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CENTRAL WASHINGTON STATE
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer congratulations to four high school teams that continue to establish Central Washington as the football powerhouse of Washington State.

On December 5, (13–1) the Prosser High School Mustangs rolled over the Tumwater Thunderbirds to claim the Washington State 2A High School Football Championship. Led by a stellar defense, the Mustangs amassed four interceptions for the third time in the playoffs. This is Prosser's fifth state football championship.

Not to be outdone, the (13–1) Okanogan High School Bulldogs pulled off an amazing, nail-bitter win that you usually only see in the movies. Rallying from a 27–14 third quarter deficit, the Bulldogs pulled off a late-fourth quarter touchdown to defeat the Napavine Tigers 36–34. This was Okanogan's second straight Washington State 2B High School Football Championship.

Central Washington teams proved very successful in other divisions as well. In a Knights versus Knights face-off, the Royal High School Knights defeated the Kings' High School Knights in the Washington State 1A High School Championship. The win secured Royal's perfect (14–0) season, their first championship since 2007, and the school's fifth title. Particularly commendable is Royal's defense, which allowed a mere four and a half points average scored against the team throughout the season.

Finally, in another nerve-wracking finale, the (13–1) Almira Coulee Hartline High School Warriors edged out Lummi Nation Blackhawks 46–42 for the Washington State 1B High School Football title. Almira Coulee Hartline entered the fourth quarter down 42–38, but after recovering a Lummi fumble on the one yard line, the Warriors began a 99 yard drive that ended with a three yard touchdown with just a minute and a half left on the clock. This was also Almira Coulee Hartline's first title since 2007, and the school's third state championship.

Every one of these teams has proudly represented their school. These teams have demonstrated the level of skill, teamwork, and tenacity that will prepare them well for future seasons and for future success in life. Congratulations to Prosser, Okanogan, Royal, and Almira Coulee Hartline on a well-played football season.

A TRIBUTE TO PETER GOLD

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Peter Gold—an exceptional

young man and Good Samaritan who recently made a remarkably selfless and heroic decision to help another in need, putting his own safety at great risk.

While driving through New Orleans' Lower Garden District following his shift at a local hospital, Peter, a fourth year medical student at Tulane University, without regard for his own safety, rushed to the aid of a woman being attacked. Successfully foiling the crime, Peter was shot once in the abdomen before the perpetrator attempted to shoot him in the head twice with his gun jamming. A surveillance camera recorded the harrowing event. Its release, which millions have viewed, has been an inspiration, giving us hope as we face the realities of Edmund Burke's famous words, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

Coming from a family with a rich history of service in the health care field, Peter chose to follow in the footsteps of his father and grandfather. Like those who have come before him and those who will succeed him, Peter exemplifies the commitment to service that drives so many toward the health care profession and that was on display in the early morning hours of November 20, 2015 as Peter intervened to stop an armed robbery and attempted kidnapping.

I am honored to share this story with you today because the Gold Family resides in our Seventh Congressional District. Peter grew up in Longwood, Florida and is a graduate of Central Florida's own Lake Brantley High School. He is an outstanding testament to our community's and our nation's youth.

Our former President John Quincy Adams said, "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." Truly, Peter Gold has inspired others through his heroic actions. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Peter for his courageous act for the benefit for another human being.

WCJC—SECOND TO NONE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) for being named the best community college in Texas.

WCJC first opened its doors in 1946 in the small town of Wharton, Texas. Over the last 70 years, WCJC has grown and now boasts a total of four campuses across the Houston area. Today, WCJC strives to empower its over 7,000 students with programs that prepare them to succeed in the workforce or transition to a four-year institution. From liberal arts to nursing to business degrees, WCJC is filling a critical education and workforce training role for our communities and employers. I'm grateful that WCJC provides our students with so many opportunities to learn and grow.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to WCJC for being named the best of the best. We can't wait to see what the next 70 years brings you.

HONORING WALTER HAZLITT FOR SERVICE TO HIS COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY

HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the service of Walter Hazlitt.

