

seniors. However, the Pantry of Broward is much more than a food bank. They also provide seniors with transportation services, legal assistance, access to affordable medical care, and a slew of other resources that make life just a little bit easier for Broward's struggling seniors.

Whether an individual needs help finding affordable housing, is having trouble understanding complicated medical or insurance forms, or simply needs a pair of eyeglasses fixed, the Pantry of Broward is there to help.

Seniors in south Florida, like those around the Nation, have worked hard and provided for themselves and others their entire lives, yet often, despite incredible need, they are too proud to ask for a helping hand. For this reason, the Pantry of Broward provides assistance in a caring, dignified manner, mindful of their clients' privacy and self-esteem.

Madam Speaker, while we in Congress work to revive our Nation's economy, it is organizations like the Pantry of Broward that serve as a lifeline to the seniors and families in our districts struggling to make it from one day to the next. I am truly grateful for the services they provide to my constituents and commend them on their extraordinary work.

CELEBRATING 30TH ANNIVERSARY
OF SEATTLE'S DOWNTOWN
EMERGENCY SERVICE CENTER

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, today I rise to offer special recognition to Seattle's Downtown Emergency Service Center, DESC, on its thirtieth anniversary. For three decades, this non-profit organization has committed itself to serve the most vulnerable homeless populations of Seattle with shelter, services, advocacy, and housing.

DESC began as a partnership among the City of Seattle, the Greater Seattle Council of Churches, and Washington Advocates for the Mentally Ill to address the shortage of shelter and services for a growing population of homeless persons in the Seattle area. On November 19, 1979, with fourteen staff, DESC opened its doors to nearly 200 homeless adults as an overnight emergency shelter in the ballroom of the Morrison Hotel, in Seattle's historic Pioneer Square. A year later, DESC became a Mental Health Care licensed agency. Since its early years, DESC has been a leader in developing programs that provide a full continuum of care to address the root causes of homelessness.

In 1985, DESC was selected as a pilot location for the national "Health Care for the Homeless" program to integrate chemical dependency, mental health, and nursing with shelter services. In 1989, DESC enhanced its local outreach program by sending clinically trained staff to the streets to seek out and establish first contact with Seattle's most vulnerable homeless men and women. That novel practice has become the standard outreach strategy used in most major U.S. cities today.

In addition, DESC began developing permanent supportive housing for the hardest-to-serve homeless men and women. In 1997, it opened the Lyon Building with 64 apartments

for homeless adults affected by HIV/AIDS, mental illness and/or addiction, implementing a "Harm Reduction" model. That same year, it also introduced the "Housing First" model to Seattle with the opening of the Kerner Scott House: 40 apartments for formerly homeless, mentally ill, and/or addiction-challenged adults. In 2005, DESC expanded its "Housing First" model with the opening of the 1811 Eastlake, a 75-unit building for late-stage chronic inebriates, typically high users of public services.

Over the years, DESC has received dozens of awards and widespread recognition for its innovative housing projects and intensive services. In 2004 and in 2005, it received the MetLife Award for Excellence in Affordable Housing, making it the only organization to win the award in two successive years. In 1999, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded its "Best Practice Award" to DESC for innovation in developing services that later became industry standards. Most recently, DESC won the 2007 Maxwell Award of Excellence for its 1811 Eastlake project. A study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association in 2009 revealed that the 1811 Eastlake program has saved taxpayers \$4 million dollars annually.

Madam Speaker, for more than thirty years, DESC has served disabled and vulnerable homeless adults through a continuum of care model that not only helps people survive but breaks the vicious cycle of homelessness. Today, it has become one of the largest multi-service centers for homeless adults in the Pacific Northwest, employing more than 300 employees who provide permanent supportive housing, clinical and emergency services, and overnight shelter. DESC is an invaluable asset to our community, to the Seattle-King County Coalition to End Homelessness, and to our nationwide efforts to address homelessness. I extend my best wishes and commend DESC's Executive Director Bill Hobson, its Board of Directors, its staff, and its clients on "30 years of opening doors to end homelessness." I know DESC will continue to lead the way with thoughtful, innovative answers to our most challenging social issues.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF DEA SPECIAL AGENT FOR-
REST LEAMON OF DALE CITY,
VA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the lives of three local men, who recently died in a tragic helicopter crash while serving with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency in Afghanistan.

