

The hard work and research put in by the team is a testament to their commitment to civic education, as well as to the guidance and instruction of their teacher Rosalie Heffernan. I know I join all of South Florida in expressing our pride and admiration for the Our Lady of Lourdes Academy Constitution Team and their remarkable accomplishment. Congratulations to: Paula Abarca, Emily Bezold, Michelle Bueno, Gabriela Corzo, Oliva Diaz de Villega, Amelia Garcia, Patricia Garcia-Linares, Gabriela Hildalgo, Anne-Marie Hunter, Alexandra Lazcano, Maria Mendoza, Fabiola Navarro, Caitlin Opperman, Rachel Perez, Kelsey Quigley, Brigitte Quintana, Cristina Sanchez, Veronica Sanchez, Kiara Taquechel, Tiffany Valenti and Clarisse Vamos!

IN REMEMBRANCE OF CAPTAIN
MARK McDOWELL, USAF

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Captain Mark McDowell of Colorado Springs and the United States Air Force.

Captain McDowell died in an F-15E crash while providing air support to ground troops during Operation Enduring Freedom near Ghazni Province in Afghanistan.

Captain McDowell is survived by his wife and parents. Captain McDowell was an honorable and dedicated airman who died serving his country. We will never forget his example and his dedication. To his family and friends, I offer my sincere thoughts and prayers. May God bless them throughout the days ahead.

JESSICA ALLEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

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

The dedication demonstrated by Jessica Allen 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 Jessica Allen 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.

IN CELEBRATION OF ASIAN PA-
CIFIC AMERICAN
HERITAGE
MONTH

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

Against the background of this year's theme, "Striving for Excellence in Leadership, Diversity and Inclusion," this month provides us an excellent opportunity to reflect upon, and honor, the many contributions Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) have made to our Nation. From fighting in our armed services, to building the trans-continental railroad, to helping America lead the world in scientific discoveries, AAPIs have played an integral role in our country's greatest achievements.

As America's fastest growing population, more and more AAPIs are performing integral roles in forward-thinking companies and in American innovation. And, we are continually seeing a greater number of AAPIs elected to serve in public office and appointed to the Federal judiciary. AAPIs are making great progress; however, there are still obstacles that must be overcome for AAPIs and other minority populations.

We must continue to work together to ensure that our country does not repeat injustices of the past. We must continue to fight back on issues like racial profiling, housing discrimination, and disparities in health care. We must continue to ensure that AAPI voices and ideas are heard.

Our country has always been the land of opportunity. Our strength has been derived from the diverse cultures, traditions, and perspectives of the people that make up our society. As we look to our country's future, we must ensure that all of the cultures and peoples that call America home are represented and promoted.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues in Congress, in particular, the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, to provide greater opportunity and equality so that AAPIs, and our Nation as a whole, can continue down a path of prosperity and success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 250. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 251. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 252.

JHA-MIER RYAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jha-Mier Ryan for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jha-Mier Ryan 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 Jha-Mier Ryan 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 Jha-Mier Ryan 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.

A TRIBUTE TO UNITEDHEALTH-
CARE COMMUNITY PLAN OF
PENNSYLVANIA

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Pennsylvania, which serves over 280,000 Pennsylvania residents through Medicaid, Medicare and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

The UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Pennsylvania has been under operation for more than 20 years, serving the healthcare needs of low-income Philadelphians. On May 4, 2012, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan opened a new multicultural community office in South Philadelphia to make its services more accessible to its members and to the larger community. UHC has staffed the new office with employees from a variety of ethnic groups to show the diversity of the surrounding community.

At the UnitedHealthcare Multicultural Office in Philadelphia, residents of the community will be able to apply for low or no-cost health insurance, renew their health coverage, gain more understanding of their health benefits, and attend special events such as health and wellness workshops, citizenship and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, and free health screenings.

It is with great honor that I recognize the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Pennsylvania and the new UnitedHealthcare Multicultural Office in Philadelphia as valuable resources of the state of Pennsylvania. I am proud to have such a wonderful organization in my state and community, and I look forward to watching it continue to succeed and grow.

