

good reason. An activist since age 11, she had forcefully advocated for the cause of girls' education through a BBC blog, and she is a nominee for the International Children's Peace Prize. All she wanted to do was attend school like her brothers, in the hopes of becoming a doctor. But the Taliban announced their intention to kill her for her beliefs.

We can honor Malala by recommitting ourselves to invest in the development of girls all over the world. It is painfully ironic that, as Malala fights for her life this week, the world marks the first ever International Day of the Girl Child, designated by resolution of the United Nations General Assembly in 2011. Today, as we pray for Malala's survival and full recovery, our hopes must go beyond the Swat Valley and beyond the tribal totalitarianism of the Taliban.

The U.S. Agency for International Development points out that of the 850 million girls in the world, some 62 million do not attend school. This has devastating effects, not only on these girls and their families but on the generations that succeed them.

One in seven girls in the developing world marries before the age of 15. This leads to early pregnancy, and a host of risks to her life and health. But, with at least 7 years of basic education, young women tend to marry up to 4 years later, and they have 2.2 fewer children. USAID points out that with each extra year of basic education, a young woman earns 10 to 20 percent more in income. And women tend to spend a greater proportion of the finances under their control for the benefit of their family than men.

The Pakistani people value education, as we well know from our own admiration for the Pakistani Americans who so enrich our society. It is encouraging that the Pakistani people and government have rallied in support of Malala. The government has committed itself to bringing her attackers to justice, and spontaneous demonstrations of support for her and for the cause of basic education for girls have sprung up throughout the country.

Malala's hope was to become a doctor. But in the New York Times video posted this week after the attack, we learn from Malala's family that she was also thinking of becoming a politician, so that—in the words of her father Ziauddin Yousafzai—she could help create a society where a girl could easily achieve a doctoral degree, or any other academic goal.

That should be our focus as we work with the Pakistani people to create that society, and destroy the mind-set that says women and girls must remain subjected to domination by men.

[From the Washington Post, Oct. 11, 2012]

WHY MALALA INSPIRES US

(By Laura Bush)

On Tuesday afternoon, Malala Yousafzai was a 14-year-old girl riding home on a school bus. Now, after a masked gunman apparently boarded her bus, asked for her by name and shot her in the head and neck, she is fighting for her life. Malala was targeted by the Pakistani Taliban because for the past three years she has spoken out for the rights of all girls to become educated. After this despicable shooting, a Taliban spokesman said that his organization considers Malala's crusade for education rights an "obscenity" and accused her of "propagating" Western culture. If she survives, the group promises to try again to kill her.

Eleven years ago, America awoke to the barbaric mind-set of the Taliban. Its regime

in Afghanistan was dedicated in part to the brutal repression and abject subjugation of women. Women were not allowed to work or attend school. Taliban religious police patrolled the streets, beating women who might venture out alone, who were not dressed "properly" or who dared to laugh out loud. Women could not wear shoes that made too much noise, and their fingernails were ripped out for the "crime" of wearing nail polish.

Today, the Taliban has been pushed back, but it still operates in parts of Afghanistan and in the northern and western regions of Pakistan along the Afghan border. The city where Malala was shot, Mingora, is in Pakistan's Swat province, which has been on the front lines of the battle against Taliban extremists. In 2007, the Taliban gained control of Swat, only to be largely pushed out in the summer of 2009 by a Pakistani military offensive. During its time in power, the Taliban closed and destroyed girls' schools, leaving behind little more than piles of rubble; enforced its own interpretation of sharia law; and banned the playing of music in cars.

At age 11, to protest what was happening in her homeland, Malala began to write about her experiences, producing a blog for the BBC's Urdu-language service. She described wearing plain clothes, not uniforms, so that no one would know she was attending school and wrote about how she and other girls "hid our books under our shawls." Nonetheless, after the Taliban forced the closure of her school, Malala had no choice but to stay home and suspend her education. In another blog entry, she wrote: "Five more schools have been destroyed, one of them was near my house. I am quite surprised, because these schools were closed so why did they also need to be destroyed?" A few weeks later she wrote, "I am sad watching my uniform, school bag and geometry box" and "hurt" because her brothers could go to school while she could not.

Malala had dreamed of becoming a doctor, but recently she became interested in politics and speaking out for the rights of children. In 2011, Malala was a nominee for the International Children's Peace Prize, which lauded her bravery in standing up for girls' educational rights amid rising fundamentalism at a time when few adults would do the same. Last year, she was awarded Pakistan's first National Youth Peace Prize. These are the accomplishments of the young girl who so terrified the Taliban.

Condemnations of the attempt on Malala's life have been swift and powerful. The U.S. government called it "barbaric" and "cowardly." Pakistan's prime minister said, "Malala is like my daughter, and yours too. If that mind-set prevails, then whose daughter would be safe?" And the Pakistani army's chief general said that the Taliban has "failed to grasp that she is not only an individual, but an icon of courage."