Their work was a critical part of recent U.S. efforts to disrupt drug trafficking that is believed to be funding Taliban insurgents in Afghanistan. These were the first DEA fatalities since the war began even though the agency has been operating in Afghanistan since 2005.

Special Agent Forrest Leamon was a resident of Woodbridge, Va., and had served in Afghanistan since 2007. Special Agent Chad Michael was a resident of Quantico, Va., and recently arrived in Afghanistan. Special Agent Michael Weston was a resident of Wash-

ington, D.C., and until recently served in the DEA's Richmond field office.

The crash also claimed the lives of seven U.S. service members.

During a memorial ceremony, Attorney General Eric Holder praised Special Agent Leamon as "always willing to accept tough assignments. When the opportunity came to volunteer—to volunteer—to work in Afghanistan, the most dangerous assignment available, he stepped up again."

Leamon was born in Ukiah, Calif., and would have celebrated his 38th birthday this Sunday. He is survived by his wife, Ana, and their soon-to-be born child; his parents, Richard and Sue Leamon, of Fortuna, Calif.; two sisters; a niece and two nephews; his grandmother; as well as aunts, uncles and cousins.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the lives and service of these brave men and extending our sympathies to their families.

HONORING WILSON HALLIDAY
PIPKIN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Wilson Halliday Pipkin, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 96, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Wilson has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Wilson has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Wilson Halliday Pipkin for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

COMMEMORATING THE BIRTHDAY
OF PRESIDENT ZACHARY TAYLOR

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the birthday of a great American president, Zachary Taylor.

Zachary Taylor was born on a farm in Barboursville, Virginia, on November 24, 1784. His father had served with George Washington in the Revolutionary War and his family members were prominent planters. Zachary Taylor had a 40-year military career in the U.S. Army, serving in the War of 1812, Black Hawk War, Second Seminole War, and the Mexican-American War, where he earned the nickname "Old Rough and Ready," because of his willingness to share his troops' hardships. Taylor became a national hero after facing overwhelming odds to triumph in a battle against the Mexican General Santa Anna at Buena Vista.

This extraordinary record of service to the Nation was further enhanced when Zachary Taylor was elected president of the United States in 1848. Under his administration, the Department of the Interior was created. Much of Taylor's administration was focused on the issue of the expansion of slavery, with the Compromise of 1850 coming shortly after his death.

Madam Speaker, I call the attention of the House to the life, legacy, and accomplishments of Zachary Taylor on the upcoming 225th anniversary of his birthday.

AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE FOR AMERICA ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 7, 2009

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Stupak-Ellsworth-Pitts-Smith-Kaptur-Dahlkemper Amendment that maintains existing Federal law on the compelling issue of abortion. For 34 years, citizens of conscience on all sides have weighed in on this important moral and legal question. Lawmakers have attempted to accommodate very divergent views, even on the meaning of life itself. Many lives must be considered—the life of the mother, the life of the child, including the unborn but conceived, and in my opinion the rarely mentioned responsibilities of the father as well.

Our legislative struggle to do what is proper is rooted in interrelated moral, scientific, legal, and yes, theological dissonances. What is right? What should be legal? And what will lead to a just and responsible society for all? I continue to approach this deeply moving issue as a representative from a widely diverse Congressional district in northwestern Ohio, an area of our Nation comprised of people from many different ethnicities, races, faiths, denominations and belief systems. My representation of these varying views embodies the deepest respect for all our people, and for the integrity with which they have arrived at their values.

This amendment reaffirms longstanding, existing law, and nothing more. It represents the broad consensus of the American people after decades of consideration on the issue. Recent Gallup polls show that 51 percent of Americans consider themselves “pro-life” on the issue of abortion. But, this amendment does not resolve all moral questions that face pro choice, prolife, and non-aligned Americans on this issue. All it does is restate existing law.

It states that no Federal funds “authorized under this Act may be used to pay for any abortion, or to cover any part of the costs of any health plan that includes coverage of abortion,” except in the cases of the life of the mother, rape or incest.

Effectively, the precedent setting Hyde amendment—which has been in effect for 34 years in our Nation—will apply to the public option, and to any Federal plans which include elective abortion. The amendment does no more, and no less. Further, with the added coverage for all Americans that this bill provides, perhaps the abortion choice will become less attractive for those faced with such a life wrenching choice.

This amendment will not bar any one from purchasing their own private supplemental rider. Our language is the same that applies in current law on Medicaid, Medicare, the Children's Health Insurance Plan, and the Federal Employee Health Benefits Plan, FEHBP, itself which offers many private insurance plans. The FEHBP is a model for how this language will be applied. It has been tried, tested, and proven.