JWAN SAWAQUED

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jwan Sawaqued for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jwan Sawaqued is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jwan Sawaqued 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 Jwan Sawaqued 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.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL MPS
AWARENESS DAY

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the National MPS Society for their 37 years of supporting families while searching for cures for this genetic disease. Mucopolysaccharidosis or MPS is a group of genetically determined lysosomal storage diseases that render the human body incapable of producing certain enzymes needed to break down complex carbohydrates. The damage caused by MPS on a cellular level adversely affects the body and damages the heart, respiratory system, bones, internal organs, and central nervous system. MPS often results in intellectual disabilities, short stature, corneal damage, joint stiffness, loss of mobility, speech and hearing impairment, heart disease, hyperactivity, chronic respiratory problems, and, most importantly, a drastically shortened life span. Symptoms of MPS are usually not apparent at birth and without treatment; the life expectancy of an individual affected begins to decrease at a very early stage in their life. Research towards combating MPS has resulted in the development of limited treatments for some of the MPS diseases.

I ask my colleagues and their staff to join me in recognizing May 15, 2012 as National MPS Awareness Day. This is an important time during which the MPS disease community will help increase the awareness of this devastating disease, as well as supporting research to improve treatments, find cures and receive early diagnosis. The MPS families are encouraged to reflect and support each other and to reach out to those families who have lost loved ones to MPS. By wearing their purple ribbons and sharing these ribbons within their community, they are increasing public awareness about this disease. This date is

also the start of the National MPS Run/Walk season along with other local community activities to raise awareness along with money for research and for family assistance programs. I commend the National MPS Society and their many volunteers for an unwavering commitment to bring about awareness of this disease and to continue to advocate for federal legislation to streamline the regulatory processes and to speed effective treatments and cures for their loved ones. More must be done to find cures and effective treatments, but let us reflect on the importance of this day. I ask that all of my colleagues join me in commemorating National MPS Awareness Day.

JOSEPH TRUJILLO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Joseph Trujillo for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Joseph Trujillo is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Joseph Trujillo 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 Joseph Trujillo 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.

HONORING DIANE GLASSER, CEO
OF THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Diane Glasser, the National and State Party Committeewoman and Vice Mayor of the City of Tamarac. As she concludes her term as Vice Mayor, we reflect on her years of dedicated community and public service which set a brilliant example for our future generations. It is truly an honor to represent her in the United States Congress.

Ms. Glasser has been integral in the significant growth and progress that the City of Tamarac has made over the past 20 years. She is a truly active and inspirational leader. She is involved in many civic and national organizations, such as the AARP, Hadassah, JAFCO, and University Hospital. Within the City of Tamarac alone, she has been a Charter Board Member, City Commissioner, and Vice Mayor. Ms. Glasser epitomizes public service, and it is unfortunate that I can only mention just a few in a long list of her tremendous accomplishments. I can affirm beyond a

doubt that she has been an important leader in the Democratic Party in South Florida, and I do not want her achievements to go unrecognized.

It is a privilege to represent an individual who has done so much for Broward County and the City of Tamarac. I applaud her efforts, and even though her term has come to a close, I look forward to her continued good work for years to come.

Congratulations to Diane Glasser, together with her children and her grandchildren, as they celebrate this well deserved honor.

JONNALYNN SELL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jonnalynn Sell for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jonnalynn Sell is an 8th grader at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jonnalynn Sell is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be obtained 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 Jonnalynn Sell 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.

HONORING MAH-RULCH
MUHAMMAD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great Nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share these with my House colleagues.

Mah-rulch Muhammad is a senior at Clements High School in Fort Bend County, Texas. Her essay topic is: In your opinion, why is it important to be involved in the political process?

The importance of participating in the political system is directly related to one of our key goals as a country: to ensure and preserve democracy. While the interpretation of democracy varies in everyone's individual perceptions, the main idea is the same: government by the people.