

JACOB GULLA

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Jacob Gulla who scored a one hundred percent on the 2012 National Financial Capabilities Challenge.

The National Financial Capabilities Challenge is annually administered by the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the U.S. Department of Education. The challenge is designed to increase the financial knowledge and capability of high school students across the United States.

This year, 80,024 students took the test and Pennsylvania had the highest number of participating schools and educators. In addition, Pennsylvania had the highest number of students who scored in the top 20th percentile in the nation and ranked as the fourth highest state with students who scored a one hundred percent on the test.

Mr. Speaker, financial capability empowers individuals to make informed choices, avoid pitfalls, know where to go for help, and take other actions to improve their present and long-term financial well-being. Today, I commend Jacob Gulla for his hard work and dedication to taking control of his financial future, which is evident in his accomplishment.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND DAN SEWELL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Reverend Dan Sewell, who was named the 2012 Fairview Park Citizen of the Year by the Fairview Park Community Council.

Rev. Sewell, a lifelong resident of Fairview Park, Ohio was born in 1955. He graduated from Fairview Park High School in 1973 and earned a Master of Theology Degree from Fuller Seminary. He has been married to his wife, Karen, for 37 years and they have four daughters.

In 1989, Rev. Sewell became the pastor of the New Hope Church. Under his leadership, the church has become a staple in the community, hosting hunger drives and other various community service opportunities. Rev. Sewell is also the longest-serving member of the Fairview Park Ministerial Association which supports the Fairview Park Hunger Center and National Day of Prayer gatherings.

He has also been involved with Fairview Park's annual Summerfest, serving as a bake-off judge, talent judge, and musical performer. Additionally, Rev. Sewell was instrumental in developing Fairview Park's "Everyone is Our Neighbor" campaign as a response to crime in the community.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Reverend Dan Sewell as he is honored by the Fairview Park Community Council as the 2012 Fairview Park Citizen of the Year.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK AND THE SELFLESS WORK OF AMERICA'S EDUCATORS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our Nation's teachers, and particularly those of Texas' 24th Congressional District. Yesterday marked the beginning of National Teacher Appreciation Week, and today, May 8, 2012, is Teacher Appreciation Day. This annual week celebrates the encouragement, support and discipline selflessly provided by America's educators. Teaching is a difficult job that requires significant talent. Most, if not all, of America's educators devote their careers to enriching the lives of our children. Almost everyone holds dear the memory of at least one teacher in particular who made a significant impact on their life. We can never fully thank our teachers for their hard work and dedication.

We rely on teachers to shape the minds of America's next generation. Nearly 5 million students in Texas depend on our State's educators to provide them with the vital knowledge needed to succeed in life. This is a massive job that comes with an even greater responsibility. Teachers accept this responsibility with great pride. I am extremely honored to recognize the amazing work of our teachers. I cannot thank them enough for their commitment to the children in Texas and across the country.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the selfless work of America's educators. We must always recognize those who dedicate their careers to enriching the lives of our children.

HONORING JAN GILBERT FOR 30 YEARS OF ADVOCACY WORK IN NEVADA

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Ms. Jan Gilbert, for her 30-year career of advocating for income equality, human rights, and women's health.

This year, Ms. Gilbert is retiring from her current position at the Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada (PLAN) after 30 years of advocacy on behalf of the voiceless. I am delighted to honor her service and leadership as a champion for justice in the State of Nevada.

In 1982, Jan's work began by serving the community through the League of Women Voters of Nevada as president of the Carson City chapter. In 1990, Jan advocated for the passage of Question 7 to reaffirm women's reproductive rights. Jan's commitment to empowering citizens to become active participants in their government prompted her to cofound PLAN, a statewide organization that offers a unified force for social, environmental, and economic integrity in Nevada.

Jan coauthored the 2002 Wider Opportunities for Women's Self Sufficiency Standard for Nevada. She also served as the cofounder of Nevada's Empowered Women's Project, representing low-income women. In addition, Ms. Gilbert has been instrumental in promoting social justice among Nevadans as the air of the Child Abuse Prevention, Family Support, and Respite Subcommittee of the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Grants Management Advisory Committee. Jan has worked tirelessly for low-income women on welfare and facilitated the passage of "make work pay" that allowed women to remain on welfare after they started working. She helped increase the welfare grant level for recipients along with aiding in the creation of childcare funding for welfare recipients while they worked.

