

Patrina is an advocate for childcare in Mississippi. She feels that every community should have affordable full-childcare service for any social or ethnic groups. Patrina's strong investment in Kaleidoscope initially began because she had to transport her own children from the suburbs to the city every day. Patrina, one day, decided that instead of making the families in her community drive for quality care, she would be the one to step up and provide it. It made good business sense as it also opened up many doors to be able to minister to families, by providing a loving, caring, and Christian environment to children, while their parents are away at work. Since opening in 2003, many of our students have shown to perform at the top of their class. The first children to start at Kaleidoscope are in high school now and are expected to graduate high school in 2019.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Kaleidoscope of Learning and After School for its dedication to serving our great state of Mississippi.

HONORING COMMONWEAL

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Commonweal, a nonprofit in Marin County, California, in honor of their 40th anniversary. By serving our community in innumerable ways, from offering a healing space for people living with illnesses to providing educational opportunities to advocating for juvenile justice reform, Commonweal has had a unique and far-reaching influence across many issues and areas for a generation.

Founded in 1976 by Michael Lerner, Carolyn Brown, and Burr Heneman, Commonweal was envisioned as a healing space to serve people and the planet. From the beginning, their partnership with the National Park Service has helped supply an appropriate backdrop—a scenic 60-acre site just south of the Point Reyes National Seashore—for the compassionate, attentive work done by the dedicated staff and Commonweal community over the years.

Commonweal's efforts have touched countless lives within three broad areas of focus. Their health and healing programming includes week-long retreats for people with cancer and yoga therapy classes. Their efforts to support the arts and education include classes for teachers and students to better integrate creative thinking into school curriculum. Finally, their advocacy for the environment and justice incorporates work on health effects of environmental factors and research on juvenile justice laws. Their work is multifaceted and extensive, and has left a lasting, positive impact that can be felt throughout our community.

For four decades, Commonweal has been a beloved, wide-reaching organization, and they have contributed significantly to West Marin's culture and character. It is therefore appropriate that we honor them today for their ongoing work and congratulate them on their anniversary celebration.

CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE LEE COLLEGE DEBATE TEAM

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the achievements of the Mendoza Debate Society at Lee College, in Baytown, Texas. On April 4, 2016, the Debate Team won their third consecutive Community College National Championship in the International Public Debate Association (IPDA) National Championship Tournament.

Led by Director of Forensics, Joe Ganakos, the Mendoza Debate Society has become the top-ranked IPDA debate program in Texas for 2015–2016. The debaters achieved this incredible success through their unmatched work ethic and countless hours of practice. I extend my congratulations to all the members of the Mendoza Debate Society, captained by Kyle Diamond and Rigo Ruiz—and I wish them all continued success in their future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING ANDREW JONES ON BECOMING A MCDONALD'S ALL AMERICAN

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Andrew Jones of Irving, Texas, on being named to the 2016 McDonald's All American basketball roster. This is a tremendous honor from the basketball community as it pits the best high school players in the country against one another in an exhibition game. Mr. Jones also participated in the three-point competition and Legends and Stars Shootout as the players display their shooting ability and point guard play.

The requirements to become a McDonald's All American are extensive as you must consistently be a consensus Top 20 player in the national rankings, and earn enough votes from the selection committee. Andrew was one of 24 high school senior basketball players selected to join this elite group of young men as the best in the country from over 100,000 players nationwide. Andrew has been consistently rated as one of the best guards in the 2016 class with his ability to create plays and soft touch around the rim. Mr. Jones' following has only grown as his tremendous improvement has been highlighted over the past year in his spring and summer performances in the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU). He brings great pride to the basketball community of Texas.

Andrew has a natural gift for the game of basketball as his court vision and slashing capabilities creates scoring opportunities and proves to be a nightmare for opposing teams. Andrew will only improve at the collegiate level as his basketball gift continues to attract admirers and people who look up to him including young fans that need positive role models in their lives.

While Andrew continues to receive praise from scouts and people close to him, he has

kept his roots in mind as he has committed to playing college basketball at home for the University of Texas (UT). At UT he will continue to display his exemplary skills and pride for the great state of Texas.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Andrew Jones on his hard work and athletic accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 139, I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted Yea.

HONORING THE 250TH BIRTHDAY OF COLLIN MCKINNEY

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 250th birthday of Collin McKinney, a Texas patriot, statesman, and hero. Mr. McKinney was a drafter and signer of the Texas Constitution and is the namesake of Collin County and the city of McKinney. His courage of conviction and love of Texas fundamentally shaped our state's history and our nation. Mr. McKinney was born to Scottish immigrant parents on April 17, 1766, in New Jersey. Years later he moved to Kentucky before settling in our great state of Texas. Mr. McKinney was a man of faith and boldly preached the gospel message of love and redemption.

Mr. McKinney and four other individuals were drafted by Judge Richard Ellis at the convention meeting at Old Washington-on-the-Brazos to write a declaration of separation from Mexico. Today, we know this document bearing Collin McKinney's signature as the Texas Declaration of Independence. He later went on to serve the Red River District in the First, Second, and Fourth Congresses of the Republic of Texas.

Author Samuel Houston Dixon wrote in his book "The Men Who Made Texas Free" that "Mr. McKinney was a man of most admirable character. He possessed a spirit of progressiveness which dominated his life. No one of that group of pioneers exercised a more wholesome influence over those with whom he came in contact than Mr. McKinney. He lived a life worthy of emulation and was held in high esteem."

In 1846 he settled near the Grayson-Collin county line which would become his final resting place and later bear his name. In 1936 the Texas Centennial Commission had his house moved to Finch Park in McKinney. Mr. McKinney lived under eight different governments in his life. He was born a subject of King George III, became a citizen of the Colonial Government of the 13 Colonies, then the United States, Mexico, the Provisional Government established by the Texans in 1835, the Texas