It takes a special type of person to lead a life serving both country and community; Mr. Hazlitt is an example of this type of person. Mr. Hazlitt served as a Sergeant for three years in the U.S. Marine Corps in the Marine theatre in China where he selflessly protected our country during World War II. Following his service in the Marines, Mr. Hazlitt continued to serve his country and community, working diligently and tirelessly as both a Suffolk County Legislator and as a member of the Stony Brook Fire Department for fifty-five years, where he served as Chief and continues to serve today as Commissioner. In addition to the aforementioned, Mr. Hazlitt served as a member on the Board of Trustees at Suffolk Community College, dedicating his time to ensure that local youth on Long Island achieved the best education possible.

Mr. Hazlitt currently resides in Stony Brook, NY and is married to Mrs. Elizabeth Hazlitt. His daughter, Elizabeth Emerson, has followed in her father's footsteps of public service by serving as a New York State Supreme Court Justice.

What Mr. Hazlitt has managed to accomplish during his lifetime and give back to the country cannot be summarized in a few words; and it is my hope that many will follow in the footsteps of Mr. Hazlitt and give back to their country and community as graciously as he did. People like him are a rare breed and they help make our country and world a much safer and better place.

Today, I thank Walter for his years of dedication and service to our country and community, and wish him only the best in his future endeavors.

THE OCCASION OF MR. JONATHAN H. GARDNER'S RETIREMENT

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize and congratulate Mr. Jonathan H. Gardner on the occasion of his retirement from his position as Director of the Southern Arizona Veterans Affairs Health Care System (SAVAHCS).

Mr. Gardner has dedicated over 36 years of serving our nation's heroes with distinction. Mr. Gardner's career with the Department of Veterans Affairs began as a Without Compensation (WOC) position, followed by progressive leadership assignments within the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) and the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) (i.e., VA Central Office (VACO), Network and facility). Mr. Gardner has a record of sustained extraordinary accomplishment that is recognized throughout DVA and acknowledged on a national level. As Director of SAVAHCs, his duties include the overall organization/operation

of a highly affiliated, 283-bed, complexity level 1a, teaching medical facility with a budget of \$460 million and 2,600 employees. The SAVAHCS includes seven Community Clinics and a \$4.9 million research budget. SAVAHCS hosts various regional centers of excellence including: Southwest Blind Rehabilitation Center; Network 18 Polytrauma Network Site; Rehabilitation and Transitional Care Center; and a Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center. SAVAHCS is also the principle teaching affiliate with the University of Arizona Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy, and 36 other institutions of higher learning.

During his tenure, Mr. Gardner created an atmosphere of continuous improvement to ensure quality of care for Veteran patients. In recognition, the SAVAHCS received the 2012 Arizona Quality Alliance Pioneer Award for Quality, the 2012 Robert W. Carey Performance Excellence Trophy Award and the 2011 Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert W. Carey Award for Performance Excellence in Healthcare Services, all based on the Malcolm Baldrige Award criteria. SAVAHCS was also awarded 2016 U.S. News and World Report listing of Best Hospitals for Achievement of the American Heart Association "Get with the Guidelines Gold Resuscitation Award," the 2015 U.S. News and World Report listing of Best Hospitals for Achievement of the American Heart Association "Get with the Guidelines Silver Resuscitation Award," and the 2015/2014 Silver Foundation Award Excellence in Quality and Performance Award from the Office of Disability and Medical Assessment. His ORYX score from The Joint Commission was #1 in the VA nation-wide.

Mr. Gardner's final day was on January 4, 2016.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and honor to recognize the commitment and dedication to our Veterans and the Southern Arizona community that Mr. Gardner has demonstrated for well over 36 years.

THE NEED TO TAKE ACTION TO ENSURE THAT ASSETS OF NATIONAL BANKS IN CIS COUNTRIES ARE NOT USED TO BENEFIT TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform the House of an ongoing problem in the former CIS countries involving the banking industry that requires the attention of the Congress and the Administration.

In the aftermath of 9/11 the United States took decisive action to implement stronger financial controls to disrupt, impede, and prevent the flow of funds to terrorists around the world.

But recent events indicate the need for sustained vigilance and additional action.

One example of this involves the countries of Moldova and Latvia, two members of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) formed in 1991 upon the dissolution of the former Soviet Union in 1991.

