

HONORING CHANDLER ELEMEN-
TARY SCHOOL AS A 2012 BLUE
RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor Chandler Elementary School of the Brownsboro Independent School District from the Fifth Congressional District of Texas for excellence in education. Chandler Elementary School was named to the United States Department of Education's 2012 Blue Ribbon Schools Program, which: "recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools where students perform at very high levels or where significant improvements are being made in students' levels of academic achievement."

Chandler Elementary School's performance illustrates the commitment and dedication of the school board, administrators, teachers, and staff who provide students with a quality education. The school district, parents, students, and community should be applauded for this achievement.

Mr. Speaker, as the representative for the Fifth Congressional District of Texas, I would like to commend Chandler Elementary School for their continued educational achievements.

HONORING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF
MARY LYDIA MATTA GARZA

HON. JEFF FLAKE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate and celebrate the 90th birthday of Mrs. Mary Lydia Matta Garza, of Mesa, Arizona.

Known to her friends and family as Mary Lou, Mrs. Matta Garza is perhaps best known in the Mesa community as the proud owner and operator of the former Matta's Restaurant. Now a Mesa landmark, Matta's was opened in 1953 by Mrs. Matta Garza and her husband, Manuel. Mary Lou and Manuel opened Matta's with only \$1,000, and grossed a mere \$25 a day in those first few weeks and months of getting their small business off the ground.

Matta's opened as a small storefront, but its family-oriented traditions and atmosphere, and of course, its great dishes based on Matta family recipes passed down for generations, drew larger and larger crowds. The Matta's following grew so much that in 1969, Mary Lou and Maneul were able to expand Matta's home, adding enough seating for 350 people.

Mrs. Matta Garza and her family decided to close Matta's in 2008 after 55 years of serving quality Latin fare. But despite its closed doors, its traditions, and of course, its great food, now live on at Matta's Mexican Grill in East Mesa and Matta's Grill and Cantina in Northwest Mesa, which are owned and operated by Mrs. Matta Garza's grandchildren.

While Matta's was becoming a successful business and Mesa landmark, Mrs. Matta Garza—in between helping to run the restaurant and raise six children—made many important contributions to the Mesa community

and the state of Arizona. She launched the Mesa-Phoenix and Flagstaff councils of the League of United Latin American Citizens, or LULAC, and served as LULAC's regional governor. She volunteered her time at the Southside Hospital of Mesa and Desert Samaritan Hospital and served as a board member and treasurer of the Mesa Chamber of Commerce. For her many efforts to give back, Mrs. Matta Garza was named Mesa Woman of the Year in 1973.

In her 90 years, Mary Lou Matta Garza raised her six children, saw the birth of 21 grand children, 23 great grandchildren, and even one great-great grandchild. She ran a profitable business that became a pillar of Mesa. And she gave much of her time, effort, and love to her community. Mrs. Matta Garza is fond of saying that giving back in this way will "reward you tenfold." As a Mesa resident, I feel rewarded to have had her as an integral part of our community. Thank you, Mrs. Matta Garza, for all you have done and continue to do for our town and our home.

EXAMINING THE ROLE OF RWANDA IN THE DRC INSURGENCY

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I held a hearing that examined U.S. policy toward Rwanda following the release on June 26th of a United Nations report confirming Rwanda's support of rebels who have ravaged the provinces of North and South Kivu in neighboring Democratic Republic of the Congo, or DRC. In the aftermath of the 1994 genocide until the issuance of this report, the international community declined to comment on Rwanda's interventions in the DRC. We need to better understand the devastation caused by these interventions and gauge how the United States can play a helpful role in bringing this crisis to an end.

Unfortunately, our previously scheduled Administration witnesses—Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Johnnie Carson and USAID Assistant Administrator for the Bureau of Africa Earl Gast—are unable to testify this morning due to events in the world involving heightened security for U.S. embassies and aid missions. This would have been an opportunity to present a full statement of the Administration position on what has happened in the DRC and what needs to be done to more effectively address the root causes of the ongoing conflict there. We expect that they will be available to speak publicly on these matters at a later date.

We had a distinguished private panel that was more than able to shed light on the crisis in the DRC, as well as Rwanda's involvement in the ongoing rebellion in eastern DRC. The crisis in the DRC is both tragic and complex, and the ethnic cleavages have developed over more than a century, although they have been heightened in recent decades. The first significant recorded influx into the DRC of Rwandan Tutsis and Hutus dates back to the 1880s.