Finally, Jan's proudest accomplishment was the 2009 passage of the Domestic Partner Registry. She worked vigorously to pass this measure for Nevada and she was responsible for obtaining the last remaining vote to secure its passage and override a gubernatorial veto. Since October 1, 2009, committed couples in Nevada can legally register their partnership and be recognized by the State.

During Jan's years of service, she has received a number of distinguished awards, including the Mike O'Callaghan Humanitarian of the Year Award, the Hannah Humanitarian Award, the Public Citizen of the Year Award, and the Women's Role Model Award, recognizing her gallant efforts. Most recently, she was named a 2012 "Champion of Change" by the White House.

As the Representative for Nevada's First Congressional District, it gives me immense pride to recognize Jan Gilbert and the remarkable work she has done for Nevada. She has made our State a more just, impartial, and equal place for all. I congratulate Jan and her family on a well-earned retirement, but I am sure her love for service and civic engagement will continue to benefit the Silver State in many exciting and innovative ways.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY CLUB OF CLEVELAND

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the City Club of Cleveland.

Established in 1912 as a non-partisan forum for debate, the City Club of Cleveland is the country's oldest independent continuous free speech forum. It is often referred to as "America's Citadel of Free Speech." The mission of the City Club of Cleveland is to inform, educate and inspire citizens by presenting significant ideas and providing opportunities for dialogue in a collegial setting. The speaking events held at the City Club of Cleveland can be heard across the nation through the radio, television, podcasts and on YouTube.

Throughout the past century, the City Club of Cleveland has hosted some of the country's fiercest debates and inspiring speeches. Perhaps the most well-known speech delivered at the City Club of Cleveland was Senator Robert F. Kennedy's "Mindless Menace of Violence" speech delivered on the day following

the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. Other notable speakers include Bill Clinton, Theodore Roosevelt, Geraldine Ferraro, W.E.B. DuBois, Sandra Day O'Connor, Cesar Chavez, Rosa Parks, Henry Kissinger and Ken Burns.

The City Club of Cleveland is celebrating its centennial year with several events. On May 18, 2012, Ted Turner will receive the Citadel of Free Speech Award. The City Club of Cleveland is also hosting an Anniversary Essay Contest, Encore Speakers Series and Centennial Gala Celebration this fall.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the City Club of Cleveland.

NATIONAL MARROW DONOR REGISTRY TODAY SURPASSES 10 MILLION VOLUNTEERS READY TO GIVE THE LIVING GIFT OF LIFE

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share with my colleagues some good news about a life-saving program begun by this House 25 years ago. The National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), now publicly known as Be The Match, marks another major milestone today as it has signed up its 10 millionth potential volunteer bone marrow donor on its Be The Match Registry®.

With a small appropriation of funds in 1986, the National Marrow Donor Program began to recruit potential bone marrow donors in the Fall of 1987. The registry started with a list of 10,000 volunteers who had signed up at small bake sales and community events all over the country with the hope that their donation of bone marrow would save the life of a man, woman or child with leukemia or any one of 60 otherwise fatal blood disorders.

With the odds of finding a matched, unrelated marrow donor at greater than 20,000 to one, federal support was required to establish a registry large and diverse enough to find donors for patients in need of a second chance at life. Today, the Be The Match Registry is the largest and most diverse listing of potential marrow donors and cord blood units in the world and has direct relationships with registries in 37 other nations.

Because of the committed volunteer registry members, Be The Match has facilitated more than 50,000 transplants for patients with leukemia, lymphoma and other life-threatening diseases over these past 25 years. Half of the 50,000 procedures facilitated by Be The Match were performed in the last five years alone—demonstrating the great momentum behind transplant therapy. By 2015, Be The Match plans to double the number of transplants it facilitates annually, to more than 10,000.

Today, Be The Match continues to grow to meet the needs of patients whose best—and often only—hope for a cure is a marrow or cord blood transplant. Each of the 10,000,000 volunteers, and every additional member of the registry we recruit, represents hope to the thousands of patients who search for a match every year.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate and thank all of the members of this House who

have been a partner with me in establishing this modern miracle of a program that has given hope to thousands of families here in the United States and all around the world. And I invite all of my colleagues to join me in commending the NMDP and Be The Match for recruiting 10 million registry members in every Congressional District, and for the dedication of its staff members and thousands of volunteers to the noblest of causes to save the life of another person.

