teach or display their work, and by Cleveland-area residents who wish to connect with their artistic, creative side.

Augusto, who emigrated from Cuba as a young man, describes his painting style as 'magic realism' that has been largely influenced by the Renaissance, as is typical for prominent and gifted artists from Latin America and the Caribbean. He graduated from the University of Havana in Cuba, and has an inestimable and broad knowledge base that he is more than willing to share with others.

Augusto is a natural and enthusiastic leader and an active member of the arts community in Northern Ohio, where he is a teaching artist and member of the Center for Arts-Inspired Learning, the Ohio Arts Council, and most recently The Art House. He has been awarded 'Best in Show' and an Ohio Arts Council Special award at the Ohio State Fair Fine Arts exhibition.

Through his leadership in judging Ohio's 9th Congressional District's annual Art Caucus competition for promising high school artists, I have been fortunate to witness firsthand his influence across Northern Ohio, and his passion for helping others reach their full potential. I greatly appreciate his efforts to continue fostering and promoting a growing art community. Augusto's passion has inspired resurgence in community art and, through the new Augusto Fine Art Studio, a dedication to increased access to community art spaces.

Northern Ohio should have a minimum of 1,000 art studios across our lush region, which has a natural beauty and rich culture, and Augusto is a leader in reaching that goal.

The arts have long been celebrated throughout northern Ohio, with each region hosting multiple arts festivals, in addition to the many small, locally owned shops that populate the region. From the Black Swamp Arts Festival in Bowling Green to the FireFish Arts Festival in Lorain, there are many opportunities to be immersed in the local northern Ohio art scene.

I greatly admire Augusto Bordelois and celebrate his vision and legacy in northern Ohio. His unwavering dedication to teaching and promoting the arts has made a lasting mark.

Please join me to congratulate and celebrate Augusto Bordelois on this exciting next phase.

#### COMMENDING THE NORTH CAROLINA JUSTICE CENTER'S 2016 CHAMPIONS OF JUSTICE

#### HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize five individuals from my home state of North Carolina who are being honored as Champions of Justice by the North Carolina Justice Center: Former North Carolina Governor Jim Hunt, President of the NC State AFL-CIO James Andrews, North Carolina State Representative Henry "Mickey" Michaux Jr., former University of North Carolina System President Tom Ross, and former North Carolina State Senator Leslie Winner. I also applaud Former Chief Justice I. Beverly Lake, Jr. on being presented with the Center's Executive Director Award for Service.

Mr. Speaker, these individuals will be honored by the North Carolina Justice Center at its 20th Annual Champion of Justice Gala on September 10, 2016 in Raleigh, North Carolina. Since its founding in 1996, the North Carolina Justice Center has been a leader in progressive research and advocacy for economic and social justice in North Carolina. The Center focuses on issues of concern to low- and middle-income North Carolinians by ensuring access to resources, services, and fair treatment for all.

Former North Carolina Governor Jim Hunt is a native of my hometown, Wilson, North Carolina. He will be presented with the Champion of Justice Award for his work on behalf of North Carolina's students, families, and communities in the areas of education and equal rights during his record four terms as governor.

Mr. James Andrews is the current President of the North Carolina state AFL-CIO, and the first full-time elected African-American state federation president in the country's history. A Vietnam Veteran and recipient of the Purple Heart, Mr. Andrews has been a lifelong and passionate activist for civil rights and social justice in North Carolina and has also served on the AFL-CIO's Executive Council.

The Honorable Henry "Mickey" Michaux, Jr. is the longest-serving member of the North Carolina General Assembly. A lifelong resident of Durham, North Carolina, Representative Michaux has dedicated his life and career to voting rights advocacy in North Carolina. He is a founding member and was the first chairman of the North Carolina Black Leadership Caucus.

Mr. Thomas W. Ross, Sr. is the former president of the 17-campus University of North Carolina System. Prior to becoming President of the UNC System, Mr. Ross had a long career in education, where he served as President of Davidson College, executive director of the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, and as a Superior Court judge.

Ms. Leslie Winner is a three-term State Senator and a former Senate majority whip. She currently serves as the executive director of the Winston-Salem based Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, where she has led the foundation's statewide influence in civic, educational, and philanthropic initiatives through grants to small nonprofits, and by supporting the creation of BEST NC, a group of business



leaders who present elected officials with a business rationale and recommendations for supporting public education.

The Honorable I. Beverly Lake, Jr. is a former Chief Justice on the North Carolina Supreme Court and the driving force behind North Carolina's nationally recognized Actual Innocence Commission. He has devoted his career to public service. He will be presented with the Executive Director Award for Service to North Carolina for his work on criminal justice reform.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing these outstanding North Carolinians, who have selflessly sought justice and equality for their fellow citizens.

TRIBUTE TO ESTEL AND MARVA  
LEA SHARON

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Estel and Marva Lea Sharon on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Estel and Marva Lea were married on June 17, 1956 and make their home in Guthrie Center, Iowa. Their lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. As the years pass, may their love continue to grow even stronger and may they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many more years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this lovely couple on their 60 years of life together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE VICTIMS  
OF THE 9/11 TERRORIST ATTACK

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of those who lost their lives in terrorist attacks that occurred fifteen years ago on September 11, 2001. I was blocks away from the World Trade Center on that morning and will never forget the horror we faced in New York City. Nearly 3,000 people lost their lives in a senseless act of hatred. As we reflect on that terrible tragedy, we are reminded of the resiliency of the people of New York and our Country as a whole.