The inclusion of this amendment clarifies the bill's language on the potential fungibility of premium dollars deposited in Federal accounts that could result in federally sanctioned insurance paid for by taxes, premiums, or Federal subsidies diverted to pay for abortions by those who do not agree with the procedure.

Importantly, for the first time, the base measure itself will help vast scores of women to obtain health coverage and, by so doing limit abortion by enhancing broad coverage options for women's and children's health. The rate of infant mortality, which is fueled by shamefully high rates of premature birth in the United States, shows us that we are not addressing the needs of mother's and their babies. Providing the necessary support for women is the answer. This bill will vastly improve preventive care, double funds available to community health centers including obstetric and gynecological care, and move America fully into this 21st century. No woman, no woman—including poor women, pregnant women, unemployed women, working women, single women, and nursing women—will be left out of health insurance coverage.

I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

INTRODUCTION OF THE JUSTICE FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today, I am proud to introduce this important bipartisan legislation with my colleagues, Representatives HELLER, NADLER, KENNEDY, CAPPS, WAXMAN, SPEIER, MCGOVERN, ISRAEL, GRIJALVA, RICHARDSON, PERRIELLO, ENGEL, DELAHUNT, COSTA, WATSON, HALL (NY), STARK, CHU, NORTON, MOORE (KS), and HOLT. The companion bill has been introduced in the Senate by Senators FRANKEN, GRASSLEY, HATCH, and FEINSTEIN.

I have been working on the issue of DNA technology since 2001 when I, along with former Representative Steve Horn, held a hearing in the Government Reform Committee where we heard from a courageous rape survivor, Debbie Smith.

It was for Debbie, and the thousands of rape survivors like her, that I authored “The Debbie Smith Act” to provide Federal funding to process the unconscionable backlog of DNA evidence. This legislation passed as part of the Justice for All Act of 2004, authorizing the necessary funding to start processing the backlog through the creation of the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program. Since 2004, millions of dollars in funding have been appropriated under the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program.

Despite the availability of funding and some progress made, the national backlog continues to persist. Recent media reports have documented that across the country, backlogs continue to rise and sexual assaults occur that might otherwise have been prevented were the kits processed in a timely manner. This bill addresses the continuing rape kit backlog and several other problems that work to deny justice to victims of sexual assault—including the denial of free rape kits to survivors of sexual assault, and the shortage of trained health professionals capable of administering rape kit exams.

By creating incentives for jurisdictions to eliminate their rape kit backlogs, process their incoming rape kits in a timely manner, and publicly report their backlog numbers, this legislation would go a long way to ensuring that the purpose and intent of the Debbie Smith Act be fully realized.

According to the Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Network, every two minutes someone is sexually assaulted somewhere in the United States. DNA evidence does not forget and it cannot be intimidated. By processing this evidence, we can prevent rapists from attacking more innocent victims and ensure that the survivors and their families receive justice.

RECOGNIZING NEW YORK YANKEES OWNER GEORGE STEINBRENNER III

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. SERRANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the New York Yankees owner, George Steinbrenner III. I recently sponsored a resolution congratulating the Yankees on their 27th World Series win. Since the World Series victory was dedicated to Mr. Steinbrenner, I wanted to honor his dedication to the city of New York and the Yankees. He has owned the franchise for 36 years, the longest serving owner in Yankee history.

Mr. Steinbrenner always has had a longstanding interest in coaching and sports management. He began as an athletic director and baseball/football coach at an Ohio high school. In 1955, he became an assistant football coach for Northwestern University. The following year in 1956, he was an assistant coach for the Purdue University football team.

By 1961, he led a team of investors in the purchase of the Cleveland Pipers of the National Industrial Basketball League, which soon joined the American Basketball League, ABL. In May of 1962, Steinbrenner got the coveted young rookie, Jerry Lucas, to play for the Pipers. That same year the Pipers won the ABL Championship. Under his ownership, Steinbrenner made history by having the first African-American coach in professional basketball, John McClendon.

It was not until 1973 that Mr. Steinbrenner became part of a now historic deal when he bought the Yankees for \$10 million from Columbia Broadcasting Company, CBS. When Mr. Steinbrenner took ownership of the Yankees, they were a team in decline. After the 1962 season, the glory days were winding down for the Yankees. In 1966, they finished last in the American League, which had not