

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

known as the Tech-Know Commandos, winners of the 2013 VEX Robotics World Championship trophy.

All of this would not be possible without the talented faculty and staff of Worcester Technical High School, including Principal Sheila Harrity. Ms. Harrity has demonstrated a deep passion for and commitment to advancing educational outcomes for the students of Worcester Tech, and has transformed the school into an innovative learning center. Her incredible efforts have earned her the 2014 National High School Principal of the Year award by MetLife and the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

I'm so proud to represent the faculty, students, and staff of Worcester Tech, a leader in career and technical education, and look forward to their future successes. I ask you to join me in congratulating Worcester Technical High School for being selected as a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School, and in honoring Principal Sheila Harrity for her lifelong commitment to education.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SYLVIA
FRASIER

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I rise today to pay tribute and to honor the life of Sylvia Frasier, who was one of 12 dedicated civilian employees and contractors that were senselessly murdered at the Navy Yard in Washington, DC, on September 16. Mass shootings are always difficult to bear. My heart breaks for their loved ones and for the tight-knit military, government, and contractor community found in the Washington metropolitan area.

As her funeral service is tomorrow at the Rhema Christian Center Church in Northeast Washington, DC, I want to remember the legacy Ms. Frasier leaves behind. She earned a bachelor of science in computer information systems and a master's in information systems. Ms. Frasier worked at Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) as an information assurance manager since 2000. Her duties at NAVSEA included providing policy and guidance on network security, and assuring that all computer systems operated by the headquarters met Department of Navy and Department of Defense requirements.

According to those that knew her best—her family and colleagues—Ms. Frasier was a friend to everyone she met and a stranger to no one. One friend stated that her personality was “bright, just like her blond hair, and lit up a room.” A colleague at work recalled what she would miss most about Sylvia are all the jokes they shared at the beginning of their phone calls before they got down to business. In a statement, her family said “if there are any words to describe her, it would be faithful, family oriented, and dedicated professional.”

Ms. Frasier's outgoing personality just wasn't suited to sitting still. She had choir rehearsal every Saturday morning, church on Sunday mornings, lots of travel for the Navy, friends and family to spend time with, and yet she still worked a second job in the evenings and on weekends because she was a people person.

Ms. Frasier was a deaconess, altar counselor, and member of the arts and music ministry at Rhema Christian Center Church. So, her faith was obviously very important to her.

Sylvia Frasier's record of service was characterized by sacrifice, by hard work and dedication to duty, and most of all by achievement. She leaves behind a legacy of service that others can aspire to.

Now that her time on earth has come to a needlessly premature end, it is my hope that Sylvia Frasier has found the peace she has earned. On behalf of this House, I extend the thanks of a grateful nation and our sincere condolences to James and Eloise Frasier, her parents; each of her siblings and their families; and to the many friends whose lives she touched. My thoughts, prayers, and deepest sympathy go out to all of the victims of this horrendous tragedy and their families. May God continue to comfort and sustain each of you.

HONORING GRANT MICHAEL
DOWNES

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 Grant Michael Downes. Grant 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.

Grant has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Grant 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, Grant has become a member of the Order of the Arrow and led his troop as Patrol Leader. Grant has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Grant led an effort to assist inner city youth participating in soccer through the Police Athletic League.

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

HELIUM STEWARDSHIP ACT OF
2013

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, today I am glad to lend my support to legislation that will provide for a one-year extension of the Secure Rural Schools program. The Secure Rural Schools program provides needed funding to counties nationwide, and these payments are critical to Oregon's rural timber counties. The funding supports vital public services, including emergency personnel, schools, and infrastructure, and it represents our commitment

that Federal forest policy shouldn't drive rural counties into bankruptcy.

But this is only a one-year extension, and Oregon's rural timber counties need long term certainty. Congress must help these counties develop a long term solution to their revenue problems, one that strikes a balance between increasing timber yields on Federal forest land and environmental conservation. This is a difficult process, and although we are making progress, counties need relief right away. For this reason, I strongly support this one-year extension of the Secure Rural Schools program, and will continue to work on a lasting solution with my colleagues in the House of Representatives.

I am also pleased to support the main purpose of this legislation, which is to allow for the continued functioning of the Federal Helium Reserve. This program supports important work across a broad spectrum of industries, from chemistry research in our public universities to semiconductor manufacturing done by high-tech firms in Oregon's First Congressional District. The House and Senate have reached a noble, bipartisan solution to guarantee the uninterrupted supply of this critical resource. I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

ASSAULT AND MURDER AGAINST
THE MEK

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, not all is well in the world. In the 21st century, there is still a fight that must be fought against those bent on killing innocent people. These people's crime? Simply wanting to be left alone and live how they please. In the early morning hours of September 1, Iraqi gunmen raided Camp Ashraf. Camp Ashraf is a camp out in the hinterlands of Iraq where members of an Iranian opposition group used to live after Iran started executing their Members. But 2 years ago most residents were forced to move to a new camp closer to Baghdad and out of over 3,000 people originally at Camp Ashraf, only about 100 remained in the camp on the morning of the attack. By the time the sun came up, they had killed fifty-two unarmed residents and kidnapped seven more. I have seen footage of the attack. Unarmed civilians are running around trying not to get shot while the evildoers systematically gun them down. The evildoers were not trying to talk. They were trying to kill. And they succeeded. A United Nations delegation conducted a visit to the camp the next day and verified that the 52 deceased had “suffered gunshot wounds, the majority of them in the head and the upper body, and several with their hands tied.” These people were executed when they had not done anything wrong. They had no weapons. They did not pose a threat to anyone. They were murdered in cold blood. To make matters worse, this isn't even the first time that something like this has happened. Despite repeated assurances by the Iraqi government that they will be safe and protected, since 2012 alone, 113 members have been killed in five separate attacks. It should be clear to all by now that the Iraqi government cannot be