

RECOGNIZING THE PROJECT  
MEND-A-HOUSE VOLUNTEERS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the volunteers of Project Mend-A-House.

Project Mend-A-House volunteers are committed to improving the living conditions for low-income, seniors and/or disabled persons in Prince William, Manassas City, and Manassas Park by offering free home repairs and home modifications. Thanks to the dedication of its volunteers, residents can remain safely and independently in their own homes for as long as possible.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for Project Mend-A-House:

Ed Trotman, Brian Henkel, Linda Pulley, Bill Okuly, Kevin Tamai, Dean Quick, Robin Bayles, Ray Stuckey, Howard Horner, Bill Hoehn, Pat Wesley, Linda Wesley, Jon Ulm, Tom Smith, Scott Sells, Rich Beamer, Frederick Parish, Ernestine Jenkins, Janice Rossi-Carr, Joseph Swetnam, M.A. Sargo, Richard Baucom, Jo-Ellen Benson, David Carr, Maxine Coleman, Kevin English, Lillian Garland, Beja Harper, Candi Johnson, Linda Leiker, Gloria Rouse, Andrea Savitch, Kathy Strauss, Michael Turch, Andrea Saccoccia, Karen Garvin.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the volunteers of Project Mend-A-House for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

LEADING THE WAY FORWARD FOR  
THE NEXT 20 YEARS

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Leadership Alliance, a national consortium of renowned institutions of higher education that seeks to mold underrepresented students into academic, business, and public service leaders. The Alliance aims to prime young scholars from underserved populations for graduate training and professional apprenticeships through a comprehensive program of research, networking, and mentorship at critical transition points along their academic path.

In the twenty years since its inception, the Leadership Alliance has mentored over 2000 undergraduates who participated in a summer identification program. Over 53 percent of students enroll into a graduate level program—a number that is greater than the national average.

New York City's Columbia University has helped lead the charge in reaching out to these future leaders to help prepare them for professional life. In mentoring a significant number of participants in their Leadership Alliance summer program, Columbia prepared young students to enter a range of fields. I would now like to highlight some examples of the success of this program: Marcel Agueros, a 1992 summer program participant, went on

to become an Astronomy professor at Columbia; Amber Spry, now a first year Ph.D. student in political science, was a graduate of the summer program that received award funding from the American Political Science Association; and George Aumoithe, a 2010 Leadership summer program alumnus, currently researches the prevalence of HIV and the means to fight it.

These individuals are only a few of the outstanding cases produced by this model program. I am pleased to recognize them today as a testament to the importance of sustaining efforts to invest in programs that identify, train, and mentor talented underrepresented and underserved students. I am happy to proclaim the past twenty years work from Columbia University and the Leadership Alliance a resounding victory in this regard. I can only hope that the next twenty years will be just as if not more successful at reaching those students who have been historically underserved in the academic arena.

RECOGNIZING THE PRINCE WILLIAM  
FOREST PARK VOLUNTEERS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the volunteers for Prince William Forest Park.

The volunteers at Prince William Forest Park give their time and talents to assist in many facets of park operations. Volunteers come from all over the country and from the local community to help with visitor services, camp hosting, park maintenance, trail work and much more. They greet visitors with a smile, whether they are there for a day hike or a week's stay in one of the cabin camps. They are the eyes and ears of the park, making sure that visitors have a safe and enjoyable stay. And most of all, they exemplify the mission of the National Park Service and play an integral role to spreading that mission, creating stewards for the future.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for the Prince William Forest Park:

Mac Kelly

Mary Ann Kelly

Mac Kelly Jr.

Rhonda Farmer

Jim Hurdle

Gloria Hurdle

Ferd Westermeyer

Betty Westermeyer

Ann Todd

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the volunteers at the Prince William Forest Park for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL CANCER  
RESEARCH MONTH AND ARKAN-  
SAS'S CANCER INSTITUTES

**HON. TIM GRIFFIN**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Cancer Research Month. In 2012, an estimated 570,000 Americans will lose their life to cancer, including more than 6,500 Arkansans. Sadly, in my home state of Arkansas more than 16,000 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed this year, and Arkansas has the fifth highest cancer death rate in the nation. That's why cancer research is so critical and why scientists and doctors work tirelessly not only to treat cancer, but to prevent it.

