

International Public Charter School. She also established the Council of Latino Organizations here, and together with others, helped establish the Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs.

Sonia built Carlos Rosario from a small non-profit teaching English to Latinos, into today's groundbreaking, comprehensive learning center offering support services, from English as a second language to citizenship and career services, to 2,500 residents. Her efforts are now spreading to a new site to be dedicated as the Sonia Gutierrez Campus. For her visionary leadership Mrs. Gutierrez earned the Ana G. Mendez Excellence in Education award and induction into the Washington Women's Hall of Fame, among many other awards for giving thousands of students an opportunity to change their lives.

I now ask the House to recognize Sonia Gutierrez for 40 years of tireless and selfless passion as an educator, organizer and advocate.

A TRIBUTE TO LAURA TIBBS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Laura Tibbs of Alden, Iowa for being awarded the Girl Scout Gold Award.

The Gold Award is the highest award that a high school-aged Girl Scout can earn. This is a prestigious honor as fewer than 6 percent of eligible Girl Scouts attain the Gold Award in a given year.

To earn a Gold Award, a Girl Scout must complete a minimum of 80 hours towards a community project that is both memorable and lasting. For her project, Laura brought attention to the issue of school supplies that are wastefully discarded despite widespread need. The work ethic Laura has shown to earn her Gold Award speaks volumes about her commitment to serving a cause greater than herself and assisting her community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young woman and her supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Laura and her family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating her on obtaining the Gold Award, and I wish her continued success in her future education and career.

HONORING ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE CENTENNIAL

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor a college in my District that is celebrating 100 years of teaching students and instilling in them incredible ethics about service to others.

St. Joseph's College was founded in 1912 by the Portland Regional Community of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, with classes

taking place in the Motherhouse in Portland, Maine.

Much has changed in the last hundred years. Today, over a thousand students attend the college. Many live at a beautiful campus overlooking Sebago Lake in Standish, Maine, while many others take classes online—something that would probably be difficult for the Sisters to imagine in 1912.

While the college has successfully seized opportunities to grow and adapt with changing times, its core values are completely intact. Service to others remains a defining characteristic of its culture. St. Joseph's students take part in an impressive number of service projects, including volunteering at health clinics in Guatemala, an active chapter of Habitat for Humanity, and Catherine's Cupboard, a local food pantry run by the college and the Town of Standish.

Another aspect of the school that is close to my heart is the college's commitment to serving healthy, local food to its students. Bon Appetit, the school's food service provider, has demonstrated that locally sourced products can work even for large institutions. Among their pursuits at St. Joseph's are featuring meals with ingredients only from the surrounding area and helping operate a small farm on the campus.

I extend to St. Joseph's College—along with its staff, students and alumni—the warmest congratulations on its first hundred years, and best wishes for a hundred more.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Trust for Public Land on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.

In 1972 a group of conservation-minded business professionals took the message of the first Earth Day to heart and saw a unique opportunity to meet the challenge of increasing encroachment on green space and natural areas. Using business sector strategies, this group of finance experts, real estate professionals and attorneys formed a trust to pool their talents and knowledge to conserve and expand the natural environment for the health and enjoyment of the public. The Trust for Public Lands was born.

Initially the Trust for Public Land focused conservation efforts on urban and suburban areas. As success grew, the focus expanded to include working in rural areas. As a result of this hard work and innovation more than 4,250 park and conservation projects throughout the country have been completed, often by fostering public-private partnerships.

During the past four decades, the Trust for Public Lands has developed expertise beyond the development of land trusts, to advising and assisting communities in the passage of conservation focused ballot measures, using GIS technology to better map and identify conservation opportunities, and combating climate change. The Trust for Public Land has developed a legacy of providing legal and philanthropic resources for community-driven conservation initiatives in Minnesota and across the country.

The Trust for Public Land is an invaluable resource to Minnesota and communities in my congressional district through its unique approach to conservation. The work of the dedicated Trust for Public Land staff and volunteers has played a major role in protecting many of the spectacular parks, natural spaces, and protected watersheds which make our state great. I am proud to commend the Trust for Public Land on 40 years of accomplishments and wish them much success in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of the 40th anniversary of the Trust for Public Land, I am pleased to submit this statement for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

TRIBUTE HONORING CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY MONTH

HON. BILL PASCARELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. PASCARELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Trust for Public anniversary of Campus Fire Safety Month.

In September 2005, eleven sitting Governors issued the first proclamation recognizing the month of September as Campus Fire Safety Month. Ever since, public officials across the country have continued to champion the cause of campus fire safety.

Since 2005, over 200 proclamations in honor of Campus Fire Safety Month have been issued by Governors, Legislators, and public officials. I am proud to add my voice in recognition of September as Campus Fire Safety Month.

I first became involved in the issue of campus fire safety following a tragic fire at Seton Hall University in my district, in which three students were killed. Since that time, we have made many strides, including the passage of the Campus Fire Safety Right to Know Act, which will ensure that prospective students and their families are provided with the fire safety records, information and statistics of colleges and universities.

However, there is still much work that must be done. Since 2000, 155 students have tragically died in campus-related fires. While the annual number of fire-related deaths has significantly dropped since 2005, nine students still died in possibly preventable fire-related deaths in 2011.

That is why now, more than ever, we must do all that we can to promote fire safety instruction amongst our nation's college campuses.

It is my sincere hope, that college campuses in New Jersey and across the nation will participate in Campus Fire Safety Month activities throughout September. We must do all that we can to keep our nation's students safe and informed. This is also why I introduced the Campus Fire Safety Education Act, to provide universities with grants they can use to develop or implement campus fire safety education strategies. We must do everything in our power to ensure the safety and security of our children when they leave for college.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating

vital observances like Campus Fire Safety Month.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, students, firefighters and educators, in recognizing September as Campus Fire Safety Month.

