

so that the nation might live. And from Alsace Lorain to Verdun, and Normandy to Berlin and Pearl Harbor to Okinawa, from Inchon and Corregidor to Vietnam, Lebanon, Grenada, Kuwait, Afghanistan, and Iraq, Americans have nobly sacrificed their lives so that the world may live in freedom.

The debt of gratitude we owe to the soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen who answered their nation's call and made supreme sacrifices can never be repaid. But the nation can follow President Lincoln's admonition to "care for him who has borne the battle, and for his [family]." Indeed, it is the least we can do.

It is out of my profound respect and gratitude for all who wear and have worn the uniform of the United States that I continue to work so hard to pass legislation that will ensure that veterans receive the health care, job opportunities, housing assistance, and educational benefits they deserve.

HONORING THE PASSING OF A
DISTINGUISHED COAST GUARD
VETERAN, LT HERBERT COL-
LINS, USCG RETIRED

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I take this opportunity to honor the service of Lieutenant Herbert Collins, a retired Coast Guard officer, who passed away on March 14, 2010 at the age of 89.

Lieutenant Herbert Collins was the last surviving member of the Coast Guard's Life Boat Station Pea Island, which was the first and only station manned by an all African American crew. This station was in service from 1880 to 1947 and was originally part of the U.S. Life Saving Service until it merged with the Revenue Cutter Service in 1915, creating the U.S. Coast Guard. Members of the Pea Island Life Saving Station performed many heroic rescues and saved countless lives off the Outer Banks of North Carolina during the Station's 67 year existence.

Lieutenant Collins enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1939 and during his 30-year career he was promoted through the ranks to chief boatswain's mate, then to chief warrant officer and eventually to the rank of lieutenant.

During his career, Lieutenant Collins served on five Coast Guard Cutters and in a number of shore assignments, including two tours at the Pea Island Life Saving Station. In 1947, Lieutenant Collins served as Officer-in-Charge of the Coast Guard Station Oregon Inlet in 1947 and then later decommissioned Coast Guard Station Pea Island. Lieutenant Collins retired from the Coast Guard in 1976.

Lieutenant Collins was the last surviving member of the Pea Island Life Saving Station. Additionally, with his passing, another legacy ends as his family held the record for the longest continuous service with the Coast Guard dating back to his grandfather, Joseph H. Berry, who entered the Life Saving Service in 1880.

Lieutenant Collins, I wish you fair winds and following seas.

CONGRATULATING HELEN C.
VANCE ON RECEIVING THE
BROWN-HUDSON AWARD FROM
THE NORTH CAROLINA FOLK-
LORE SOCIETY

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Helen C. Vance on receiving the Brown-Hudson Award from the North Carolina Folklore Society for her outstanding work to preserve the North Shore Cemeteries in Swain County, North Carolina.

In the 1940s, many families in Western North Carolina were displaced when the Fontana Dam was constructed on the Little Tennessee River in Swain County, and as a result they had to leave behind their homesites and family cemeteries. Plans to build the North Shore Road that would connect displaced families to their old homesites were discontinued in the 1960s. Although the lack of a road makes it difficult to access these sites, Ms. Vance has worked hard to ensure that local communities are able to visit their cemeteries.

For over 30 years, Ms. Vance has organized the Appalachian tradition of Decoration Day, a day where relatives, friends, and neighbors of the deceased in Western North Carolina travel together on trails through the woods, or by boat over the Fontana Lake to these local these cemeteries for a day of remembrance. On Decoration Day, communities spend the day together cleaning the cemeteries and placing decorations on the sites.

The Brown-Hudson Award recognizes Ms. Vance's exceptional contributions to preserving our traditions in our mountain region, and her tireless work to maintain the North Shore cemeteries for future generations. Her community activism is a source of pride to me and to Western North Carolina.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues today to rise with me in recognizing the amazing efforts of Ms. Vance, and the dedication she has shown to preserving the historic North Shore cemeteries Western North Carolina. I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating her outstanding commitment to our community traditions.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. ROYCE MONEY

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize Dr. Royce Money for his dedication to Abilene Christian University and, in particular, for his 19 years of service as the university's president. As Dr. Money transitions to the role of chancellor, I join with the ACU community in thanking him for all he has done for the university.

