

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING THE FATIMA COMETS BASEBALL TEAM

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Fatima Comets Baseball team for their first place win in the 2015 Class 3 State Baseball Championship.

This team and their coach should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing the Fatima Comets for a job well done.

IN HONOR OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF WAYNE BROTHERS IN- CORPORATED

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Wayne Brothers Incorporated for thirty years of providing premiere site and concrete contracting to the Southeastern United States.

From their humble beginnings in 1985 to their regional footprint today, Wayne Brothers Incorporated has stood as a pillar of business excellence and community service in North Carolina's 8th Congressional District. Under the leadership of Keith Wayne, Bob Phillips, John Ashworth, Chad Hensley, Isaiah Wayne, and Daniel Wayne, Wayne Brothers Incorporated operates with a mission to provide their clients and shareholders the most specialized quality and value in the field of construction.

Most recently Wayne Brothers Incorporated won the 2015 Cabarrus County Small Business of the Year Award, the 2015 National Association of Women in Construction's Steel Toe Boot Award for Subcontractor of the Year of the Charlotte Chapter, and the 2015 Associated Builders in Construction's Excellence in Construction Eagle Award for National Excellence in Construction.

Even in the midst of such accolades, Wayne Brothers Incorporated remains consistent in its commitment to serve the community.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Wayne Brothers Incorporated for their pioneering spirit and demonstration of core American values. It is my pleasure to congratulate them for thirty years of excellence as a business and key figure in our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, on the legislative day of June 15, 2015, a series of votes was held. Had I been present for these roll call votes, I would have cast the following votes:

Roll Call 364—I vote "YEA."

Roll Call 365—I vote "YEA."

RECOGNIZING MR. RISHI PRASAD

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Rishi Prasad, of Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, for earning The Congressional Award Gold Medal.

Mr. Prasad has put in the necessary time and commitment to rightfully earn this award. Over the course of two years, he dedicated himself to his community by volunteering at a local hospital and refurbishing computers to be donated to others. He set personal development and physical fitness challenges for himself to become a more well-rounded individual. I commend his initiative and service to his community. It is an honor to represent this young man in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 7th district of Pennsylvania, I want to congratulate Mr. Rishi Prasad on his achievement and wish him the best of luck in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I missed a series of recorded votes on June 15. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on roll call vote No. 364 and roll call vote No. 365.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. GLENN D. STEELE, JR. ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM GEISINGER HEALTH SYSTEM

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Dr. Glenn D. Steele, Jr. on the occasion of his retirement. Dr. Steele is the

President and Chief Executive Officer of Geisinger Health System, an integrated health services organization within my congressional district that is widely admired for its development of innovative care models and its advances in the use of electronic health records and telemedicine.

After receiving his bachelor's degree in history and literature from Harvard University, Dr. Steele went on to graduate with his medical degree from New York University School of Medicine and his PhD in microbiology from Lund University in Sweden. He has served as the Chairman of the American Board of Surgery, as well as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Deaconess Professional Practice Group.

An influential academic, Dr. Steele has contributed immensely to advances in the areas of gastrointestinal cancer, pre-cancer, and, most recently, healthcare delivery and financing. In fact, he is the author or co-author of more than 483 scientific and professional articles, an impressive feat in and of itself.

In 2001, Dr. Steele assumed his role as Chief Executive Officer of Geisinger Health System. Under his direction, the organization has grown from 7,000 employees to 23,500; all of whom provide valuable healthcare services to citizens both in my congressional district, the Commonwealth, and across the nation. Dr. Steele has also overseen Geisinger's growth and development into nine hospital campuses, two research centers, and a 467,000-member health plan. Combined, these entities leverage an estimated \$7.7 billion, revenue that has strongly impacted Pennsylvania's economy for the better.

Furthermore, national accolades have repeatedly been bestowed upon Geisinger for its work in integration, quality, and service—accomplishments that Dr. Steele has played an integral role in facilitating. Geisinger's patient care mission is second to none, and Dr. Steele has taken the organization one step further in developing a commitment to medical education, research, and community service.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Dr. Steele as he celebrates the culmination of an impressive, impactful career. Though his daily influence within Geisinger will be missed, his legacy will inevitably carry on. I hope that he finds this new chapter of his life to be as exciting as the last, and that he enjoys this occasion in the company of family and friends.

RECOGNIZING THE BUFFALO CHORAL ARTS SOCIETY FOR ITS OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO THE BUFFALO COMMUNITY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize and honor the Buffalo Choral Arts Society for its work in the Buffalo

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

community. The Society has immeasurably enriched the lives of many in the Western New York area through its song and commitment to the arts.

Founded 50 years ago in 1966 by Robert F. Schulz, the Society has expanded to include a diverse group of over 100 singers drawn from within the Buffalo community. Led by conductor Marcia A. Giambone who enters her 27th season with the choir, the Buffalo Choral Arts Society sings a full schedule of concerts throughout the year breathing life into music as diverse as Bach, pop and Broadway for the enjoyment of its audience.

As ambassadors of Buffalo and Western New York as well as the United States of America as a whole, the Buffalo Choral Arts Society has travelled widely throughout both the nation and the world. Domestically they have performed in such esteemed venues as Carnegie Hall, the National Cathedral and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts as well as in local Buffalo treasures such as the Historic Riviera Theatre.

Whilst abroad, the Society has had the honor of performing as part of the 50th Anniversary of the D-Day Invasion at the American Cemetery and Memorial in Normandy, as well as having toured throughout Europe and Canada, participating in important cultural exchange while showcasing the American choral tradition to a wide international audience.

Voted "Best Vocal Ensemble" in each of the last four years in the Artvoice Best of Buffalo contest, the Buffalo Choral Arts Society continues to strive for excellence and to bring its sound to a wider audience. It will travel to New York City in early July to perform a series of concerts over the Independence Day weekend there.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor and recognize the Buffalo Choral Arts Society. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Buffalo Choral Arts Society on an accomplished history of choral music, and to commend it for the exemplary work it has done to enrich the communities of Western New York.

HONORING MR. WILLIAM HYBL

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the most distinguished citizens in the history of Colorado Springs, Mr. William Hybl.

Bill has not only served Colorado Springs with his successful business and non-profit careers, he has served our nation and globally represented us as well. From his service in the United States Air Force, to his term as the President of the United States Olympic Committee, to his time representing us in the United Nations, and, particularly, to his distinguished tenure as the Chairman of the U.S. Commission on Public Diplomacy, Bill exemplifies the notion of selfless service for the betterment of our nation.