Today, we honor their memories and thank our brave first responders who selflessly rushed forward to save as many people as they could. While we can never fully express our gratitude for the sacrifices of the many police, fire and emergency personnel, we can come together as Americans and provide those heroes with the continued respect and care they deserve. The actions of the first responders are a testament to the power of working with one another.

Although these attacks left us shaken, they did not destroy us. We were able to rebound

and grow stronger. We put aside our differences and rose together as one nation. On that day, we were not concerned with past disagreements or misunderstandings or partisan politics. This year, on September 11, let us not only remember those we lost with moments of silence and memorial ceremonies. Let us also commemorate them by once again setting aside our differences and becoming united as Americans.

IN HONOR OF REPRESENTATIVE  
ED JUTILA UPON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank an outstanding public servant for his many years of service to my home state of Connecticut. Mr. Ed Jutila has served as State Representative for the 37th District of Connecticut since 2005, where he earned a reputation of pragmatism and commitment to the residents of East Lyme and Salem. When he retires from public service at the end of this term, he will wrap up a robust and multifaceted career serving his community. Ed served on the local Democratic Town Committee, the East Lyme Board of Selectmen, Charter Revision Commission, and as Deputy Town Meeting Moderator. His lifetime of service began at age 15 when he joined the junior firefighters.

In the State House, Ed currently serves as the Chairman of the Government Administration and Elections Committee as well as a member of the Transportation Committee. He also served as vice chairman of the General Law Committee and Public Safety and Security Committee and as assistant majority leader and deputy majority whip. His constituents know him as a friendly, warm and completely dedicated stalwart in the community. In his capacity on the Transportation Committee, he successfully advocated for expansion of the Shoreline East rail line to New London. Ed and I worked together towards gaining federal recognition of the Eightmile River as a Wild and Scenic watershed, an example of his commitment to protecting Eastern Connecticut's natural beauty and precious resources.

Although his time as an elected official will end at the conclusion of this term, I suspect that his involvement in Salem and East Lyme will not come to an end. For someone like Ed, community engagement is a way of life. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Ed for his decades of service, and wish him well in life after public service.

TRIBUTE TO PHYLLIS AND  
HAROLD SCHOLL

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Phyllis and Harold Scholl of Adair, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married on June 10, 1956.

Phyllis and Harold's lifelong commitment to their six daughters, 13 grandchildren and one great-grandchild truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

CELEBRATING NANCY MAST'S DISTINGUISHED WORK IN SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES MILITARY

**HON. JACKIE WALORSKI**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nancy Mast for her outstanding leadership of The HUGS Project of Elkhart County.

Having always been the type of individual to serve others, Nancy diligently searched for an organization that would benefit from her talents as a seamstress. After scouring the internet, she came across a worthy cause known as The HUGS Project, which delivers cooling neckties (nicknamed "hugs") to American troops in the Middle East. In 2006, Nancy launched The HUGS Project of Elkhart County and made it her mission to help grow and steer this organization in the right direction. What began as a handful of volunteers in a basement is now a bustling organization with 50 volunteers that continues to grow to this very day.

In Nancy's capacity with The HUGS Project, she has overseen the shipping of approximately 100,000 hugs and 50,000 pounds of "care" items, which include at least one handwritten note per box, to our troops. Her lasting commitment to such a worthy cause is a shining example of devotion and selflessness in our very own Hoosier community. She had a dream of doing "something" for our troops that sacrifice so much for each of us every day—she has truly made that dream a reality.

On behalf of Hoosiers in the Second Congressional District and as a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I would like to personally thank Nancy for the significant contributions she has made to the wellbeing of the U.S. military. Her dedication to selflessly serving those who protect America means so much to me and all the military families across the world. In addition, I would like to extend my applause to every member of The HUGS Project. It is my hope that their organization continues to flourish with each passing year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I want to state that on July 13, 2016, during House Roll Call

number 444, I incorrectly voted “aye” when I had intended to vote “nay.”

I strongly support the administration’s implementation of the Well Control Rule, which was developed in the wake of the disastrous Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. I would also like to state that I continue to advocate for adequate protection of our offshore natural resources and the conservation of our marine environment.

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11 SEPTEMBER 2001—AMERICA  
REMAINS FEARLESS

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**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, September 9/11. I was driving my Jeep to the courthouse where I was a judge. On radio station KILT, Willie Nelson was singing “Blue Eyes Crying in the Rain.” Suddenly, local radio newscaster Robert B. McEntire interrupted.

An airplane had crashed into the north tower of the World Trade Center. Minutes later a second airplane crashed into the south tower of the World Trade Center in New York

City. After I got to the courthouse we learned the Pentagon was hit.

A fourth flight was headed towards D.C. But good folks on the flight took down the airplane. They gave their lives so that others could live. Our Nation was under attack.

The cold blooded, calculated massacre was done by 19 radical Islamic jihadists who murdered in the name of religion. America stood hand in hand that day. United.

First Responders rushed to the scene, pulling people from the rubble. They were peace officers, firefighters, paramedics and everyday folks. Many of them died that day. Today we remember them all. The ones who were murdered, and the ones who gave their lives rescuing the victims. Mr. Speaker, America survived that day. And America remains fearless on every front.

And that is just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO DONNA AND VAN  
LOBENDO

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**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 9, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Donna and Van Lobendo of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. They were married on June 8, 1946 in Glenwood, Iowa. They were the owners of the Council Bluffs Hatchery and Donna’s Beauty Salon.

Donna and Van’s lifelong commitment to each other, their children, Stanley and Dani, six grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild, truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 70th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories and for continued hope for the future.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 70th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.