

To some, Judge Gillis E. Powell, Sr. will be remembered as a courageous member of our armed services who answered the call of duty during one of our Nation's most trying hours; to others, he will be remembered for his acumen in law and business. Judge Powell was a distinguished attorney, judge, businessman, and Air Force officer; however, above all Judge Powell was a true family man. He was especially proud of being able to work with his children and grandchildren in his law practice, and he loved nothing more than spending time with his family cheering his Gators to victory. Northwest Florida mourns the loss of a true leader, and his service to the community and this Nation will not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to honor the life of Judge Gillis E. Powell, Sr. and his living legacy. My wife Vicki and I extend our most sincere condolences to the entire Powell family.

#### HONORING THE MEMORY OF PAUL WILLIAM BELTZ

#### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 22, 2011*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, Tuesday, September 20, 2011 we lost a good and honorable citizen and someone I considered a friend. Mr. Paul William Beltz of Buffalo, New York and North Palm Beach, Florida died at the age of 85 years old in his home in Buffalo surrounded by his loving family.

Mr. Beltz was one of Buffalo's leading trial attorneys and founder of the law firm that bears his name. He personified all that is honest, all that is good in the legal profession and built a firm that embodied Mr. Beltz's honorable reputation, his steadfast determination, unmatched work ethic and a firm that believed in family and commitment to one's family.

Mr. Beltz lived his life, and instilled in the lives of his children and grandchildren, that if you work hard, love your family and your country and give back to your community, you will have truly lived. We are grateful to Mr. Beltz who served our nation during World War II with the Army in the Pacific.

Mr. Beltz graduated from St. Bonaventure University and Cornell Law School and received numerous recognitions for his contributions to Education and Law. In 2001, Mr. Beltz was named Lawyer of the Year by the Erie County Bar Association. In 2005, Mr. Paul William Beltz received the Gaudete Medal, from St. Bonaventure University which recognizes business and community leaders for service in the tradition of St. Francis of Assisi.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my deepest condolences to the family of Mr. Paul William Beltz, to his wife Catherine, his children Anne and Phil Rimmier, Margaret and Bill Gellatly, Kate and Steve Foley, John and Katherine Beltz, Mary Elizabeth and Naill Falls, and Sara and Mario Rodriguez and to his sixteen grandchildren, as well as his surviving family and friends. It was evident from the first time I met Mr. Beltz that he was a kind and generous man who had earned the respect of many. Although words cannot truly express the man that Paul William Beltz was, it is my hope that the memories and stories of Mr. Beltz can

serve as a lasting tribute to his life, his service, and his impressive career. I will remember Mr. Beltz for his generous spirit, for his hard work on behalf of so many working men and women in our community and for the impact he had on so many families throughout Western New York.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 22, 2011*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Martial Law Authority Rule. Had I cast my vote, I would have voted "no."

#### HONORING MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS WEEK 2011

#### HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 22, 2011*

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mental Illness Awareness Week. Every year the American Psychiatric Association, the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the National Mental Health Association designate one week in October to put the spotlight on mental illness and the associated policy issues. This year we recognize this important time on October 2nd through 8th.

Mental illness doesn't discriminate. One in five Americans bear mental illness, ranging from mild depression to severe disorders such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. One in five children endures a diagnosable disorder and one in ten children suffer from a serious disorder which, if unaddressed, can lead to poor school performance, social anxiety and seclusion and even violence against themselves and other people. Unfortunately, less than one-third of adults and less than half of children receive treatment for diagnosed serious disorders, leading to an average lifespan 25 years less than the general population.

Organizations like the American Psychiatric Association, the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the National Mental Health Association and their field partners work with municipal and state governments to make sure those who need care have access to it. In my district and around the country, local governments such as the Pima County Board of Supervisors are working diligently to ensure high-quality, cost-efficient community mental healthcare is available.

However, there is still much work to be done. When there is a lack of mental healthcare in a community, we see more lost jobs, more people out on the streets and more broken families. Often these communities see more emergency room visits, larger prison populations and higher social services costs all around. We must stay diligent in addressing mental illness and always stay focused on the individual.