That's why I am delighted that Bill is being honored by the Japanese Government with the Imperial Decoration of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon. This distinguished award is one of the highest hon-

ors that can be bestowed by the Japanese government and Bill has earned this distinction by cultivating a deep and meaningful bond with the Japanese people.

During his time as USOC President, Bill led Team USA in the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan. He also nurtures many diplomatic and cultural exchanges between Japan and Colorado. Among the greatest of these is the thriving Sister City relationship between Colorado Springs and Fujiyoshida.

For these reasons, among many others, I am honored to recognize Bill Hybl and join my fellow citizens in Colorado's Fifth Congressional District in congratulating him on this tremendous honor.

CONGRATULATING SARA RHINE OF THE ELDON HIGH SCHOOL LADY MUSTANGS

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sara Rhine of the Eldon High School Lady Mustangs for her first place win in the 2015 Class 3 State High Jump Championship, giving her a total of ten state medals.

Sara won her fourth consecutive first place high jump title and finished third in the 100-meter hurdles and long jump. Sara and her coach should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Sara Rhine of the Eldon High Lady Mustangs for a job well done.

THE COMMENCEMENT OF DIRECT FLIGHTS BETWEEN HOUSTON'S GEORGE BUSH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND TAIWAN'S TAOYUAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a significant milestone achievement, the commencement of direct flights between Houston's George Bush International Airport (IAH) and Taiwan's Taoyuan International Airport.

The arrival of EVA Airways Flight #52, which is scheduled to arrive at George Bush International Airport from Taipei on June 19, 2015, at 4:30 p.m., will mark the first direct flight from Taipei.

Houston and Taipei are sister cities, having begun a friendship in 1961 that has for more than 50 years provided mutual benefits in the areas of business, culture and education, as has brought significant direct foreign investment to Houston and Texas.

Taiwan is the United States' 10th largest trading partner and the United States is Taiwan's largest foreign investor.

Our people-to-people exchanges are flourishing, with over 20,000 Taiwanese students studying in the United States each year.

In 2012, the first year that Taiwan was eligible to participate in the Visa Waiver Program, travel from Taiwan to the United States increased 35 percent.

EVA Airway's direct flight between Houston and Taipei will facilitate continuous prosperity and cooperation between the U.S. and Taiwan.

As the airline also connects major cities in East and Southeast Asia, the direct flight service is expected to facilitate more business, tourism and leisure travel between not only Houston and Taipei but Houston and the entire region as well.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize and congratulate Houston's George Bush International Airport and EVA Airways on their bold, exciting, and mutually beneficial new venture of direct air travel between Houston and Taipei.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 365 severe weather unavoidably detained my flight in Chicago, Illinois and I was unable to make the vote series.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes".

IN RECOGNITION OF THE JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE OF NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Jewish Family Service of Northeastern Pennsylvania, which is celebrating 100 years of service to both the Jewish and broader community. Jewish Family Service is a human service organization which reflects the Jewish tradition of caring and compassion for all people in need. Through professional counseling, advocacy, and educational programming, their services enhance and strengthen the quality of individual, family, and community life in Northeast Pennsylvania.

Established in August of 1915 as the Jewish Federation of Scranton, the organization sought to coordinate relief activities of all service organizations in the Jewish community. These efforts included philanthropic and charitable family services, fundraising, and coordination of medical and dental clinics.

Today, the Jewish Family Service provides a host of services to Northeast Pennsylvania, including mental health counseling, Holocaust survivors assistance, Kosher Meals on Wheels, older adult services, and the Mae S. Gelb Kosher Food Pantry. Additionally, the Jewish Family Service administers the Non-Sectarian DentalCare Center, an ongoing collaborative effort between JFS, the Scranton

District Dental Society, and Fortis Institute Dental Hygiene Program to provide free dental care for eligible Lackawanna County residents.

It is a privilege to honor such a service-oriented institution. I hope that Jewish Family Service of Northeastern Pennsylvania will continue their good work as long as it is needed.

CONGRATULATING THE D.C. CHAPTER OF THE BLACK DATA PROCESSING ASSOCIATES (BDPA) ON ITS 37TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the District of Columbia chapter of the Black Data Processing Associates (BDPA) on its 37th anniversary of service to the residents of the District of Columbia and the national capital region.

Founded in May 1978 by Norman Mays, the D.C. chapter is the second chapter of BDPA formed, preceded only by the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania chapter, 1977. In 1979, BDPA was restructured as a national organization, and has 45 active chapters across the United States.

As the oldest and largest African American information technology (IT) organization, comprised of over 2,000 African-American IT professionals, as well as science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) college students, BDPA's vision is to be a powerful advocate for their interests within the global technology industry. Its mission is to be a global, member-focused technology organization that delivers programs and services for the professional well-being of its members.

BDPA continues to promote professional growth and technical development for young people and those entering into information and communication technology (ICT) in academia and corporate America. We also appreciate BDPA and its 45 chapters for continuing to provide ICT opportunities for STEM students and professionals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the 37th anniversary of the D.C. chapter of the Black Data Processing Associates, in congratulating BDPA for its outstanding accomplishments and commitment to the residents of the District of Columbia and around the country, and in welcoming those attending the BDPA Annual National Technology Conference and Career Fair, titled "Evolution of IT—Embracing the Digital Future," on August 18–22, 2015, at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 365, my flight was delayed due to weather.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS:
THE MISSING BLACK MALE

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBIN L. KELLY

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 15, 2015

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding as we continue our conversation about the challenges facing black males today.

As Chairwoman of the CBC Health Braintrust, I want to discuss the health challenges and health outcomes for black men.

There are a wide range of dangers and health threats that disproportionately affect black men. Some of these, we've known about for decades, and can be mitigated with the right treatments. While others are emerging issues that require more research, more debate, and more innovation. The end result is that black men have the lowest life expectancy, highest death rate, and have some of the worst health outcomes across demographics.

Black men suffer disproportionately from chronic illnesses, such as cancer and heart disease. In fact, according to the Centers for Disease Control and prevention, heart disease and cancer are the two leading causes of death for African American men.

Heart disease is the number one killer for all American men. But today, African American men remain disproportionately at risk for heart disease. 42.6 percent of black men suffer from high blood pressure, compared to 33.4 percent of white men. And nearly 44 percent of African American men suffer from some form of cardiovascular disease that can lead to strokes and heart attacks.

