

HONORING SAM CRANE

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sam Crane of the Rock Bridge High School Bruins Wrestling team for winning the Class 4 Missouri State Wrestling Championship in the 132-pound weight class.

Mr. Crane and his coaches should be commended for all their hard work throughout the regular season and for bringing home the state title in the Class 4 132-pound weight class to his school and community. His win represents the school's first state champion in Class 4 since 1997.

I ask that you join me in recognizing Mr. Crane for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING THE GIRL SCOUTS
OF THE MISSOURI HEARTLANDS**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland, a council in the 7th District of Missouri, as Girl Scouts celebrates 100 years of leadership development for girls.

Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland is headquartered in Springfield, Missouri, and has a membership of approximately 17,000 girls living in southwest and central Missouri, southeast Kansas, and northeast Oklahoma. Last year, Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland experienced a more than 17 percent increase in its membership, ranking it third in the country for growth out of 112 Girl Scout councils.

March 12, 2012, marked the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA. Self-discovery and community service were core values that Girl Scouts founder Juliette Low sought to instill in girls from the earliest days. In 1912, many girls' paths in life were limited and Low's vision was for girls to be able to expand their personal horizons by having fun while exploring new interests and contributing to society.

Girl Scouts today benefit from tangible outcomes such as a strong sense of self, practical life skills, healthy relationships, and feeling empowered to make a difference. In southwest Missouri, Girl Scouts are participating in robotics teams, financial literacy activities, environmental stewardship campaigns, and numerous other initiatives that reflect the continued strength and relevance of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.

They also give back to their community with thousands of hours of community service each year. During this year's Girl Scout Cookie Program, many Girl Scouts participated in the Cookie Share program, through which Girl Scout Cookies are shared with military organizations or food pantries. At summer camp and locally, girls will participate in Girl Scouts Forever Green projects to promote environmental stewardship. This year, girls have also helped to replenish food supplies at local pantries, provide comfort and supplies to families dis-

placed by tornadoes, bring joy to residents at nursing homes, thank veterans for their service, and much more.

Folks in Southwest Missouri should be proud to know that the Girl Scout program remains strong and provides a significant opportunity for girls today to learn and grow safely. I too am proud and honored to know that young girls in the 7th District of Missouri are demonstrating positive values and strong leadership skills—and will continue to do so for years to come.

CONGRATULATING PATTY
HARRELSON ON RECEIVING THE
2011-2012 PRINCIPAL ACHIEVE-
MENT AWARD FOR OUT-
STANDING LEADERSHIP**HON. DANIEL WEBSTER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Patty Harrelson on receiving the 2011-2012 Principal Achievement Award for Outstanding Leadership. I am honored to have the opportunity to offer my sincere appreciation for the hard work and dedication that went into this well-deserved award.

At Florida's Commissioner's Summit for Principals, Florida Education Commissioner Gerard Robinson awarded Ms. Harrelson the award, naming Ms. Harrelson the state's top principal for her leadership at Rosemont Elementary School. Under Ms. Harrelson's guidance and direction, the Orange County school improved its school accountability grade from a "D" to an "A" in a single year.

Taking on the responsibility of principal in 2010, Ms. Harrelson instituted reforms on every level, from curtailing truancy to bringing cutting edge technology into the classrooms. Because of her belief in Rosemont's students and her confidence in their ability to learn and meet academic standards, Ms. Harrelson worked tirelessly to raise expectations and reward achievement publicly.

Her spirit of dedication and commitment to her students is an example of the life-changing impact a dedicated educator can have on a community and on the individual lives of students. She is a shining example of the fruits of selflessness demonstrated by our teachers and administrators who devote themselves to Florida's future by investing in Florida's children.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I congratulate and applaud Ms. Harrelson for her hard work, dedication, and leadership. She is most deserving of the 2011-2012 Principal Achievement Award for Outstanding Leadership. May her investment in Florida's students and Florida's future inspire others to follow in her footsteps.

COMMEMORATING THE 70TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE B 1 U.S. NAVY
BAND**HON. MELVIN L. WATT**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make sure that we acknowledge in the CON-

GRESSIONAL RECORD the 70th Anniversary of a group of African-American World War II Navy Veterans known as the B-1 United States Navy Band.

