

January 2012. President Fos is a proud graduate of the University of New Orleans with experience as an administrator and faculty member. President Fos boasts a proven record of conducting research, fundraising, developing collaborative relationships with other academic institutions, and implementing institutional effectiveness and student success programs.

President Fos previously spent three years as the Provost and the Executive Vice President of the University of Texas at Tyler where he oversaw five academic colleges, the graduate school, the Robert R. Muntz Library, as well as the Palestine and Longview campuses. President Fos held the Sam A. Lindsey Endowed Chair, which is awarded to a recognized scholar in an academic discipline that is of strategic importance to the university. Prior to that, President Fos served as dean of the College of Health at The University of Southern Mississippi for four years. Before his tenure at Southern Miss, President Fos also held the position of chief science officer at the Mississippi State Department of Health.

President Fos has received numerous honors and awards since beginning his academic career. In addition, President Fos has published more than 50 peer-reviewed papers, technical reports, white papers and book chapters in the areas of healthcare decision analysis, environmental health, data mining, neural networks, health services research, and managerial epidemiology. He is an author and has presented more than 50 papers and abstracts at international, national, regional and local conferences.

President Fos received his undergraduate degree in biological sciences at the University of New Orleans, a doctor of dental surgery at the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, and a master of public health and doctor of philosophy in health care decision analysis at Tulane University. I hold President Fos in the highest regard for his dedication to family, friends, colleagues, and his community. President Fos represents the best of what New Orleans has to offer and is an example of the very best in our educational community. His commitment to the city and its future brings hope and promise to ensuring that New Orleans remains one of the most empowered and unique places in the world.

I wish to congratulate President Peter J. Fos and his wife Lori on his recent Investiture as the sixth leader and first President of University of New Orleans.

#### RECOGNIZING CHILDHOOD OBESITY AWARENESS MONTH

#### HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 21, 2012*

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as Childhood Obesity Awareness Month. Childhood obesity is a growing epidemic and is a serious problem facing this country. According to the Centers for Disease Control, the rate of childhood obesity has more than tripled over the past 30 years. In 2011, 15 percent of high school students in my home state of Ohio were obese. Children and adolescents who are obese are more likely to continue this trend as adults, and obese adults are much more at risk for

health problems such as heart disease, diabetes, stroke, and cancer.

Childhood obesity is an issue that affects the whole nation and needs to be addressed for the future of our children. Hundreds of billions of dollars are spent annually to treat obesity-related medical conditions, and as a growing number of adolescents are not able to pass a physical fitness test to serve in our nation's military, it has become a national security threat as well.

As a co-chair of the Congressional Task Force on Childhood Obesity, we are working to identify, discuss, and promote policy ideas to address this epidemic. Everyone has a role to play in finding a solution—parents, families, communities, schools, and local governments.

In Central Ohio, valiant efforts have been made to not only promote healthy eating and physical activity, which have been proven to lower the risk of becoming obese, but also to find other innovative ways to address this issue. The Ohio State University (OSU) is spearheading a number of research initiatives to explore how biological processes appear to play a large role in influencing the risk for obesity. This research is helping us to better understand the causes for obesity so that we can work towards a meaningful solution.

There are many programs at Nationwide Children's Hospital in my district to tackle the problem of obesity. I share their belief that an important approach to addressing adult obesity is beginning with children. One program, the Center for Healthy Weight and Nutrition, focuses on programs for the home, school, and community to ensure the development and promotion of healthy lifestyles. The hospital has also played a role in establishing the Ohio Healthy Weight Outcomes (OHWO) coalition, which is a public-private partnership that is currently implementing an obesity prevention and treatment project in a low-income neighborhood in Columbus. Their goal is to reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity in 5th graders by 10 percent in five years.

Across the country families, schools, communities, and organizations like OSU and Nationwide Children's Hospital have all made strides in addressing the obesity epidemic. However, much remains to be done, and I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress as well as with my constituents in Central Ohio to find solutions to lower the rate of childhood obesity.

#### CRANE HERITAGE DAY HONOREE— EVELYN STRODER

#### HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 21, 2012*

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a stalwart of our community, Evelyn Stroder, who is being recognized as this year's Crane Heritage Day honoree.

When I think of what it takes to make a strong community, I think of someone like Evelyn. Communities can be united in many aspects, but one central component found in strong communities is service. And service to our community has been at the core of Evelyn's life.

Evelyn's journey began in Corpus Christi where she graduated from high school and at-

tended Del Mar Junior College before she went on to earn a B.A. in English and Journalism from Baylor University. Later she earned an M.A. in American Literature and Mass Communications from UTPB.

In 1955, Evelyn and her husband, Charles, moved from Corpus Christi to Crane. Once in Crane, Evelyn would use her education to give back. She served others as an educator for 28 years and continues to serve on the Crane School Board. While Evelyn no longer teaches, she still remains active in the Permian Historical Society and the Crane County Historical Commission. Her journalistic accomplishments include her presented papers and published work in a variety of publications throughout Texas, and currently she serves as the assistant editor of the Permian Historical Society Annual.

One would think that with such a busy schedule, Evelyn would not have time for much else in life. However, in between all these accomplishments, she has managed to raise three children, seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren—a notable accomplishment in itself!

On behalf of the 11th District, it is an honor to recognize Evelyn because she is an example of those who have made our nation strong. Our nation did not become great from the top down, but from the bottom up—from the people in our neighborhoods willing to serve and make their community a better place for others and their children. Evelyn is one of these individuals. Through this award, she is rightly recognized for the time and sacrifice she has dedicated to others and it is an honor to represent her in the Halls of Congress.

#### HONORING IRENE SAUCEDA FOR HER TIRELESS EFFORTS ADVOCATING FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN IN AMERICA

#### HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 21, 2012*

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional young lady named Irene Saucedo. From a very young age, Irene and her family struggled to stay in one place. Irene went to seven different elementary schools. A variety of difficult circumstances made it impossible for Irene to stay in one school for more than a year, until high school. Irene graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in San Antonio, Texas in 2011 with a 4.0 GPA. She was the President of Gamma Sigma Girls, a leadership organization within the Girl Scouts, and was also President of the National Technical Honor Society. Irene is now a sophomore at Texas State University, where she is studying Anthropology and Social Work.

The economic downturn has impacted children in very unique and troubling ways—none more so than the idea of a family losing their home and depriving a child of a much-needed and deserved stable home. I commend Irene for having the fortitude and determination to succeed so phenomenally amid such tumultuous circumstances. I am also including, for the record, Irene's very moving personal testimony from the briefing:

"My mother had dropped out of high school in tenth grade which I feel contributed greatly