As for cancer, black men are more than twice as likely to die from prostate cancer as white men and have a higher incidence and death rate from colorectal cancer.

A study published this April in the Journal of the American Medical Association found that African Americans were 58 percent more likely than white people to develop prostate cancer. The same study also found that obese black men had a 103 percent increased prostate cancer risk compared to obese white men.

Obesity has also been connected with heart disease and other chronic illnesses. And today almost 40 percent of African American men are obese, 69 percent are obese or overweight.

These are serious issues that pose serious health dangers to black men. We may not know exactly why black men are so much more at risk for these ailments. But we DO know what we can do to reduce the health risks and take action to prevent disease.

That's why as we celebrate National Men's Health Week this week, I want to encourage all men to take action—exercise, eat right, and get a check up. As Chairwoman of the CBC Health Braintrust, I'll be pushing the conversation forward and working to pass legislation to fund more research and promote health edu-

cation so that all Americans can continue living healthy lives.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to discuss two issues that are plaguing the next generation of black Americans. These being issues related to violence—gun violence and suicide.

Starting with gun violence. In underserved communities around America, children are growing up in fear. Kids are playing tag indoors, instead of out on their front lawn. Mothers worry about their child walking home from school.

Gun violence in America disproportionately affects African Americans and more specifically African American males. Today, 50 percent of all deaths for black males aged 15–24 are homicides, usually involving a gun. And this year, we are on track for gun violence to become the leading cause of death for young black males.

In the first six months of this year, the Red-eye Chicago, a local publication, tracked 157 gun related homicides in the city. Nearly 130 of them involved black males. This isn't an isolated problem. An analysis of the FBI's national database of supplementary homicide reports revealed that across the country 17,422 black males ages 13 to 30 have been killed by firearms since 2008.

It's time we change this. Through common-sense legislation, we can ensure that fear of gun violence is no longer the status quo in our communities. That's one of the reasons I released the Kelly Report on Gun Violence last summer. This was the first comprehensive Congressional report on the gun violence problem in America, and included effective policy strategies to reduce gun violence in America. I ask that my colleagues consider some of the ideas in that report online.

And continuing to speak of violence, I want to bring attention to the alarming increase in suicide among young black boys.

In 1982, the New York Times wrote an article entitled, "Why Are Blacks Less Suicide Prone than Whites?" I stand here now asking "Why are black boys becoming more suicide prone?"

According to a recently published study in the Journal of the American Medical Association, while the overall suicide rate has remained stagnant over the past 20 years, tragically the suicide rate among black boys as young as ten years old has nearly doubled. Almost 20 percent of these suicides are attributed to gun-related wounds.

This shocking and tragic issue is receiving very little attention in our national media and it's being overlooked in our national discussion on mental health. Just last month, our colleague, Congressman EMANUEL CLEAVER wrote President Barack Obama calling for a task force to examine this issue. In his letter, Congressman CLEAVER noted that this was the first time that any national survey found a higher suicide rate for blacks than for individuals of other ethnicities.

Whether you're black, white, Latino, or a veteran, Congress can do more to take necessary health care measures to address suicides. This Congress must work to end the horrific epidemic that is preventing young black boys from growing up and reaching their full potential.

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING
AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2393, the Country of Origin Labeling Amendments Act of 2015. This bill represents a hasty response to a recent WTO ruling on Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) and fails to take into account the wide-ranging views of multiple stakeholders, including consumer, labor, farm, environmental and faith-based groups.

The WTO Appellate Body ruled against United States COOL regulations only a few weeks ago and two days after, H.R. 2393 was pushed through the House Agriculture Committee. While the WTO ruled that COOL discriminated against imported livestock, it also determined that COOL is a "legitimate objective" to provide consumers information on food origin. COOL has been successfully implemented for various nuts, fruits, vegetables, seafood and other food products. Congress must support this progress and take its time to develop a COOL policy that is WTO compliant and reflects the views of consumers and other stakeholders.

While critics have pointed to the retaliatory threats issued by Canada as a reason to expedite this legislation, it is too soon to know whether these threats have merit. Canada and Mexico still must seek WTO authority to impose retaliatory tariffs. The WTO must determine whether this amount equals the damages incurred by Canada and Mexico under COOL. The U.S. can appeal these claims and request that the WTO appoint an arbitrator to determine the proper level of damages. Arbitration cases generally last several months. There is still ample time for the U.S., Canada and Mexico to come to an agreement before retaliation can take effect. The Congress should let this process play out before taking action.

I also have concerns about the level of damages Canada is seeking in response to COOL. Its claims cite data that is not publicly available, while studies from the U.S. supported by data from USDA show that COOL has not had a negative impact on Canadian and Mexican livestock imports.

Consumers have a right to know where their food comes from and studies show that Americans strongly support country of origin labeling. Congress should support the desires of consumers and wait for the WTO process to run its course before taking action. I urge a no vote.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TAMMY DUCKWORTH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. Speaker, on June 15, 2015 on Roll Call #364 on H. Res. 233—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Iran should immediately release the three United States citizens that it

holds, as well as provide all known information on any United States citizens that have disappeared within its borders—I am not recorded because a weather-related flight cancellation prevented me from being present for the vote. I am a cosponsor of this important resolution and believe it sends a critical message that if Iran truly wants to engage in constructive interaction with the world, it must release American prisoners. Had I been present, I would have voted AYE.

On June 15, 2015 on Roll Call #365 on H.R. 2559—to designate the "PFC Milton A. Lee Medal of Honor Memorial Highway" in the State of Texas—I am not recorded because a weather-related flight cancellation prevented me from being present for the vote. Had I been present, I would have voted AYE.

TRIBUTE TO KYLE TESTERMAN

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I wish to honor a man whose service and personal fortitude brought great distinction to Tennessee and this Nation.

Kyle Testerman, a former two-term mayor and the youngest person ever elected to that office in my hometown of Knoxville, Tennessee, died recently after a long life filled with family, faith and service.

Mayor Testerman is one of the finest public servants I have ever known, and he was a longtime friend of my father and family.

As a young man, Mayor Testerman played basketball and tennis at the University of Tennessee. As most people know, University of Tennessee athletics is one of the highest levels of sports in this Country.

In recognition of his love of tennis and accomplishments in public service, the City of Knoxville named the tennis complex in Tyson's Park in honor of Mayor Testerman.

Following college, lie rose to Mayor after serving on the city council.