Arkansas's Second Congressional District is home to the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, a first class treatment and research facility at the University of Arkansas Medical Sciences, UAMS, in Little Rock. I am proud to represent the Cancer Institute, which provides care to cancer patients from every Arkansas county and many others from around the country and the world. UAMS researchers are on the cutting edge of treatments for breast cancer, radiological and nuclear emergency situations as well as identifying ways to stop the spread of tumors.

The effects of cancer research reach us all, regardless of whether or not we are the ones directly affected by this devastating illness. I commend the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute and UAMS on their dedication to vital research and improving the lives of Arkansans and Americans.

RECOGNIZING THE SIX WEEKS TO  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE VOLUNTEERS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Six Weeks to Make a Difference Volunteers.

These dedicated families helped seven conservation projects from March 17 through April 28 at local natural areas. Many of the families helped at several projects. Through the projects, they improved trails, disposed of tons of debris, tires and invasive plants, planted over 1000 trees and bushes, corrected erosion problems, and left our community better than the way they found it.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for the Six Weeks to Make a Difference Program:

Adams Family, Aleman Family, Anwar Family, Babar Family, Bassett Family, Broadhurst-Bibbee Family, Butkus Family, Chiodo Family, Couture-Morales Family, Crespo-Galliver Family, Cronin Family, Darcy Family, Dinga Family, Donovan Family, Ehtasham Family, Glass Family, Goodwine Family, Gough Family, Gross Family, Hopkins Family, Huang Family, Hunter Family, Hylton Family, James Family, Jampole Family, Kaps Family, Kay Family, Kristy Family, Kromer Family, Kronthal Family,

Kulakowski Family, Makoge Family, McGeehan Family, McKinnon Family, McPike Family, Melusen Family, Menon Family, Mockenhaupt Family, Morris Family, Mory Family, Moser Family, Nielsen Family, Nieves Family, Norman Family, Ogawa Family, Phillippi Family, Protacio Family, Reedy Family, Rodriguez Family, Rosario Family, Saul Family, Seagle Family, Simmons Family, Simons Family, Thompson Family, Thompson Family, Thompson Family, Tilden Family, Verosko Family, Walker Family, Yoon Family

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending these families for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

#### NATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH MONTH

### HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor May as National Cancer Research Month.

This month recognizes those clinicians, scientists and advocates who have dedicated untold time and energy to cancer research. It is imperative that we reaffirm our commitment to this vital research so that we can help the one and a half million Americans who will face diagnosis and more than 500,000 who will die from cancer this year.

Research toward understanding the causes, prevention, and treatment of cancer has made remarkable gains over the past 50 years. Often through government funding, researchers at the National Institutes of Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have conducted the innovative work that has been central to countless scientific breakthroughs and saved millions of lives.

So many major health breakthroughs for cancer or other chronic diseases would not have happened without federal support.

These necessary investments are at the core of why mortality from cancer and other chronic diseases has declined in recent years. A cancer diagnosis is no longer the death sentence it used to be, and the statistics are only getting better.

As one of the 2.5 million breast cancer survivors living in our country today, a living statistic, this is deeply personal to me. I intimately understand the importance of strong and successful medical research, and I am so grateful for the hundreds of thousands of people working tirelessly to end this deadly disease once and for all.

As we work toward these cures, it is critically important that Americans have every possible cancer-fighting tool at their disposal.

Over the past 30 years our nation has been a leader in discovering innovative methods for the detection and treatment of cancer.

In the mid-1990s, it was a team of researchers at the National Institutes of Health who discovered the link between the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes and the risk of breast cancer. Now, women have more access to knowledge about their risks of disease and options for appropriate treatment.

