

express my appreciation for his years of service to KCCI and the people of Iowa.

A Newell, Iowa native and alumnus of Buena Vista University, Mr. Fredericksen has been a part of the KCCI family for more than four decades and has served as the president and general manager for 27 years. Under Paul's leadership, KCCI, a CBS affiliate, has expanded its statewide and nationwide influence on its path to becoming the top-rated station in central Iowa.

Paul's many accomplishments at KCCI have earned him deserved recognition across the nation, including numerous broadcasting and broadcast journalism awards at the regional and national levels. It goes without saying that the KCCI central Iowans know and love today would not be the same without Mr. Fredericksen's tireless efforts and thoughtful guidance.

Mr. Speaker, Paul's contribution to broadcasting excellence and to the great state of Iowa cannot be overstated. While Mr. Fredericksen's expertise and experience are sure to be missed, he leaves behind a grateful viewing audience and an excellent example of leadership for which to strive. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Paul and wishing him the best as he begins a new chapter in life.

HONORING MS. SU WEBB

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Ms. Su Webb, who will be receiving a Loudoun Laurels Medal for her lifetime of civic leadership in the Loudoun County community.

Ms. Webb is receiving the award in the category of "Extraordinary Stewardship" on October 11, 2013 at the River Creek Club in Leesburg, Virginia. The Loudoun Laurels Medal recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the common good in our region.

Ms. Webb has long been committed to cultural and environmental preservation in Loudoun County. She is the chairman of the Loudoun County Farm Heritage museum and serves on the boards of the Aldie Heritage Association and the Lovettsville Park Advisory Committee. She has also served on Loudoun County's Parks, Recreation and Open Space Board for over twenty years, during which time she was instrumental in transferring the operations of Historic Mt. Zion Church and Aldie Mill Park to the Parks authority, the establishment of Gilbert's Corner Regional Park and the planning for White's Ford Regional Park.

I want to commend Ms. Webb for her tireless commitment to preserving the wealth of cultural history and environmental beauty in Loudoun County.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, Wednesday, September 25, 2013, I was unavoidably detained

due to meetings with constituents in my district. Had I been present on the House floor, I would have voted "aye" on the following bills and resolutions:

H.R. 1961, to amend title 46 to extend the exemption from the fire-retardant materials construction requirement for vessels operating within the Boundary Line;

And H. Res. 354, providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendment to H.R. 527, Responsible Helium Administration and Stewardship Act, with an amendment.

LETTER FROM REV. BILLY GRAHAM TO THE PRESIDENT ROUHANI OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

HON. ROBERT PITTENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, attached is a letter from Rev. Billy Graham to President Rouhani of the Islamic Republic of Iran. This is the letter I referenced in my one minute speech on September 26, 2013.

MONTREAL, NORTH CAROLINA,
September 23, 2013.

President HASSAN ROUHANI,
Islamic Republic of Iran.

DEAR PRESIDENT ROUHANI, I have been watching with great concern about the case of Pastor Saeed Abedini, an American citizen who is currently a prisoner in your country. He was in Iran working to build an orphanage when he was arrested and later sentenced to eight years in prison. His situation has been receiving an increasingly high level of attention in the United States. Unfortunately this publicity has been entirely negative for Iran, with the belief that the primary reason for Pastor Abedini's imprisonment was because of his Christian faith.

As you may know, as a religious leader I have often spoken (both publicly and also privately with our national leadership) about the need for greater understanding and peace among the nations of the world. As you come to the United States this week for the UN General Assembly in New York, it is my sincere hope that ways may be found to reduce the current tensions between the United States and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The announcement on Monday that your country has freed eighty political prisoners is very encouraging. I fear, however, that the current publicity surrounding the continued imprisonment of Pastor Abedini, an American citizen, may further harm the already fragile relationship that presently exists between our two nations.

On September 26, the one-year anniversary of Pastor Abedini's imprisonment, thousands will attend prayer vigils in more than seventy U.S. cities, calling on your country to release this husband, father, and servant of God. I join them by respectfully asking you to release Pastor Saeed Abedini from prison. Such an action would, I believe, have a positive impact in our nation, and might well be perceived by our leadership as a significant step in reducing tensions.