More people are moving to East Tennessee to live than almost any other part of the Country in large part because of the contributions Mayor Testerman made towards making the region one of the best places to live.

From rescuing the city's zoo from closure, establishing a cultural exchange center, and funding the first Mobile Meals program, to starting the Knoxville-hosted 1982 World's Fair and constructing TVA's headquarters, Kyle Testerman's legacy remains in every corner of the town he loved.

Mr. Speaker, Mayor Kyle Testerman devoted his entire life to East Tennessee. I call to the attention of my colleagues and other readers his inspirational service and offer my deepest condolences to his family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following remarks regarding

my absence from votes which occurred on June 15, 2015. I was delayed in arriving in Washington due to a flight cancellation from Columbia, South Carolina.

(1) H.R. 891—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 141 Paloma Drive in Floresville, Texas, as the "Floresville Veterans Post Office Building"—"aye".

(2) H.R. 1326—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2000 Mulford Road in Mulberry, Florida, as the "Sergeant First Class Daniel M. Ferguson Post Office"—"aye".

(3) H.R. 1350—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 442 East 167th Street in Bronx, New York, as the "Herman Badillo Post Office Building"—"aye".

(4) H.R. 728—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7050 Highway BB in Cedar Hill, Missouri, as the "Sergeant First Class William B. Woods, Jr. Post Office"—"aye".

(5) H.R. 2131—To designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 83 Meeting Street in Charleston, South Carolina, as the "J. Waties Waring Judicial Center"—"aye".

(6) H.R. 2559—To designate the "PFC Milton A. Lee Medal of Honor Memorial Highway" in the State of Texas—"aye".

(7) H. Res. 233—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Iran should immediately release the three United States citizens that it holds, as well as provide all known information on any United States citizens that have disappeared within its borders—"aye".

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS WILLIAM
B. WOODS, JR. POST OFFICE

SPEECH OF

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 15, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 728, which would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7050 Highway BB in Cedar Hill, Missouri as the "Sergeant First Class William B. Woods, Jr. Post Office."

SFC Woods was a decorated constituent of the Third district of Missouri who dedicated his life to protecting our country. After graduation from Northwest High School in Cedar Hill, Missouri, he first enlisted with the United States Marine Corps in 1996 as a rifleman, and later enlisted in the United States Army where he attended the Special Forces Qualification Course in 2003 and earned the Green Beret. While in the U.S. Army, SFC Woods was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group (Airborne) and deployed to Afghanistan in 2009 during Operation Enduring Freedom.

On August 16, 2009, SFC Woods died in Germany from wounds sustained while conducting a mounted patrol in the Ghazni Province, Afghanistan on August 14, 2009. He is survived by his loving wife, Elizabeth, and two daughters.

SFC Woods' many awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart

Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, National Defense Medal, and Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star, among many others.

I am honored to name this post office after SFC Woods. His dedication and sacrifices for our country should not go unnoticed, and it is the least I can do to honor such a courageous soldier.

I want to thank the entire Missouri Delegation for coming together to cosponsor this legislation, and Chairman CHAFFETZ for promptly considering this legislation in the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. It would be an honor to name the Cedar Hill post office in my district after this courageous soldier, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

HONORING WORLD WAR II VETERAN MR. CHARLES ROBERT "BOB" PROVINE, JR. ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Charles Robert "Bob" Provine, Jr., upon the joyous occasion of his 90th birthday, which will be celebrated with his family, friends, and church family on June 25th in Antioch, California.

Born on June 25, 1925 in Redwood City, CA, Bob is a decorated World War II veteran with a remarkable life of service, both to his community and to our country. He moved to Antioch, CA as a toddler, where he remains to this day. Shortly before graduating from Antioch High School in 1943, Bob enlisted in the Army Air Corps. After receiving his Army training, he was sent to Camp Shanks. It was here that he boarded the RMS *Queen Elizabeth* for transport to the Port of Southampton, England. Upon arrival, he immediately boarded an Army Landing Ship, Tank to cross the English Channel to the LeHarve Replacement Depot, France. He left LeHarve on one of the famous "40's and 8's," the same French boxcars that a generation of American Soldiers had ridden in while in France during World War I. Upon arrival in Metz, France, he was assigned as a replacement to General George Patton's Third Army, and served in the 94th Infantry, 376th Infantry Regiment. During the war, Bob saw combat action in Germany and served in the occupation of Czechoslovakia and Germany. In recognition of his service to our nation Bob was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge and the Bronze Star.

Bob returned home to Antioch and married Alice "Corky" Christ. They were married for more than 30 years before Corky passed away in 1984. Bob and Corky adopted two daughters, Cathy Kolb and Linda Ward, who blessed them with four grandchildren: John C. Kolb, Alicia A. Kolb, Brandon J. Merenda, and Breanna M. Meierdiercks; and three great grandchildren: John C. Kolb, Jr., Autumn Kolb, and Brandon M. Merenda. A fourth great grandson from Breanna and Brian Meierdiercks is expected in October.

During his 90 years, Bob always worked to help others and to build his community. He

watched Antioch grow from a small town of a few thousand residents to a city of more than 100,000. He has served his community well as a former volunteer firefighter, and for many years at the Antioch Historical Society where he enjoys telling stories about the "old days" in Antioch.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, I ask you to join me in honoring Bob Provine for his service to his community and our great nation, and in wishing him a happy birthday and best wishes for continued health and happiness.

RECOGNIZING STUDENTS ENTERING OUR ARMED FORCES

HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to honor high school graduates from the Broome-Tioga Board of Cooperative Educational Services area who are entering the United States Armed Forces. These young men and women have made an admirable decision to defend our country. I join the Conklin Kiwanis Club in honoring them.

The Conklin Kiwanis Club will hold a special celebration to honor these graduating high school seniors. "The First to Say Thank You" event will take place on Wednesday, June 17, 2015 at Susquehanna Valley High School in Conklin.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask you to join me in honoring the following students entering the Army National Guard: Jason Kilts, Lansing; Tyler Miles, Union-Endicott; Jordan Abbott, Windsor; Devin Seeley, Windsor; Matthew Vroman, Windsor.

Honoring the students entering the United States Air Force: Mario Nacinovich, Allynwood Academy; Jonah Sterling, Chenango Forks; Jack Wandersee, Chittenango; Devon Santamaria, Deposit; Samuel Rigney, Jamesville-Dewitt; Tristan Richard, Newark Valley; Matthew Bowers, Newfield.

