

COMMENDING KEVIN M. BERKEN, FOR BEING SELECTED RICE FARMER OF THE YEAR FOR THE 2011 INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL IN CROWLEY, LA.

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend congratulations to Kevin M. Berken for being selected Rice Farmer of the Year for the 2011 International Rice Festival in Crowley, Louisiana.

For 15 years, Kevin has been farming rice and soybean crops, contributing to the active agricultural base in Louisiana. Growing up on a farm, he has long been familiar with the intricacies of agricultural production. Since 1996, his operation has steadily increased to over 1,300 acres of rice, 500 acres of soybean, and 200 acres of wheat.

Actively involved in the agricultural community, Kevin is chairman and co-founder of the Louisiana Rice Political Action Committee, and chairman of the Louisiana Rice Promotion Board. His community involvement extends to several other farming and rice related organizations including the Louisiana Farm Bureau.

Before continuing the family tradition of farming, Kevin moved to San Diego, California to begin a real estate career. It was there he met his wife, Shirley, and in 1997, they had a son named Adam. After years of success in the real estate arena, the Berkens moved back to Louisiana to continue his real estate ventures. However, learning his father had been diagnosed with cancer; Kevin decided to forgo acquiring a Louisiana real estate license and instead turned toward farming.

Kevin graduated from St. Maria Goretti Catholic School in Lake Arthur in 1979, and in 2003, went on to earn his Bachelor of Science from McNeese State University. While attending McNeese, he belonged to Delta Tau Alpha Agricultural Honor Society.

I would like to offer my sincerest thanks to Kevin M. Berken for his dedication to the continued agricultural excellence of Louisiana and congratulate him on being named 2011 Rice Farmer of the Year. I am honored to be his representative in Congress.

RECOGNIZING BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. KEVIN YODER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. While I'm sure I am not the only member to come before you and recognize the importance of breast cancer research, I feel it is necessary for me to discuss the benefits that come from continued funding for a disease that affects 300,000 women every year.

Aside from recognizing the important work done by the many Breast Cancer Organizations around the country, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the Breast Cancer Survivorship Center that is part of the Univer-

sity of Kansas Cancer Center. While the KU Cancer Center does important research into early detection and treatment of breast cancer, the Survivorship Center is an important facility for women who have been diagnosed and have gone through or are currently being treated for breast cancer. Specifically, this facility helps women cope with various treatments, assists them with complications, helps them to manage side effects. I applaud the KU Cancer Center for the tremendous progress they have made and the thousands of lives they have saved.

One of the most reassuring aspects of discussing breast cancer is when we can talk about survivors. The continued decrease in the mortality rate of women diagnosed with breast cancer is due in large part to remaining focused on the need to find a cure. The progress that has been made in finding a cure for breast cancer has been made possible through very generous donations by the American public, but also through funding for National Institutes of Health (NIH).

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I am pleased that Appropriations Committee Chairman HAL ROGERS and Subcommittee Chairman DENNIS REBERG recognized the value of the work being performed by the NIH. I am particularly pleased that the House version of the FY 2012 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill provides robust funding for NIH, and its efforts to fight cancer. I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Appropriations Committee as the House and Senate negotiate the FY 2012 Appropriations bills.

HONORING STEVE JOBS

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life or "dots" as Steve Jobs, co-founder, chairman, and chief executive officer of Apple, would say. Jobs was a visionary and creative genius, who believed that everything in life is interconnected, bringing us products that bring our whole worlds into our pockets.

Jobs' dedication and tireless devotion to creating the perfect user experience spurred and redefined the digital age, leading to a cultural transformation in the way the world communicates. This is ever so true here in our Congressional hallways, where Apple has provided most Members a communications face-lift. Jobs' leadership at Apple has changed the way we do business here in Washington, but also in the news, music and telecommunications industries.

Jobs' childhood dream of putting "a ding in the universe" has become true and for this, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the "dots" of Steve Jobs' legacy.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSECRATION OF ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Peter's Episcopal Church located in the Town of Morristown, Morris County, New Jersey, as it celebrates the 100th Anniversary of its consecration.

On January 1, 1827, 38 men and women gathered at the Morristown Baptist Church to incorporate St. Peter's Episcopal Church. After naming the church's first permanent rector, ground for the new church was broken in May of 1828, making it the first stone building in Morristown. By 1881, the original building was becoming inadequate for the growing congregation, and under the supervision of a member of the congregation, plans were made for a new church building. On April 11, 1887, ground broke for the new St. Peter's Episcopal Church and the corner stone was laid on All Saints' Day that same year.

To finance construction, the new church was built in four stages. The first two steps, completed in 1892, included the sanctuary, chapel, choir crossings, vestries and nave. The tower was completed in 1908 and the parish hall in 1911. On November 2, 1911 the new St. Peter's Episcopal Church building was officially consecrated.

