

health into El Rio's model, developed a Patient Care Committee and assisted the formation of the health center pain program, integrated the only community birthing center into El Rio's programs, chaired the first HRSA National Clinical Pharmacy Collaborative and served as chairman of the board for AZ Connected Care (Tucson's first Accountable Care Organization).

His contributions to the well-being of the community have been recognized through his many service and civic awards including: the LULAC Presidential Citation, the FBI Community Service award, the NAACP Community Service Award, the Rosa Parks Community Service Award.

Today I honor Dr. Arthur Martinez for his dedicated and faithful service of 20 years to El Rio CHC, Tucson and the Pima County, Arizona, community. May his example provide a path for others to follow.

SEPTEMBER IS SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Congresswoman SINEMA for organizing this special order today. For far too long, we have treated mental illness as a by-product of physical injuries, and that those who suffer from mental illness just need to get over it.

September is Suicide Prevention Month, and mental health is a big part of the causes of these fatalities.

The VA is on the forefront of treating mental health. The soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who served in Iraq and Afghanistan survived at a rate that far outstripped that of any other war that America was involved in. That is due to the cutting edge protections and armor that we outfitted our military with. A side effect of this protection was that they were coming back injured, and many of those injuries were not physically evident. Traumatic Brain Injury, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) can occur after one has experienced a traumatic event. A traumatic event can involve the threat of injury or death. Traumatic events that can lead to PTSD include but are not limited to: combat exposure, physical abuse, sexual or physical assault (including Military Sexual Trauma), and serious accidents, like a car wreck.

PTSD symptoms usually start soon after the traumatic event, but may not appear until months or years later. They also may come and go over many years. There are four types of symptoms of PTSD: Reliving the event, avoiding situations that remind you of the event, negative changes in feelings towards yourself and others, feeling too alert (hyperarousal).

PTSD develops differently from person to person.

The VA has developed the Veterans Crisis Line, where free, confidential support is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, to Veterans, their families and friends.

As part of this service, online chat and text-messaging services are also offered for free.

Veterans, or anyone concerned about a Veteran, can call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, chat online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat or text 838255 to receive support—even if they are not registered with VA or enrolled in VA health care. All Veterans Crisis Line resources are optimized for mobile devices.

Since 2007, the Veterans Crisis Line has answered more than 890,000 calls and made more than 30,000 lifesaving rescues. In 2009, the Veterans Crisis Line added the anonymous chat service, which has had more than 108,000 chats.

I want to thank the Congresswoman from Tuscon for organizing this Special Order today, and commend her leadership on this issue, which is so important for so many people.

PANCREATIC CANCER RESEARCH

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I recently met with a passionate constituent from Rhode Island who told me of her mother's struggles with pancreatic cancer. Katie Boucher recounted the story of her mother, Marie Boucher, who was diagnosed in 2008 and passed away just four months later at the age of 59. Her story resonated with me, not only because my own grandfather battled pancreatic cancer, but because an estimated 45,000 people were diagnosed with this illness in 2013 alone.

Despite great advancements in medical science, we are still woefully behind the mark when it comes to pancreatic cancer. To make matters worse, the budgetary impacts of sequestration are forcing cut-backs at the National Institutes of Health, which is responsible for funding much of the biomedical research across the country.

Mr. Speaker, we can achieve deficit reduction without sacrificing the vital research that not only drives better health outcomes, but also drives our local economies. I ask my colleagues to join me in urging stronger funding for NIH and a stronger focus on biomedical research, not just for Marie Boucher and her daughter, but for the thousands of people who are fighting for their lives in every single district across the country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, on September 25, 2013, I was absent from the House and missed rollcall votes 484 and 485.

Had I been present for rollcall vote 484, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1961, to amend title 46, United States Code, to extend the exemption from the fire-retardant materials construction requirement for vessels operating within the Boundary Line, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall vote 485, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 354, providing for the concurrence by

the House in the Senate amendment to H.R. 527, with an amendment, I would have voted "yes."