Honoring the students entering the United States Army: Kaylee Scott, Binghamton; Owen Garlough, Candor; Sara Clark, Chenango Forks; Bronx Gibson, Chenango Forks; Logan McDonald, Chenango Valley; Connor Plue, Deposit; Evaughn Stevens, Deposit; Kevin Desha, Hamilton; Peter Mutz, Harpursville; Timothy Himko, Johnson City; Johnathan Carlsson, Maine-Endwell; Crystal Tripp, Maine-Endwell; Jasmine Rosenberger, Newark Valley; Trevor Zandt, O'Neill; Dylan Hunt, Vestal; Jacob Love, Vestal; Sean Patterson, Vestal.

Honoring the students entering the United States Marines: Colin C. Button, Binghamton; Heather R. Roberts, Binghamton; Tyler Denny, Chenango Forks; Zachariah T. Jeavons, Chenango Forks; Noah E. Birdsall, Cortland; Thomas L. Foster, Cortland; Samuel L. Park, Dryden; Kristopher K. Card, Newark Valley; Dameron M. Wilcox, Newark Valley; Elizabeth M. Wiggins, Susquehanna Valley; Michael C. Torres, Union-Endicott; Sheldon M. Clute, Whitney Point; Joseph M. Damico, Whitney Point; Maria E. Dewey, Whitney Point; Zachary T. Shearer, Whitney Point; Elijah R. Decker, Windsor; Tyler J. Frear, Windsor; Tyreik J. Pryor; Windsor.

Honoring the students entering the United States Navy: Nikolmi Tubbs, Cortland; Matthew Pettigrew, Lansing; Dane Saunders, Maine-Endwell; Jonathan Bullock, Windsor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIMI WALTERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 364 I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye".

RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP OF DR. WILLIAM S. BARNES

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. William S. Barnes, better known as Pastor Bill, for a lifetime of service and leadership. A graduate of Emory University with degrees in both business administration and theology, Pastor Bill has been an ordained minister in the Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church since 1974. Bill also received a Doctor of Divinity from Florida Southern College in 1995.

Bill was appointed Lead Pastor of St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Orlando in June of 1992. He held that position until July of 2014 when he was appointed Co-Lead Pastor as part of St. Luke's strategic leadership transition plan. Since 1992 St. Luke's has grown to be one of the largest and most influential congregations in the United Methodist denomination under Pastor Bill's leadership.

Throughout his career, Bill has served in rural, urban, and suburban churches, as well as Chaplain of Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida. Bill doesn't just preach, he leads by example. During his tenure in Orlando Bill has helped many communities by initiating dialogues on issues of race and bringing hope to economically disadvantaged areas through vocational training, housing assistance, and organizing food and shelter for the homeless. Bill was also one of the first ministers in Orlando to support non-discrimination ordinances offering protections to the LGBT community.

Bill is well known in Orlando for founding Shepherd's Hope a faith-based volunteer health care organization for the uninsured. It has expanded to five locations throughout Central Florida.

Pastor Bill was the recipient of the 2002 Social Entrepreneurship Award for his work with Shepherd's Hope, the Jefferson Award for American Public Service, the Manhattan Institute's Award for Social Entrepreneurship, and the Society of John Wesley's United Methodist Men Fellow. Bill Served on Bethune Cookman University's Board of Trustees from 2002 to 2011.

Bill is married to Kim, who teaches three-year-olds at St. Luke's Child Development Center and also designs her own line of custom jewelry. They have two children, Kristin

and Meredith, a terrific son-in-law, Sean, and two grandsons, Brady and Mason.

I am honored to recognize Pastor Bill Barnes for his leadership and service to his community.

URGING IRAN TO RELEASE ALL
DETAINED UNITED STATES CITI-
ZENS AND PROVIDE ANY INFOR-
MATION REGARDING UNITED
STATES CITIZENS THAT HAVE
DISAPPEARED WITHIN ITS BOR-
DERS

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 15, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, as a co-sponsor of H. Res. 233, I rise to encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution urging Iran to release all American citizens currently being illegally held in that country. This resolution also urges the immediate release of information about any other American citizens who have disappeared within Iran's borders. Iranian President Hassan Rouhani has stated publicly that his government wishes to engage in a constructive interaction with the world. This resolution challenges President Rouhani to back up his words with action. If the Iranian people want to earn the trust of the American people, they must honor their commitments and keep their word. Americans Amir Hekmati, Saeed Abedini, Jason Rezaian and Robert Levinson have been unjustly held against their will in Iran for years. This resolution urges Iran to do the right thing and release them so that they can come home and reunite their families.

HONORING SONS AND DAUGHTERS
IN TOUCH

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sons and Daughters in Touch (SDIT) on its 25th anniversary. The sons and daughters of servicemen and women who have died or gone missing in action while serving in the United States military are known as Gold Star children. Nearly 40 years after the end of the Vietnam War, many of their fathers and mothers are still unaccounted.

SDIT was founded by Tony Cordero, whose father died during the Vietnam War. Tony wanted to find others like him who had lost a parent in battle, and since its founding, SDIT has been dedicated to locating, uniting, and providing support to Gold Star children as well as other family members whose relatives have died or remain missing as a result of the Vietnam War. Prior to the founding of Sons and Daughters in Touch, in 1990, there was no organization to support those who lost their parents during the war. This organization currently represents an estimated 20,000 sons and daughters in the United States.

SDIT will be celebrating its 25th anniversary on Father's Day, Sunday June 21, at the Viet-

nam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC. The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration will recognize Gold Star sons and daughters and their families who lost their loved ones during the war for their service and sacrifice. Representatives from all Gold Star families, including those from Korea, WWII and recent conflicts, will participate in the event.

As a nation, we must pay tribute to the generations of children whose parents suffered the ultimate sacrifice defending our nation. I ask my colleagues to stand here with me in upholding our shared responsibility to comfort and care for the loved ones and communities these servicemen and women left behind. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring our nation's sons and daughters and the many contributions their parents have made for our country by supporting this resolution.

TRIBUTE TO CHERYL JOHNSON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Cheryl Johnson of Bedford, Iowa, on her retirement from the Bedford School. Ms. Johnson has been a dedicated public servant helping to educate the future of Iowa—its students.