St. Peter's is a place of welcome and comfort to those in need. Outreach and ministries are cornerstones of the church that reach into the community. St. Peter's has either been a founder or founding member of vital organizations such as the Community Soup Kitchen of Morristown, Hospitality Link, the Interfaith Food Pantry and Morris County Career Network.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church is a vital part of the local community as it provides an intimate place where people with common beliefs and values can join together in prayer and worship. It is a place where people can become involved in their community and give back to others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the members of St. Peter's Episcopal Church as they celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the church's consecration.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WELFARE INTEGRITY ACT OF 2011

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the gross misuse of taxpayer money by continuing to provide benefits under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program to recipients who test positive for illegal drug use or are convicted of drug related crimes.

At a time when Congress is focused on trimming budgets, it is imperative we focus on eliminating irresponsible funding. That is why I

am introducing the Welfare Integrity Act of 2011. This legislation is a step toward eliminating abuse of taxpayer money by requiring all state receiving funds from the TANF program to certify they are testing applicants and current recipients for illegal drug use.

Americans are generous in providing assistance to those in need, but they also expect their tax dollars to be used in a responsible manner. Welfare assistance is meant to help those going through hard financial times to buy food and basic living expenses for their families. It's not too much to ask folks to keep clean in order to receive federal assistance.

Mr Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House to support me in passing the Welfare Integrity Act of 2011 to eliminate abuse and take a step toward commonsense.

RECOGNIZING DR. MICHAEL
LEMOLE

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Michael Lemole, who is being honored this year by the National Library of Medicine and Friends of the National Library of Medicine for his lifetime of achievement in medicine and neurosurgery.

Dr. Lemole is one of the exemplary medical professionals who cared for our colleague, Congresswoman GABRIELLE GIFFORDS, following the January 8th shooting in Tucson, Arizona.

The National Library of Medicine and the Friends of the National Library of Medicine are organizations dedicated to improving health and health care through the dissemination of accurate and quality medical information to medical practitioners and researchers.

They have chosen to recognize Dr. Lemole this year for his outstanding commitment to these values, his exemplary career in the field of neurosurgery, and his skillful actions that helped to save the life of Congresswoman GIFFORDS on January 8, 2011.

Dr. Lemole's career reflects a physician at the pinnacle of his profession.

He pursued specialty training as a Cushing Clinical Fellow, a distinction awarded by the Congress of Neurological Surgeons.

He has published more than 30 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, and is a member of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons, the Congress of Neurological Surgeons, and the North American Skull Base Society.

He was honored as a Top Doctor by US News and World Report in 2011, was named the 2011 Doctor of the Year by the Pima County Medical Society, and, in 2009, was named a Top Surgeon by the Consumer Research Council for America.

Additionally, Dr. Lemole has served his country as a flight surgeon with the United States Air Force Reserve in the 944th ASTS at Luke Air Force Base in Arizona. He was recently named the honorary commander of the 355th Medical Group, based at Davis Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, Arizona.

Dr. Lemole's assiduous commitment to his work, his vocation, his community, and his country led him to the top of the medical world. It also leads him to save lives, both with his hands and his contributions to the field of neurosurgery.

We thank him for his efforts to save the life of our friend and colleague, Congresswoman GIFFORDS, and for a career dedicated to the healing of people.

Congratulations to Dr. Lemole for a deserved recognition.

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during National School Lunch Week to express my appreciation to the thousands of people in the great state of California who work tirelessly to ensure that children are fed nutritious meals in school.

During times of limited resources, these professionals are working to provide high quality meals to all students.

I applaud Secretary of Agriculture Vilsack for the USDA's efforts to improve child nutrition programs.

Yet I also wish to express my concerns regarding the recently proposed regulations for school meal standards.

I fear the proposed regulations will increase costs to hard-pressed school districts beyond what can reasonably be managed.

The result may be that schools will reduce access to nutritious meals because they simply can't afford to provide them.

Of equal concern is the great number of unknowns about the impacts of the proposal—including how it will impact school meal costs, participation, and access.

I urge the Secretary to take this into consideration and allow flexibility during this regulatory process.

We must all closely monitor the progress made by schools, and the effectiveness of the new rules on the health and well-being of America's children moving forward.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DENVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT LADIES AUXILIARY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Denville Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary located in Morris County, New Jersey as they celebrate their 75th Anniversary.

In 1936, in response to the ever-growing Denville Fire Department, the Ladies Auxiliary was established to provide support. Over the years, they have proven to be an indispensable adjunct to the department.

In the early years, the women of the Auxiliary would go to the scene of fires to provide refreshments to the firefighters. In addition, they also dedicated much time and energy to raising funds for the fledgling fire department. Many parties, raffles and door-to-door canvassing, among other things, were undertaken by the women to help pay for equipment.

An especially notable incident was in the 1980s. Several dozen motorists became trapped on a major highway due to a major snowstorm. After rescue, the stranded motorists were housed at one of the department's fire houses and were fed and cared for by the ladies auxiliary for over a two-day period. Recently, members of the Auxiliary and Fire Department responded to the needs of the victims of Hurricane Irene and its aftermath.

Oftentimes, less visible organizations can go unnoticed. While the Denville Fire Department no doubt provides an invaluable resource to its community and its members sacrifice much of their time to protect others, the behind-the-scenes support of the Ladies Auxiliary helps make everything the department does possible. Their time and efforts are most appreciated.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Denville Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary as they celebrate 75 years of unwavering dedication.