Dr. Money obtained both his bachelor's and master of divinity degrees from Abilene Christian University, and he holds a Ph.D in religion from Baylor University. He continued his education later at the University of Nebraska, where he received an additional master's degree in human development and the family.

Dr. Money and his wife of 45 years, Pam, have both been an integral part of ACU and the Abilene community. Pam Money is a licensed marriage and family therapist and has served as an adjunct professor in the College of Biblical Studies at ACU. They have two daughters, Alison and Jennifer, and are proud grandparents of David, Elizabeth, Andrew, Jonathan, and Caleb. Their favorite hobbies include anything that involves their children and grandchildren.

Dr. Money is a current board member and past chairman of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas and a past chairman of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities. He was named Abilene's "Citizen of the Year" for 2007 by the Abilene Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Royce Money was appointed president of Abilene Christian University June 1, 1991 after serving as an associate professor, department chairman, vice president and provost. Upon his retirement, he will take over the role of chancellor of the university where he will continue to be a strong leader and advocate for ACU. Both Royce and Pam's continued service to the university is greatly appreciated and highly recognized by the city of Abilene and the students, faculty and staff of ACU.

I want to again commend Dr. Money for his service as the president of ACU, and I look forward to his continued leadership as chancellor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, yesterday I accidentally electronically voted "yea" twice for rollcall 170. Consequently, the subsequent vote (rollcall 171) indicated that I was "Not Voting". Madam Speaker, it was my intention to vote "yea" on the last recorded vote on March 22, 2010.

It is of vital importance we care for our disabled veterans who have personally sacrificed to protect our liberties. I fully support The Veterans Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act.

HONORING MARY ANN
VANDEMARK

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mary Ann Vandemark as she is honored by the Michigan Community Action Agency Association. Mary Ann recently retired from her position as Executive Director of the Human Development Commission. She will be honored for her work at a dinner on March 25th in Lansing, Michigan.

Mary Ann Vandemark served as the Executive Director of the Human Development Commission for 31 years prior to her retirement on February 1, 2010. The Commission is a Community Action Agency serving Huron, Lapeer,

Sanilac and Tuscola Counties. Their emphasis is on community economic development, housing and energy-related activities. Through their economic development program, they have developed a storm window manufacturing unit into a corporation named Cass River Enterprises, Incorporated with Mary Ann as the Chief Executive Officer.

In addition to her duties with the Human Development Commission, Mary Ann has held several leadership positions with both local and national organizations. Mary Ann served two terms as President of the National Association of Community Action Agencies and three terms as Secretary, was President of both the State and Regional Community Action Agency Associations, a member of the National Symposium on Poverty and Economic Security Steering Committee, Treasurer of the Mid America Community Action Association, Board Member and President of the Great Lakes Rural Network, President of the Michigan Economic Development Coalition, member of the National Community Action Foundation Board of Directors, Board member of the Economic Development Association of Michigan, Board member of Rural Partners of Michigan, and Chairperson of the Michigan Community Action Agency Association Legislative Committee. Locally, she is Chairperson of the Christian Services Committee of the Church of the Sacred Heart and serves as a Lay Minister. Mary Ann is the recipient of the Caro Business & Professional Women's Woman of Achievement Award, honored as Caro's Citizen of the Year, and was the recipient of the Caro Knights of Columbus Council's Family of the Year Award.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding the work of Mary Ann Vandemark. She is a dear friend and I value her advice, her wisdom and her enthusiasm. I congratulate her on a well deserved retirement and wish her the best in this new phase of her life.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,661,039,727,506.65.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,024,946,690,541.30 so far this Congress. The debt has increased \$2,332,709,328.50 since just yesterday.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

FLAWS OF MEDICAID EXPANSION

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, there are major flaws in the health care legislation that

passed the U.S. House of Representatives this week. Utah Governor Gary Herbert recently shared with me two major deficiencies in the Medicaid expansion as addressed in the health care bill.

First, Medicaid expansion ignores the fiscal impact on states. Utah, along with many other states, currently faces challenging financial circumstances. It would be impossible to pay for a sizeable Medicaid expansion and still maintain other critical state priorities such as education and social services without tax increases. This would dampen any economic recovery.

