

County, VA have traveled to Washington to participate in today's wreath laying ceremony. These students are part of a program offered by the Henrico County Police Athletic League that instills in young people the values of integrity, self-respect, and discipline.

I offer my support and gratitude to the families and countless friends of these officers that have paid the ultimate sacrifice. Their memory is an inspiration to all of us.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me today in remembering the fallen heroes of Henrico County, and thanking the Henrico Police Athletic League for service and commitment to our community.

DEATH OF TWO THOUSANDTH AMERICAN IN AFGHANISTAN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, recently, as many of my colleagues have remarked on the House floor, we reached the sad milestone of two thousand American soldiers having lost their lives in Afghanistan.

Tomorrow we break for our July 4th recess, celebrating our nation's independence, but for too many American families missing a father, a son or a daughter, the fourth of July will be a day of absence.

Mr. Speaker, we have a word for people who lose a spouse: "Widower."

We have a word also for the children left behind when parents die: "Orphans." But we have no words for the parents of children who die.

It is a tragedy when a parent outlives their child, and it is time to put an end to our children dying in Afghanistan.

For the families of two thousand American soldiers, and equally important, for the Afghan families who have lost sons and daughters, we need to end this war and bring our soldiers home so that a political solution can be achieved.

IN HONOR OF YO AZAMA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Yo Azama, a Japanese language teacher at North Salinas High School in Salinas, CA, who was named the 2012 National Language Teacher of the Year by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). The National Language Teacher of the Year award was created to recognize a foreign language teacher who exhibits excellence in language education.

Competition for the Foreign Language Teacher of the Award is quite steep as nominees are first evaluated by their state language organization, after which each state submits its top candidate to one of five regional committees for additional review.

Learning a foreign language opens minds to other worlds and has been scientifically proven to generate more flexibility in thinking. I

was impressed by what Mr. Azama included in his application essay. He wrote "my experience as a language teacher convinces me that today's students are ready and more than willing to learn other languages and cultures, and prepare themselves to join a world that has no borders and offers them unlimited opportunities if they have the linguistic and cultural competency . . . Language connects us and as a result it binds us the global family that we are."

Mr. Speaker, this national award goes to someone who shows incredible passion for his profession, for his students, and for his community. I congratulate Mr. Azama on his much-deserved recognition as he continues to teach, lead, and inspire California's youth.

TRIBUTE TO GAIL A. W. GOODRIDGE

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Gail A. W. Goodridge, a leader in international development and a valued advisor and constituent, who recently passed away after a brave battle with cancer on June 18th.

Gail is an example of national heroes who remain too often unsung—those who answer a call to serve directly those most in need, regardless of their location around the world. Working in the field of global health and development with Family Health International (FHI 360), she contributed to the lives of vulnerable women and children during extended postings in the Caribbean, where she began her career, and in East Africa, where she confronted the misery of the HIV/AIDS epidemic by founding and directing a truly innovative program (known as the ROADS Project) to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS along African transport corridors.

At home, Gail was just as active on behalf of social justice, working in Arlington through St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church and in secular advocacy organizations promoting immigrants' rights and affordable housing. Wherever she was, Gail was renowned for her creativity and hospitality, guided by her faith and her belief in doing the right thing. She was often in my office representing those without a voice with fierce idealism always tempered with compassion. She is remembered by her colleagues at home and abroad and by her faith communities, not only in Arlington, but in Kenya as well—by St. Joseph's the Worker Church.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to this worker in global human development and in offering condolences to Gail's family and colleagues on her passing.

HONORING MR. PETER DECRAENE
FOR RECEIVING THE 2011 PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mr. Peter DeCraene, a math teacher at Evanston Township High School, for receiving the 2011 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

The PAEMST program recognizes outstanding teachers for their contribution to teaching mathematics or science. Sponsored by the White House and administered by the National Science Foundation, PAEMST award recipients receive a certificate from President Obama and \$10,000. The award only goes to the finest teachers of science and mathematics in the country.

This year, President Obama recognized 97 mathematics and science teachers as recipients of this esteemed award. The applicants were chosen for their abilities to convey the concepts of math and science to their students, along with their work experience, educational background, and extracurricular activities related to the classroom. The PAEMST program rewards teachers for preparing and establishing a solid foundation of science, technology, engineering, and math in America's youth. Peter DeCraene has succeeded throughout his career, creatively teaching these disciplines to his students while helping his colleagues to do the same.

Mr. DeCraene's passion and enthusiasm over the past 23 years have inspired hundreds of students so that they may better contribute to America's success. The Chicago native graduated from DePaul University with a B.A. in mathematics, and an M.S. in computer science, and he received a Certificate of Advanced Study in educational leadership from National Lewis University. He prefers teaching in small groups so that students may learn by answering one another's questions. He is currently the math department chair at Evanston Township High School, overseeing 30 teachers, along with instructing new teachers in the school wide induction program. The DePaul University graduate is also a textbook author who has presented at state and local conferences.

Please join me in honoring my constituent, Peter DeCraene, and all the recipients of the 2011 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. This is an honor worthy of special distinction and I look forward to seeing more great things from Mr. DeCraene.

