

TRIBUTE TO CHARLOTTE AND RON  
BENTON

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 18, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Charlotte and Ron Benton of Cumberland, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 55th wedding anniversary. They were married on April 29, 1961 in Creston, Iowa.

Charlotte and Ron's lifelong commitment to each other and their children, Teresa, Terry, Tony, and Todd, and their six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 55th anniversary may their commitment grow even stronger, and continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

I salute this great couple on their 55th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

RECOGNIZING MS. REBECCA GODDARD FOR BEING NAMED A PBS LEARNINGMEDIA DIGITAL INNOVATOR

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 18, 2016*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Rebecca Goddard for being named a PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovator. This distinction celebrates teachers from across the country who successfully integrate technology into the classroom as part of a dynamic approach to student learning.

Ms. Goddard, or "Becky" as she is known by her colleagues, spends her days challenging the minds of our youngest generation of students at Bostian Elementary School in China Grove, North Carolina. Her unique approach to the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields allows students to engage in these high-demand subject areas while tying into classroom teachings. In her role as a technology facilitator, she is able to work across ages and subjects by engaging students with activities that include Legos, robotics, coding, and more.

As part of her recognition as a Digital Innovator, Ms. Goddard will have the opportunity to participate in professional development opportunities including virtual training sessions, custom PBS LearningMedia resources, and various networking opportunities. She will also travel to Denver, Colorado to attend the PBS LearningMedia Digital Summit and the International Society for Technology in Education conference. I have no doubt that she will use these opportunities to bring back new and innovative ideas to North Carolina.

This year, the Digital Innovators Program had a record number of applicants representing almost every state in the country, making Ms. Goddard's selection even more impressive. As one of the 52 teachers chosen in the program, she joins a special group who is on the cutting edge of classroom tech-

nology. Our community is fortunate to have Ms. Goddard dedicate her time and talents to educating our students.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Ms. Goddard for being named a PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovator and wish her well as she continues to make a positive difference in the lives of her students.

HONORING NORMA HARRIS ON BEING ACCEPTED BY THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL SCIENTISTS AS A DELEGATE TO THE CONGRESS OF FUTURE MEDICAL LEADERS

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 18, 2016*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Neosho High School Student Norma Harris on her being accepted as a delegate to the Congress of Future Medical Leaders by the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists.

The Congress of Future Medical Leaders is an honors-only program that is designed to motivate and direct the top students in the United States. Specifically, it's designed for students aspiring to become physicians or medical researchers, and provides a path and mentorship for students to accomplish their goals.

To be considered for acceptance as a delegate, applicants are either recommended by a teacher or member of the Academy based on a proven track record of academic excellence. Delegates represent all 50 states plus Puerto Rico, and must have a minimum 3.5 GPA. Students like Harris who qualify for this incredibly selective honor exemplify top-tier diligence and academic talent.

Mr. Speaker, as a perennial Honor Roll student at her high school, Norma Harris has displayed elite academic qualifications, which will undoubtedly serve her future aspirations well. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating her for this achievement. On behalf of Missouri's Seventh Congressional District, I wish Norma the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO JANICE AND ED  
CARLSON

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 18, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ed and Janice Carlson on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married on February 20th, 1956.

Ed and Janice's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. As the years pass, may their love continue to grow even stronger and may they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many more years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this lovely couple on their 60 years of marriage 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.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 17, 2016*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4909) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Chair, this week the House considers the National Defense Authorization Act, and I rise to recognize the Armed Services Committee for its actions to expand paid parental leave for thousands of service members.

On the heels of Secretary Carter's expansion of paid maternity leave to 12 weeks, this bill will increase parental leave to 14 days and also grant paid leave for adoptive parents.

This is real progress, but we cannot leave out the more than 2.5 million non-military federal employees who still lack any paid parental leave.

As the Pentagon recognizes, the lack of paid leave for new parents threatens the government's ability to recruit and retain a talented, productive workforce.

I am encouraged by the DOD's updated family leave policy, and hope that we can work in Congress to guarantee this essential workplace right for all federal employees.

7TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END  
OF THE WAR IN SRI LANKA

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 18, 2016*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 7th anniversary of the end of the war in Sri Lanka. The Government of Sri Lanka won the war to keep the Sinhalese and Tamil communities within one country, but has not yet won the peace. A new president and a new government in 2015 have led to hopes that a different path will be trod towards a plural state in which all religions and ethnicities may live with dignity and security.

The leaders of the new government have made many ambitious promises to advance toward the goal of a stable and prosperous future for all. Now is the time to turn those promises into concrete action. The US, must assist and support in any way we can, but we must also keep incentives in place such as conditions on military and other aid until the government has accomplished real reform.

The government of Sri Lanka has made commitments on transitional justice and accountability, a political settlement of the ethnic