Again, I want to recognize these organizations for their important work, and I urge those who need help to ask for it.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 22, 2011*

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, during the recent severe flooding events that occurred in the 10th District of Pennsylvania, I remained in home to assist people who had been impacted. Due to this, I missed the votes that occurred from September 8 through 15. Had I been present I would have voted: Vote 693—Aye; Vote 694—Aye; Vote 695—Aye; Vote 696—Aye; Vote 697—No; Vote 698—Aye; Vote 699—Aye; Vote 700—Aye; Vote 701—Aye; Vote 702—No; Vote 703—No; Vote 704—No; Vote 705—Aye; Vote 706—Aye; Vote 707—Aye; Vote 708—Aye; Vote 709—Aye; Vote 710—No; Vote 711—Aye.

#### CONGRATULATING MELISSA SEIBERT

#### HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 22, 2011*

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Melissa Seibert, of the Stark County Chapter of the American Red Cross, for receiving the Ohio Commendation Medal. This is the highest Ohio military honor and is awarded to only a few distinguished persons each year. It is presented to each person who, while a member of the state military forces, distinguishes himself/herself while serving in any military capacity by meritorious achievement and in an outstanding manner.

Melissa Seibert began her work with the Red Cross in 1999, where she started as a First Aid and Disaster Action Team volunteer. Shortly after, she was asked to be the Health and Safety Instructor; leading to a promotion to a position in the Health and Safety Services Department. In 2004, Melissa became the Assistant Director of Emergency Services, and in 2008 was challenged with the opportunity to develop a new Military Outreach program.

The development of the Military Outreach Program has become a vital part of the military community in the Stark County area. Melissa's passion and dedication has taken the program to great heights, providing military families in the community with much-needed support, resources and strength. She provides support for military personnel during times of deployment and organizes many "Welcome Home" and "Send Offs" for the military men, women and family members. Melissa is the foundation of the "Military Family Connection" support group, where family members of service personnel meet to support each other and gain valuable information on many local resources. She also hosts quarterly "Psychological First Aid" programs for local families dealing with the stress and emotions that come with the deployment of a loved one.

Ms. Seibert has successfully networked with countless military groups and associations in the community; strengthening the common bonds that tie these families together. She works closely with Blue Star Mothers, USO, the Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee and the Gold Star Mothers. In addition, Melissa participates on the board for

the Stark County Safe Kids and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA.

Since the inception of the Military Outreach Program, Melissa Seibert has helped over 5,000 individuals. True to her nature, she is now helping start similar outreach programs in the Ohio Red Cross chapters of Alliance and Muskingum Lakes. Recognized by her peers, she will soon be seeing her ideas applied nationally as her program is cloned in communities across our land. Melissa thoroughly enjoys working with Military Services and says, "It's not a job, it's a calling. A job is doing something because you are required to do it. A calling is doing something because you are passionate about it."

Ms. Seibert's dedication to Ohio military personnel and their families has warranted this prestigious award. Her selfless endeavors and meaningful contributions remind us of what can be accomplished when we give of ourselves for the benefit of others.

RECOGNIZING MARINE SERGEANT  
DANIEL J. PATRON

**HON. JAMES B. RENACCI**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 22, 2011*

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marine Sergeant Daniel J. Patron. Sgt. Patron—a member of the 8th Engineer Support Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, II Marine Expeditionary Force—was tragically killed on August 6 while trying to defuse a roadside bomb in the Helmand province of Afghanistan.

Our Explosive Ordinance Disposal, or EOD, teams are even more important and face even more dangerous tasks now that we are dealing with an enemy who relies on improvised explosive devices. From the start of our combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, insurgents have often refused to fight our forces in the open, choosing instead to hide in the shadows waiting to attack our brave men and women from afar.

Standing between our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines and those insurgents are our EOD teams. They selflessly place them-

selves face-to-face with increasing advanced and intricate explosives. Their office resides fully in harm's way, and they know one loose wire or one extra-sensitive detonator could kill them or their team members. Still they accept the job of protecting their brothers and sisters, too often laying down their own lives in the process.

I have no doubt Sgt. Patron knew the risks he took on a daily basis. He knew that each day the challenges would be great and the task at hand would be vitally important. That kind of noble commitment to others may seem incredible to many of us. But what it is truly remarkable is how often we see it from those who serve in our Armed Forces. Daniel was certainly no exception.

Sgt. Patron leaves behind his wife Cody Drace Patron, his parents Frank and Kathy, and his older brother Matthew. I would like to pass on my deepest condolences to his family and share with them the thanks of a grateful nation. Daniel was, and will remain, a shining example of the best America has to offer.

I honor Daniel's life, his sacrifice and his memory. He will surely be missed by many, but he—along with all of our fallen heroes—will not be forgotten.