

Exercising their First Amendment rights under the United States Constitution to assemble, these proud veterans organized a motorcycle rally to take place in our Nation's Capital to ensure that we, as a nation, demand a full accounting of our members of the armed forces held as Prisoners of War (POW's) and those still Missing in Action (MIA's).

This moving tribute to our American war heroes started in 1988 when an estimated 3,000 to 5,000 bikers rode in the streets surrounding the United States Capitol, to bring awareness to the POW/MIA issue.

Over the last 25 years, their efforts to increase the awareness of the POW/MIA issue and honoring all military veterans has grown; so have the days since the last soldier left Vietnam.

Over Memorial Day 2012, on the 25th Anniversary Rolling Thunder Run, an estimated 1.3 million people and 500,000 motorcycles participated making it the largest one-day event in our Nation's Capital, and one of the largest one-day events in the world.

Mr. Speaker, as this dome of the United States Capitol stands as a beacon of liberty, freedom and democracy throughout the world, it is only fitting for the last quarter century that the men and woman who have ridden their motorcycles in the shadow of this building send a message from our shores and beyond that our American POW's/MIA have served honorably and will never be forgotten.

I would like to add my voice in commending Rolling Thunder for their efforts to honor America's POW's/MIA's, and also raise awareness around the issues facing the brave men and women who have served and currently serve in this nation's military.

RECOGNIZING JOANNE LANE FOR HER ACHIEVEMENTS AS A UNITED HEALTH FOUNDATION DIVERSE SCHOLAR

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Joanne Lane for her achievements and for being named a United Health Foundation Diverse Scholar.

As a student in Diagnostic Imaging and Radiology at Tacoma Community College, it is evident that Joanne is dedicated to her education in the health care field and to improving the quality of care patients receive. She is learning how best to learn and carefully meet individual patients' emotional, physical, and cultural needs. Joanne has shown great enthusiasm toward offering patients the best medical treatment regardless of their gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, or income, and she will undoubtedly apply these beliefs as she prepares to begin her career.

Joanne has used the United Health Foundation Diverse Scholars Initiative to devote her time to her rigorous course work. She has learned new skills through interactions with a variety of people and has gained a new appreciation for people from different backgrounds. In an ever-changing field, Joanne's adaptability gives her the skills to learn continuously evolving methods for helping her future patients.

The United Health Foundation Diverse Scholars Initiative helps increase the number of students from multicultural backgrounds in higher education working towards degrees and careers in the health care sector. Since 2007, more than \$3.5 million in scholarship funds have been awarded to high-achieving and promising students. Students like Joanne will help to increase cultural relevance in health care and improve the care of all patients, including those from underrepresented populations.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize Joanne Lane. Her dedication to patient care will undoubtedly lead her to great success in her career and to the improved wellbeing of her community and all of those who call it home.

CONGRATULATING TGEN ON THEIR 10TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues from Arizona in commending the Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen) for a decade of biomedical research success.

TGen was founded in Arizona in 2002 to leverage new scientific discoveries from the mapping of the human genome, and its establishment promptly accelerated the state into the era of genomics and personalized medicine.

Mr. Speaker, significant to TGen's establishment was the confluence of support from all sectors of the state to attract this new institute to base its operations in Arizona, as well as recruit the renowned geneticist Dr. Jeffrey Trent to lead it, and position the state as a worldwide leader in bioscience and medical discovery. Academic, business, philanthropic, and government leaders all joined forces in a statewide campaign to strategically assemble the necessary support.

What most excited Arizona leaders was the vision put forth by Dr. Jeff Trent, to accelerate and translate scientific discovery into more immediate and effective benefits for patients, all made possible with the new information from the human genome and rapidly developing technology.

Mr. Speaker, it was on this day ten years ago, June 26, 2002, with high expectations and hopes, that Governor Hull and state leaders announced the successful launch of TGen and the genomics era in Arizona. A decade of exciting growth and new research discoveries has since transpired.

Investment into TGen and the biosciences spurred growth across the state, catalyzing the launch of the Critical Path Institute and Bio5 in southern Arizona, Arizona State University's Biodesign Institute, a northern Phoenix bio campus, TGen North and the expansion of W.L. Gore in northern Arizona. The bioindustry has flourished over the past ten years, even during economic downturns, becoming a significant high-performing sector of the Arizona economy.