RECOGNIZING THE 2012 RECIPIENTS OF THE MCGOWAN COURAGE AWARD

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to share positive stories about young people from Ohio's Fourth Congressional District who overcome adversity. Today, I am pleased to share the stories of seven such individuals.

Alex Armstrong, Clear Fork High School. Alex refuses to allow Asperger's Syndrome to get in the way of pursuing his passion for music. He is a field commander for Clear Fork's marching band, participates in the stage and concert bands, and plays the organ at his church. Alex's leading roles in National Honor Society, the French Club, and the Tech Team are an inspiration to his teachers, who attest to his hard work and friendliness.

Katie Cabrera, Crestview High School. Challenged by family circumstances that have forced her to take control of her own health care decisions, Katie has the respect and admiration of her teachers and school staff for the responsibility she shows in dealing with diabetes. Her confidence, courage, and independence are a model to young people and adults alike. Katie plans to attend college after graduation.

Emily York, Lexington High School. A devastating motorcycle accident four years ago left Emily with third-degree burns over most of her body. She has endured multiple surgeries, skin grafts, and a serious leg infection resulting in amputation. After spending more than 18 months away from home in hospitals, Emily has returned to school, where her dedication is a model to her fellow students. She plans to study art therapy.

Mercedes Sawyer, Madison Comprehensive High School. Mercedes has suffered strokes and seizures caused by a rare and untreatable mitochondrial disease. She has fought this disease with diet changes and regular exercise, which has boosted her energy level and allowed her to participate in soccer, swimming, and track. A volunteer with the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation, she will attend the University of Iowa this fall.

Travon Slaughter, Mansfield Senior High School. Coping with chronic pain and muscular atrophy caused by a stroke he suffered in the womb, Travon's positive attitude and sense of humor have won him the admiration of his teachers and fellow students. He entered the Early Childhood Career Tech Program, has worked at Madison Early Childhood Learning Center, and has plans to start his own daycare center.

Claire Engelken, Ontario High School. Claire has earned the respect of her peers and teachers for the way she has dealt with Asperger's Syndrome and scoliosis. Her passion for planning and for improving her communication skills continues to be an asset to her in her schoolwork. Claire has worked with the Pathway Program and wants to further develop her love of animals by working in an animal shelter or veterinary office after graduation.

Caitlyn James, St. Peter's High School. Caitlyn will not allow the challenges she faces at home to overwhelm her positive spirit, strong faith, and commitment to fight injustices. She recently made a presentation at a child abuse prevention awareness event that she coordinated at St. Peter's. Caitlyn plans to continue her selfless service to others following graduation and is considering serving in the Armed Forces.

Mr. Speaker, the Rotary Club of Mansfield, Ohio, will present these seven students with the McGowan Courage Award today. I am proud to join the Rotary in acknowledging their significant achievements and wishing them continued success in their lives.

IN HONOR OF POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY, 2012

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Poles, Polish-Americans on the occasion of Polish Constitution Day.

Polish Constitution Day is a day when people of all cultures join with the people of Poland to celebrate the rich culture, traditions and history of Poland. After almost five centuries of struggle and perseverance, the Governmental Statute of Poland became the first written constitution in Europe on May 3, 1791. The Polish Constitution established the separation of government powers, freedom of religion, and abolished elements of serfdom, all of these are key elements of freedom and democracy.

The Polish American Congress strives to make Americans of Polish heritage more successful and involved U.S. citizens by encouraging them to assume the responsibilities of leadership. Since its foundation over sixty years ago, the group has created programs to successfully integrate people of Polish decent in the U.S. and enrich Cleveland's social fabric. These programs include the Displaced Persons Program, which allowed almost 150,000 Polish immigrants to enter the U.S. after World War Two. The group also won American veterans benefits for Polish Veterans of both World War One and World War Two. The Polish American Congress has played a crucial role in the Polish Community, and in its many years of support and service has been an invaluable contribution to the City of Cleveland and this nation.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me today, Polish Constitution Day, in honoring the struggles, courage and triumphs of the people of Poland and honoring all people of Polish descent. Through their successive struggles for freedom, the people of Poland have given the world hope.