NATIONAL FARM SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK

HON. TED S. YOHO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor all of the farmers, ranchers, farm hands, veterinarians and families who work tirelessly and have dedicated their lives to our nation's agriculture.

As the 2013 National Farm Safety and Health week comes to a close, I am reminded of the tireless dedication to the safe and best practices that our farmers and ranchers employ while providing not just our nation's breakfast, lunch and dinner but the world's as well.

As a large animal veterinarian, I have had the privilege of working alongside some of the best and hardest working Americans in the country who are typically referred to as salt of the earth type folks. I recognize that it is no easy task to feed the United States let alone the world as well, which is why it is so important to keep our farmers and ranchers safe.

The Department of Labor identifies the agricultural sector as the most dangerous industry in America. As technology improves and we are able to better share best practices, I encourage everyone to do their part to promote the importance of safety in the agricultural industry.

America is known as the bread basket of the world thanks to all our hardworking ranchers and farmers. Thank you all for continuing to build and promote a better, safer and more productive industry.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 484, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

KAREN MCKAY OF FLORISSANT, MISSOURI RECEIVES TOP VOLUNTEER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CANCER-FIGHTING ADVOCACY WORK ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, Karen McKay of Florissant, Missouri was awarded ACT! Lead of the Year by the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) for her dedicated volunteer and advocacy work to help make cancer a national priority.

This annual award is given to a lead congressional district volunteer who has demonstrated unfailing leadership advocating for

ACS CAN's areas of cancer-related public policy.

"Karen has been a tireless volunteer and dedicated cancer advocate of ACS CAN's legislative priorities," said Christopher W. Hansen, president of ACS CAN. "We are grateful for Karen's outstanding efforts to organize local volunteers and advocate for strong and effective cancer-fighting public policy in her community."

Karen leads the Ambassador Constituent Team (ACT!) in Congressional District 1 for ACS CAN, the advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society. ACS CAN is the nation's largest cancer advocacy organization and supports evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem. As the ACT! Lead, Karen serves as the primary volunteer contact with District 1 lawmakers and recruits and manages other local volunteers to lead district advocacy and fundraising efforts.

Karen has been a volunteer with the American Cancer Society for many years as a leader for her local Relay For Life event and has volunteered with the ACS CAN since it began over 10 years ago.

On behalf of all families touched by cancer, ACS CAN applauds Karen's passion and determination to advocate for meaningful legislation that helps eliminate the burden of cancer and end suffering and death from this disease.

ACS CAN, the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society, supports evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem. ACS CAN works to encourage elected officials and candidates to make cancer a top national priority. ACS CAN gives ordinary people extraordinary power to fight cancer with the training and tools they need to make their voices heard.

HIGHLIGHTS OF KAREN MCKAY'S ACS CAN AND ACS INVOLVEMENT

City Council Member in Florissant, MO from 2000–12 so understands local campaigns.

Attended every MO Lobby Day event from 2002–13; visits personally with over 20 legislators.

Attended every Federal Lobby Day event from 2007–2013; her Member has supported our issues each year, including co-sponsor of Quality of Life bills in 2012 and 2013.

Raised over \$2,000 for Lights of Hope in 2012 and over \$3,000 in 2013.

Had 29 State and Federal Legislators sign the "Cancer Promise" during that campaign.

Her business was a corporate sponsor of the Wall of Hope banner displayed on National Mall.

Every year prior to Federal Lobby Day, tapes 30 minute show on News 20 that airs

several times daily for several weeks, and is seen by over 1 million viewers.

Receives "Pillars of Success" recognition from High Plains each year for work as ACT Lead.

Co-chair of local RFL event in 1998 that raised \$52,000; 3 years later, as Chair, raised \$130,000.