The B-1 United States Navy Band was formed in 1942 and was comprised of talented African-American musicians, many of whom were from North Carolina, who were among the first African-Americans to serve in the modern U.S. Navy in roles other than kitchen staff positions. Most of the Band's approximately forty-four original members were affiliated with North Carolina A&T State University, which is located in Greensboro, North Carolina in my congressional district. The Band was stationed at the U.S. Navy's Pre-Flight Training School in Chapel Hill, North Carolina and provided musical entertainment to pilot trainees during World War II. In 1944 the Band was transferred to sea duty in Hawaii and continued to perform for military personnel and civilians for the duration of the war.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the members of the B-1 U.S. Navy Band for their service to our country and to join me in commemorating the Band's 70th Anniversary which will be celebrated on April 14, 2012 on the campus of North Carolina A&T State University.

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR
OBTAINING THE RANK OF EAGLE
SCOUT**HON. SANDY ADAMS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Max Christopher DiRocco for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

Throughout the history of the Boy Scouts of America, the rank of Eagle Scout has only been attained through dedication to concepts such as honor, duty, country and charity. By applying these concepts to daily life, Max has proven his true and complete understanding of their meanings, and thereby deserves this honor.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for the future.

HONORING MRS. LOURDES LOZANO

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of Women's History month, I rise today to honor Mrs. Lourdes Lozano, a remarkable leader in the South Florida community.

Mrs. Lozano was born in Las Villas, Cuba and attended the Escuela Normal de Maestros in preparation for her teaching profession. After graduation she received a post graduate degree from the University of Martha Abreu, in Santa Clara. Once arriving in Miami, she received her Bachelor's degree in Psychology from St. Thomas University.

Mrs. Lozano began her professional career working at ARSCO International, a company in the paint roller industry. While working for this company she became the first woman in the

industry to hold the position of Plant Manager. She later went on to become Vice President and General Manager of the company. Mrs. Lozano has also worked as a realtor for the past 28 years and as a supervisor for twelve social workers and one specialist for 22 years. In the past she has also been appointed to serve the community as a Commissioner for Hialeah's Housing Authority.

Mrs. Lozano's work does not stop there, as she has been a volunteer for Liga Contra el Cancer and for the Muscular Dystrophy Association for over 30 years. Along with her husband Richard Irizarry, Mrs. Lozano has made tremendous contributions to our community and both are highly admired for their hard work. In 2004 she was recognized as one of the eight public service employees in Miami-Dade who perform their professional duties with excellence. She has also received the "Most Humanitarian Award" from the Department of Children and Families. She has also been recognized by the Mayor of the City of Hialeah, for her leadership on a number of projects which help alleviate some of the burdens of needy families in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to my dear friend Mrs. Lourdes Lozano for her continued service to the South Florida community. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable individual and wish her continued success.

HONORING MID-DELTA HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mid-Delta Home Health and Hospice Center. The Mid-Delta Home Health and Hospice Center was founded by Clara T. Reed in 1978 in Belzoni, Mississippi. For more than 30 years the Mid-Delta Home and Hospice has been dedicated to serving the needs of patients throughout the Mississippi Delta.

Mid-Delta Home Health and Hospice Center continues under the dynamic leadership of Chief Executive Officer Clara T. Reed. Mrs. Reed received her licensed practical nursing degree from Mississippi Valley State University in 1964. She later received her Registered Nursing degree in 1970 and a Bachelor's degree in Gerontology from Mississippi Valley State University in 1990.

Mrs. Reed's outstanding leadership and dedication has moved the organization on a progressive track and helped to expand its reach around and beyond the state of Mississippi. Mid-Delta Home Health and Hospice provides health and hospice care to individuals and their families in 32 of the 82 counties in the State of Mississippi. Mid-Delta operates 10 branches in Mississippi locations which include Batesville, Belzoni, Clarksdale, Cleveland, Canton, Greenwood, Greenville, Lexington, Madison, and Tunica. They also have offices in Bastrop and Vidalia, Louisiana. Currently, Mid-Delta has over 650 employees spread throughout the Mississippi Delta and treats over 3,500 patients annually. Mid-Delta prides itself on providing specialized services 24 hours a day and seven days a week.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mid-Delta Home Health and Hospice for its unwavering commitment and continued home health care services it provides in the great state of Mississippi and surrounding areas.

