

by Pope Francis' address. His message was simple and honest. It crossed religious and political divides. He challenged us to do better and even invoked Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He reminded us that this Nation continues to be a land of dreams.

Pope Francis has returned to the Vatican, and we must get back to work. But I hope that his message will stay with us a little longer. And we should follow the Golden Rule. Paraphrased, we should treat others like we would like to be treated. Not only should that apply to how we treat each other in the Halls of Congress, but also to how we address the bigger problems that this Nation is facing.

From immigration reform to voting rights, each of us should place ourselves in the shoes of struggling families and work on the solution that is right for them and right for this country.

SUICIDE PREVENTION

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, as this Suicide Prevention Month comes to a close, I believe it is crucial we remain committed to all suicide prevention efforts. We must continually ask ourselves: Are we doing enough when it comes to addressing mental health and suicide in our Nation? I don't think so.

As vice chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I know that this issue is especially important for our Nation's heroes. Recent data has shown that every day in this country approximately 18 to 22 veterans take their own lives. This statistic answers the question I posed earlier. It is obvious more needs to be done.

My COVER Act addresses suicide prevention for veterans by promoting access to better alternative complementary mental health treatments. While traditional forms of therapy may work for some, tailoring therapies to the veteran and finding the balance between traditional and complementary alternative treatments could be the difference in saving lives.

The COVER Act passed the House several weeks ago. I encourage my Senate colleagues to do the same in the Senate so we can get it to the President's desk for his signature.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO THE NEA AND NEH

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities a happy anniversary, as both the NEA and NEH turn 50 years old today.

As a Rhode Islander, I share a special connection with these agencies because

both reflect the legacy of our late long-time senior Senator, Claiborne Pell. Senator Pell knew that art and culture were a vital part of our society because he grew up around the vibrant arts scene Rhode Island is justifiably known for.

Today I know that Senator Pell would be proud of the legacy that he has left in our Nation and in his State. Whether it is the Providence International Arts Festival, which had a terrific inaugural year thanks to NEA support, or Cafe Recuerdos, an NEH-funded traditional Cuban coffee cart that serves as a forum for sharing stories as part of Latino Americans: 500 Years of History or the numerous other arts and cultural organizations, institutions, and events that were given birth because of the endowments, the endowments have been integral to our continued social and economic development.

To the NEA and NEH, happy anniversary.

CONGRATULATING EARLY COLLEGE OF FORSYTH

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Early College of Forsyth, which was recently named one of America's top high schools by Newsweek magazine.

Established in 2008, Early College of Forsyth is a partnership between Winston-Salem/Forsyth County schools and Forsyth Technical Community College. The school provides a small learning community of students with the opportunity to earn both a high school diploma and an associate's degree. By considering their learning needs and providing support services, every student is given the tools to excel in both high school and college courses.

Early College of Forsyth provides an advanced educational experience that promotes independence, responsibility for learning, and community involvement. America needs more of this type of innovative learning that equips students for success in college, career, and life.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEA AND NEH

(Mr. PRICE of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of the creation of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts.

As a co-chair of the Congressional Humanities Caucus and a member of the Congressional Arts Caucus, I am proud to strongly support the important missions of these two agencies.

The NEA partners with State arts agencies, local leaders, other Federal

agencies, and the philanthropic sector to promote arts education and community access to the fine arts.

The NEH remains the single most important source of Federal funding for research and scholarship in history, literature, foreign languages, and other fields that provide us with invaluable ethical, cultural, and historical perspectives.

Both the NEA and the NEH merit increased support. This investment is one of the most efficient we make in terms of leveraging private, nonprofit, and corporate dollars. These programs are critically important locally as well as nationally, and they are the foundation of an arts and humanities community that supports millions of jobs.

Let's honor this 50th anniversary by renewing our national commitment to the arts and the humanities and the many ways they enrich our lives.

HUNGER ACTION MONTH

(Ms. ADAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during Hunger Action Month to discuss an issue that demands our immediate attention: hunger.

My district—North Carolina's 12th—ranks ninth in the Nation and first in the State for hunger. My hometown of Greensboro and High Point are first in the Nation for food insecurity. In May, I launched the Adams Hunger Initiative to draw greater attention to this issue and to foster bipartisan solutions.

This week I am introducing a resolution to highlight the severity of the hunger crisis across our Nation and to recognize the role critical programs like SNAP and others play in helping families put food on the table and to call on Congress to strengthen these programs and streamline requirements for afterschool and summer meals programs.

Mr. Speaker, if the government shuts down on Thursday, the SNAP program won't have enough to cover October benefits, impacting more than 65,000 people in my district and millions across the Nation. During Hunger Action Month, a time when we should be elevating and addressing this crisis, we are taking steps back. I call on my colleagues to stand with our most vulnerable and keep our government running.

SALUTING THE EFFORTS OF FEEDING SOUTH FLORIDA

(Ms. WILSON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as the eighth annual Hunger Action Month comes to an end, I salute the efforts of Feeding South Florida for its year-round efforts to end hunger in our communities.

For the past 8 years, we have dug our way out of a deep recession that turned once middle class families into people