

economic growth and development that these fields can bring in my home district, and I strongly believe that they are crucial to our nation's future prosperity. For encouraging young people in these pursuits, I want to commend organizations like FIRST for their important work.

In addition to their success at these competitions, the Girls of Steel have also been featured in American Girl Life: Get Your Science On!, Xploration Earth 2050 "The Future of Robotics Makers and Innovators", and they will be featured this year in an original documentary series called "What We Teach Girls," which takes a close look at what girls are being taught around the globe. Recently, they even met with former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton at Carnegie Mellon University and had the opportunity to speak with her about the design of their robot and why they joined Girls of Steel.

Sixty-one young women from 8th through 12th grades associated with schools located in and around the Pittsburgh area are members of this year's Girls of Steel. In recognition of their hard work, intelligence, and teamwork, I would like to mention each of these inspiring young ladies by name. They are Alexandria Adams, Vishi Agrawal, Arushi Bandi, Margaret Begg, Emilia Bianchini, Kimball Bruning, Julia Bukowski, Emma Burnett, Melissa Burnett, Hanna Chen, Mulin Chen, Claire Cummings, Hope DiGioia, Samantha Eppinger, Clarisa Espinoza-Delgado, Rozie Fero, Corinne Hartman, Kristina Hilko, Sydney Hnat, Madelyn Human, Anna Jablonowski, Katelyn Johnson, Isabelle Kowenhoven, Jisue Lee, Sophia Lee, Shiyu Liu, Huiyun Liu, Sofia Liövet-Nava, Gayathri Manchella, Jordan Martinez, Svea McCann, Sree Mekala, Cheyenne Meyers, Claire Morton, Gigi Nieson, Anne Kailin Northam, Jimin Oh, Maddie Oppelt, Helen Paulini, Lehka Pendyala, Eden Petri, Riley Pottinger, Priya Ray, Isabella Salvi, Lauren Scheller-Wolf, Cate Seay, Sarah Seay, Anzu Sekikawa, Alexa Selwood, Swathi Senthil, Kriti Shah, Makayla Shreve, Kavya Soman, JeanMarie Trichel, Mikayla Trost, Langley Turcsanyi, Molly Urbina, Anja Vogt, Becca Volk, Ziya Xu, and Natalie Young.

Additionally, I want to convey my sincere appreciation to the faculty and staff of Carnegie Mellon University's Field Robotics Center, who have mentored the Girls of Steel since 2010. Because of their efforts, more young women can experience real-world technological challenges and learn from some of the nation's best at solving these problems. These experiences will certainly benefit these young women in the future.

I look forward to hearing about their progress as they advance to the FIRST Championship in St. Louis—the final and largest competition of its kind, a.k.a. the Super Bowl of robotics. This will be their sixth consecutive trip in six years, and they will be competing against top teams from all over the world. I congratulate the Girls of Steel and wish them all continued success in their academic and professional endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE SOL
BLATT, JR.

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the citizens of South Carolina are mourning the loss of one of its most respected judges with the death of Judge Sol Blatt, Jr., on April 20, 2016. He was nominated by President Richard M. Nixon. The Blatt family, of Russian-Jewish heritage, is beloved in Barnwell County for their dedicated service. His passing was recognized in an editorial in the Charleston Post and Courier on April 23, 2016:

Sol Blatt, Jr., earned his stellar reputation not for making big headlines but for his long tenure as a fair, courteous and intelligent federal judge—a standard that all judges should aspire to attain.

Judge Blatt practiced law in his native Barnwell for 25 years before 1971 when he was appointed a U.S. District Court judge in Charleston. He became a chief judge in 1986.

And in 2006, he became the longest-serving federal judge in South Carolina history.

In honor of that distinction the U.S. district judges in South Carolina signed a resolution naming the first-floor courtroom in Charleston's federal courthouse the Solomon Blatt Jr. Courtroom.

Would that every judge in that courtroom, where he usually presided, could conduct himself as impressively.

Judge Blatt's father was the prominent speaker of the S.C. House for 33 years. Like his father, Sol Blatt, Jr., attained prominence for public service, which he handled with grace and competence.

Mr. Blatt, 94, died Wednesday night at his home in Charleston.

He will be remembered for his remarkable judicial temperament.

Indeed, it was as if the American Bar Association had him in mind when it outlined the tenets of judicial temperament: "compassion, decisiveness, open-mindedness, sensitivity, courtesy, patience, freedom from bias and commitment to equal justice."

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,210,345,265,252.22. We've added \$8,583,468,216,339.14 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

TRIBUTE TO LEONA AND GEORGE
HOLLINS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Leona

and George Hollins of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married on March 21, 1956 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

George and Leona's lifelong commitment to each other and their children, George, Cheryl, Greg, and Jamie, and their grandchildren and great-grandchildren truly embodies Iowa values. It is families like the Hollins' that make me proud to represent our great state.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them nothing but the best.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF CHEMICAL DIS-
TRIBUTORS' RESPONSIBLE DIS-
TRIBUTION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th anniversary of the National Association of Chemical Distributors' Responsible Distribution program. I want to congratulate NACD and its members for their commitment to continuous performance improvement in every phase of chemical storage, handling, transportation, and disposal.

Chemicals are the building blocks of our modern world. They make most aspects of our lives easier, safer, and better. Chemical distributors formulate, blend, re-package, warehouse, transport, and market the chemical products produced by large-quantity manufacturers. In my district, 15 chemical distribution facilities, including Douglas Products and Packaging Company, have a total economic impact of more than \$18 million and provide more than 112 high quality jobs. Throughout the country, the chemical distribution industry accounts for close to \$15 billion in economic impact.

In December 1991, the member companies of NACD embarked on their most important mission—the inception of Responsible Distribution. Responsible Distribution is a mandatory, third party verified environmental, health, safety, and security program. Responsible Distribution provides a proven framework for the health, safety, environment, and security aspects of handling storing, and delivering chemical products and is mandatory for all NACD members, who represent 90 percent of all chemical distribution industry sales.

NACD and its nearly 450 member companies are vital to the chemical supply chain, providing products to more than 750,000 end users in industries as diverse and essential as construction, healthcare, electronics, pulp and paper, water treatment, and many others.

With Responsible Distribution, NACD members deliver 80 tons of product every minute, maintain a safety record that is nearly twice as good as all manufacturing combined, and pursue continuous improvement in every phase of the chemical distribution process while demonstrating sensitivity and responsiveness to public concerns.