Worked with and helped establish the "Look Good, Feel Better" program in her area for cancer patients.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

To be nominated for an ACS CAN award, an individual/team should have excelled in activities related to building or sustaining their state's volunteer structure and/or elevating the profile of advocacy, ACS CAN, and its public policy agenda. Specifically, a nominee should have accomplished one or more of the following:

ADVANCING THE VOLUNTEER STRUCTURE

Demonstrated exceptional recruitment/retention/recognition abilities.

Demonstrated a successful team approach to advancing our efforts.

ADVANCING ADVOCACY & ACS CAN

Excelled at ACS CAN fundraising efforts.

Effectively communicated the ACS CAN public policy agenda to the media and elsewhere.

Participated in and/or led local/state/federal coalitions in support of ACS CAN's public policy agenda.

Promoted advocacy at Relay and/or other ACS events.

Promoted advocacy and/or ACS CAN within other ACS departments.

2013 NOMINATION OF KAREN MCKAY FOR ACS CAN AWARD FOR ACT LEAD OF THE YEAR, FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, MISSOURI

(Mr. Tim Freeman, Missouri Grassroots Director for the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN)).

I started in my position as Missouri Grassroots Director in January of 2009. The previous staff person who had my position left me a very detailed packet of information regarding the job. One of the things that stood out to me was her suggestion that one of the first phone calls I should make was to the ACT Lead for the 1st congressional district, Karen McKay. I did so within the first few days of employment, and it's been one of the smartest things I've ever done in this job.

Karen "gets it" when it comes to advocacy. She is a former elected official, so she has firsthand experience and a personal understanding of what it takes to influence elected officials. Karen doesn't pull any punches. She educates herself on the issues she is advocating for, and she presents them in a succinct and powerful way. She is able

to answer questions that lawmakers or staff may have, and makes sure to follow up after her meetings and conversations.

Karen has worked hard to support efforts at all levels of government. As a former City Council member, she understands the role a council can play in passing important pieces of legislation, including local smoke-free ordinances.

At the state level, she has cultivated some tremendous personal relationships with a large number of State Reps, Senators, and staff members. During our MO Lobby Day event each year, she personally meets with dozens of lawmakers and staff members, securing important support for our key legislative efforts. Karen also attends several community functions throughout the year where she has the opportunity to see elected officials from all levels. She never fails to use these opportunities to talk about ACS CAN issues and encourage elected officials to support our efforts.

Karen also worked extremely hard to help promote our recent tobacco tax campaign here in Missouri. Although it fell just short of victory, Karen was a key contributor in getting us as close as we came.

At the federal level, Karen has a tremendous relationship with her Congressman, Rep. Lacy Clay, and his staff. She knows several members of his staff personally, and is always greeted in his DC office with a big smile, hugs, and pictures being taken. The same is true for her meetings with Congressman Clay. Just recently, Karen got Congressman Clay to once again agree to co-sponsor ACS CAN's Quality of Life legislation. Needless to say, Rep. Clay has been a supporter of ACS CAN priority issues for many years, in great part because of the efforts of Karen McKay.

Karen is also a tremendous fundraiser for ACS CAN. Her fundraising efforts began with her involvement with RFL, and have translated over to ACS CAN. Last year, she was one of the top 5 fundraisers for Lights of Hope, with over \$2,500 raised, and this year she has surpassed that goal and will raise over \$3,000 before the event in September. Her overall fundraising for both ACS and ACS CAN are astounding.

Karen has also done a great job of recruiting others to be part of her ACT Team through the years, having filled all positions at some point during her time as ACT Lead.

Karen is an ACT Lead that other members of our Missouri team look to for ideas, leadership, and support. I can tell you that as the staff partner for Missouri, I do the same.

Karen is a big reason for the success we've had here in MO, and it is a pleasure for me to nominate her for ACT Lead of the Year. It's an award that she could have won many times over, and I sincerely hope she will receive full consideration this year.