JULY 4, 2012 NATURALIZATION CEREMONY IN HAMMOND

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this

time to congratulate the individuals who will take their oath of citizenship on July 4, 2012. In true patriotic fashion, on the day of our great nation's celebration of independence, a naturalization ceremony will take place, welcoming new citizens of the United States of America. This memorable occasion, coordinated by the Hammond Public Library and presided over by Magistrate Judge Andrew Rodovich, will be held at The Pavilion at Wolf Lake in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the globe to the United States in search of better lives for their families. The upcoming oath ceremony will be a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On July 4, 2012, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oath of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Edina Anita Szabo, Jonathan Carmona Garcia, Alaa Alzayed, Oliva Chavez, Guolan Lu, Jaime Oseguera Cardenas, Dejan Kitevski, Jelica Dobrijevic, Karla Elizabeth Arreguin Farias, Ahmad Abdelrahim Almaaya, Huda Dali, Ljubica Vignjevic, Kefaa Nahed Omar Shuaibi, Rea Agulto Clarito, Senka Pamucar, Tanja Vignjevic, Liljana Josevski, Omiyosoye Adebawale Ololade, Mopelola Eniola Ololade, Blessing Obong Dennis, An Boo Min, Amanjot Kaur, Jingli Crain, Caroline Elizabeth Nyamweru Kama, Halrun Luppess, Senija Crnkic, Siraneth Sem, Lenna Sabina Wade, Sanel Puzic, Jose Alberto Galicia Talabera, Tobias Florian Boes, Faneromeni Talia, James Murei Mumbura Karanja, Stella Gathoni Waithaka, Bacilia Avila, Mireya Jaquelin Aguilar, Gifty Debo Barlue, Esther Joo Young Chun, Patricia Contreras, Salvador Cruz, Nathaniel Tuason David, Luis Alberto Garcia, Njeri Mary Karumbo, Juliana Santos Kladis, Lenka Mitic, Innocent Ngenga, Elizabeth Procyk, Jose Gustavo Suarez, Nour Alghnimi Ulayyey, and Jovita Zurita.

Though each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country “. . . of the people, by the people, and for the people.” They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals, who will become citizens of the United States of America on July 4, 2012, the day of our nation's independence. They, too, will be American citizens, and they, too, will be guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate and welcome them.

IN HONOR OF CLEVELAND CITY COUNCILWOMAN DONA BRADY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Cleveland City Councilwoman Dona Brady, who has admirably served the residents of Ward 17 since 1997.

Born and raised in Cleveland, Councilwoman Brady has been a leader in the Greater Cleveland community for years. She attended Cleveland State University Levin College of Urban Affairs where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree, Cum Laude, in Urban Studies with a major in neighborhood revitalization. She is also a graduate of CSU's Leadership Academy.

Before she was elected to Cleveland City Council, Brady worked for the Office of Cuyahoga County Prosecutor William D. Mason, Judge Raymond L. Pianka and for the Cleveland Board of Zoning Appeals.

Throughout the past 15 years, Councilwoman Brady has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life in Ward 17 of Cleveland, which includes the West Boulevard and Clifton historic districts. She has worked toward promoting economic development, improving public safety, maintaining the ward's housing stock and developing additional recreational opportunities for families. Brady serves as the Chair of the Public Service Committee, Vice-Chair of Public Safety, and as a member of the Council's Finance and Community and Economic Development Committees.

Councilwoman Brady is also involved in Cleveland's Albanian-American community and has been named Cleveland's Ambassador to Albania. She has been a constant in revitalizing the Albanian Cultural Garden in Rockefeller Park and instrumental in building an international trade relationship with Fier, Albania.

Throughout the years and her career, Councilwomen Brady has been honored by numerous organizations. She is the recipient of the 2005 Outstanding Elected Official's Award from CSU Leadership Academy's David C. Sweet Alumni Society. Additionally, she has been inducted into the Golden Key National Honor Society, and recognized by Jobs with Justice, the International Services Center and American Nationalities Movement.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honoring Councilwoman Dona Brady for her years of service and commitment to the Greater Cleveland area.

TRANSPORTATION WORKER IDENTIFICATION PROCESS REFORM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3173, which directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to reform the process for the enrollment, activation, issuance of renewal of a Transportation Work-

er Identification Credential, TWIC, to require, in total, not more than one in-person visit to a designated enrollment center.

The TWIC program was established to ensure all individuals who require admittance into secure areas of regulated maritime facilities and vessels are properly vetted and do not pose a threat to maritime and supply chain security. Current TWIC requirements require that applicants go to an enrollment center twice to complete the application and confirm the biometric information embedded into the card.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that this is an onerous burden for workers in the maritime industry, such as merchant vessel operators and truck drivers, who must obtain the credential for employment. Individuals in need of a TWIC card often work long hours with little down time. Many cannot afford to take extended periods of time off to go to an enrollment center, in some cases located hundreds of miles away, on two different occasions.

I believe that the Secretary of Homeland Security should reform the TWIC process before the end of 2012, when the TWICs first issued in 2007 will need to be renewed allowing applicants to complete the process with only one in-person visit. I urge Members of Congress to support H.R. 3173, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to reform the process for the enrollment, activation, issuance, and renewal of the TWIC program.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows: June 26, 2012—rollcall vote 416, On agreeing to the Connolly Amendment—I would have voted “nay”, rollcall vote 417, On agreeing to the McClintock Amendment—I would have voted “aye”, rollcall vote 418, On agreeing to the Garrett Amendment—I would have voted “aye”, rollcall vote 419, On agreeing to the Capps Amendment—I would have voted “nay”, rollcall vote 420, On agreeing to the Gosar Amendment—I would have voted “aye”, rollcall vote 421, On agreeing to the Broun Amendment—I would have voted “aye”, rollcall vote 422, On agreeing to the Broun Amendment—I would have voted “aye”, rollcall vote 423, On agreeing to the Broun Amendment—I would have voted “aye”.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LA RAZA DURING ITS 2012 ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the National Council of La Raza (NCLR) during its 2012 annual conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.