

WBPS have been provided greater academic opportunities in the fields of robotics and health sciences.

The results of Dr. Andrees' leadership speak for themselves. At a time of unprecedented uncertainty in our communities, she has guided WBPS to a deficit-free budget while leading the district's 800 employees. Furthermore, she has gone beyond good stewardship of WBPS and directly engaged with the West Bloomfield community to lead in the passage of a bond initiative to enhance WBPS' facilities and technology. During her tenure as Principal of Abbott Middle School, the school was recognized with a National Blue Ribbon of Excellence, the highest honor which can be bestowed for exceptional leadership in education. Dr. Andrees has received many other community awards including the 2012 MASA Winner's Circle Award, the 2012 Michigan Week Dr. Seymour Gretchko Youth Advocate Award and the 2012 Greater West Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce Community Excellence Award in Education.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. JoAnn Andrees has not only been a leader for quality public education in West Bloomfield; she has been its staunchest advocate and in doing so, has worked with other area leaders to build a thriving community. I admire her commitment to the virtues of public service and I know that her leadership will be fondly remembered by the thousands of students, families, teachers and staff have benefitted from her work in WBPS and the broader community.

RECOGNIZING DR. FRANK BURKE

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize retired Stanislaus County administrator, Dr. Frank Burke, who turns 100 years old on June 19, 2012.

Frank was born June 19, 1912, in Denver, Colorado. He was the first child of Frank and Emma Burke, children of Irish immigrants who had fled Ireland's potato famine of 1846 and settled in Iowa. Frank spent his formative years in Oregon with his brother, Larry, and mother, Emma, who worked as an elementary school teacher in several small schools in the eastern region of Oregon.

Dr. Burke graduated from Gonzaga University in 1932, and after a variety of sales and merchandising jobs, moved to San Francisco. Under the urging of his aunt, a former school teacher, he enrolled in San Francisco State University to seek a teaching credential. In 1940, he married Dorothy Grennan and returned back to school at UC Berkeley, where he graduated with a Doctorate in Education in 1958.

Since 1939, Frank has had an exciting career that took him all over California as an elementary school teacher for Alturas Elementary in Modoc County and Mann Elementary School in Alameda County, to principal to assistant superintendent in Siskiyou, Contra Costa, and Stanislaus Counties.

Frank's final position was in Stanislaus County as the Director of Elementary Edu-

cation, where he was later promoted to Assistant Superintendent of Stanislaus County Office of Education.

Frank retired in 1975, but spent 16 more years supervising student teachers, working for Stanislaus State University as a college instructor, and working for the county office.

Frank was the recipient of Association of California School Administrators Region VII's Retired Administrator of the Year Award and continues to be very active in the Association of California School Administrators, ACSA, the ACSA Retirees' group, and the Exchange Club.

Frank currently resides in Modesto and is quick to jump into a discourse on improving education—providing stimulating opportunities to discuss new ways in which to help students learn and grow. Frank is committed to improving our community and is a frequent writer of letters to the editor of the Modesto Bee.

Frank was married for 63 years to Dorothy, who passed away in 2004. He has six children and many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Dr. Frank Burke for his unwavering leadership, and recognizing his accomplishments and contributions. Frank serves as an example of excellence to those in our community.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION REFORM ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues an issue of great importance to the patient and provider community—the availability of critical diagnostic tests. On June 1, 2011, the Food and Drug Administration issued a draft guidance titled, "Draft Guidance for Industry and FDA Staff—Commercially Distributed In Vitro Diagnostic Products Labeled for Research Use Only or Investigational Use Only: Frequently Asked Questions."

As written, this draft guidance could jeopardize the future of personalized medicine and individualized treatment options for patients. I also want to note that when the FDA sought public comment on this draft guidance, the agency received correspondence from 54 organizations and individuals. Every comment received by the FDA expressed concerns about the draft guidance, and not one endorsed the approach.