For patients, TGen is offering hope where there had been none, with novel treatments offered only in Arizona. By partnering with clin-

ical entities like the Mayo Clinic and Scottsdale Healthcare, TGen is focusing on utilizing genomic analyses to improve and customize patient treatments. Patients with pancreatic cancer and rare diseases like basal cell carcinoma are finding answers to their treatment struggles, improving quality of patient lives and allowing more years to spend with loved ones. Whether it's sequencing anthrax or the plague, investigating H1N1 or Valley Fever; finding new clues to triple-negative breast cancer or Alzheimer's disease; or, leading new collaborative research partnerships addressing pediatric and canine cancers, TGen's research has made substantial inroads over the past ten years.

More than a decade ago, the mapping of the human genome represented a challenge to the world to make use of this new knowledge for the benefit of humankind. Arizona answered this challenge and now TGen is a leading model for fusing modern medicine with the power of translational research to fuel the next wave of treatments for all manner of human diseases.

Mr. Speaker, as the tenth-year anniversary of TGen's launch is celebrated today, I applaud Dr. Trent and the scientists at TGen for their unwavering commitment to make a difference for patients and lead innovative research for Arizona into the next decade.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEVEN PATRICK MOYNIHAN

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Steven Patrick Moynihan for being awarded a James Madison Fellowship.

This extremely competitive fellowship is directed toward current and prospective teachers of American history and civic studies, and it supports such individuals as they study the principles of the Constitution of the United States. Founded by Congress in 1986 and named in honor of the fourth president of the United States—the credited “Father of our Constitution and Bill of Rights,” the award aims to recognize distinguished teachers and to strengthen their knowledge of the origins and progression of American constitutional governance.

This year, only 58 fellowships were awarded and Mr. Moynihan, a teacher at Barnstable High School in Hyannis, Massachusetts, was selected for one among the applicants from across the nation. The James Madison Fellowship will fund up to \$24,000 of Mr. Moynihan's course of study toward an advanced degree.

Mr. Speaker, it always brings me great pride to honor a dedicated and deserving teacher, such as Steven Patrick Moynihan. I congratulate him for being awarded a James Madison Fellowship and urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the importance of this award and of Mr. Moynihan's service to the students of Barnstable.

COMMENDATION OF MR. DONALD
PATA

HON. HANSEN CLARKE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Donald Pata, a physics teacher at Grosse Pointe North High School (Grosse Pointe North), for receiving the 2011 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

The PAEMST is awarded annually to outstanding K–12 science and mathematics teachers across America. After an initial state-level selection process, the PAEMST winners are chosen by a panel of distinguished scientists, mathematicians, and educators. Mr. Pata, the only teacher to receive the PAEMST from Michigan this year, is a Grosse Pointe native. He graduated from Wayne State University with a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry and later returned to get a teaching certificate and Masters Degree in Physics Education.

Shortly after earning his undergraduate degree, Mr. Pata joined the Peace Corps and taught biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics in Ghana. Mr. Pata later returned to Grosse Pointe and began teaching a wide range of physics classes at Grosse Pointe North, including conceptual physics and AP Physics. He also serves as the Science Department Chairperson and is the faculty advisor for the school district's FIRST Robotics Team.

Mr. Pata appreciates the value of effective teaching. Mr. Pata creates a positive "hands-on" classroom atmosphere where students feel free to contribute to discussion and construct their own knowledge. He leads by example and empowers his students to achieve their highest potential. Mr. Pata seeks out opportunities to develop his knowledge of teaching methodology and physics, and travels across the United States attending advanced physics teaching workshops and classes.

As a member of the House of Representatives Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, I know how important it is to have dedicated, innovative, and engaged science teachers working in our schools. Mr. Pata is teaching our children to think creatively, be open to new ideas, and embrace scientific and technological change.

I recognize Mr. Pata as a leader in science education in Metro Detroit and thank him for his commitment to his students and community.

CONSERVATION AND ECONOMIC
GROWTH ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2578) to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act related to a segment of the Lower Merced River in California, and for other purposes:

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Chair, I rise today to raise concerns about H.R. 2578. I support the goal of the provision (H.R. 1505) which will strengthen our efforts to secure the border, but I believe it was overreaching.

I have long believed that securing our border is of paramount importance to the safety of the people who live and work along the border, but I do not believe that this end needs to be achieved at the expense of maintaining a strong commitment to our environment and the regulations that ensure its protection. I would have preferred that we consider a standalone bill which specifically responded to the expressed needs of the Department of Homeland Security regarding access to public lands.

I do not support those provisions of H.R. 2578 which seek to privatize public land and significantly reduce the scope of existing laws which protect those lands.

