

KIDNEY AWARENESS WEEK

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the great work of the American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA) and their efforts to raise awareness about chronic kidney disease (CKD). From August 5–9, the ANNA is hosting Kidney Disease Awareness and Education week, where ANNA members are holding a series of events raising awareness of the growing health problems associated with kidney disease.

CKD's onset usually stems from the improper treatment of diabetes and high blood pressure, when the kidneys fail to filter blood properly. Overtime, the kidneys can lose their functionality and as a result, increase one's chances of kidney failure, cardiovascular diseases such as heart attacks and heart failure, along with other serious health issues. Unfortunately, CKD impacts over 25 million adults in the United States.

The American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA), organized in 1969, is a nonprofit organization made of over 10,000 nephrology nurses whose mission is to educate the public and improve the lives of those with kidney disease. ANNA pursues this mission through educational and advocacy programs encouraging understanding of nephrology nursing.

Much is demanded of nephrology nurses. They are required to handle many tasks at once, while demonstrating extraordinary attention to detail and dedication while also caring and comforting their patients.

I want to thank America's nephrology nurses for all they do, particularly those who serve my constituents in the 21st Congressional district. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the efforts of the American Nephrology Nurses Association and Kidney Disease Awareness and Education week.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 429 I was unavoidably detained in a meeting off the Hill at the White House with the President.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

A TRIBUTE TO KAREN SHAFF

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Karen Shaff for being named a 2013 Women of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Each year, Business Record undertakes an exhaustive review to identify a standout group

of women in the Greater Des Moines area who, as the publication notes, "have made a difference." An impressive group of inspiring female leaders are selected annually for this prestigious distinction, which is based on combined criteria of community involvement, career success, and being a role model for other women to emulate. The 2013 Women of Influence honorees join an impressive roster of more than 130 women who have changed and are continuing to change our communities for the better.

Karen Shaff began her career at what was then known as Bankers Life Co. in 1982. In the three decades since, she has ascended the ladder to become executive vice president and general counsel at Principal Financial Group Inc., making her the highest ranking female officer of an organization whose reach spans the globe. Coming from a family of public servants, she was well-acquainted with community involvement from an early age—and it's shown. Mrs. Shaff is president of the Animal Rescue League of Iowa's advisory council, has led the fundraising efforts for the construction of the Science Center of Iowa, and is a member of the Grinnell College board of trustees. She's also involved with such organizations as Bravo Greater Des Moines and Hospice of Central Iowa.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Karen Shaff in the United States Congress, and I am pleased to recognize her for working to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating her on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Women of Influence class continued success.

RECOGNIZING JORDAN

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, today I urge my colleagues to support House Resolution 222, recognizing the long-term partnership and friendship between the United States and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, working together towards peace and security in the Middle East. I would like to recognize the bipartisan support of my colleagues, including House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce and Ranking Member Eliot Engel. This resolution comes at a time of extreme unrest and conflict in the region.

Since taking up the post of our country's top diplomat in February, Secretary of State John Kerry has traveled to Amman over six times. Close cooperation between our two nations is critical to meet the challenges of the Middle East region. Jordan plays a key role as the host and mediator in Middle East peace negotiations between the Israelis and Palestinians. Jordan has maintained full, normalized diplomatic relations with Israel for almost 20 years since signing the historic 1994 Jordan-Israel Peace Treaty. As an advocate for progress in the Middle East peace process, Jordan is a stabilizing force for the region.

The horrific violence in neighboring Syria threatens to destabilize an entire region. The

al-Assad regime continues to fuel a humanitarian crisis through attacks against innocent civilians. Over 100,000 Syrian lives have been lost and approximately 1.8 million refugees have fled Syria. Jordan is hosting over half a million refugees, which is almost 10% of Jordan's population. The government of Jordan is partnering with the international community to care for the needs of this vulnerable population, providing shelter, food, water, health care and education. The burden of caring for such a large number of refugees places enormous economic and social pressures on the country.