For example, the Johns Hopkins University department of pathology surveyed laboratories at the university, and found that dozens of tests could be impacted by the guidance, including diagnostics for viral meningitis, and diagnosis of HIV infection in infants with infected mothers. Mayo Clinic indicated that certain important cancer diagnostics could disappear if this guidance is implemented as currently written. Public health laboratories, including those in my home state of California would lose their ability to identify and provide laboratory-based surveillance for diseases such as measles,

West Nile virus, eastern equine encephalitis virus, and multidrug-resistant tuberculosis.

When the academic community expresses such serious reservations, I believe it is important that FDA review and address these concerns. It is important for the Agency to work with all stakeholders, including the patient and provider communities, on a balanced approach before issuing its final guidance.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House Floor during yesterday's three rollcall votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 5651, H.R. 4201, and H.R. 915.

94TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC DAY OF AZERBAIJAN

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me today in tribute to the 94th Anniversary of the Republic Day of Azerbaijan this week.

Republic Day celebrates Azerbaijan's declaration of its independence from the Russian Empire in 1918, becoming the region's first Muslim democratic secular republic in Central Asia.

While that independence was short lived, from 1918–1920, the young Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan made tremendous strides, granting women the right to vote and laying the foundation for architecture and formal education for future Azeris.

But the new Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan was soon occupied by the Soviet Union, losing the hard-won independence, and forced to become a republic in the U.S.S.R.

In 1990, as the U.S.S.R. crumbled, Azerbaijan regained its independence from the Soviets, ending a 70 year nightmare, but the journey to freedom was a bloody one.

In January 1990, referred to as "Black January" by Azeris, the Soviet army crushed peaceful demonstrations in the streets of the capital Baku.

On August 30, 1991, Azerbaijan's Parliament restored its country's independence for the second time in a century and weeks later adopted their Constitution.

A valuable international ally, Azerbaijan was among the first nations offering unconditional support to the United States in the war against al Qaeda, providing a safe transit route to resupply our troops in Afghanistan.

Azerbaijan leads the Central Asian area in regional economic cooperation and is a key player in European energy security matters.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in thanking the people of Azerbaijan for their friendship and in congratulating Azerbaijanis around the world on the anniversary of Republic Day.

THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF
MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mount Zion Baptist Church in Charles County, Virginia on the occasion of its 200th anniversary. I would like to highlight some moments from the history of the church.

Mount Zion Baptist Church was first established by slaves in 1812. The original church was built on a parcel of land that was purchased for \$20. The church worshipped in this sanctuary until it was destroyed by fire. After the sanctuary's destruction, the church was without a place to worship until a new building was deeded to the Church in 1885 and a sanctuary erected in 1886. Mount Zion continues to worship in this sanctuary to this day.

Over the years, the building has undergone many beneficial additions including the construction of a vestibule, choir stand, choir room, annex, Pastor's Study, Secretary's Office, baptismal pool, central heating, and air cooling system as well as new siding, pews, and carpet.

Over the past two hundred years, Mount Zion has been fortunate to have many dedicated pastors including Revs. Silas Richardson, J.H. Harrison, William Sayles, E.T. Banks, J.H. Williams, James Lee, W.H. Gaines, Gandhi G. Hester, Daniel L. Adams, Sr., and its current Pastor, George Magazine. The Church has also been fortunate to receive the service of numerous deacons, trustees and other officials over the years.

Their leadership helped the church thrive over its 200 year history. Examples of this include the organization of the Tones of Zion Gospel Chorus, the Youth Choir, the Male Chorus, the Nurses' Aides, the Christian Education Department, the Missionary Ministry, and publication of "The Spirit of Zion" newsletter, as well as additional Worship Sundays and the Wednesday night Praise and Prayer Service.

As Mount Zion Baptist Church gathers to celebrate its 200th anniversary, the church can truly remember its past, celebrate its present, and focus on the future with great expectations. I would like to congratulate Pastor Magazine and all of the members of Mount Zion on this monumental occasion.

