

\$40,000 to prevent evictions; provide housing; help to prevent utility disconnections; provide bus passes to work or school; pay for tuition and books and distribute school supplies. The funds also assist with obtaining birth certificates and state IDs, medical prescriptions, clothing and uniforms for new jobs and many other emergencies. Church volunteers dedicate their time to serving meals and to teaching computer, literacy, GED classes and English classes for immigrants and refugees.

The celebration will be held on November 3, 2012 and will be co-celebrated by Fr. Jim O'Donnell and Fr. Bob Begin, with Bishop Anthony Pilla delivering the homily.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing St. Colman Parish as they gather to celebrate St. Colman's feast day and honor Cleveland's construction and building trades.

HONORING SEAN O'BRIEN

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 16, 2012

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past six years while I have been in office. A Member of Congress' most important responsibility is to provide exceptional constituent services and my team is second to none in providing the best assistance to all in our District. My Washington, D.C. office is also tasked with researching, processing, analyzing, and making recommendations on an infinite number of reports, policies, and legislation. I could not ask for a more talented or dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done not only on my behalf, but also on behalf of the 11th Congressional District of North Carolina and the United States.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituency. I owe a debt of gratitude to each one of them for the support and friendship which they have shown me while I have served in Congress.

Sean O'Brien served as a member of my Washington, D.C. staff as my first Legislative Director. When I entered Congress, Sean led the office in navigating the intricacies of this complex and parliamentary institution. Sean's legislative experience proved to be invaluable, and he taught the staff how to effectively and successfully do their jobs. Sean was critical in helping me shape my legislative agenda, a particularly challenging demand for any freshman Member. Appreciation for Sean's abilities did not end in our office—he was well known for his comedic talents all through the Capitol's corridors and was often called upon by other Members of Congress in need of assistance writing humorous speeches.

Sean should be proud of the service he has provided to our District and country. It has been an honor to serve with him and as I retire from office I wish him the very best in the future. Western North Carolina is a better place because of his efforts and I will cherish the memories of serving with Sean and the team by my side.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Sean O'Brien for

his hard work on behalf of all of western North Carolina and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

TRIBUT TO: MRS. HELEN JACOBSON

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 16, 2012

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Helen Jacobson, an inspiring woman of service, and a dear friend. Mrs. Jacobson lived to be 104 years old and spent her lifetime helping others.

In addition to living a full life as a beloved family member and friend, she was also an advocate for civil rights and women's equality. Helen Jacobson was involved with UNICEF, the United Negro College Fund, the South Texas Coalition for Juvenile Justice, Sunshine Cottage School for Deaf Children, and the Cancer Therapy and Research Center, as well as many other organizations. She used her resources to touch many different lives, and during the fight for civil liberties in the 1950s and 60s, she used her power as a San Antonio Library Board Member to ensure that public libraries remained unsegregated.

The commitment and service of Helen Jacobson will affect generations of citizens, and her memory will not be forgotten. She impacted this world, and sought to better the lives of the less fortunate and the down-trodden. Once again, I ask my colleagues to join with me in remembering and recognizing a wonderful woman and the contributions she made to our great nation.

HONORING CORNING-PAINTED POST EAST HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE KILLED IN AFGHANISTAN

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 16, 2012

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Spc. Ryan Jayne and express my sincere condolences to his family and friends.

Spc. Ryan Jayne, a 2008 graduate of Corning-Painted Post East High School, joined the Army in 2010 and was deployed to Afghanistan in March 2012. Jayne was killed in Afghanistan November 3, 2012 at the age of 22. His service to our country led to the ultimate sacrifice and for that, we are eternally grateful.

Jayne was one of three upstate New York servicemen who were identified by the Department of Defense as those killed when a roadside bomb struck their vehicle. The other two were identified as Spc. Brett E. Gorniewicz and Staff Sgt. Dain Venne.

We are here today in an open society because of Ryan Jayne. He represents the best of the Southern Tier and the United States. While we are all poorer for the loss of Ryan, he has given something to all of us. Ryan paid the highest price so that the idea of freedom for all people will continue to move forward.

We must always remember Ryan and all those who have fallen in defense of freedom. We keep Ryan's family and friends in our thoughts and prayers.

HONORING HAYDEN ROGERS

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 16, 2012

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My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituency. I owe a debt of gratitude to each one of them for the support and friendship they have shown me during my six years of service in the Congress.

Hayden Rogers has been my closet advisor and most trusted confidant from the very beginning of our first campaign in 2006. He has successfully led my team through three campaigns and three sessions of Congress.

Hayden is from Robbinsville, North Carolina, in the next county over from where I grew up. Throughout his time as my Chief of Staff and Campaign Manager, Hayden remained true to the values we learned growing up in the mountains and could always be depended on as the voice of reason. Moreover, Hayden is without question one of the most intelligent and skillful professional and entrepreneurial individuals I have had the pleasure of working with. All who meet him make a friend of him, and I consider it a privilege to call him one of my closest and dearest friends.

