

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW CONNOLLY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Matthew Connolly for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Since 2000, *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Matthew Connolly is the president of his own green builder company, Generation Green Builders Company, and resides in the Beaverdale neighborhood of Des Moines with his wife Jodi and their two children, Malaya Rose and Lane Matthew. Mr. Connolly's path to being a successful businessman and family man was anything but easy and required overcoming a serious mental illness, schizophrenia. Matt credits his ability to maintain his recovery since 2004 on five pillars of recovery—medication, therapy, social worker support, family and friends, and support groups. Today, Mr. Connolly is running his own company and serving as an advocate for mental illness awareness. Matt's ability to not only survive, but thrive, amidst his mental illness is a testament to his unwavering work ethic and commitment to bettering himself and those around him.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Matthew in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Connolly for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Matthew on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

HONORING CASIMIR PULASKI DAY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Polish and American freedom fighter Casimir Pulaski. In my home state of Illinois, we celebrate Casimir Pulaski Day,

which is observed on the first Monday of March.

Born in Warsaw, Poland, on March 6, 1745, Casimir Pulaski was a skilled commander who fought against Russian forces in Poland. Based upon his work fighting for freedom in Poland, Pulaski was recruited by Benjamin Franklin to join in the American Revolution. In his first correspondence to George Washington, Pulaski famously wrote, "I came here, where freedom is being defended, to serve it, and to live or die for it." In his first battle of the Revolution, the Battle of Brandywine on September 11, 1777, Pulaski helped alter the course of history by rallying a counterattack against advancing British forces that afforded Washington and countless American troops the time needed to successfully retreat. As a result, Washington promoted Pulaski to brigadier general of the American cavalry.

His influence on American independence did not end there. Pulaski introduced some modern military tactics to the American revolutionaries and led troops in numerous battles and sieges up and down the eastern seaboard. He organized the Continental Army's first successful cavalry unit, often using his own money to finance equipment for his men.

On October 9, 1779, during the Battle of Savannah, Pulaski was struck by grapeshot while attempting to lead a secondary charge against the entrenched British. He was taken aboard the USS *Wasp* and died from his wounds two days later. On October 15, he was buried at sea. Today Pulaski is remembered as the father of the American cavalry and one of the heroes of the American Revolution. He has been memorialized across America, through the naming of towns, counties, roads, and other landmarks.

In 2009, on the 230th anniversary of his death, Congress honored Pulaski posthumously as an honorary citizen of the United States, marking only the seventh time in American history that an individual has been granted such an honor.

This past Saturday, I joined the Polish Highlanders Alliance at their headquarters in Chicago's Archer Heights community to celebrate Pulaski Day. In my address to the group gathered to remember Casimir Pulaski, I praised the long friendship between the United States and Poland, and pledged my continued support for bringing Poland into the Visa Waiver Program.

Today, I ask all Americans to remember a true Polish and American hero who devoted and ultimately sacrificed his life to the pursuit of freedom.

HONORING NANCY ANN DANIEL

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague Mr. COSTA, to honor

Nancy Ann Daniel, of Mendota, California. For years, she served as a tireless advocate and leader in California's San Joaquin Valley. Mrs. Daniel passed away on February 4, 2013 after decades of service to our Valley's most vulnerable citizens. She will be sorely missed.

Nancy and her husband, David, were labor contractors who specialized in cantaloupe harvesting. Using their own resources, they founded the Westside Youth Center in 1977 as a local boxing club for Mendota's at-risk youth. Over the years, the center added computers to help students with homework, a football team, and provided a safe place where children could spend afternoons and weekends with positive role models.

Through her leadership and financial stewardship, Nancy was able to ensure that the services at the Westside Youth Center remained free of charge. Due to the economic downturn impacting many in the community, the Westside Youth Center has become an absolutely integral part of our Valley.

The many lives that have been impacted by the Westside Youth Center will ensure that Nancy's legacy lives on for years to come. Her passion and dedication to her community provided an excellent example to the Mendota community. She will be remembered for her smile and her constant positive and upbeat attitude.

Mrs. Daniel was humble in her commitment and dedication to the City of Mendota. She once reflected, "You can't help them all, but it makes a big difference when you help a couple." Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and Mr. COSTA in remembering Mrs. Nancy Ann Daniel for her invaluable service to the San Joaquin Valley.

TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW HARRIS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Matthew Harris for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Since 2000, *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Matthew Harris is an Iowa native and alumnus of the University of Northern Iowa. In March of 2011, Matthew was appointed Administrator of the Iowa Arts Council, a division

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