

new space housing a 21st Century delivery system of primary health care. This innovative, and beautiful, new facility will ensure that CHC can continue to provide outstanding care to the thousands of residents they see every year.

I could not be more proud to join the Mid-dletown community in celebrating this very special anniversary with the Community Health Center. Their outstanding dedication and commitment to ensuring that everyone—regardless of circumstance—has access to affordable, quality health care serves as an example to us all. I am honored to extend my heartfelt congratulations and very best wishes to Mark Masselli and the entire CHC family on this very special occasion.

RECOGNIZING CONVOY OF HOPE

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Convoy of Hope's generous outreach following last year's tornado which devastated the community of Joplin, Missouri, on May 22, 2011.

Convoy of Hope provides food, clothing, medical aid and other resources to disaster areas or to those in need. They are a shining example of the generous American spirit and the immense power of private faith-based charities to be a force for good in our local communities. Since its founding in 1994, Convoy of Hope has served over 51 million people throughout the world. Hours after the tornado struck Joplin, Convoy of Hope was on the scene offering a helping hand to those in need.

Convoy of Hope's initial response was coordinated with the cooperation of Ignite Church in Joplin where a mobile distribution site was established. Twelve local churches in Joplin and surrounding states organized volunteers to assist Convoy of Hope in the disaster response effort, which has provided more than 3 million pounds of food, water and supplies to help the community get back on its feet.

Through a partnership with Pyramid Foods, Convoy of Hope operated a "compassion store" where tornado victims received free relief products like rakes, shovels, trash bags and gloves to assist them with debris removal. The compassion store remained opened until November 2011.

In January 2012, Convoy of Hope announced their commitment to provide \$1 million to help tornado victims on the series finale of ABC's *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*, which featured the building of seven homes in seven days in Joplin. In February, Convoy of Hope, in partnership with the Global Green Building, Project Safe Home and T.F. Concrete Forming systems, embarked on a mission to help build storm-resilient homes for at least a dozen deserving families.

Convoy of Hope is constructing homes that emphasize protections against strong winds and promote energy efficiencies. Convoy of Hope and its partners are coordinating these and future efforts with the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide guidance on other future "resilient" constructions.

These new high-tech, low-energy buildings are specially designed with reinforced concrete walls and other innovations to be sturdier than traditional houses.

Convoy of Hope and their 3,852 volunteers served 12,161 families, helped clear and clean 42 houses at no cost to the homeowners, and completed four major critical needs projects for homeowners who did not have adequate resources to address the safety concerns on their property.

Convoy of Hope's generous spirit of outreach helped thousands of Joplin residents during a dark chapter in their lives. I know that many families impacted by this tornado are grateful for the helping hand and support they received from Convoy of Hope.

FRANK CURIEL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Frank Curiel for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Frank Curiel is a 11th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Frank Curiel is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Frank Curiel for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING DANIELLE GREEN-BYRD

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the pleasure to recognize a hometown hero, Ms. Danielle Green-Byrd as she has been selected as the inaugural recipient of the Red Cross, Tiffany Circle Distinguished Woman Warrior Award for her outstanding service to our country.

Ms. Green-Byrd is a 1999 graduate of the University of Notre Dame with a BA in Psychology as a full scholarship athlete, excelling in varsity basketball. Once a standout left-handed shooter, she scored 1,106 points, averaging 9.5 points and 4.5 rebounds per game for the women's basketball team.

Upon graduating from college, Danielle chose to serve her country by enlisting in the Army and subsequently sent to Iraq, serving with the 571st Military Police Company from Fort Lewis, Washington during Operation Iraqi Freedom. She explained that she wanted to gain life lessons as an enlisted soldier before one day receiving a commission.

One of the first women injured during the beginning of the conflict in Iraq, Danielle had been at her post for only a few minutes when two rocket propelled grenades hit a barrier on the ground and exploded. A third hit her arm and damaged her thigh and face. She lost her left hand and arm and was awarded the Purple Heart.

Presently, Danielle is the assistant sports coordinator in the Chicago Board of Education's Department of Sports Administration and Facility Management and spends time with military veterans in the Chicagoland area. She enjoys time playing golf, a sport that she has said has taught her patience and brought enjoyment.

I am so proud to acknowledge a "she-ro" who is still living among us and I encourage her to continue to live her dreams, give back to the community and continue to make the greater Chicagoland community a better place.

Congratulations and may God continue to bless you in every field of human endeavor.

JAZMIN MEDINA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jazmin Medina for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jazmin Medina is a 12th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jazmin Medina is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jazmin Medina for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO DANIEL R. MANTHE

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Daniel R. Manthe, an extraordinary leader in education policy and a dear friend who recently passed away.

In my nearly half-century in education policy and politics, I have been blessed to work with and meet the widest range of committed and caring teachers and leaders. Daniel R. Manthe was both. Dan had education in his heart and mind and was one of the most knowledgeable people I ever met in the field. His efforts to make education more effective made a difference in the quality of education in whatever he touched. Education is better because of him.