The fight against cervical cancer is another success story. Research at the National Can-

cer Institute was pivotal in the development of the human Papillomavirus vaccine which protects against this disease. By June 2011, more than 35 million doses of the vaccine have been distributed in the United States.

We know that progress in research and treatment has led to increased survival and that early detection has the power to save lives. That is one reason that the Affordable Care Act has placed such a high premium on cancer research and care—from establishing the independent Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute to support high-quality, cost-effective research initiatives, to the Cures Acceleration Network, which will speed up the translation of research from bench to bedside.

Continuing our support of cancer research will expand the toolkit available to clinicians to improve both individual health outcomes and also the health of our nation. Our funding for cancer research is a significant factor in reducing long-term health care costs and increasing economic growth.

On average, each dollar of NIH funding generated more than twice as much in state economic output in 2007. In 2010, federal investment in NIH research led to the creation of 487,900 jobs and generated \$68 billion in new economic activity across the country.

We must continue to stand behind the more than 31,000 members of the American Association of Cancer Research by continuing to appropriately fund their research into finding a cure based on developing the best strategies for prevention and treatment of this disease. Supporting National Cancer Research Month reaffirms our commitment to attracting and retaining the highest caliber scientists to fight this disease and spur future breakthroughs.

For all the progress we've made over the last 50 years, we must work together to ensure that we beat this disease for good over the next 50 years.

Cancer incidence is projected to nearly double by 2020, particularly among the aging baby boomer population. It has never been more vital that we continue to develop the tools to increase early detection and effective treatments, and ultimately, cures.

Today, millions of individuals around the world still lose the battle against cancer.

We cannot forget their struggles, and we must continue our mission and support cancer research in honor of their memory.

Working together we must keep up our dedication and vigilance to help men and women know their risks, discover cancer early, access the best treatment possible, and work toward eliminating this disease.

Let us commemorate National Cancer Research Month with a renewed dedication to support the scientists, clinicians and advocates to eradicate cancer once and for all!

#### RECOGNIZING THE UN-TRIM-A-TREE HOLIDAY GIFT PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Un-Trim-A-Tree Holiday Gift Program Volunteers.

Un-Trim-A-Tree Holiday Gift Program volunteers were able to pack the gift bags for over

1,000 children in one week before Christmas. These volunteers utilized the Santa Shop toys and donated gift cards to fill the individual wishes of all these children. To this end, the Un-Trim-A-Tree Holiday Gift Program was able to serve 6,019 children.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for the Un-Trim-A-Tree Holiday Gift Program:

Karen Raniford  
Barbara Breyfogle  
Kathy Wortman  
Mary Hull  
John Hull  
Kathy Simmons  
Peggy Jones  
Stephanie Vogel  
Susan Campbell  
Peggy Shaffer  
Karen Storie  
Teresa Cosman

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the volunteers of the Un-Trim-A-Tree Holiday Gift Program for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

#### THE FY13 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

### HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I will not be able to support this National Defense Authorization Act. I hope that will change when it returns from the Senate.

This is only the second time I have voted against the NDAA. The first was last year. That bill contained a number of serious flaws including an overly broad provision that allowed the Executive wide latitude to commit U.S. forces to military action without congressional approval. Similarly, this bill contains provisions that I cannot support in their current form. It is unfortunate that the Republican majority has chosen to depart from the long-standing tradition of trying to shape bipartisan defense authorization bills.

The recently departed Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mullen, said that "Our national debt is our biggest national security threat." He also made clear, "... with the increasing defense budget, which is almost double, it hasn't forced us to make the hard trades. It hasn't forced us to prioritize. It hasn't forced us to do the analysis."

In accordance with that advice, the top civilian and military leaders developed a strategy to meet our national security needs more efficiently. Recognizing that the Defense Department still has not passed a Government Accountability Office audit, they identified important savings without compromising our national security. That plan was incorporated into the Budget Control Act enacted last August.

In developing its plan, the Defense Department conducted a comprehensive review of force needs, capabilities and obligations. Difficult choices were made about which programs to keep and which to cut in order to maintain a fiscally responsible mission ready capability. In his testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee in February, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General