

IN HONOR OF THE HONORABLE
JUDGE DONNA CONGENI FITZ-
SIMMONS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Honorable Judge Donna Congeni Fitzsimmons, who is the recipient of Recovery Resources' Community Challenge 2012 Exemplar Award.

Recovery Resources is a community-based nonprofit organization with a mission of helping people triumph over mental illness, alcoholism, drug and other addictions. The Exemplar Award, established in 2006, celebrates members of the local community who have demonstrated a long and distinguished record of exemplary service and support for Recovery Resources' Community Challenge program.

Judge Fitzsimmons graduated with a bachelor's degree from Boston College and earned her law degree from George Washington University in 1976. She began her career in public service in 1977 as an Assistant Cuyahoga County Prosecutor. In 1980, she became the first woman to be appointed as Special Attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice, Organized Crime Strike Force in Cleveland. During her tenure as Special Attorney, Judge Fitzsimmons served as the lead prosecutor in the U.S. v. Lonardo, Gallo, et al case, in which she successfully convicted the former Cleveland Mafia boss, Angelo Lonardo in 1983. In 1984, she was appointed Deputy Counsel to President Reagan's commission on Organized Crime in Washington, DC and served in this position until 1985 when she entered private practice at the law firm of Atter & Hadden.

On January 1, 1994, Judge Fitzsimmons assumed the role of Judge of the Rocky River Municipal Court and has been serving on the bench since. In 1997, she was appointed Chair of the Cuyahoga County Violence Against Women Act Committee and as the Municipal Court representative to the Cuyahoga County Criminal Justice Supervisory Services Board. As her career continued, Judge Fitzsimmons would be appointed to the Ohio Supreme Court's Court Security Committee, Criminal Procedure Committee and Jury Service Committee.

In addition to her career, Judge Fitzsimmons is an active member of the Northeast Ohio community. She has served on Fairview Hospital's Community Advisory Board, as a trustee for Community Challenge, charter member of the Fairview High School Alumni Hall of Fame and an honorary chair for the Center for Prevention of Domestic Violence's Annual Break the Silence Luncheon. She also established the Stalking Victim Support Group and was a member of the Board of Trustees for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Throughout her career, Judge Fitzsimmons has been recognized numerous times. She has been named Cleveland's Italian Heritage Committee Public Service Honoree 2011, "Gem of Cleveland" by the Junior League of Cleveland, and has received the Columbian Award from the Federation of Italian-American Societies of Northern Ohio. She has also been recognized by the Women's Center of Greater Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Recovery Resources' Com-

munity Challenge 2012 Exemplar Award winner, the Honorable Judge Donna Congeni Fitzsimmons.

RECOGNIZING MIKE FLYNN, RE-
CIPIENT OF THE WASHING-
TONIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mike Flynn on being honored with the Washingtonian of the Year award from the Association of Washington Generals. This annual award is given to a citizen of Washington State for outstanding community service.

Mr. Flynn worked for 24 years as the editor and publisher of the Puget Sound Business Journal. In that position, he was widely recognized throughout the region's business community. He led the newspaper with a vision of not only reporting on the business sector, but using the print medium to foster valuable relationships throughout the community.

In 2006, Mr. Flynn retired from the Puget Sound Business Journal and turned his focus to community and non-profit causes. In that time, he has served on the boards of various community organizations. He continues to be dedicated to building relationships, helping start-up entrepreneurs, and expanding opportunities in rural areas.

Each year, the Association of Washington Generals awards the Washingtonian of the Year award to someone who has shown special dedication to serving Washington State. The Association is proud of the unique characteristics of Washington State—ranging from our State's outstanding physical beauty to the people who strive to make Washington a better place to call home. The Washingtonian of the Year embodies the Association's devotion to improving our State's communities.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Mike Flynn. His dedication to serving our community is an inspiration to others.