As a young teacher, Dan toiled and suffered innumerable indignities securing the signatures that formed the roots and early support

base for the Michigan Education Association. As an Assistant Superintendent for the first Wayne County Intermediate School District, and then the modernized and retooled Wayne Regional Education Service Agency, Dan not only crafted the Michigan student aid formula section for education service agencies, but became the go-to person whenever any legislative bill or regulation even hinted at changing state education policy or practice for the county school district delivery system. His embedded in-depth knowledge base was beyond compare and unquestionably accurate.

Dan also had an innate ability to be able to know and foretell the inter-agency effects of legislation outside the education realm. He was the recognized expert on the complicated process of school consolidation and was Dan universally liked and admired in the corridors of the State Capitol of Michigan. He was courteous, knowing, and ever ready with a joke and generous in assisting young people new to the Capitol. Dan secured handwritten amendments, bill drafts and multiple documents and was often the first to recognize emerging, important legislative information.

Dan Manthe proudly represented the children of Wayne County, Michigan—all 34 districts, from Detroit to Ecorse, Hamtramck and Belleville. He was sought out by administrators and union members alike for his sage advice and deep expertise on how to accomplish various legislative feats. He tutored and fine-tuned the skills of a lineup of Michigan Department of Education state directors of legislation and school law who have gone on to become chiefs of staff for a Michigan governor and Speaker of the state House, a multi-district legislative consultant, and several Congressional and state legislative assistants.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Daniel R. Manthe, a great Michigan education leader as we offer our heartfelt condolences to Dan's family on his passing.

EVERETT MILLER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Everett Miller for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Everett Miller is an 11th grader at Standley Lake High and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Everett Miller is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Everett Miller for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

MOTHERS' DAY

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mothers' Day and to thank our nation's mothers, grandmothers, and aunts, as well as all the women who mentor and nurture future generations. On this holiday, I thank these incredible women by recommitting myself to the effort to preserve Medicare and to protect their health and wellbeing.

My mother was a true inspiration to me, and she taught me the importance of a solid work ethic and compassion for others in the community. She took on the challenge of raising two children by herself, which meant work during the day and school at night. Life certainly was not easy for her, but she always provided for my family and is one of the strongest women I have ever known.

Today, many families in my district and across the country are also coping with limited resources while demonstrating the same determination and compassion that my mother instilled in me. Many are seniors who cannot afford the exorbitant cost of treatments for chronic medical conditions and preventative care. Medicare program is a vital lifeline for so many and should be protected at all costs.

The proposed Republican plan to end Medicare as we know it would distribute vouchers for beneficiaries to purchase health insurance. Under the plan, the voucher would not grow as fast as health care costs, shifting the burden of the costs onto seniors. It would repeal the free preventive services benefit in Medicare, increasing seniors' out-of-pocket costs for preventive care by over \$110 million in 2012 alone.

The Republican plan would have a particularly damaging effect on women, who, on average, live longer than men, have lower incomes than men, and have more chronic health conditions than men—making Medicare even more vital to their wellbeing. 57 percent of women on Medicare live below 200 percent of the federal poverty line, compared to 45 percent of men. Additionally, 49 percent of women on Medicare have three or more chronic health conditions, compared to 38 percent of men.

As a representative of the 37th Congressional District of California, this issue is of particular importance to me. In California alone, there are nearly 2.7 million female Medicare beneficiaries, more than any other state in the country.

Mr. Speaker, I stand in solidarity with these women—America's mothers and grandmothers—as I reaffirm my support of the Medicare program. I will not support legislation that balances our budget on the backs of our nation's most vulnerable citizens, and I encourage my colleagues to join me in this critical fight.

Mr. Speaker, I wish a happy Mothers' Day to all the mothers of the 37th district and across the country.

JESSE LUCERO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jesse Lucero for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jesse Lucero is an 11th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jesse Lucero is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jesse Lucero for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize May as Asian Pacific American Heritage month and to a service organization from my district, the Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment (PACE) that provides crucial services to our community. This month gives us an opportunity to reflect and honor the Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) who have enriched our nation with their countless contributions to American history.

While generations of AAPIs have had profound impact on our nation and have achieved the American Dream, the AAPIs community is extremely diverse and some AAPIs have challenges and require assistance from federal programs to overcome obstacles in the journey to achieve the American Dream. Around the country, there are number AAPI community based organizations that provide assistance to the diverse AAPI community and doing great work to support AAPIs families. I applaud them for the work that they do every day to help AAPIs to overcome these obstacles and to support to better their lives for themselves and their families.

An example of an outstanding AAPI organization is the Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment (PACE) that is led by a committed and dedicated individual—Kerry Doi, the President and CEO. The mission of the PACE is to create economic solutions to meet the challenges of employment, education, housing, business development and the environment in the Pacific Asian and other diverse communities. PACE is a non-profit community development organization founded in 1976 to address the employment and job training needs of the Pacific Asian Islander communities. PACE has since expanded into a variety of service areas, all tailored to meet the growing