In Moldova more than \$1 billion was stolen from the Moldovan national treasury and a large portion of that money appears to have ended up in three EU banks in Latvia: "ABLV, Latvijas Pasta Banka, and Privatbank."

Mr. Speaker, these banks appear to be financial institutions controlled by associates and friends of Russian President Vladimir Putin who have a demonstrated history of plundering the national treasuries of the former CIS countries.

I call upon the Administration and the Congress to investigate whether assets of the national banks of countries of the former Soviet Union are not being plundered and used, knowingly or unknowingly, to benefit terrorist organizations.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO PERMIT COMMERCIAL FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY ON THE GROUNDS OF THE U.S. CAPITOL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill to permit commercial filming and photography on the grounds of the U.S. Capitol, east of Union Square, the only area where such filming is currently authorized. This bill would permit commercial photography and filming outside of the Capitol and congressional office buildings by permit, so long as both the House and Senate are not in session. In today's world, where many societies are facing upheavals, our country should be the first to encourage commercial photography and filming of the Capitol, which symbolizes U.S. democracy at work. Hollywood and other commercial filmmakers should not have to go to other or fake capitol buildings for movies and films about the U.S. Capitol. The current policy permitting filming near the United States Botanic Garden shows that the Capitol police can handle filmmaking on Capitol grounds, especially when Congress is not in session. However, filming from that vantage point captures the least familiar view of the Capitol. At a time when the reputation of Congress is particularly low, filming of the Capitol, a building that represents American democracy, could bolster its image. Keeping filmmakers from standing in front of the Capitol is neither business-friendly nor true to the nation's democratic traditions. Encouraging commercial photography and filming at the Capitol would help spread the story of our national legislature around the world. The time is overdue to allow to commercial filming and photography of the exterior of the historic 19th century Capitol building.

There is no good reason why commercial filming and photography should be confined to Union Square. Specifically, my bill gives the Capitol Police the discretion, depending on the circumstances in and around the Capitol, to issue a permit authorizing commercial filming and photography under the same conditions as those in Union Square. Such areas might include, for example, Independence Avenue on the House side and Constitution Avenue on

the Senate side. No policy or security reason exists to justify limiting commercial filming and photography of the Capitol complex to only one location, Union Square, particularly considering that permits are necessary. People are regularly seen on East Capitol Street (east of 2nd Street) taking pictures, where they get a full view of the Capitol building, demonstrating how arbitrary it is to limit commercial filming to Union Square.

Capitol Police would also have authority to charge a fee to cover any costs incurred by the Architect of the Capitol as a result of the issuance of the permit, to be deposited into the Capitol Trust Account. The Capitol Trust Account was established to accept proceeds from any fees collected for commercial filming permits for Union Square. Amounts in the Capitol Trust Account would be available without fiscal year limitation for such maintenance, improvements, and projects with respect to the Capitol grounds as the Architect of the Capitol considers appropriate, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

Views of the U.S. Capitol are among America's most iconic. Limiting commercial filming and photography of the Capitol, an important vehicle for telling the nation's story, does not serve the American people. Indeed, most of the world knows our country and reveres our system of government largely through commercial photography and films of the Capitol, which symbolizes our democracy at work. Commercial films and photographs of the Capitol, the seat of our democracy, are perhaps the best modern vehicles for telling the nation's story and showcasing its democratic system of government. My bill would enable appropriate, permitted commercial filming and photography of the Capitol, and would create economic benefits for the nation, the city, and private business.

I urge support of this bill.

SOUPER BOWL CHAMPION

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud Sophia George from Missouri City, Texas for being named to this year's Souper Bowl of Caring National Youth Advisory Board.

Sophia is one of only 13 students from around the country selected to serve on the Board. During January, leading up to the NFL's Super Bowl, Sophia will serve as a spokesperson for Souper Bowl of Caring and organize charity drives in our Houston community throughout the year. By working with and leading her peers, Sophia will fill an important role ensuring that those in need are cared for. Our community is proud of Sophia's leadership and dedication to helping others.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Sophia for being selected to the National Youth Advisory Board. Thank you for serving Houston.