A TRIBUTE TO KATIE LUZIER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Katie Luzier of Norwalk, Iowa for being awarded the Girl Scout Gold Award.

The Gold Award is the highest award that a high school-aged Girl Scout can earn. This is a prestigious honor as fewer than 6 percent of eligible Girl Scouts attain the Gold Award in a given year.

To earn a Gold Award, a Girl Scout must complete a minimum of 80 hours towards a community project that is both memorable and lasting. For her project, Katie raised funds to permanently clean up trash on a bicycle path in her community. The work ethic Katie has shown to earn her Gold Award speaks volumes about her selfless commitment to serving others and assisting her community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young woman and her supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Katie and her family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating her on obtaining the Gold Award, and I wish her continued success in her future education and career.

HISPANIC SERVING INSTITUTIONS WEEK

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI) Week. As Hispanic Heritage Month began September 15 and runs until October 15, 2012, I would like to acknowledge the numerous accomplishments the Hispanic community has achieved and continues to contribute to our nation. This week, September 16 to September 22, 2012, it is important to honor Hispanic Serving Institutions because they play an integral part in strengthening the Hispanic community through fulfilling students' higher educational needs.

In Orange County, California, I am proud to highlight California State University Fullerton (CSUF), my Alma Mater. In a county where 33.8% identify themselves as coming from Hispanic or Latino decent, not only is CSUF the only Hispanic Serving Institution in Orange County, it is the first in California and fourth in the United States in awarding baccalaureate degrees to Hispanic students. Additionally, it also ranks 19th nationally in Graduate Student enrollment. Educational institutions, like CSUF, embody the opportunity that translates to future success.

As the Hispanic community continues to grow, HSIs shape and promote education by providing the necessary tools to achieve academic success in fields ranging from science to business. Ultimately, these institutions empower citizens who work to give back and improve our nation. Where the Hispanic community remains an influential and growing force, not only in California, but nationally, it is important to distinguish HSI's commitment to academics as vital to the United States' success and growth.

REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S NATIONAL DAY ON OCTOBER 10

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, as millions of Chinese around the globe celebrate the Republic of China's National Day this October 10, we need to acknowledge the fact that it hasn't been easy for Taiwan to be a beacon of democracy and an island of prosperity in a world of tyrants and economic uncertainty. Taiwan's many achievements are attributable to the tireless efforts of their people and leaders throughout the decades.

I am proud to see that the United States has always been on the side of the Republic of China. During WW II, the United States and China were partners in war and we supported Taiwan against potential adversaries for decades until we enacted the Taiwan Relations Act in 1979. In recent decades, we witnessed Taiwan's evolution from authoritarian rule to full democracy. At the same time Taiwan has been a good political, economic and cultural ally of the United States. In recent years, Taiwan has been very strong in cooperating with us against global terrorism.

I am glad that we have re-established high level trust with President Ma Ying-jeou's administration. Taiwan has resumed important arms purchases from us and that Taiwan has lifted the ban on U.S. beef imports and is looking to restart talks on the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement with us. I am sure that the United States and Taiwan will be helping each other in many areas in the years to come.

Congratulations to the people and leaders of the Republic of China (Taiwan) on their National Day.

HONORING ALISON TUDOR

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the dedicated work of Alison Tudor who serves as the Program Director with Mountain Crisis Services in Mariposa. As the Program Director, Alison spearheads the mission of Mountain Crisis Services, which seeks to prevent domestic and sexual violence by advocating for positive changes in the community.

Alison was born and raised in Tallahassee, Florida. She graduated from the University of Florida in Gainesville with a Bachelor's Degree

in Wildlife Ecology. Her love of the outdoors brought her to Yosemite National Park, where she moved to work with youth in environmental education for five years.

For the past year, Alison has served as the Program Director at Mountain Crisis Services in Mariposa. Prior to beginning this position, Alison managed prevention programs, including Project Respect and Promoting Gender Respect, which aim to prevent bullying and teen dating violence in Mariposa County.

Along with her important work at Mountain Crisis Services, Alison has also contributed greatly to the rape prevention work being conducted in cooperation with the University of California, Merced. This hard work has not gone unrecognized. Alison was awarded the Prevention Educator of the Year Award in August, 2012 given through the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence.

In addition to her prevention work, Alison serves as Chair for the Central Valley's Public Policy and Research Committee, a group which tracks legislation that impacts domestic and sexual violence. Alison's passion for knowing the complex issues surrounding domestic violence is a role which she embraces. She continuously goes above and beyond to assist the people of Mariposa. Alison is also a trained Doula. When she discovered that her community had about fourteen pregnant teens, she organized a parenting and childbirth class to address the specific needs of this young population. Furthermore, she spent countless hours helping to develop the Ethos Youth Center, a program of Mountain Crisis Services, which provides a healthy and safe environment for youth to gather while connecting with positive adult role models.

Alison's ability to see the big picture makes her invaluable to her organization and to the prevention efforts against domestic violence and sexual assault.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing and thanking Ms. Alison Tudor for her hard work as the Program Director of Mountain Crisis Services and for her continued efforts to increase the safety and wellbeing of residents in our Mariposa community. I wish her continued success in her future endeavors, and again, thank her for her dedication to improving the lives of all people living in Mariposa.

A TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT ADAM WALKER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Adam Walker of Hiawatha, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about 5 percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained over the past century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. The work ethic Adam has shown in his Eagle Project and every other