The United States has enjoyed a strong alliance with Jordan for over six decades. The Jordanians work closely with the United States in multiple areas, from cooperation in regional and global counterterrorism efforts, to economic development and humanitarian assistance. King Abdullah II is an advocate for modernization in the Arab world, and recognizes the potential opportunity for political reform in Jordan. U.S.–Jordan relations are a key element of U.S. strategic interests in the Middle East. I am pleased to offer this resolution commending the people and Government of Jordan for their continued friendship with the United States and commitment to peace, security and stability in the Middle East.

IN RECOGNITION OF DON DORNELL

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Fire Chief Don Dornell, who is retiring after nearly four decades of service to the people of Burlingame and San Mateo County. His dedication to public service is a credit to his community and to his character as a leader.

Don Dornell is a Peninsula native, born in San Francisco in 1951 and raised in Millbrae as the second of five children, and one of a pair of twins. He attended Capuchino High School in San Bruno, then earned his associate degree in Political Science at the College of San Mateo in 1971.

It was then that Chief Dornell's career in public service began. He served in the Army National Guard for six years, until 1977. During that time, Chief Dornell trained as a plumber, and he began working for the San Carlos Parks Department. But from his first day, he knew that the Parks Department was not for him—his real goal was serving as a firefighter.

After a brief stint in Piedmont, Chief Dornell was hired as a firefighter for the City of Burlingame in March 1977, a community he has served diligently ever since. He has risen swiftly through the ranks, earning a promotion to Fire Captain in 1985, and serving as the B-Shift Training Officer from 1985 to 1997 and codirector of the San Mateo County Fire Recruit Academy from 1996 to 1997. In January 1997, he became Assistant Chief, and he took over responsibility for training and overseeing line personnel.

More recently, Chief Dornell has worked tirelessly to ensure successful transitions as local agencies consolidate fire protection to strengthen the cohesiveness of service and promote administrative efficiency. When the

City of Burlingame and the Town of Hillsborough merged fire services in 2004, becoming the Central County Fire Department, he became the first Deputy Fire Chief of the new agency. This is a role he has embraced, as he became the agency's second Fire Chief in December 2006. Last year he took over responsibility for fire departments in Millbrae and San Bruno as well.

Chief Dornell's service to the community has taken other forms as well. He is a long-standing Fire Technology Instructor at College of San Mateo, administrator of the San Mateo County Fire Recruit Academy from 1997 to 2006, and a Member of the San Mateo County Fire Chiefs Association, where he serves as liaison to a number of adjunct groups. Chief Dornell is also the first inaugural chairman of the Burlingame Adopt-a-Unit program, which since 2004 has supported hundreds of US soldiers through their deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

In his retirement, Chief Dornell will be relocating to Calaveras County to enjoy hiking and outdoors activities in the Central Sierra, to continue work on the home he has been rebuilding, and to spend some time travelling around the country with his wife Debra. He will also continue his work as a volunteer for the Calaveras County Sheriffs Search and Rescue Team.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating Fire Chief Don Dornell on a remarkable career. His contributions to our community are an example of the best in public service, and his leadership and dedication will be missed. We wish him the best in his retirement.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,738,599,194,294.87. We've added \$6,111,722,145,381.79 to our debt in 4 and a half years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE S.A.F.E. COMPOUNDED DRUG ACT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Supporting Access to Formulated and Effective Compounded Drugs Act, or the S.A.F.E. Compounded Drug Act. My colleagues Congresswoman NITA LOWEY of New York, Congressman CONYERS of Michigan, and Congressman HONDA of California are co-sponsors of this legislation and I thank them for their work on this issue.

This bill seeks to ensure that patients and health care providers across the country have access to safe compounded drug products.

As you know, a devastating fungal meningitis outbreak last year was associated with contaminated products from a compounding facility in Massachusetts. Nearly 750 Americans became ill from these products and 61 perished. Unfortunately, this tragic outbreak and the others we have seen since are not anomalies. They are the result of a broken system. My thoughts and prayers are with the individuals and families whose lives have been affected by these contaminated products.

