

1956 to promote cross cultural and political understanding, currently operates on all seven continents, has over 400,000 alumni and provides students with the opportunity to learn and establish the necessary tools to become an effective leader.

Madam Speaker, I commend Emily Stoll for her commitment to academic and personal development. She is a future leader of this country of whom Iowa is very proud. I am honored to represent Emily and her family in the United States Congress and I wish her the best in her future endeavors.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR TAM TRAN AND CINTHYA FELIX

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the lives of two young graduate students, Tam Tran and Cinthya Felix, who both died in a tragic car accident on the 25th of May of 2010. They were 27 and 26 years of age, respectively.

Tam Tran was born in Germany to Vietnamese refugee parents and moved to the United States at the age of 6. Denied political asylum in the United States, unable to return to Vietnam for risk of political persecution, and refused entry to Germany, her immigration status was in limbo, but Tran proceeded to excel and graduate from Santiago High school in Garden Grove, California, and be admitted to the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). As an undergraduate and vocal supporter of the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, she joined Improving Dreams, Equality, Access and Success (IDEAS), a student organization that advocates for undocumented immigrant youth and students. Tran shared her story in congressional testimony, newspaper interviews, and events across the country. She eventually produced a collaborative student publication entitled, *Underground Undergrads: UCLA Undocumented Immigrant Students Speak Out*, an account of the struggle facing undocumented UCLA students and relevant legislation. She went on to become a Ph.D. candidate in American Civilization at Brown University.

Cinthya Felix was born in Mexico and immigrated to the United States at the age of 15. Despite a late start, she eventually graduated from Garfield High School in East Los Angeles at the top of her class and was admitted to UCLA in 2003. As an undocumented student, she conducted research on educational inequalities and was one of the founders of the student run organization IDEAS, where she worked with Tran. She graduated from UCLA in 2007 with a double major in English World Literature and Spanish Literature and was admitted to Masters in Public Health programs at Colombia University and the University of Michigan. Because of her undocumented status, Felix was unable to access financial aid and had to defer her admissions. With much determination, Felix spearheaded an online fundraising campaign and was able to matriculate at Colombia University a year later, becoming the first undocumented student in the history of the school's public health program.

Her goal was to pursue medical school and to return home as a practicing physician to help underserved communities.

Over three million students graduate from U.S. high schools every year. Most get the opportunity to continue on and live their American dream, but approximately 65,000 youth are denied this possibility because of their undocumented status. Tran and Felix were both outspoken advocates on this issue. The DREAM act can solve this injustice by allowing qualifying undocumented youth a conditional path to citizenship through the completion of a college degree or military service. As Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, I recognize the needs of immigrants, especially those that concern our youth, and have long made comprehensive immigration reform one of our caucus' top priorities. Although Tran's and Felix's lives were tragically cut short, let us not forget their mission. Let us continue to work towards making the DREAM act a law.

Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow members to join me in remembering Tam Tran and Cinthya Felix. The adversity they faced and their stories of perseverance in achieving the American dream are an inspiration to every American student who wishes to pursue life's endeavors.

IN HONOR OF HOWARD R.
CATHERS, JR.

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Howard R. Cathers Jr. who passed away on May 28, 2010 at the age of 90. Howard was a devoted and loving husband, father of four, grandfather of eleven, and great-grandfather of twenty-four.

Mr. Cathers served his country honorably in the U.S. Navy during World War II, in Okinawa, Japan, and was a member of Browns Mills Memorial Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6805 and the Seabees.

Howard was a resident of Browns Mills for forty-eight years. He was a stationary engineer for Buttonwood Hospital, drove a school bus for the Pemberton Township Board of Education, and he and his late wife, Frances, worked for the Burlington County Times as newspaper carriers. Howard was also a member of Browns Mills Senior Citizen Club and St. Ann's Church. In his retirement he enjoyed making miniature doll house furniture.

Madam Speaker, I hope you will join me and a grateful nation in paying tribute to the life of this honorable man for his many contributions to his community and to our great country.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR KERRY M.
STUDER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major Kerry M. Studer as a re-

cipient of a Bronze Star Medal for his noble service as Commanding Officer of the 443rd Transportation Company in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Major Studer is a native of Mallard, Iowa and is a current resident of Des Moines.

