

I recently had the opportunity to visit Hecla's Lucky Friday mine and was able to see firsthand the state-of-the-art mining practices that Hecla uses to extract silver from deep in the Earth.

As Hecla celebrates its 125th anniversary, I join with others in celebrating the company's great legacy and success.

CELEBRATING 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, this weekend the Rhode Island School for the Deaf will celebrate 125 years as an educational institution that serves deaf and hard-of-hearing students in Rhode Island.

Each year, approximately 12,000 children are born with some level of hearing loss in this country. The Rhode Island School for the Deaf offers essential support, guidance, and information for deaf and hearing-impaired children from the moment they are born until they are ready to graduate high school and go on to college or a career.

The Rhode Island School for the Deaf's Parent Infant Partners program helps children develop English and American Sign Language skills at an early age. Its elementary, middle, and senior high school programs provide quality education, as well as vocational programs and opportunities to participate fully in social activities and athletic events alongside hearing children.

I applaud the extraordinary educators and staff at the Rhode Island School for the Deaf for their ongoing work to serve deaf and hearing-impaired children, and I congratulate them on their 125th birthday celebration this Friday.

CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF BOB EPLING IN SOUTH FLORIDA

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Bob Epling, one of south Florida's most distinguished business and civic leaders.

Bob currently serves as the president and CEO of the Community Bank of Florida and sits on numerous boards, including the National Football Foundation and the College Football Hall of Fame. Bob earned this installment in part because of his arduous work as president of the Orange Bowl Committee. He also serves as chairman of Tomorrow's South Dade, a project of vision that addresses business development, infrastructure, agriculture, and other issues that impact the residents of south Dade.

Another testament to Bob's commitment to our community was as chairman of the board of the International Hurricane Research Center where he spent countless hours helping to rebuild homestead following the devastating impact of Hurricane Andrew.

Bob has also been the recipient of numerous accolades, including the Florida Bankers Association Legends Award, as well as the University Distinguished Service Award and FIU Medallion, both from my alma mater, Florida International University.

I encourage our community to join me in honoring Bob Epling and his contributions to the agricultural sector at this Saturday's Dade County Farm Bureau's Annual Barbecue and "Fun" Raiser.

Congratulations, Bob, on a job well done.

HAZING IN THE MILITARY

(Ms. JUDY CHU of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Mr. Speaker, this month marks the fifth anniversary of the death of my nephew, Harry Lew. While deployed in Afghanistan, Harry was hazed and brutally assaulted by his fellow marines for almost 4 hours. Twenty minutes later, he took his own life. He was 21 years old.

Harry's story is not unique. I have now heard from families and service-members across the country who have their own tragic stories and tried to seek help, but many are at a loss of where to turn. That is because the Pentagon's guidance on hazing is unclear, inconsistent, and imperfectly applied. Without an accurate system of tracking hazing incidents, we have no way to actually know the full extent of the problem. This failure costs lives.

It is time the military treat this problem seriously. My bill, the Harry Lew Military Hazing Accountability and Prevention Act, would require the Department of Defense to track and report annually on the problem of hazing in the military.

Our men and women in uniform protect us. We must do what we can to protect them.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF REGNAL WALLACE

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

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Regnal Wallace, the "Original Voice of Louisiana Agriculture."

It is a nickname he earned for good reason. When you heard his voice on the radio, you knew immediately that it was Reg. As a farmer myself, I knew I always needed to listen up because what he was going to tell me was important.

In 1981, Reg launched "This Week in Louisiana Agriculture," a show he imagined as a new way to tell the public about the incredible work taking place in the fields and processing plants across the State by some of the hardest working men and women in Louisiana.

Thirty-five years later, this show is still carried by 18 affiliates in Louisiana and nationwide by RFD-TV, bringing the story of agriculture to 400,000 people each week.

Reg died earlier this month at his home in Franklin Parish, which I represent. Those of us in Louisiana will be forever grateful for Reg's contributions to agriculture in our State and the life he dedicated to serving farmers.

REMEMBERING JUSTICE LAURA LIU

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, Chicago lost a tremendous judge, attorney, mother, wife, and friend on April 15th with the death of Justice Laura Liu. She fought a courageous battle against breast cancer for 5 years, and her spirit, passion, and determination never faltered.

Born to immigrant parents, Justice Liu didn't start speaking English until elementary school, but ended up as class valedictorian.

For nearly 20 years, Justice Liu worked as a litigator, then as a circuit court judge, and finally was appointed to the Illinois Appellate Court. In the court, Justice Liu was a strong advocate for interpreter services for immigrants and people with limited English who might have been otherwise overwhelmed.

She was a tremendous advocate and mentor to Chicago's Chinese American community, setting an exemplary model for young boys and girls that their opportunities were endless if you worked hard.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Justice Liu's family during this difficult time.

MANAGING WILD HORSES AND BURROS

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

Mr. STEWART. Mr. Speaker, the BLM just announced that it would significantly cut grazing allotments and possibly eliminate all cattle grazing on Federal lands in Elko, Nevada, to accommodate the overpopulation of wild horses. Many rural areas in my district are facing the exact identical situation where wild horses are taking over the ranges.

I grew up ranching and riding horses, and I desperately want to protect them. But with 50,000 wild horses on