

perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Britany Valencia for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARTIN
EUGENE (GENE) CAMPBELL

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Martin Eugene (Gene) Campbell, who died on May 17, 2016. Mr. Campbell was a pioneering member of the Florida Legislature and later became an essential figure in Belle Glade, Florida, where he served as Assistant Principal of Glades Central High School for over 20 years, working hand in hand with the late Dr. Effie C. Grear.

Mr. Campbell was born in Gadsden, Alabama and earned a B.A. from Auburn University. His teaching career began in Germany, where he met his wife Carmen. They returned to Palm Beach County where he taught American history at Howell Watkins Junior High School.

After serving as president of the Palm Beach County Classroom Teachers Association, Mr. Campbell, a lifelong democrat, was elected to non-consecutive terms in the state legislature in 1974 and 1978, representing West Palm Beach.

While in Tallahassee, he earned a reputation as a good-government reformer and as a relentless champion for public education. Known as "Casino Geno," Mr. Campbell introduced legislation to expand gaming to Florida as early as 1975. Ahead of his time, Mr. Campbell was motivated solely by increasing teacher salaries and improving the quality of Florida's education system.

Upon retiring from politics, he dedicated himself to the Glades Central community and became an unapologetic cheerleader for Belle Glade and the western Palm Beach County region.

Mr. Campbell was married to Carmen Campbell, a longtime fellow educator. The couple had three children, Carmen, Donald and Daniel, each of whom have dedicated themselves to education as well. They are blessed with four grandchildren.

Mr. Campbell was a towering figure who engendered respect and love among everyone in the political process and educational field. He was a good friend and mentor to many and will be dearly missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I want to state for the record that on Monday, May 23, I unfortunately missed two roll call votes in order to at-

tend my daughter's graduation. Had I been present I would have voted:

1. No—motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4889 (Roll Number 229). Had I been present, I would have voted no on H.R. 4889 (Roll Call 229).

2. Aye—motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3998 (Roll Number 230). Had I been present, I would have voted aye on H.R. 3998 (Roll Call 230).

HONORING THE LIFE AND SACRIFICE OF PURPLE STAR RECIPIENT PAUL GOINS AND HIS TEAM

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and sacrifice of Paul Goins and five of his brave team members who lost their lives in support of America's mission overseas.

Paul's path was defined by an abiding desire to serve his country and seek out opportunities to drive positive change—he answered this call his entire life. After serving in the United States Marines, Paul worked with the Federal Bureau of Prisons and the private sector before serving his country at the Combined Security Transition Command in Afghanistan. On February 10, 2014, Paul (Goins was training and equipping allies of the International Military Coalition in Kabul when he was killed in an explosion. My prayers and condolences go out to Paul's family; his children, grandchildren and his loving wife.

I also honor five other members of Paul's team who were called abroad and gave the ultimate sacrifice as they worked to make the world a safer place. These six recipients of the Purple Star receive an honor of the upmost distinction for making the ultimate sacrifice while helping the United States of America accomplish vital security and foreign policy objectives across the globe.

RECOGNIZING THE MEDAL OF
HOPE SOCIETY

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Medal of Hope Society, an organization in Ohio's Second District committed to honoring civilians among us who proudly serve our wounded and fallen veterans.

Founded by one of my constituents, Mr. Richard Lynch, the Medal of Hope Society is an organization comprised of wounded military combat veterans & Gold Star family members. Every year, these men and women recognize a special civilian who demonstrates great dedication to our nation's heroes, both living and deceased, who have taken up arms in the War on Terror.

As a veteran of this war, I have seen firsthand the heroism and sacrifice of members of our military. I've witnessed the bloodshed and loss of life. So I sincerely thank those who

dedicate their lives and work tirelessly to make sure our returning troops are receiving the care and support they need. And thank you, Medal of Hope Society, for recognizing their noble commitment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call no. 248, had I been present, I would have voted Aye. On Roll Call no. 250, had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 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 \$19,223,047,535,897.31. We've added \$8,596,170,486,984.23 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

CELINCE GALLEGOS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Celince Gallegos for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Celince Gallegos is a 12th grader at Stanley Lake High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Celince Gallegos is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Celince Gallegos for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING NED WATERS

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with sincere appreciation that I recognize Ned