Earlier this week the Government Accountability Office released a report on drug compounding. That report noted that "lack of consensus and differing FDA authority to oversee compounded drugs across the country has resulted in gaps in oversight." Gaps that clearly risk the public health.

Just this week a compounding pharmacy announced the recall of more than 125 different types of sterile compounded products distributed nationally. Five days after the company began notifying its customers of the recall, a recall notice was published by the FDA. These products are being recalled because of a "question of sterility assurance." Thankfully no illnesses have been identified, but it is imperative that we act now and not wait for another heart wrenching outbreak and ask ourselves if we could have prevented it in the first place.

The bill I am introducing today should be part of our work to fix the system. It would do five things: clarify Federal authority of compounding pharmacies, improve patient and provider notification with accurate labeling, improve communication between Federal and state regulators, seek additional information to improve our understanding of the complexities related to compounded products, and strengthen penalties.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

PROMOTE PROGRESS IN DUCHENNE MUSCULAR DYS-TROPHY RESEARCH

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to talk about an opportunity before us to help some courageous children with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.

Duchenne affects nearly 20,000 babies a year, arresting proper muscle development during childhood.

Children with Duchenne, like young Gabe Griffin of Birmingham who I have personally met, are full of strength, spirit, and hope. They are an inspiration to all of us.

Thanks to medical research and the advocacy of Gabe's parents, Scott and Traci Griffin, and many other parents including Joel and Dana Wood here in Washington, new therapies and treatments are being developed for children with Duchenne.

But we all want progress to come even faster.

The Food and Drug Administration is considering whether to allow accelerated use of a potential breakthrough therapy. It is a drug called Eteplirsen.

While properly taking safety into account, it is important for the FDA to reach a timely decision on making this drug available to the children who would benefit from it.

When you have had the privilege to be with wonderful kids like Gabe, you know that we must do everything possible to help them progress through a healthy and happy childhood.

HONORING INDUCTEES INTO THE SOUTH JERSEY FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the seven new members of the South Jersey Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame. The inductees were Reggie Lawrence, Phil Costa, Todd McNair, Brian Matera, Arnold Byrd, Mike McDevitt, and Jim Doyle.

Reggie Lawrence has been a high school coach for sixteen years and is currently coaching at Willingboro. He has rebuilt the Willingboro program, which previously had a 0-10 record, into a local power which last year qualified for the South Jersey Group 2 playoffs. Mr. Lawrence has earned more than 100 victories during his coaching career at Camden, Pennsauken, Jackson Liberty, and Willingboro. Coach Lawrence has not only had an extremely successful coaching career, but he was also a star athlete at Camden High School.

Phil Costa starred at Holy Cross High School and was named to the All South Jersey team. He later excelled at the University of Maryland and now plays for the Dallas Cowboys. He started in every game for the Cowboys in 2011 and was one of the best centers in the NFL. Although he was injured for the majority of the 2012 season, he recently signed a two-year contract extension and will be back on the field for the 2013 season.

Todd McNair played at Temple University and then professionally for the Houston Oilers and the Kansas City Chiefs. In his career, McNair caught 254 passes with seven receiving touchdowns, and rushed for 803 yards and three touchdowns. He also averaged 18.6 yards per kickoff return. McNair ranks in the top 20 among Chiefs receivers with over 1,800 receiving yards. After retirement from professional football, McNair coached at Camden High School and was the running backs coach for both the Cleveland Browns and the University of Southern California. During his time at USC, he was widely recognized as one of the most effective recruiters in college football.

Brian Matera is one of Pennsauken's legendary players. He was the Indians starting linebacker for three years, earned All South Jersey honors, and was nominated by Scholastic Magazine as an All American.

He also played for the University of Maryland in three bowl games. In 1980, he even earned a tryout with the Philadelphia Eagles. Tragically, Brian Matera passed away in 1990 but his accomplishments will not be forgotten.

Arnold Byrd earned the Oaks Award, one of the highest academic awards for a male student. He was also a member of the National Honor Society, and made All State and All South Jersey for football. He received both