Ms. Johnson has worked at the Bedford School for 15 years, spending three of those years in the elementary school and 12 with the Secondary School. During her tenure at Bedford she has worked diligently to support her community. She performed many different roles and enjoyed being able to watch her four older grandchildren graduate from Bedford.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent dedicated public servants like Cheryl Johnson from the great state of Iowa in the United States Congress. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating her on reaching this important milestone, and wishing her continued success for years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 364 and 365. I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on roll call 364 and yea on roll call 365.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, on roll call nos. 364 and 365 I was unavoidably detained due to weather and flight delays. Had I been present, I would have voted aye and aye.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MR.
COLEMAN HATTON

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding individual, Mr. Coleman Hatton, of Clark County, Kentucky, for his distinguished military service during World War II. Mr. Hatton, a part of the greatest generation, served our nation in the United States Army.

Mr. Hatton left the comforts of home and family on December 26th, 1942 when he was twenty years old. He served as a Tech-4 in Company D, 23rd Battalion for twenty nine months. His service was in Central Europe, primarily in France, England, and Germany.

Mr. Hatton served as a light tank crewman and was a driver. The light tank crew's job was to find the enemy and then draw fire for the big tanks. Mr. Hatton drove the lead tank directly behind the unit commander. He and his fellow crewmen took turns sleeping in the tanks while on guard duty. They went without hot meals for days at a time, ate C-rations, and sometimes visited nearby farms for eggs when they felt safe from enemy fire. Like many of his fellow soldiers, Hatton witnessed the horrors of war. He saw tanks get hit resulting in fires that killed all inside. He recovered bodies of dead American soldiers and some of these bodies had been desecrated by wild animals. He saw a Colonel's head get blown off. Hatton served our country admirably and bravely.

Mr. Hatton survived his service and returned home February 14, 1946. He and his late wife were married for sixty six years. He has six children, fourteen grandchildren, twenty great grandchildren, and three great great grandchildren.

The bravery of Mr. Hatton and his fellow men and women of the United States Army is heroic. Because of the courage of individuals from Clark County and from all across our great nation, our freedoms have been saved for our generation and for future generations. He is truly an outstanding American, a patriot, and a hero to us all.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE STATE
CHAMPIONS IN BOYS' SOCCER
FROM IOWA'S FIRST DISTRICT

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Iowa state championship boys' soccer teams from my district. The champions from each of Iowa's three soccer classes claimed their titles over the weekend on "Championship Saturday" at James W. Cownie Soccer Park in Des Moines, Iowa, and all of these schools are located in my district.

The Dyersville Beckman Blazers capped an undefeated 18-0 season with a 1-0 victory over Gilbert High School in the class 1A final. Senior Billy Hoffman scored the game winning goal in double overtime to secure the school's first boys' soccer state title in Beckman's history.

The Cedar Rapids Xavier Saints bested Central DeWitt 1–0 in double overtime to capture the school's seventh class 2A title and fourth boys' soccer title in five seasons. Luke Dunball netted the game winner to cap a 17–2 season for the Saints.

Lastly, the Marion Linn-Mar Lions shut out Ankeny Centennial High School 2–0. An "own goal" off a free kick by junior Alexy Boehm and goal by sophomore Leroy Enzugusi proved enough to secure the school's first state championship in boys' soccer. The Lions finished the season 20–3.

I congratulate all the players and coaches including head coaches Mirek Laskowski of Beckman High School, Amir Hadzic of Xavier High School, and Corey Brinkmeyer of Linn-Mar High School. I look forward to seeing continued success both on and off the field from these student athletes next season.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, on June 11 and 12, 2015, I was absent from Congress to attend a family event in California and was unable to cast my votes on Roll Call votes #345 through 363. Had I been present:

Roll Call #345—Concurring in the Senate Amendments with an Amendment to H.R. 1295—Trade Preferences Extension Act, I would have voted AYE.

Roll Call #346 Schiff Amendment—Prohibits the use of funds after March 31, 2016 for Operation Inherent Resolve in the absence of a law enacted by Congress that specifically authorizes the use of military force against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant I would have voted AYE.

Roll Call #347 Lee Amendment #1—Prohibits the use of funds pursuant to the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF) after December 31, 2015 I would have voted AYE.

Roll Call #348 Lee Amendment #2—Prohibits the use of funds pursuant to the 2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF) against Iraq I would have voted AYE.

Roll Call #349 Sablan Amendment—Prohibits the use of funds to establish any live-fire range, training course, or maneuver area within the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, in contravention of certain law and United States Code I would have voted AYE.

Roll Call #350 Gosar Amendment #1—Prohibits the use of funds to be expended by the Department of the Navy to divest or transfer, or prepare to divest or transfer, any search or rescue units from the Marine Corps I would have voted NO.

Roll Call #351 Johnson (GA) Amendment #1—Prohibits the use of funds to transfer a flash-bang grenade to federal and state law enforcement agencies under section 2576a of title 10, United States Code I would have voted NO.

Roll Call #352 Gosar Amendment #2—Prohibits the use of funds to procure any Army Aircrew Combat Uniforms I would have voted NO.

Roll Call #353 Johnson (GA) Amendment #2—Prohibits the use of funds to transfer a

mine-resistant ambush protected vehicle to federal and state law enforcement agencies under section 2576a of title 10, United States Code I would have voted NO.

Roll Call #354 Ellison Amendment—Prohibits the use of funds for contractors who have violated certain wage requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act I would have voted AYE.

Roll Call #355 Smith (MO) Amendment—Prohibits the use of funds to provide legal defense counsel for any foreign detainee held at the U.S. Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba I would have voted NO.

Roll Call #356 Massie Amendment—Prohibits the use of funds to query certain communications collected under Sec. 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978. It also prohibits funds from being used by the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to mandate or request that a person alter its product or service to permit electronic surveillance of any user of that product of service I would have voted AYE.

Roll Call #357 Democratic Motion to Re-commit H.R. 2685 I would have voted AYE.

Roll Call #358 Final Passage of H.R. 2685—Department of Defense Appropriations Act I would have voted NO.

Roll Call #359 Adoption of the Rule I would have voted NO.

Roll Call #360 On Approving the Journal I would have voted NO.

Roll Call #361 Concurring in portion of Senate Amdt comprising title II (except section 212) I would have voted NO.

Roll Call #362 Concurring in portion of senate amendment preceding title II I would have voted NO.

Roll Call #363 Concurring in Senate amendments with amendment I would have voted NO.