Respectfully yours,

BILLY GRAHAM.

HONORING HUGH OLIN HALL, JR.

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Hugh Olin Hall, Jr. who passed away on September 24, 2013 at the age of 93. Mr. Hall, Jr. is a brother of my dear colleague, Congressman RALPH HALL.

Mr. Hall, Jr. was the youngest person to graduate from Rockwall High School at the age of 15. He attended the University of Texas at Austin and North Texas State University in Denton.

Hugh Olin Hall, Jr. was born on January 29, 1920, in Fate, Texas. Hugh honorably served in the in the Field Artillery Unit of the United States Army during WWII and served in the Field Artillery Unit in Germany. After his military service, he worked on the pipelines with his father for the Oklahoma Contracting Company. He was employed with Lone Star Gas, where he worked until his retirement in 1989.

He was a member of the Rockwall Masonic Lodge and member of First United Methodist Church of Rockwall. He was an avid reader and a historian of WWII, later having the opportunity to travel back to Europe and Germany to visit the areas where he had served.

He is survived by his loving wife Doris Jane Hall; brother Ralph M. Hall; sister Rosemary Hall Scott; grandchildren Christopher Andrew Jeanes, Hugh Olin Hall IV and Christopher Leigh Hall; four nephews: Ralph Hampton Hall and wife Jody, Brett Allen Hall and wife Karen, Jay Blakeley Hall & wife Catherine and Dr. Victor Mark Scott & wife Vickie; grandnephews Jay Hampton Hall and wife Katherine, Steven Lule and wife Leeanna and Alexander Cole Scott; and grandnieces Haley Nicole Scott, Sarah Elizabeth Hall, Amanda Ellen Hall and Crystal Tucker Hall. Hugh was preceded in death by his son Hugh Olin Hall, III; daughter Rebecca Ann Hall Jeanes; and sister-in-law Mary Ellen Hall.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Hugh Olin Hall, Jr. I urge my colleagues to please join me in conveying my condolences for their loss.

TRIBUTE TO COLBY COOK

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the heroic actions of eighth-grader Colby Cook of West Des Moines, Iowa.

During a typical lunch hour in the lunchroom of Indian Hills Junior High School in Clive, 13-year-old Colby noticed his good friend Kyle in distress. A large piece of Kyle's sandwich was lodged in his airway, cutting off his ability to breathe. Colby wasted no time upon recognizing his friend was in danger and expertly employed the Heimlich maneuver to save Kyle's life and avert the life-threatening situation.

It is also evident that Mr. Cook is as humble as he is heroic. Immediately after saving a life

through his quick thinking and swift action, Colby simply headed to Social Studies class as he would on any other day without saying a word of the incident. It was only after Colby's parents, Clay and Teri, heard their son recount the day's events at dinner that Colby's great story, and the need to recognize his actions, was brought to light.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to represent future leaders like Colby in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I applaud his lifesaving effort today. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Colby, thanking him for a job well done, and wishing him a bright future.

HONORING JOSEPH R. PLUENNEKE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joseph R. Pluenneke. Joseph is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 261, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joseph has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joseph has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Joseph has become a member of the Order of the Arrow and led his troop as Patrol Leader. Joseph has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Joseph completed much needed improvements to the White Tail Trail at the Parkville Nature Sanctuary in Parkville, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joseph R. Pluenneke for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING JENNIFER VAUPEL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues in the House to join me in recognizing Washington, DC physician assistant Jennifer Vaupel, who practices at Bread for the City. We commend Mrs. Vaupel for the valuable health care services she provides to medically underserved populations in DC. She should be honored for her compassion and the quality medical services she provides to these vulnerable patients.

Mrs. Vaupel has served as a physician assistant for almost six years at Bread for the City, which is a premier safety-net service organization in DC. Bread for the City has been providing comprehensive support services—food, clothing, medical care, and legal and social services—to the city's low-income population for nearly 40 years.