I am against the rule specifically because I believe that amendments should have been heard to improve this bill.

THE TEXAS AGGIES—NO ONE
QUITE LIKE 'EM

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the sun was lazily rising on the horizon. It was around breakfast time on a stunning Sunday morning. It was quiet, peaceful, calm. People felt secure. There was a small tropical breeze as the American flag was being raised on a nearby flagpole.

Suddenly over the horizon, a large formation of aircraft darkened the glistening sky. They broke formation and dove down from the sky, unleashing a fury of deadly, devastating bombs and torpedoes on a quiet place called Pearl Harbor in the Pacific Ocean. It was on that day, 70 years ago, when sailors, soldiers, airmen, and marines saw war declared on America. It was December 7, 1941.

Over 5,000 miles away from terror stood a small, quiet town covered in maroon décor known as College Station, Texas. College Station is not only home to Texas A&M University's Fightin' Texas Aggies, but also to the patriotic Corps of Cadets. Around campus you can spot the Corps of Cadets marching in sync wearing the uniform that matches their rank whether it is brown leather boots or trousers made of serge material.

December usually holds a brisk chill in the air in College Station, but the Texas sun kept the weather from being unbearable. Word traveled fast of chaos on the Pacific as America became engaged in another world war. Aggie tradition tells us that on that day teenagers turned soldiers when the entire 1942 junior class enlisted into the war along with half of their senior level comrades. They were all volunteers. They stood together as Aggies, brothers, Texans and Americans. They stood shoulder to shoulder and raised their right hands in unison and swore to defend their homeland. College Station became an image in a rear view mirror as pens and pencils were traded for guns and ammo. They left Texas to go fight on small islands in the Pacific, brutal deserts in North Africa and bloody beaches in Italy and France.

The year 1942 was also the time of the most well-known Aggie Muster under the command of General George Moore during World War II. Aggie Muster is on April 21st which also happens to be San Jacinto Day, the day Texas won independence at the battle of San Jacinto in 1836. Amid fierce enemy fire, General Moore and 25 fellow Aggies mustered in the trenches and caves on Corregidor in the Philippines. A war correspondent observed the make-shift ceremony and the world was introduced to the Aggie spirit. Every one of those Aggies were either killed or captured by the Japanese. Four years later when the Americans returned with Gen. McArthur and retook the island the Aggies mustered again. When I went to the Philippines recently, I saw a photo of those returning Aggies on the fortress wall of the Malinta Tunnel on Corregidor.

According to Aggie Muster tradition, "if there is an A&M man in one hundred miles of you, you are expected to get together, eat a little, and live over the days you spent at the A&M College of Texas." During times of war, Muster is especially poignant. Texas A&M has produced more officers in the United States military than even West Point. It has the distinction, other than West Point, of having more Medal of Honor recipients than any other university in the United States. When General George Patton was in Europe going into combat in the Third Army, he made a comment about the Texas Aggies and the soldiers that he had under his command. He said, "Give me an army of West Point graduates and I will win a battle. You give me a handful of Texas Aggies, and I will win the war."

The Aggies' long tradition of duty and service to our great nation dates back to their beginning, to the days when A&M was an all-male military academy. Texas A&M trained nearly 4,000 troops during World War I and over 20,000 Aggies served in World War II, 14,000 as officers. World War II was hard. Millions served in uniform overseas; millions served on the home front; all sacrificed for the cause of America. Many of them gave their lives all over the globe in places known only to God.

The Aggie band doesn't play an Aggie "Fight Song". There is no such thing. The band plays the "Aggie War Hymn", quite a different concept. The "Aggie War Hymn" was written by Aggie Marine J.V. "Pinky" Wilson while standing guard on the Rhine River during World War I. It remains the most recognizable school war hymn across the country—probably the world.

Today, Muster is observed in more than 400 places worldwide and this year's "Roll Call of the absent" honored 970 people around the world, including those remarkable young men and women who gave their lives for our country in lands far far away. While Muster is a time to honor those that have died, it also is a time when Aggies, young and old, come together to reconnect and celebrate a way of life known only to those that proudly hail from Aggieland.

Muster means different things to different people. Every Aggie will tell you something different, something personal about what it means to them as an Aggie. One thing that is consistent in every answer is their dedication to tradition. It is the rich heritage of tradition that sets Texas A&M apart from all the rest. It is the Corps, the Aggie War Hymn, the 12th Man, Midnight Yell, Bonfire, Texas State pride