Second, Medicaid expansion ignores the program's current deficiencies. Medicaid is designed to be a temporary help and not a permanent solution for financing medical care because it restricts patient responsibility and limits choices and options. Utah is struggling to find enough providers who are willing to treat Medicaid patients as it is. Putting more people on this program will likely overwhelm the provider system and decrease access for those that need it most.

Medicaid expansion solves the problem of the uninsured by forcing more people into an already overburdened public program. This is an inevitable crush on states' finances and the economy.

STATE OF UTAH,

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,

Salt Lake City, UT, March 21, 2010.

Hon. JASON CHAFFETZ,
Longworth Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN CHAFFETZ: I am writing in the hope there is still an opportunity to eliminate the proposed Medicaid expansion in the current health care reform legislation. There are two major flaws with the proposed expansion.

First, the Medicaid expansion ignores the fiscal impact on states. Even though there was a previous commitment that states will not be burdened with the cost of a growing program, it is clear the current versions of the expansion proposal do not keep this commitment. Utah, along with many other states, currently faces challenging financial circumstances. We, in Utah, have fought to minimize the impact on our citizens, but it would be impossible to pay for a sizeable Medicaid expansion and still maintain our commitment to other critical state priorities such as education and social services without tax increases. This would dampen the economic recovery we are beginning to experience.

Second, Medicaid expansion ignores the program's current deficiencies. This proposal would significantly increase the number of Utahns on Medicaid. Instead, we need to get more people off Medicaid and covered by private insurance. Medicaid is designed to be a temporary help to those in need. It is not designed to be a permanent solution for financing medical care because it restricts patient responsibility and limits choices and options. It would be better to pursue approaches that help individuals and families become the primary decision-makers when it comes to their health and health care.

We are struggling to find enough providers who are willing to treat Medicaid patients as it is. Putting more people in this program will likely overwhelm the provider system and decrease access for those that need it the most. Nothing in the current proposal addresses how this problem will be resolved.

I am firmly opposed to a plan that intends to solve the problem of the uninsured by forcing more people into an already overburdened public program. Even though the bill

intends to soften the impact with a 2019 full implementation date, this is simply delaying the inevitable crush on states' finances and the economy.

Thank you for your consideration and thank you for your service to our country.

Sincerely,

GARY R. HERBERT,
Governor.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SUPREME COURT JUSTICE SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR, THE FIRST WOMAN TO SERVE ON THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1141, which honors the achievements and distinguished career of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, and recognizes her impact as an American symbol of hard work and rugged individualism. H. Res. 1141 is an important measure that acknowledges the truly impressive career of Sandra Day O'Connor and pays tribute to her distinguished record as one of the nation's great jurists that has inspired generations of women across the country and around the world.

I thank Chairman JOHN CONYERS for his leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I would also like to thank the sponsor of this legislation, Congresswoman GABRIELLE GIFFORDS, for taking the time to acknowledge Justice O'Connor's positive impact on the legal profession, the world of public service, and the lives of women and girls with dreams as ambitious as her own.

Madam Speaker, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's rise to the top of the legal profession is a testament to the power of tirelessly dedicating yourself to the pursuit of your dreams and staying true to your core values. After graduating in the top three of her class at Stanford Law School, Justice O'Connor practiced law in Frankfurt, Germany and Phoenix, Arizona. Soon, however, she took her talents to the arena of public service, serving as the Arizona Assistant Attorney General and Majority Leader in the Arizona State Senate. In 1979, she was appointed by Arizona Governor Bruce Babbitt to serve on the Arizona Court of Appeals. Her fair-minded decisions, detailed knowledge of the law, and growing stature in the legal profession led President Ronald Reagan to nominate Sandra Day O'Connor in 1981 to serve as the first woman on the United States Supreme Court.

Justice O'Connor served for 24 terms on the United States Supreme Court. Her service was marked by her centrist judicial philosophy, consensus-building role on the Court, and determination to uphold the law and the Constitution. A shining moment in Justice O'Connor's legacy was her support of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment, which further strengthened her role as a role model for women of all generations. On August 12, 2009, President Barack Obama awarded Sandra Day O'Connor the Presidential Medal of Freedom, a deserved honor for an important national figure who inspires countless Americans.