CONGRATULATING ANNETTE
STASSI

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate Annette Stassi for being selected Queen Evangeline of the International Acadian Festival in Iberville Parish. Annette is a 17-year-old senior at St. John High School in Plaquemine, La.

The International Acadian Festival is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Council #970 of Plaquemine, which is the third oldest Council in Louisiana.

It is always outstanding to see the diligence with which the young students of Louisiana work to give back and better their communities. I have the highest confidence that Annette will succeed in whatever endeavors she pursues.

I ask my colleagues to join me in passing good wishes to Annette Stassi, her family, and the entire International Acadian Festival. Annette is truly deserving of this recognition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on roll-call No. 585, I was unavoidably detained and could not be present for last night's rollcall vote on H.R. 5044, the Andrew P. Carpenter Tax Act. I am a cosponsor and strong supporter of this legislation, which would provide tax relief from any amounts of private educational loans forgiven for service members who lost their lives in the line of duty since the beginning of Operation Enduring Freedom in October of 2001. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

IN SUPPORT OF WORKERS AND
THE SERVICES THEY PROVIDE
TO MEDICARE PATIENTS

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend America's home healthcare workers who provide services to millions of patients, including many Medicare beneficiaries, who are homebound and require skilled care. These skilled and dedicated workers are among the unsung heroes in the effort to contain the cost of healthcare without sacrificing the quality of service provided to patients. Today, there are more than 40 million seniors in the United States, 12 percent of the population. In 20 years, that number will increase to 70 million, or 20 percent of the population. More than 27 million of these individuals are over age 70, and more than 1 million are over the age of 80. Further, more than 43 million people in the United States, 19 percent of the population, provide care for an elderly family member or friend.

Mr. Speaker, many healthcare treatments that were once offered only in a hospital or a physician's office can now be safely, effectively, and efficiently provided in patients' homes by skilled clinicians. Home healthcare is generally less expensive, more convenient, and as effective as care provided in a hospital or skilled nursing facility. Home healthcare can serve as an intermediate level of care for patients who have difficulty accessing outpatient care or who need intensive assistance with an acute or chronic health problem.

Skilled home healthcare services funded under Medicare Part A and B are safe, effective, affordable, clinically advanced, and patient preferred.

A case study conducted by the Veterans' Administration (VA) illustrates the benefits of home healthcare. The VA has provided comprehensive primary care services to veterans in their homes since 1972 in an effort to keep patients in their homes and reduce inpatient hospital days. The program was specifically

designed to target patients with complex chronic diseases through an interdisciplinary team of health professionals. This program showed a reduction in inpatient hospital days by 62 percent, and a reduction in nursing home bed days by 88 percent. This translated into a reduction in the cost of care from \$38,000 to \$29,000 per patient per year for patients enrolled in the program (a 24 percent reduction).

The Medicare program continues to increase in importance in my home state of California, where our senior population is increasing dramatically. The percentage of Californians age 60 and older is expected to grow from 6.4 percent in 2010 to 11.5 percent by 2030, according to the California Department of Aging. In my district, there are currently 63,053 Medicare recipients. I am committed to preserving benefits for current recipients and those nearing retirement, while guaranteeing the program's solvency for future generations of Americans.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of Medicare's Skilled Home Healthcare Services act.

A TRIBUTE TO LYNETTE M.
BROWN-SOW

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lynette M. Brown-Sow for her dedication in the field of healthcare and service to the city of Philadelphia. Lynette is a great example how one can use their expertise to achieve success while also contributing to the community.

As Vice President for Marketing and Government Relations at Community College of Philadelphia, a position she has held since 1995, Lynette has engaged communities, businesses, and governments in constructing frameworks that promote progress and prosperity. Her outstanding work was rewarded in 2009 when she was named Communicator of the Year. Lynette has done significant work in the behavioral healthcare field. She serves on the board of Directors of the Consortium, which named its newest service center the Lynette M. Brown center of hope.