Other ethnic groups in DRC (then known as Zaire) began to fear the influence of the Rwandans, especially in the East. The Hutu-Tutsi conflict in Rwanda led to the 1994 geno-

cide there, but Hutu-Tutsi animosity also spilled over into the DRC. Hutu militiamen, who fled Rwanda after the genocide, have repeatedly attacked Rwanda, and fighting involving Tutsis and Hutus inside the DRC have terrorized the inhabitants of the eastern part of the country.

As one of our witnesses today, Congolese Bishop Ntambo Ntanda, told us, six million people have lost their lives in the DRC as a result of recurring conflict. Far from resolving ethnic disputes, the interventions by Rwanda in the DRC have exacerbated tensions among the ethnic groups who live there.

In the wake of activity by Rwandan troops or militias that they create or support, Tutsi and Hutu people living in the DRC have become targets as a result. Rwanda has been engaged in armed intervention in the DRC for at least 17 years. If this is the most successful method to halt cross-border attacks into Rwanda by Hutu rebels operating from DRC territory, why is there continued devastation in the region? Why do Tutsis and Hutus living in the DRC seem more hated today than they have been previously?

During the summer of 2008, the National Congress for the Defense of the People (CNDP), a Congolese rebel group, reportedly was backed secretly by Rwanda. It was initially led by Tutsi General Laurent Nkunda, an indicted war criminal. A March 23, 2009, agreement between the DRC and Rwanda led to the arrest of Nkunda, but replaced him with Bosco Ntaganda, even then a suspected war criminal for whom the International Criminal Court (ICC) had issued an arrest warrant in 2006. When the CNDP judged that DRC President Joseph Kabila had broken the 2009 accord, Ntaganda led a mutiny that named itself M23 for date of the broken agreement and began a reign of terror in eastern DRC.

In June of this year, a United Nations Group of Experts report confirmed that Rwandan Defense Minister James Kabarebe and other top Rwandan military officers played a central role in organizing, funding and arming the mutineers in eastern DRC. The report also stated that Rwandan military officers engaged in efforts to convince Congolese businessmen, politicians and former rebels that had joined the Congolese army to join the M23 mutiny in order to wage "a new war to obtain a secession of both Kivus." The report further charged that Rwanda was protecting Ntaganda from arrest. Meanwhile, Nkunda remains in Rwanda—immune from prosecution for his crimes.

Aside from ethnic divisions and allegations of breach of faith in agreements, another source of conflict has been the abundant mineral wealth in DRC, including 70% of the world's coltan (used to make vital components of cell phones and other electronic equipment), 30% of the world's diamond reserves and vast deposits of cobalt, copper and bauxite. The UN report stated that rebels in the East export precious minerals for profit to fund their continuing mayhem and that Rwandan officials also were benefiting from DRC's mineral wealth.

We have held this hearing to begin the process of finding a way to address the factors that have caused Rwanda's armed intervention in hopes that the U.S. Government can offer a lasting solution to the long crisis in the DRC.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL KELLY M. LAUREL FOR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND TO OUR NATION

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Kelly M. Laurel for her exceptional dedication to duty and service to the United States Army and to the United States of America. Lieutenant Colonel Kelly Laurel will be transitioning from her present assignment as the Senior Army Budget Congressional Liaison for the Army (SAFM-BUL) to work on the Secretary of the Army's Strategic Initiatives Group.

A native of Laredo, Texas, Lieutenant Colonel Kelly Laurel enlisted in the Wyoming Air National Guard in 1989 and completed Air Force Basic Military Training and Medical Records Technician Training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. She later joined the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Weber State University, where she completed a bachelor's degree in Microbiology and Chemistry in May 1993. Upon her graduation she was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Medical Service Corps in the Army Reserve. The following year she opted to enter the active duty Army.

Lieutenant Colonel Laurel's assignments have been diverse, including Medical Platoon Leader, 61st Area Support Medical Company; Adjutant, 1st Medical Group; Budget Officer, 13th Corps Support Command; and Company Executive Officer, 502d Medical Company (Dental Service), all at Fort Hood, Texas. In Korea, she served as a Company Commander, for Headquarters, 52d Medical Evacuation Battalion; and later Chief of the Management Division, 18th Medical Command. In Germany, she served as the Chief Financial Officer for the Heidelberg Medical Activity. She was then assigned to Office of the Surgeon General where she served as the Senior Budget Analyst, Chief of the Financial Health Policy Division and as a Congressional Affairs Coordinating Officer. In addition to her regular duties, she also served as the Deputy Consultant for Comptrollers for over three years, where she assisted in recruitment, career development and assignments for all MSC Comptrollers.