HONORING MS. ALICE ADRIENNE SPEARMAN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Ms. Alice Adrienne Spearman, former School Board Member for the Oakland Unified School District, OUSD. Known throughout the Bay Area as a passionate advocate for children, Ms. Spearman has left an undeniable mark in our community. With her passing on May 26, 2015, we look to honor her extraordinary life work and the lives she touched throughout her career.

Ms. Spearman, a proud Oakland native, was born on November 7, 1951. She graduated from Castlemont High School in 1969 and later attended California State University, CSU, East Bay and CSU San Jose where she earned an Associate's Degree. While attending CSU San Jose, Ms. Spearman followed in her mother's footsteps and became a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority Incorporated.

Upon receiving her Associates Degree, Ms. Spearman decided to pursue a career in health services and obtained her Registered Nursing, RN, License. She worked as an RN with the Department of Veterans Affairs for a decade before retiring in 1980.

Ms. Spearman's love for education grew from her mother, who worked as a teacher and school principal. When Spearman's daughters attended her alma mater, Castlemont, she founded a parental patrol group to offer student behavioral assistance. She also hosted a television talk show on Soul Beat Television Network where she frequently discussed issues affecting students attending Oakland public schools.

In 2004, Ms. Spearman was elected to serve the East Oakland community as a School Board Member for the Oakland Unified School District, where she served tirelessly until 2012 and in a variety of positions; including Board President and Vice President. It was here that she continued her work advocating for quality education while always championing the need for resources for Oakland students. Ms. Spearman also worked to ensure Oakland residents were given priority for construction jobs within the Oakland Unified School District.

Ms. Spearman was the mother of two daughters: Kiisha Jackson and Leilani Spearman; and, a proud grandmother of four: Tanisha Barker, Jocelyn Barker, Kii'era Smith, and Jahkari Clyde Lee Smith.

I will always remember Alice's determination, her optimism, and love for children. Her larger than life spirit will live forever and will continue to give us hope for the future. I will be forever grateful for her wise counsel and friendship.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes the legacy of Ms. Alice Adrienne Spearman. Ms. Spearman's contributions have truly impacted countless lives throughout the Bay Area. I join all of Ms. Spearman's loved ones in celebrating her incredible life and offer my most sincere condolences.

NATIONAL MEN'S HEALTH MONTH

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National Men's Health Month a time to focus attention and heighten awareness of preventable health problems affecting men and boys and encourage early detection and treatment.

Men's Health Month is celebrated across the country with screenings, health fairs, media appearances, and other health education and outreach activities.

The National Men's Health Network has encouraged the development of thousands of health awareness activities as corporations, hospital systems, clinics, faith-based communities, the public sector, and others use the month of June to highlight their services and reach out to men and their families.

In my district of Houston, Texas, this information has led to the increase in men being conscious about their risk factors for prostate cancer and other diseases.

The University of Houston has an entire clinic specializing in men's health for the Houston community to collect information and receive treatment; this clinic provides educational and specialized services that encourage men of all ages and ethnicities to implement positive lifestyle changes.

I encourage all men, young and older, and their families, to develop positive and proactive attitudes toward health and wellness, engage in preventive behaviors, lead healthy lifestyles, and seek timely medical advice and care.

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men, afflicting 1 out of every 11 American men and killing 34,000 men every year.

In the past 6 years, the death rate for prostate cancer has grown at almost twice the death rate of breast cancer.

The American Cancer Society estimates for 2015 the number of new cases for prostate cancer to be 220,800, and the number of deaths to be 27,540 from prostate cancer.

For African-American men, the rate of affliction is even worse; African-American men have the highest incidence of prostate cancer in the world.

These are not just statistics, each of these numbers represent a father, brother, son, uncle, or cousin who has been affected and passed away from this treatable disease.

Mr. Speaker, much progress has been made in the past 21 years with improvements in the health and well-being of men and boys, with a dramatic improvement in life expectancy and surprising drops in key mortality indicators.

There has been a steep drop among males in overall mortality, and corresponding improvements in the mortality rates for cancer and cardiovascular diseases.

Our goal this month should be to raise awareness about men's health in our communities and to rededicate ourselves to providing support for our men by further educating ourselves and our communities on men's health and effects.

Recognizing and preventing men's health problems is not just an issue of concern to me because it impacts wives, mothers, daughters, and sisters.

Mr. Speaker, as a Congresswoman, wife, mother and now grandmother, I can personally attest to the importance of heightening the awareness of preventable health problems as well as encouraging the early detection of disease that affect our young men's lives.

Men's health is truly a family issue.

SUPPORTING THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, last week, the House considered legislation that reauthorizes the United States' efforts to engage and assist the economies of sub-Saharan Africa. I stand in support of these objectives, as well as the efforts and programs that encourage development and improve economic relations between our nation and that region.

Because trade preferences programs between the U.S. and other economies can promote economic development and foster investment, I am pleased that many African countries already join in these initiatives. It is important that long-term certainty is provided for the businesses and workers that have taken

advantage of U.S. trade programs and development efforts. In addition, the United States should also be prepared to engage with and support the sustainable growth of those economies that are currently ineligible for and not participating in current preferences programs.

Although the Democratic Republic of Congo, DRC, is among those sub-Saharan African nations that are not at the moment eligible for trade preferences, I understand that after a long-fought civil war, the Congolese are working hard to revive their economy. While the challenges facing the DRC are considerable, there are many ways that the U.S. can work with the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to reduce poverty, increase stability, strengthen the rule of law, improve workers' rights, and support the establishment of a market-based economy that will allow the Congolese people to grow their economy. These important steps can help nations promote exports and investments that foster economic development elopment in partnership with the United States.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House to maintain engagement and support for the growth of the economies of sub-Saharan Africa. It is my hope that African countries continue their involvement, and that those currently outside of the program take steps to initiate participation, such as meeting eligibility standards. I am pleased that the U.S. will continue to partner with the people and countries of sub-Saharan Africa to grow economies, reduce poverty, and share prosperity.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June 15, 2015, I was absent from the House due to a flight cancellation and a delay to my secondary flight plans. Due to my absence, I did not record any votes for the day. I would like to reflect how I would have voted had I been present for legislative business.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on Roll Call 364 and Roll Call 365.

