

presumptive nominees for the Office of President of the United States, a principle memorialized in section 370 of the House Rules and Manual.

#### SCHUYLKILL SCHOLASTIC DRINKING WATER AWARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. COSTELLO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the work of students from Perkiomen Valley High School and Phoenixville Area Middle School.

Recently, the Schuylkill Action Network recognized the Perkiomen Key Club and the Phoenixville Envirothon and Environmental Awareness Club for their exceptional efforts to protect our local watershed.

Perkiomen students designed and installed a rain garden in their township building, which I visited this past weekend, and which is expected to cleanse rainwater and remove pollution. Phoenixville students installed a "bioswale" to help absorb runoff and reduce pollution in Pickering Creek to keep their communities beautiful and healthy.

For their efforts, the Schuylkill Action Network presented the Schuylkill Scholastic Drinking Water Award to these hardworking club members from both schools.

Let me also recognize the Schuylkill Action Network and many watershed organizations across my district that do a great job protecting our watersheds.

I want to congratulate these students for their ingenuity to keep the water in our congressional district clean and safe for our community.

#### SARAH PENNINGTON/MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Sarah Pennington for her courageous leadership on mental health.

Sarah is a courageous, dynamic, hardworking high school student at Pottsgrove High School, and the reigning Miss Freedom Forge's Outstanding Teen. She visited my office yesterday to bring attention to mental health issues and to discuss relevant policy reforms.

Sarah has not graduated high school yet, of course, but she has already founded a nonprofit, Show Your Hero, with the goal of raising mental health awareness.

I want to thank Sarah for her advocacy. I also have some exciting news. Sarah will be participating in Miss PA's Outstanding Teen pageant from June 22 to June 24 in Pittsburgh. I want to wish her the very best in that pursuit.

#### FIRST RESPONDERS IN PHOENIXVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the work of Phoenixville first responders.

Recently, West End Ambulance and the Phoenixville Fire and Police Departments responded to a call for help. These devoted crews assisted an individual who went into cardiac arrest. Through their swift efforts to administer CPR, the responders were able to save a life.

The Chester County EMS Council recognized the responders for their expertise on May 28, coinciding with National Emergency Medical Services Week, which honors those serving on our communities' front lines every day.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and thank these and all firefighters, officers, EMTs, and paramedics for their service.

#### STATE OUTREACH FOR LOCAL VETERANS EMPLOYMENT

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about a bill I introduced in the House called the SOLVE Act, short for the State Outreach for Local Veterans Employment Act.

The SOLVE Act will provide Pennsylvania, and all States, with critical flexibility to utilize existing grant funds in the way that best serves the needs of each State's unique veteran population.

The American Legion, Paralyzed Veterans of America and National Guard Association of the United States, have all endorsed this commonsense bill.

I encourage my colleagues to cosponsor this bill as well.

#### RECOGNIZING WILSON SOUTHERN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Wilson Southern Middle School as one of six exemplary middle schools in Pennsylvania recognized as a school to watch. I also thank the teachers, administrators, parents, faculty, and students for their hard work in making Wilson Southern Middle School such an exceptional middle school. We are very proud of you.

#### BRINGING POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION OUT OF THE SHADOWS

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of Bringing Postpartum Depression Out of the Shadows Act.

Every year, one in seven new mothers experiences perinatal depression, impacting babies and families for years to come.

This bipartisan legislation, which I have cosponsored with Congresswoman KATHERINE CLARK of Massachusetts, would help those suffering receive the treatment they need. States would receive Federal funding to establish, expand, or maintain programs for screening and treatment of maternal depression.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of mental health advocates, we have reached over 65 bipartisan cosponsors in the House. I am respectfully encouraging other Members and their staffs to look at this bill and join as cosponsors. It is the right thing to do as we seek to proactively address issues of

postpartum depression in communities across this country.

#### THREE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am a Member of the United States Congress and a very—I hate to use the term proud, but I am proud to have been a member of the Judiciary Committee for the number of years that I have served in this august place.

As I serve, I am well aware of the importance of the Constitution and the very sacred responsibility that we have in protecting it. So I thought that, as a lawyer who has practiced and one who has served as an associate municipal court judge in my hometown of Houston, Texas, it would be important to remind Members of the established three branches of government and the responsibilities that each hold, but focus in particular on the executive—the President of the United States.

In Article II, the Constitution, says: "The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America." It uses the term that "he should hold," and, in particular, it acknowledges that he or she should take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

Article III establishes our judicial power. In particular, with respect to Federal courts: "all Cases, in Law and Equity, arising under this Constitution, and Treaties made, under their Authority."

All of these cases have jurisdiction under our Federal court system. So, the Federal courts and jurists are of keen importance.

One would wonder how we establish the need for the rule of law and separation of powers. It came first from 1215, King John's Magna Carta, which indicated that no one should be imprisoned, dispossessed, outlawed, exiled, or in any way destroyed, except by lawful judgment of his peers and the law of the land.

I know that when I sat as a member of the bench, I would look at petitioners and I would hope that even though my history was that of a former slave, being an African American—when I say a former slave, descendants of such; the history of African Americans is such—and I would hope that my background would not have countered the fairness that I would have rendered to anyone who came before me.

Judicial independence is something that we hold dear. The Founders understood that judges who are able to apply the law freely and fairly are essential to the rule of law.

The Constitution guarantees our rights on paper, but this would mean nothing without independent courts to protect them. That means our judges in the Federal system should not be intimidated or influenced or protected