In 1991, Philadelphia Mayor Edward G. Rendell appointed Lynette Deputy Mayor of Administration. In 2007, Lynette co-chaired Philadelphia Mayor Michael A. Nutter's transition team and was appointed as vice-chair of the Philadelphia Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Lynette is the founder and chairman of the Hardy Williams Education Fund, a nonprofit organization that provides support for educational endeavors and scholarships for people interested in careers in law, government, or social action; and founder of L.M. Brown Management Group, a certified minority/female-owned consultant firm.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring Lynette M. Brown-Sow for her successful endeavors and major contributions to the city of Philadelphia.

IN HONOR OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW KENSINGTON AREA ROTARY CLUB

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the New Kensington Area Rotary Club on the occasion of its 75th anniversary. Since its inception, this great international service organization has operated according to its motto of "service above self," providing support to our troops and to laudable philanthropic causes in southwestern Pennsylvania and throughout the world.

In addition to providing support to local chapters of Meals on Wheels, the Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity and the YMCA, the New Kensington Area Rotary Club has sponsored efforts to promote literacy at local elementary schools, held Santa breakfasts for local needy children, sent clothing, shoes and other needed materials to needy communities in Appalachia and provided computers to St. Joseph's Indian School on the Cheyenne Indian Reservation in South Dakota. It has also worked to improve lives in disadvantaged and medically underserved communities abroad, performing water projects in Uganda, supporting the effort to eliminate the global Polio epidemic and participating in national immunization days in India, Venezuela and elsewhere.

To honor the selfless efforts its members have made to promote peace and prosperity throughout the world over the last 75 years, the New Kensington Area Rotary Club will hold an Anniversary Gala on October 23rd at the Oakmont Country Club in Oakmont, Pennsylvania. It is my most sincere hope that this event brings pride and fulfillment to all those who have had a hand in making the New Kensington Area Rotary club one of Southwestern Pennsylvania's most successful community service organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud to represent the members of the New Kensington Area Rotary Club in Congress; everyone should attempt to emulate their abiding generosity and kindness. I have every expectation that their great organization will continue to accomplish charitable feats of international significance for years to come.

IN SUPPORT OF FUNDING FOR THE ORAL HEALTH CARE PROVISIONS IN HEALTH CARE REFORM

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because we can no longer afford to treat oral health as separate from general health.

The mouth is a part of the body, and dental care must be part of comprehensive care. Oral diseases and disorders can cause severe pain, malnutrition, and even death if left untreated.

But because oral care has long been excluded from comprehensive care, thousands of families and children are left without dental

care. Twenty-two percent of all out-of-pocket spending in the U.S. is spent on dental care, and dental decay is the most common chronic childhood disease.

Our workforce loses 164 million work hours each year due to dental problems, and close to half of military recruits in 2008 were ineligible for deployment due to dental issues.

This is unacceptable. We can, and must, do better than this.

We must preserve funding for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, and fully fund the many oral health care provisions in Health Care Reform. The mouth is part of the body, and must be treated as such.

RECOGNIZING UNION COUNTY VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL OF UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY FOR BEING NAMED A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Union County Vocational-Technical High School of Union County, New Jersey for being named a Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education.

The Department of Education acknowledges schools where students attain and maintain high academic goals. Union County Vocational-Technical High School is proud example of academic excellence where students have high levels of performance, stellar student achievement, and where educators facilitate a strong learning environment.

This is a prestigious award to receive and Union County Vocational-Technical High School is proud example of academic excellence and worthy of this national distinction.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, on September 19, 2012, I missed rollcall vote No. 585. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: Rollcall No. 585, "aye."

FREE SPEECH, UNJUSTIFIED VIOLENCE AND HYPOCRISY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the recent death of several American diplomats is an outrageous example of wholly unjustified violence that must be unconditionally condemned. The fact that some people were angry because of what other people put into a movie does not begin to be a justification for violence, even against those who made the movie, and it is certainly, not remotely in any