Lieutenant Colonel Laurel has worked diligently throughout her career to help the Army and take care of our nation's men and women in uniform. As a Senior Legislative Liaison she worked directly with the Senate and House Appropriations Committees to educate and inform Senators, Representatives, and staff about medical issues, soldier issues and various programs.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a pleasure to work with Lieutenant Colonel Kelly Laurel during her time as a legislative liaison. On behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending Lieutenant Colonel Kelly Laurel for a lifetime of service to her country. We wish Kelly, her husband Raymond, and her children Alex, Isabella, Zachary and Daniel all the best as they continue their journey in the United States Army.

RECOGNIZING NORTHEAST TENNESSEE SECTION OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY ON NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, during the week of October 21–27, the American Chemical Society, ACS, will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of National Chemistry Week. National Chemistry Week is an annual community outreach program hosted by the ACS and its volunteers across the country to highlight the importance of chemistry in our lives. This year's theme is Nanotechnology: The Smallest Big Idea in Science.

I applaud the ACS for its efforts to showcase the importance of science to all Americans—especially our students. The study of chemistry and nanotechnology has made tremendous advances possible in areas ranging from energy and the environment to health. And with so many American servicemen and women still in the field, it is worth noting that nanotechnology has been used to create a special coating of Teflon to Kevlar, which offers added protection to those in uniform. And in chemistry—as with all of science—we are just scratching the surface of what is possible.

I commend the American Chemical Society—and its Northeast Tennessee Section—for hosting its annual celebration of National Chemistry Week.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NUT GOODIE BAR

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 100th Anniversary of the Nut Goodie Bar—one of my favorite candies that just so happens to be produced in Saint Paul, Minnesota in my congressional district. This delicious candy became an instant success when it was introduced by Pearson's Candy Company in 1912, and it continues to delight 100 years later.

Honoring the 100th Anniversary of a candy as iconic as Pearson's Nut Goodie Bar is no small task. The company is releasing a limited time only candy, the Sea Salt Caramel Nut Goodie. Inspired by the "Golden Ticket" contest from Rohald Dahl's, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, the wrappers for the special edition Nut Goodie have a code that can be entered to see if you have won a "Too Goodie to Be True Factory Tour." The Minnesota State Fair even got involved in the celebration with a deep fried Nut Goodie Bar.

Pearson's Candy Company has been a Minnesota institution since 1909, when it was founded by J. Edward Pearson and his brothers John Albert and Oscar F. Pearson. The company quickly became a leading producer of candy. In 1933 the Pearson brothers introduced the Salted Nut Roll, which continues to be a favorite to this day. The company moved to St. Paul in 1951 when they purchased the Trudeau Candy Company, which brought the

famous Mint Pattie to its growing array of products. Recently, the Bun Bar was added to the tasty company offerings.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to the 100th Anniversary of the Nut Goodie Bar, and the proud employees who make them at Pearson's Candy Company in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

HONORING ANNALEE CARROLL FROM APPLETON, MAINE

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a young constituent of mine who has proven that vegetables aren't just healthy, but delicious.

In August, the White House invited children from across the country to a "Kids State Dinner" to highlight healthy recipes that they submitted. Twelve-year-old Annalee Carroll from Appleton, Maine, was selected to represent our state with her recipe for turkey dumplings.

Full of healthy ingredients, Annalee's turkey dumplings can be made in a flash—and look tasty enough to disappear from dinner plates just as quickly.

While parents have been the ones historically to tell their children to eat vegetables, we all have something to learn from Annalee and her peers. Go into a school cafeteria in Maine these days and you're likely to see kids happily gobbling up kale instead of French fries. In between classes, they're tending to the school garden. On the weekends, they're introducing their parents to the local farmers market.

What's behind the change? For years, children learned little—if anything—about what they ate and where it came from. Today, though, more schools are connecting students directly with their food sources. Children are literally getting their hands dirty while learning about the places and people producing their food. With that first-hand information, students more often opt for fresh, healthy foods, many of which can be grown locally or even in school gardens.

I am grateful that the White House, and in particular the First Lady, has done so much to raise awareness about eating healthy, and to celebrate kids who are leading this positive change. Congratulations to Annalee on her excellent recipe!

IN RECOGNITION OF THE TURTLE BAY ASSOCIATION ON THE OCCASION OF ITS FIFTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of the Turtle Bay Association of New York, which celebrates its 55th anniversary this year. For over half a century, the dedicated members of the Turtle Bay Association, TBA, have served as passionate and conscientious stewards of one of