A TRIBUTE TO SHELLY YANOFF

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Shelly Yanoff. For 25 years, Ms. Yanoff has served as executive director of the Public Citizens for Children and Youth, PCCY, and in the fall will celebrate her retirement after decades of service to her community.

Ms. Yanoff's celebrated career began in the mid-1960's when she crafted the strategy to save the "Get Set" day care program of 5,000 children in Philadelphia. She went on to lead

a rally in Harrisburg of 2,000 Philadelphians who insisted on more State support for neglected children. In 1987, Ms. Yanoff began her career as executive director for PCCY where she has touched thousands of children and their families through her leadership.

During her career, she has played a major role in expanding the scope and quality of services to children and their families in the region. Ms. Yanoff launched a child health watch in neighborhoods around the City of Philadelphia and taught families how to secure health insurance for their children. In addition she has advocated and helped craft the Children's Health Insurance Program, CHIP, and continued to work on securing healthcare for the region's children.

Ms. Yanoff's long and impressive career showcases her commitment and service to her community. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in thanking Shelly Yanoff for her work and congratulate her on the occasion of her retirement.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
REFORM ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share my additional thoughts on the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issue raised by my colleagues Mr. BILBRAY and Mr. TOWNS.

The Research Use Only (RUO) and Investigational Use Only (IUO) products draft guidance issued by the FDA last June could result in serious consequences for the future of health care. Patients and doctors want access to validated tests that will guide and improve their medical care. The development of tests by laboratories and their validation and regulation under the Clinical Laboratory Improvements Act (CLIA) are part of a long-standing regulatory framework. I am concerned that this draft guidance, should it be finalized in its current form, could seriously disrupt this process and the development of new technologies and diagnostics.

Another concern about the FDA draft guidance is that manufacturers could be held accountable for the activities of their customers who purchase these RUO and IUO products. It is quite possible that the draft guidance will cause manufacturers to stop offering important components for diagnostic tests. And what would be the end result? Commercial, academic, and public health laboratories may not be able to continue current tests or develop new tests to help diagnose or prevent the progression of diseases and conditions such as cystic fibrosis, ovarian cancer, organ failure and transplantation, and identifying new infectious organisms.

The FDA must consider the potential impact of this guidance on the practice of medicine and patient access to new and existing diagnostics. The concerns raised by the health care community, including the American Hospital Association and the Association of Public Health Laboratories, should be addressed before finalizing this guidance.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 294—"yes"; 295—"yes"; and 296—"yes." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on all.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAN
DULCHINOS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the retirement of high school baseball coach Dan Dulchinos from Chicopee, Massachusetts. Mr. Dulchinos is retiring after fifty-years of coaching at Chicopee Comp High School. His accomplishments over the course of a career have been remarkable. Mr. Dulchinos helped create the Chicopee Comp basketball program in 1962. Under his leadership, the basketball team won a Western Massachusetts Championship. Mr. Dulchinos went on to coach the high school baseball team, earning over six hundred victories, including four Western Massachusetts Championships.

As a coach, Mr. Dulchinos excelled at teaching high school student athletes the fundamentals of the game. It is not just the decades of coaching that makes his retirement worthy of commemoration, but the impact he had on the lives around him. He has inspired many of his former players to pursue coaching positions, thus passing on the skills he taught to other generations. Mr. Dulchinos taught the importance of teamwork and instilled a strong work ethic in his players. The skills he taught his students over five decades would go on to help them become successful, not only in baseball and basketball, but also in life. Those who live in Western Massachusetts have come to know Mr. Dulchinos as a recognizable face in town, who regularly attends and is a strong supporter of local high school sporting events. While coach Dan Dulchinos may be retiring, his accomplishments and the lessons he taught his players will live on.

For these reasons I wish to recognize Dan Dulchinos for his contributions to his community. Congratulations again to Mr. Dulchinos on the accomplishments of his career.

HONORING THE FEMALE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM
RECIPIENTS

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the outstanding accomplishments of the women who were presented with the Medal of Freedom yesterday by the President Barack Obama at the White House. These women come from a variety of backgrounds, but they are all leaders, and inspirations for