

Mrs. Bond has also served as a delegate to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission and is a nationally recognized educational expert in special techniques of speech correction for the culturally disadvantaged.

I have known Mrs. Bond, her late husband (the remarkable Dr. Leslie Bond), and her wonderful family since my earliest days growing up in St. Louis. Both she and her husband stood shoulder-to-shoulder with my father, former Congressman Bill Clay, as he led the historic Jefferson Bank protests which broke down the walls of segregation in our city.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members of Congress to join me in honoring this great American who has helped so many and continues to inspire us to have courage, to work towards transformative change, and to confront injustice and inequality wherever it exists.

TRIBUTE TO THE ATTACK 121  
VOLLEYBALL TEAM

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 28, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Attack 121 Volleyball Team of Council Bluffs, Iowa, for qualifying for the USA Volleyball Junior National Tournament. The competition began June 27th and ran through June 30th.

This team dedicated their time and talents to achieving a single goal and I commend them for their hard work and determination. They were able to come together to achieve great success.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this group of young Iowans demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent them in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating the Attack 121 volleyball team on a job well done, and wishing them nothing but continued success as they continue their volleyball careers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROD BLUM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 28, 2015*

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 468; my flight was delayed due to inclement weather. Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

HONORING TURLOCK CITY FIRE  
DEPARTMENT CHIEF TIM LOHMAN

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 28, 2015*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Turlock City Fire Department Chief Tim Lohman, who announced his retirement after serving 35 years in the fire service.

Since the beginning of his career, Tim Lohman has always been dedicated to the Turlock City Fire Department. On July 1, 1980, he took his first step into the Department by becoming a Volunteer Firefighter. After only three years of hard work and perseverance, Tim Lohman succeeded in becoming a full-time Firefighter for the City of Turlock. There he worked at all levels of the department including Fire Engineer, Fire Captain, Battalion Chief, Division Chief of Training, and Division Chief of Operations. On account of his commitment, professionalism, and integrity he had demonstrated throughout the years, Tim Lohman was awarded the high rank of Fire Chief four years ago.

Response times and personnel safety are a priority to Chief Lohman, and during his tenure as Fire Chief, he ensured many technological advances to the Turlock City Fire Department to achieve this goal. He oversaw the installation of Mobile Data Computers to each fire engine, which provided the crews with the most recent advances in mapping systems and programs. Furthermore, Chief Lohman oversaw the implementation of the 911 system and other additions that changed the landscape of emergency service response for the Fire Department.

Serving as a Firefighter was not the only calling for Chief Lohman, as he owns and operates his own almond farm in Ballico, California. In 1989, he purchased the 28 acre parcel from his grandparents, and has been growing and harvesting the land ever since. Chief Lohman has been familiar with the almond industry for some time, but will be experiencing a new challenge after his retirement from the Turlock City Fire Department. He will be beginning a new career as Chief Executive Officer with the almond cooperative Northern Merced Hulling Association. Chief Lohman's vast experience and leadership will ensure he thrives in his imminent position.

Chief Lohman has been recognized by colleagues with many awards and accolades. He is well respected by his community and fellow firefighters.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending the outstanding contributions made to fire service and the City of Turlock by Turlock City Fire Department Chief Tim Lohman and hereby wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE CAREER OF CURTIS M. GRAVES

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 28, 2015*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished public service career of Curtis M. Graves.

Mr. Graves was one of the first African Americans elected to the Texas House of Representatives since the turn of the 20th century. A Democrat and political contemporary of Barbara Jordan, Mr. Graves served in the Texas legislature from 1967 to 1973, where he championed progressive legislation on issues ranging from gun control to criminal justice reform. Mr. Graves also spent many years actively participating in the Civil Rights

Movement, fighting for equal rights of all Americans.

Mr. Graves was born August 26, 1938 in New Orleans, Louisiana. He is an alumnus of Texas Southern University and Princeton University. After serving in the Texas House of Representatives, Mr. Graves had a thirty year career at the National Aeronautic and Space Administration—first in NASA's Academic Affairs Division and ultimately as its Director for Civil Affairs.

On behalf of the people of Maryland's Eighth Congressional District, and in anticipation of his seventy-seventh birthday on August 26, 2015, I would like to thank Curtis M. Graves for his lifelong career of public service and for his many contributions to our nation. I wish him and his family all the best in the years to come.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO  
THE VICTIMS OF THE SENSELESS SHOOTING IN LAFAYETTE,  
LOUISIANA

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 28, 2015*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to speak out against the loss of innocent lives that resulted from yet another unimaginable act of violence in our great country.

I humbly ask the House to observe a moment of silence for the victims of the horrific tragedy that occurred in a movie theater in Lafayette, Louisiana, on July 23, 2015.

My thoughts and prayers are with these victims, the families, and the friends of those who lost loved ones in this horrific shooting.

From current reports, we know that the gunman unloaded over 13 rounds into the crowd at the movie theater late Thursday night.

The gunman inexplicably began his rampage by firing shots into the seats directly in front of him, and then took his own life.

His actions claimed the lives of two young women, Mayci Breaux and Jillian Johnson, and injured nine others at the Grand Multiplex Theater in Lafayette, Louisiana.

I want to commend the rapid response by the law enforcement personnel that arrived at the scene and acted with courage and skill, likely preventing any further loss of innocent lives.

Individuals who have a history of mental instability, as did this shooter, should never be allowed to possess a firearm.

This is why my colleagues and I co-sponsored, H.R. 226, the "Keeping Guns from High Risk Individuals Act", which prevents individuals with a history of mental illness from gaining access to firearms.

Tragic events such as this should not be a part of the American culture.

Yet, in 2015 alone, we have had 204 mass shootings where innocent lives have been senselessly taken from our communities.

No American should ever have to experience fear and violence when they are stepping out into their communities to participate in activities, such as going to the movies or attending a faith meeting.

Americans have proven time and time again that we are capable of tackling the tough issues that face our nation and culture.