As the sole full-time physician assistant working at this nonprofit, Mrs. Vaupel ensures

patients receive the health care and other services they need. Throughout her career in health care, Mrs. Vaupel has gone above and beyond what is required of her. She seeks to understand the socioeconomic challenges her patients endure, and, as a result, she is able to ensure better health care outcomes for her patients.

Because of Mrs. Vaupel's courageous work, Bread for the City was awarded the prestigious Caring for Communities Grant from the Physician Assistant Foundation. This \$5,000 annual award was presented to Bread for the City in May 2013, in recognition of the manner in which the nonprofit has used physician assistants in providing care to people with disabilities or for those without the ability to pay for medical services. The award also recognizes the numerous educational experiences Bread for the City has given physician assistants and students in physician assistant programs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the successful and compassionate work of Mrs. Vaupel. Mrs. Vaupel improves the quality of life for many residents of Washington, DC, as exemplified by the awarding of the Physician Assistant Foundation grant to Bread for the City. Her work not only directly helps her patients, but it also sets a wonderful humanitarian example for us all.

CONGRATULATING FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY'S COLLEGE OF EDUCATION ON THEIR RECOGNITION AS AN "EX- AMPLE OF EXCELENCIA"

HON. JOE GARCIA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Florida International University's College of Education for their recognition by Excelencia in Education as an "Example of Excelencia" for the College's "Creating Latino Access to a Valuable Education" or CLAVE program. CLAVE is a truly outstanding program that aims to increase the number of graduate degrees awarded to Hispanic American teachers and administrators by providing scholarships to complete masters and doctoral degrees.

It brings me great pride to represent a university that not only leads the nation in awarding bachelor's and master's degrees to Hispanic students but is also deeply invested in its surrounding community.

After receiving a \$2.8 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education, CLAVE was created as a collaborative effort between the College of Education and Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS). The program targets low performing urban schools within the school district as a way to enhance the professional development of teachers working in challenging academic environments and ultimately enhance the performance of the students they serve. CLAVE selects teachers that come from schools where more than 50 percent of the student population is Hispanic and less than half of the faculty holds Master's degrees.

The financial support offered by CLAVE doesn't only expand the educational opportuni-

ties of Hispanic Americans through direct scholarships. This program also provides the College with resources to expand its institutional capacity by improving its Student Support Services, enhancing its mentoring support at the graduate level, strengthening academic quality, expanding technological infrastructure, and targeting the professional development of faculty.

While this project focuses on expanding educational opportunities for Hispanic Americans, all students attending the College of Education benefit as do the MDCPS students who will gain better trained teachers. The results of the pre/post test that is used to measure changes in students' performance resulting from improved knowledge and skills of participating teachers and administrators in the program prove the benefits of CLAVE.

CLAVE is a vehicle to enhance access for Hispanic-Americans to post-baccalaureate degrees, and like FIU President Mark B. Rosenberg said, "it is a great example of FIU's commitment to Miami-Dade's public schools, its teachers and its students."

Mr. Speaker, FIU and its College of Education are truly "Examples in Excelencia", and more universities should follow suit.

IN RECOGNITION OF WORCESTER TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL AND PRINCIPAL SHEILA HARRITY

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the incredible accomplishments of Worcester Technical High School under the leadership of Principal Sheila Harrity.

Worcester Technical High School, located in my hometown of Worcester, Massachusetts, is on the cutting edge of career and technical education. Recognizing the importance of coupling academic rigor with hands-on experience, Worcester Tech has developed a curriculum to ensure students graduate college-and-career ready. With a focus on robust STEM education, faculty members at Worcester Tech are preparing students for careers in highly technological industries. In recognition of this academic excellence and improved student achievement, Worcester Tech was recently named a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

Worcester Tech is a well-respected institution in our city, and students of the school have demonstrated their commitment to giving back to Worcester by completing various community service projects that range from land maintenance and water testing to constructing a low-income LEED certified house. The school has also partnered with institutions of higher learning to advance their knowledge. For example, Worcester Tech recently partnered with Worcester Polytechnic Institute to construct a modular, zero-energy home and compete in a Solar Decathlon in Datong, China.

Additionally, Worcester Technical High School is leader in robotics education. The school is home to the nationally recognized Robotics and Automation Technology Team