Major Studer earned the Bronze Star, the Department of Defense's fourth highest award given, for his meritorious service, fearless leadership, and dedication to service during his twenty-one years in the Army Reserve. Major Studer has been deployed during Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and twice during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Major Studer's commitment and courage during his service in the United States Military serves as an inspiration for soldier and citizen alike. I commend Major Studer for his selfless dedication to our great nation and consider it an honor to represent Major Studer and his family in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues join me in congratulating him and wishing him the best in his future service to our country.

MAY AS WORLD HEPATITIS
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize May as World Hepatitis Awareness Month and May 19th as World Hepatitis Day.

I commend the House Energy and Commerce Committee and House Foreign Affairs Committee for their support for raising awareness of the risks and consequences of undiagnosed Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C infections and the need for governmental and public health actions. I also want to thank my good friends Rep. Ed Towns and Rep. Bill Cassidy for working with me on hepatitis issues and speaking out on World Hepatitis Day.

An estimated 5.3 million people living in the United States are infected with either Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C. Hepatitis viruses are highly contagious viruses that infect the liver, cause liver disease, liver cancer, and premature death. Hepatitis patients are found in every Congressional district in every state across the U.S. Tragically, more than half are unaware of their status. Hepatitis is often called a silent crisis, but we cannot afford to be silent any more, and we will not be silent any more.

I introduced H.R. 3974, the Viral Hepatitis and Liver Cancer Control and Prevention Act of 2009 to unite the Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C community in a singular cause. H.R. 3974 will amend the Public Health Service Act to make critical improvements for education for patients and health care providers, access to immunization and screening, and surveillance and referral to care programs. The Act will also put in place a coordinated federal response to fight viral hepatitis. Through this legislation, and with strategic investments in public health and prevention programs, the lives of tens of thousands of people across the nation will be improved.

I commend the Obama Administration and Assistant Secretary for Health at the Department of Health and Human Services Dr. Howard Koh for developing an intradepartmental

viral hepatitis working group to improve the public health response to the disease, and for working with outside partners to increase access to quality health care and reduce the health effects from viral hepatitis.

I urge all of my colleagues to support the goals and ideals of World Hepatitis Awareness Month and to support H.R. 3974. Through comprehensive education, research, and coordination, we can highlight the global nature of chronic viral hepatitis epidemics, work to improve the quality of life for those diagnosed, and prevent further spread of the disease.

RECOGNIZING THE 130TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF WEATHERFORD, TEXAS

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the First National Bank of Weatherford, Texas, which has been serving the banking needs of the families and businesses of Weatherford and Parker County for 130 years.

The First National Bank has operated in the City of Weatherford, Texas, continuously since May 15, 1880, and is the oldest national bank charter in the state. Given the trouble the banking industry has faced in the last several years we can all appreciate this enormous accomplishment, which speaks to the strong leadership that has steered the bank over the course of its impressive history.

First National Bank is a true community bank with directors, officers, and employees who are committed to serving the needs of its customers. As with so many community banks the employees are so engaged in the Weatherford community because they are from the community.

The bank has a strong record as a good neighbor, contributing to the growth of the City of Weatherford and Parker County by supporting commerce, local charities and community events.

I congratulate the First National Bank on this significant milestone and wish them continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO JOYCE PATTERSON

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joyce Patterson on the occasion of her retirement after 22 years of dedicated service as 4-H youth coordinator with the Iowa State University Extension of Boone County, Iowa.

Joyce has not only been a dedicated employee but she has touched every aspect of the 4-H Community. She has been actively involved in 4-H for the past 25 years as a member, club leader, employee, and pioneer in this organization.

Joyce's service to the youth of Boone County is truly something to be admired. The 4-H mission is to empower youth to reach their full

potential, working and learning in partnership with caring adults, and Joyce is a shining example of 4-H at its best. She is an exemplary citizen who has instilled the Iowa values of hard work, self-reliance, and community service in many of Iowa's youth.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in recognizing Joyce Patterson's service to the youth of Boone County. I consider it an honor to represent Joyce in Congress, and I wish her much happiness during her retirement.