TRIBUTE TO MAX MCINTOSH

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Max McIntosh, the director of the VA's Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center and Clinics (SORCC) in White City, Oregon, who will retire tomorrow, March 30, after 39 years of service to the VA.

Since 2003, Max has run the SORCC, transitioning it from a domiciliary into a world class rehabilitation center and a system of clinics for veterans in southern Oregon. He came to the clinic two years earlier as Chief Operating Officer.

When he arrived, the SORCC served 7,000 outpatients in the region—no small feat. Today, through the good work of Max and his staff of over 500 employees and another 500 volunteers, the SORCC cares for 450 residential patients and 18,000 outpatients in Southern Oregon. These are men and women who have worn the nation's uniform to defend our freedom and cherished way of life, and they deserve the highest levels of care. Max made sure that they received it.

In his years as director of the SORCC, Max and the facility have adapted to serve our nation's heroes—from those who served in World War II to Iraq and Afghanistan. Vocational rehabilitation and employment services place veterans with community employers and partners. They have programs focused on post-traumatic stress disorder and suicide prevention, and clinics on chronic pain and diabetes. They recently instituted a system of home-based primary care, caring for veterans in their homes.

Perhaps the greatest challenge he faced in his tenure was among the first, when a proposal was floated to close or reduce services at the SORCC. Max stood arm-in-arm with me and the rest of the community as a fierce advocate for the facility. Today it stands as a nationally known veteran rehabilitation center, in no small part because of Max's leadership.

When I spent Veterans Day with Max and the veterans of southern Oregon at the SORCC this past November, I noted that "A nation is judged by the way it takes care of the people who protect its freedom." In his 39 years of service to our country, Max has made us proud. I understand that he's already signed up to do volunteer work at the SORCC.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful community, state, and nation, I thank Max for his service to this country's heroes, and wish him well as he moves on.

CONGRATULATING SHANA CHANDLER AND BRANDON WEST ON THE BIRTH OF HUDSON SCOTT WEST

HON ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to congratulate Shana Chandler and Brandon West on the birth of their son, Hudson Scott West. Hudson Scott was born this morning, March 29, 2012, at 1:32 a.m., in Washington, DC.

Weighing eight pounds and ten ounces, Hudson Scott measured twenty-one and one-quarter inches long. I understand that both he and his mother are doing very well.

I am excited by this blessing, and I am extremely happy for Shana, Brandon, and the West and Chandler families. I wish them all the very best.

FRUSTRATION WITH ABC NEWS
REPORTING ON BEEF PRODUCTS,
INC. (BPI)

HON. TIM HUELSKAMP

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in expressing my frustration with ABC News' muckraking "journalism" that has forced the closure of a plant employing more than 200 people in my district.

What we have before us is a perfect example of mainstream media completely disconnected from reality. In a quest for accolades and attention, reporters, talking heads, and morning talk show hosts at ABC have made it their intention to drive Beef Products, Inc. (BPI) out of business. And they may have succeeded. Despite developing a process that adds approximately \$15 of value to each head of cattle processed, and providing safe, healthy, lean meat for more than 300 billion meals, BPI is being forced to close the doors of its plant in Finney County, Kansas.

But while the reporters, producers, and executives at ABC move on to their next "public interest" story as questions of finely textured lean beef fade into the background, the same cannot be said of employees at BPI. It is ironic that a perfectly good "public interest" story for them to cover is the loss of hundreds of jobs for people in my district and from the three other BPI plants across the country. But doing so would bring too much attention to ABC's role in causing these people to lose their jobs.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker—finely textured lean beef is just that: beef. In terms of meat content, it is no different from the steak being served at Charlie Palmer's, or the hamburger at Five Guys. It's not scrap, filler, or substitute. It's beef.

And it's safe to eat. While much has been made of the use of ammonia to treat the meat once it is processed, it has not been, and should not be a safety concern. This process has been approved by the USDA on a whole host of food products, including meat, cheeses, chocolate, pudding, condiments, and beverages to prevent food-borne diseases.