IN HONOR OF THE FAIRFAX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce on 90 years of successfully promoting business throughout the entire Northern Virginia region. By clearly and effectively voicing the priorities and concerns of the business community to our local, state, and national leaders, the Chamber has helped make Fairfax a great place to have a business and thrive. Led by President and CEO Jim Corcoran and his dedicated staff, as well as a very engaging board of directors, the Fairfax

Chamber of Commerce is the gold standard for what a local Chamber of Commerce should be, encouraging business leaders and advocates to come together to promote and share ideas that will inevitably help foster a healthy economy. TIME magazine has called Fairfax County "one of the great economic success stories of our time." A George Mason University Center for Regional Analysis study estimated the gross county product, or market value of the goods and services produced in Fairfax County—at nearly \$91 billion. The Fairfax Chamber of Commerce has served the community with great distinction and achievement over the last 90 years. I am honored to represent the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce in Congress, and hope that their next 90 years may be even more successful and prosperous.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH BIRTHDAY OF DR. JEAN G. CHAMPOMMIER

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Jean G. Champommier on the celebration of his 75th birthday, and on his distinguished career of making our communities healthier and our children safer. As a Public Health Commissioner for Los Angeles County, as a community leader and a businessman, as an educator, as a social worker, and as a family therapist, Dr. Champommier has been a prominent part of the continuing fight to make Southern California a better place to live and raise a family.

Since 1983, Dr. Champommier has been the President and CEO of Alma Family Services in East Los Angeles. He oversees a diverse and multidisciplinary staff of 170 people, spread out across 13 locations, 22 schools, and seven health facilities. Alma offers multilingual and multigenerational community-based services for families. These services include behavioral health support, substance abuse services, help for individuals with intellectual and developmental special needs, preschool services, and clinical support for at-risk youth.

Dr. Champommier's work at Alma is in keeping with his life's work. For more than fifty years, he has worked to advance behavioral health and child welfare through community-based efforts. In the 1960s, with the help of funds from the Office of Equal Opportunity, he played a key role in developing family counseling services in low-income parts of Ventura County. These services were an early local version of efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect. In the 1970s, he served as Chief of Social Services for a behavioral health clinic in Lincoln Heights, which set up new behavioral health services at local schools.

Dr. Champommier has also been a leader on our campuses and in our classrooms. He has taught about child welfare and community organization at UC Santa Barbara, Cal State Northridge, and Cal State L.A. He has served as a social work field instructor at USC and UCLA. And he has coordinated conferences on farm labor issues and Latino youth empowerment at UC Santa Barbara Extension.

It is little wonder that Dr. Champommier's work has earned him federal, state, and county commendations. I am pleased to add my voice to this chorus of congratulations. I thank Dr. Champommier for his many years of exemplary dedication to the families and children of my 40th Congressional District and beyond. I hope he will celebrate a very happy 75th birthday this Saturday, June 20th, with his beautiful wife—and my good friend—Dr. Marie S. Torres, and their extended family and friends.

CONGRATULATING CRAIG HOWARD
ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Craig Howard on the completion of a successful career with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Mr. Howard has dedicated his career to serving our veterans. During his 37 years with the Department of Veterans Affairs, he has worked tirelessly to ensure that veterans receive the medical care they need and deserve.

Mr. Howard has served as Director for the Canandaigua VA Medical Center since 2005. His leadership was instrumental in establishing the Center of Excellence for Suicide Prevention and PTSD, the Veterans Crisis Line, the National Homeless Call Center, and the National Caregiver Support Line. These resources and services have had a profoundly positive impact on the lives of our local veterans.

During his tenure as Director, the Canandaigua VA Medical Center has ranked highly in both patient and employee satisfaction. Mr. Howard leaves behind a strong legacy of service and leadership: his work has left a lasting imprint on our community.

I thank Mr. Howard for his years of dedicated service to our veterans and wish him the very best in his retirement.

AMERICA GIVES MORE ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Customs bill—a bill that was included as part of a trade package that in-

cludes Trade Adjustment Assistance and Trade Promotion Authority, also known as Fast Track. This vote represents a flawed and hurried process to expedite the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement. Moreover, the Customs Bill fails to strengthen trade policy and enforcement and instead is being used as a way to weaken TPA and its negotiating objectives.

While the Customs bill is designed to modernize customs operations and promote enforcement at the border through trade laws, it takes a number of steps back in these areas. For example, this bill cuts funding for the Interagency Trade Enforcement Center and the Trade Enforcement Trust Fund. It also removes a currency manipulation provision that passed out of the Senate with bipartisan support that would have imposed countervailing duties against countries that manipulate their currencies. I am also troubled by a provision that weakens a human trafficking negotiating objective that would have prevented the U.S. from entering into trade agreements with countries in the State Department Human Trafficking Report such as Malaysia, by allowing the President to simply certify that countries are taking “concrete steps” to address human trafficking.

In addition, I am deeply opposed to a new negotiating objective that was added in the 11th hour, which ensures that trade agreements do not create new obligations related to combating climate change or that would require changes in U.S. domestic laws. Trade agreements must not restrict our ability to tackle climate change in the 21st century.

This bill also adds restrictive language related to immigration to ensure that trade agreements do not require changes to U.S. immigration laws or the issuance of new visas.

Mr. Speaker, we have to strengthen TPA and its negotiating objectives—not weaken it. We must improve TPA before moving forward on any future trade agreement that will have wide-ranging consequences for America's working class. I strongly urge a “no” vote.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 364 severe weather unavoidably detained my flight in Chicago, Illinois and I was unable to make the vote series. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

TRIBUTE TO HEIDI VANDERHOLM

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Heidi Vanderholm of Stanton, Iowa for receiving a \$2,500 grant from Iowa Communications Alliance to attend Central College.

The Iowa Communications Alliance offers this grant scholarship to high school seniors as well as students already enrolled in technical schools, colleges, and universities who receive service from a telecommunications provider that is a member of the Iowa Communications Alliance. This honor was awarded to Heidi in order to help her achieve her dreams of earning a college education.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent future leaders like Heidi Vanderholm from the great state of Iowa in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States Congress will join me in congratulating her for receiving this prestigious award. I wish her the best of luck in her studies and future career.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 364, flight was delayed due to weather. Had I been present, I would have voted “Aye.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, on June 15, 2015, I was unavoidably detained in my district due to weather and missed recorded votes #364–365. Had I been present, on Roll Call #364, H. Res. 233—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Iran should immediately release the three United States citizens that it holds, as well as provide all known information on any United States citizens that have disappeared within its borders, I would have voted YEA; and on Roll Call #365, H.R. 2559—To designate the “PFC Milton A. Lee Medal of Honor Memorial Highway” in the State of Texas, I would have voted YEA.