HONORING GLORIA GUARD, RETIRING AS PRESIDENT OF THE PEOPLE'S EMERGENCY CENTER OF PHILADELPHIA

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, one of Philadelphia's most forceful and effective advocates for homeless women and children is moving into well earned retirement at the end of this month.

Gloria Guard has been President of the People's Emergency Center since 1983—when she started by overseeing rented space in an old church that was only open weekends. On July 1 she bequeaths to her still-to-be-chosen successor a nationally respected \$6 million agency that serves 400 women and children a year while developing almost 200 affordable and special needs housing units in the Powelton neighborhood of West Philadelphia in the 2nd Congressional District. Not only that, she has led PEC to establish 25 small businesses, eliminate 110 vacant lots, and repair houses and storefronts seemingly everywhere in Powelton.

It is a large footprint, and it is a visionary approach to the changing face of homelessness. It is Gloria Guard's approach. John Kromer, former director of Philadelphia's Office of Housing and Community Development, put it best in a newspaper interview about Gloria's retirement announcement: "PEC is not just about homelessness. It's about bringing up the entire neighborhood."

Gloria Guard has brought \$80 million into the People's Emergency Center and to her causes, much of it in federal affordable housing resources. I have been an admirer and a willing target of Gloria's smiling determination to get what she and her clients need. That has made me a frequent visitor at the joyous ribbon cutting ceremonies and hopeful house tours she has arranged that have pointed the way toward a better life for thousands of Philadelphians.

One of the statistics Gloria Guard showcases is that over 90 percent of PEC's shelter and transitional housing residents remain self-sufficient after graduating from the Center's programs. While she directs the hands-on work of PEC, she has stepped up as a compelling advocate for changes in local and national policy that reflect the community of the homeless that she knows so well. She has pushed hard to change federal priorities and funding to deal with the women and children who increasingly face long-term homelessness for a complexity of reasons, not just concentrating on the predominantly male homeless population that is most visible on city streets.

Guard has stated: "I am most proud of the hundreds of homeless families that we helped at PEC who today are independent, working, solid parents and engaged citizens—totally invisible and immersed in the mainstream. Formerly homeless children are succeeding in high school, and a number have gone on to college. I have been truly blessed to encounter so many good people who have overcome such extraordinarily difficult circumstances. They are an inspiration to all of us."

Gloria Guard is not only a winner, she's an award winner. Her work earned her the 2004 Philadelphia Award, an honor reserved for the city's most notable philanthropists, artists, political visionaries, and social activists. She has also received the Sower's Seed Award from Trinity Washington University (2009), the Gold Coin Award from Inglis Foundation (2008), and was named one of the 75 Greatest Living Philadelphians by the Philadelphia Eagles and Dunkin Donuts (2007) and Citizen Volunteer of the Year by the United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania (2001). Other honors include the Community Champion Award of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (2005), the Philadelphia Bar Foundation's Louis D. Apothaker Award (2000), and the Professional Women's Roundtable award for 2009.

Now she can add yet another honor: Tonight, on Tuesday June 8, 2010, Gloria Guard is being feted by the People's Emergency Center and awarded PEC's own 2010 Imprint Award for "Nurturing Families, Strengthening Families, Driving Change." The venue is one of Philadelphia's most glittering, the Crystal Tea Room at the Wanamaker Building, across from City Hall. The invitation beckons Gloria's friends, supporters, admirers, staff, volunteers, PEC alumni and alumnae to salute this "passionate voice of homeless families in Philadelphia, the power behind neighborhood revitalization, and nationally recognized public policy leader who gets results. Join us to thank Gloria for devoting her life to social justice and the public interest."

Amen to that. Philadelphia is a better place, a more nurturing and supportive community, a place where women and children can find safety, security and vital services, because for 27 years Gloria Guard has worked relentlessly, passionately through the People's Emergency Center to end family homelessness. Gloria Guard's legacy is secure, and it is magnificent.

RECOGNIZING THE BEACON GROUP AND THE ABILITYONE GROUP

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the AbilityOne program, which over the past several years has offered skills and jobs training to more than 42,000 Americans who are blind or have significant disabilities.

The AbilityOne Program harnesses the purchasing power of the Federal Government to buy products and services from participating community-based nonprofit agencies dedicated to training and employing individuals with disabilities. This program affords Americans with disabilities the opportunity to receive