Speaking out after an atrocious act, however, isn't enough. Malala inspires us because she had the courage to defy the totalitarian mind-set others would have imposed on her. Her life represents a brighter future for Pakistan and the region. We must speak up before these acts occur, work to ensure that they do not happen again, and keep our courage to continue to resist the ongoing cruelty and barbarism of the Taliban. Malala Yousafzai refused to look the other way. We owe it to her courage and sacrifice to do the same.

Malala is the same age as another writer, a diarist, who inspired many around the world. From her hiding place in Amsterdam, Anne Frank wrote, "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." Today, for Malala and the many girls like her, we need

not and cannot wait. We must improve their world.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF U.S. BORDER AGENT NICHOLAS J. IVIE

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated Border Patrol Agent and American hero who died tragically while working to keep America's southern border secure. In the early morning hours of October 2, 2012, 30-year-old Border Patrol Agent Nicholas J. Ivie died near Bisbee, Arizona, while responding to a sensor in a remote border region. He died in the line of duty of injuries sustained from a gunshot wound. We honor his service and sacrifice to the security and safety of the American people.

Born in Charleston, South Carolina on October 31, 1981, Agent Ivie later moved to Provo, Utah, where he graduated from Timpview High School. He subsequently spent two years in Mexico serving as a full-time missionary for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In Mexico, he not only developed a fluency in Spanish, but a great love of the people of Mexico. He eventually became certified as a firefighter and EMT because he felt it was the right thing to do. At the time of his death, Agent Ivie was living and serving near Naco, Arizona with his brother Joel, who was also a Border Patrol Agent. He died in a beautiful place among rugged terrain which he had frequently patrolled on his beloved horse and companion, Mouse.

After joining the Border Patrol's horse patrol, Agent Ivie was assigned a new mustang that had been captured in the wild, according to his brother Joel. The horse's ears were rounded because the tips had frozen off in the cold, so he named it Mouse. Nick loved horses and had a special relationship with Mouse, the horse who rode riderless in Ivie's 5-mile funeral procession ahead of dozens of agents on horseback.

Agent Ivie was an outstanding agent and, according to his family, a compassionate man. He once carried a pregnant woman with bare, badly-blistered feet for a mile and a half after she and her group of illegal border crossers became lost in the desert. He took his obligations to his family, friends and to his church, very seriously. He is remembered for his selflessness and his absolute commitment to family, country and faith. He also distinguished himself as a dedicated and accomplished agent who loved his job, his coworkers and his service to his fellow man.

We honor the tremendous personal sacrifice of Agent Ivie's family. He leaves behind his wife, Christy Lyn and two daughters, 3-year-old Raigan and 22-month-old Presley. Those around him knew he had a deep love for his wife and called his daughters his pride and joy. We also recognize his mother, Cheryl, father, Doug, four siblings: Chris, Andrea, Rick and Joel, and his stepmother Donetta. Agent Ivie was the youngest of his five siblings.

The United States of America is a beacon for freedom and liberty around the world because of the honorable and dedicated service

of agents like Nicholas Ivie and his brother, Joel. The Ivie family has endured a terrible tragedy and made an extraordinary sacrifice on behalf of all Americans and we are forever thankful.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me as we honor the life and legacy of Border Patrol Agent Nicholas J. Ivie, as well as each man and woman in our Border Patrol, and all of those in harm's way supporting their efforts, who toil daily to secure our borders and maintain our safety. I also ask that we recognize the sacrifice and burdens these families endure in support of this great country. We owe them all our eternal gratitude.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL
GARB

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Michael Garb for his 20 years of service as the CEO and board member of StarVista, an outstanding non-profit organization in San Mateo County that transforms the lives of children, youths, adults and families. Michael embraces StarVista's philosophy that building strong and healthy communities begins with helping each individual to develop his or her own path to personal growth. The organization serves over 34,000 residents of San Mateo County every year, providing counseling, prevention, early intervention and education resources.

Michael was named Chief Executive Officer of StarVista in May 2008. He served on the board of directors for two decades, long before Youth and Family Assistance and Family and Community Enrichment Services merged in 2003 to become StarVista—a process he oversaw. The merger revitalized the organization, broadened its services, increased awareness of its programs, strengthened its branding, and increased both collaboration with other agencies and revenue. In short, more people now benefit from better services.

Under Michael's leadership the Bridge to Success Initiative was launched to expand programs for early childhood, family and youth. StarVista and the Silicon Valley Community Foundation brought together 20 partners, including school districts, preschools, non-profits, agencies, and the San Mateo County Office of Education, to help children in eight school districts.

The Youth Development Initiative, launched in 2011, has attracted diverse groups of youth and adults who learn to make their voices heard and become strong and contributing members of the community.