A loyal, honorable and steadfast companion, Hayden has been there for the good times and the bad and right at my side through our toughest battles. If not for Hayden, I would not have been able to achieve all that I had during my three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. I am incredibly grateful for the leadership he has provided me, and I look forward to many more years of continued friendship.

Hayden should be proud of the service he has provided to our District and country. It has been an honor to serve with him and as I retire from office I wish him the very best in the future. Western North Carolina is a better place because of his efforts and I will cherish the memories of serving with Hayden and the team by my side.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Hayden Rogers for his hard work on behalf of all of western North Carolina and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

TEXAS STATE SENATOR MARIO
GALLEGOS, JR.

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 16, 2012

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor Texas State Senator Mario Gallegos, Jr. For many years, we have worked side by side to help improve the quality of life for many people around the Houston area. He was a champion for education and Latino rights, along with many other numerous issues. Senator Gallegos passed away on October 16th, and the Houston Chronicle printed his obituary. In honor of Senator Gallegos, I would like to submit the text.

State Sen. Mario Gallegos, 62, a Democratic lawmaker whose 22-year career in the Texas Legislature was marked by courage, controversy and dogged commitment to issues of importance to the Hispanic community, died Tuesday afternoon at Methodist Hospital in Houston from complications of liver disease.

Gallegos, the first Hispanic elected to the state Senate from Harris County, took a special interest in public education, redistricting and other issues he believed would have an effect on the lives of the predominantly working-class residents in Senate District 6.

In 2007, only weeks after undergoing a liver transplant, a sick and weakened Gallegos ignored a doctor's call to return to Houston and installed a hospital bed in the office of the Senate sergeant-at-arms so he could cast his vote against a bill requiring voters to show photo identification. Gallegos argued the bill would discriminate against minority voters.

In 2011, Gallegos opposed a measure sponsored by state Sen. Dan Patrick, R-Houston, requiring women seeking an abortion to undergo a sonogram. Gallegos told his fellow senators that although he opposed abortion, he didn't believe he should impose legislative restrictions on a woman about "how to govern her body."

"There were few issues that Mario and I agreed upon," Patrick said, "but throughout my six years in the state Senate he always treated me with kindness and courtesy and professionalism. And he was a friend."

State Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, D-San Antonio, described Gallegos as "a man of matchless generosity who worked tirelessly for his district. I've never known anyone who fought harder for the underdog—for the most vulnerable in our state."

Mario Valentin Gallegos Jr. was born in Houston on Sept. 8, 1950, and grew up in Magnolia Park, an East End neighborhood near the Ship Channel. He graduated from Milby High School and received his undergraduate degree from the University of Houston-Downtown in 2001.

Gallegos joined the Houston Fire Department at 18 and served for 22 years, rising to the rank of senior captain. His involvement in union affairs as a firefighter whetted his interest in politics.

"As a union member working with (former Houston City Councilman) Ben Reyes, he fell in love with politics," said Marc Campos, a Houston political consultant who met Gallegos in 1979. "He made a number of trips to Austin to lobby for firefighter issues."

In 1990, Gallegos was elected to the Texas House of Representatives, where he served for two terms before being elected to the state Senate in 1994. Never a legislative tactician or policy expert, Gallegos was a reliable liberal vote on most issues.

Suffering from cirrhosis of the liver a few months later, he received last rites and made plans for his body to be displayed near the Capitol Rotunda before being transported to his grave in a fire truck.

With about a month to live, he received a phone call on Jan. 18, 2007, informing him that the unexpected death of a teenage boy meant he would get a liver transplant.

Sworn in as president pro tempore later that year, he told his colleagues that he intended to run for office until he died.

Survivors include his mother, Olga Gallegos; his wife, Theresa Gallegos; three children, Ali Templer, Melissa Gallegos and Mario Elias Gallegos; four sisters and two brothers; and five grandchildren.

who have served with me over the past six years while I have been in office. A Member of Congress' most important responsibility is to provide exceptional constituent services and my staff is second to none in providing the best assistance to everyone in our District. I take great pride in the work that each one has done on my behalf and on behalf of everyone in the 11th Congressional District of North Carolina.

Each District Staff member has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of each and every one of our constituents. They often go well beyond the call to make sure each constituent is treated fairly and respectfully by our government agencies and that they receive appropriate resolution. I owe a debt of gratitude to each one of them for the support and friendship which they have shown me while I have served in Congress.

Sandy Zimmerman has served as a member of my District staff since May of 2007. Sandy has provided valuable assistance to individuals living in the far western counties of our District. Often times in the past these individuals have felt overlooked and forgotten because of their remote location to the rest of the District but Sandy has worked tirelessly to attend meetings and forums and make sure that these valuable members of our community have their voices heard and problems addressed. Sandy has time and again stood in the gap for our Western counties and I have been blessed to call her friend and teammate.

Sandy should be proud of the service she has provided to our District and country. It has been an honor to serve with Sandy and as I retire from office I wish her the very best in the future. Western North Carolina is a better place because of her efforts and I will cherish the memories of serving with Sandy and the team by my side.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Sandy Zimmerman for her hard work on behalf of all of western North Carolina and to wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

HONORING SANDY ZIMMERMAN

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 16, 2012

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the members of my Congressional Staff