Jewish Family and Children's Services incorporated their Early Childhood Mental Health Programs into StarVista's array of services in 2012 to improve childcare and healthy childhood development.

StarVista's Women's Enrichment Center program was the first outside program to be selected to work with the County AOD and Mental Health departments to implement electronic medical records software that will eventually be used throughout the county.

Michael was born in Newark, New Jersey. He earned his BA in accounting from Bloomfield College.

He was on the school board of the Belmont-Redwood Shores School for eight years, two of them as president, on the 2-1-1 Steering Committee, the Community Health Reform Advocacy Committee, the Peninsula Partnership Leadership Council, and the Belle Haven Community School Executive Team.

In his well deserved retirement, Michael is looking forward to spending more time with wife of 44 years, Judy, their daughter Mindy Shelton and son Dave Garb and their four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Michael Garb who has turned StarVista into a smooth-running and highly respected agency that touches young and old lives every day.

San Mateo County is a better place for all of us because of Michael's vision, work and commitment to our community.

IN HONOR OF THE 80TH BIRTHDAY
OF MARY ANNA MEYER

HON. AARON SCHOCK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. SCHOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mary Anna Meyer, of Peoria, Illinois on her 80th birthday, which she celebrated on October 4, 2012. Throughout her life, Mary Anna has exemplified the American values of civic duty, service above self, and love of family, which includes her 7 children, 30 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren.

Mary Anna has been an outstanding Peoria citizen for the past 40 years, deeply involved in civic, church, and social causes far too numerous to list. She has been a leader in the Republican Party, serving as a delegate in the 1980 National Convention, as a precinct committee person for over two decades, and as a member of the Peoria County Republican Women. Because of her years of experience and valued insights, she has served as a mentor and guide to many in political office, promoting legislation to build strong families and protect the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Her service has crossed party and political lines, reaching the impoverished in Peoria by volunteering with the Missionaries of Charity and Sacred Heart Church programs. On a broader level, she has served many roles for the Catholic Diocese of Peoria—as a member and officer of the Respect Life Board and Council of Catholic Women, as a Director of Religious Education for over 30 years, and as a leader in the Catholic Women's Apostolate.

But her impact cannot be measured merely in terms of public leadership positions. Mary Anna has served as a role model and mentor to countless area citizens, working tirelessly to provide help for unwed mothers, counsel for troubled marriages, advice to confused youth, and recommendations to the Peoria City Council on many social issues. She takes Pride in Peoria to heart, and in turn, Peoria has much to be proud of in celebrating the achievements of her generous and selfless life. It is my honor to recognize her today, and to thank her for her decades of service to Central Illinois.

IN HONOR OF GENE DOVIDIO

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Gene Dovidio, a U.S. Navy Veteran of World War II and last Bucks County survivor of the attacks on Pearl Harbor. Mr. Dovidio passed away at the age of 87 on September 22, 2012.

He represented the best of Bucks County. A family man, He was the widower of Shirley Thompson Dovidio, father of Sandy Norris, David, Philip, Steven and the late Gerald and Sharon. He was the brother of Margaret De Luca, grandfather of seven, great-grandfather of nine; and also survived by many nieces and nephews. Mr. Dovidio was an Eagle Scout and served honorably as a Boy Scout leader in the community for many years.

Mr. Speaker, with the passing of Gene Dovidio, we mourn not just the man, who served his county honorably, but we also mourn the passing of an era. His death reminds of those who have served and those who continue to serve their country in the armed forces and we honor their sacrifices.

A TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER
GENERAL JENNIFER WALTER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jennifer Walter for attaining the rank of Brigadier General as she becomes the next Chief of Staff of the Iowa Air National Guard. This is a truly momentous occasion for the State of Iowa as Jennifer is the first female General Officer in the history of the Iowa Air National Guard.

Jennifer Walter began her historic career as a technician in 1975 as a temporary Clerk in Operations. Airman Walter would serve the next 11 years of her career as an enlisted person in various roles before receiving her commission for the Academy of Military Science as a Second Lieutenant in 1986. Three short years later, Lieutenant Walter had received a Bachelor of Science degree from Upper Iowa University, and would go on to successfully complete Squadron Officer School in 1994, Air Command and Staff College in 2000, and Air War College in 2004. Throughout her career, she has won numerous awards and decorations including the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, NATO Medal, and the State of Iowa Commendation Medal, just to name a few.

Since January of last year, Colonel Walter had held the position of Vice Wing Commander of the 132nd Fighter Wing in Des Moines where she was uniquely responsible for exercising command responsibilities and providing a combat ready force for mobilization. This position included ensuring mission ready personnel, equipment, and F-16C aircraft for worldwide tasking by commanding over 970 personnel and 21 aircraft. On Sunday, the Iowa Air National Guard will formally bestow Brigadier General Walter with her new