

2003. Keeping in line with her tireless support of IBD patients and their families, as President of the Greater New York Chapter, she initiated the support group model that has since been implemented as CCFA's national network of support groups.

Suzanne was also the Founder and past President of the Digestive Disease National Coalition (DDNC). The DDNC comprises more than 32 patient groups and professional societies, representing the research and healthcare legislative interests of people who suffer from digestive disorders. In addition, she was an active leader in many digestive disease-related health forums and committees, holding the following positions: member of the Advisory Council, National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases, National Institutes of Health; chair of the Workgroup on Education of Public and Patients and Supporting Resources of the National Commission on Digestive Diseases; and member of the Advisory Committee and Executive Committee of the National Digestive Disease Information Clearinghouse.

Under Suzanne's direction, CCFA and DDNC have been consistent and effective voices for digestive disease research within the National Institutes of Health, including funding for the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, and other related institutes and agencies within the Public Health Service. She is recognized by the research community, CCFA and the DDNC as a loyal ally and a valuable resource in creating public awareness of digestive diseases, as well as a strong partner in the effort to develop new treatments and improve medical understanding of these conditions.

Most recently, with Suzanne's guidance, I worked along with CCFA to establish the Congressional Crohn's and Colitis Caucus. In memory of Suzanne's contributions, CCFA and DDNC will continue to work together to improve the lives of patients with digestive diseases.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in this very special congressional salute to this leader and advocate, Suzanne Rosenthal.

IN HONOR OF THE OPENING OF
PINNACLES NATIONAL PARK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2013

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the opening of Pinnacles National Park, the 59th National Park in the United States. I want to thank Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar for joining us to celebrate the opening of Pinnacles National Park on February 11, 2013.

Pinnacles truly is a special place. There are few words that can describe the feeling of watching a California condor spread its massive wings as it soars high above the volcanic spires or the beauty of the Park's wildflowers painted upon the landscape by the springtime sun.

Native Americans were the first to discover the cliffs of Pinnacles. The Chalon and Mutsun

groups of the Ohlone people lived here thousands of years ago. This place was more than just a home to these native tribes; it was the center of their community. As our nation spread west and homesteaders began to settle on the Central Coast, they too were drawn to this spot. Led by Schuler Hain, who the wilderness of Pinnacles is now named for, they would hike into the park to explore the Talus Caves or picnic in the open meadows. Realizing that this was a special place worthy of protection for generations to enjoy, Schuler Hain gathered the community and preservation efforts were launched. Then, in 1908 President Theodore Roosevelt established Pinnacles National Monument. A century later, understanding the economic potential of a National Park designation, surrounding counties again turned to Pinnacles as a means to support their communities.

I would like to thank Representative JEFF DENHAM, who co-sponsored the bill, Senator BARBARA BOXER for championing the bill in the Senate and President Obama in making Pinnacles a national park thus achieving the dream of Schuler Hain and President Theodore Roosevelt.

I can't help but think of the pride my father, who as a state Senator protected so many special places here in California, would have felt if he were alive to see the creation of the ninth national park here in his home state. I also think of my friend and my first campaign chair, Ansel Adams, whose iconic photographs captured the unbelievable beauty of this country, inspiring a whole new generation of Americans to experience our other great parks. Finally, I think of the Ansel Adams of this generation, Director Ken Burns, a supporter of elevating Pinnacles to a national park, whose documentary series National Parks: America's Best Idea captured the story of our country's efforts to set aside land for protection.

He and his business partner, Dayton Duncan wrote:

"National parks are truly 'America's best idea,' an idea that for nearly 150 years has kept evolving and expanding, not just in the United States but across the entire world. It is the Declaration of Independence written upon the landscape, a statement that a nation's most majestic and sacred places should be preserved for all time and for everyone . . .

"Pinnacles National Park, like so many in our history, is the result of the dedication of individual citizens who worked tirelessly to save a special place they loved, so that others could love it and appreciate it as well. It has a deep history that matches its beauty . . .

"We cannot think of a better way to express our feelings than to quote John Muir, who had this to say about the people responsible for the birth of a new national park: 'Happy will be [the ones] who, having the power and the love and the benevolent forecast [to create a park] will do it. They will not be forgotten. The trees and their lovers will sing their praises, and generations yet unborn will rise up and call them blessed.'"

Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to call Pinnacles a national park. I encourage all Americans to come visit this truly special place and be inspired to go home and preserve the special places in their own communities.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE AFRICAN
AMERICAN COMMUNITY OF
QUAKERTOWN

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2013

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication of the State of Texas' Historical Commission with the placement of an Official Texas Historical Marker on behalf of the African American Community of Quakertown.

In the early 1880s, Quakertown emerged as a thriving African American community in the heart of Denton, TX. Quakertown flourished through 1920, its growth due in part to its location near the city square and the opportunities it provided for African Americans. The community was bounded by Withers Street on the north, Oakland Avenue on the west, Bell Avenue on the east, and by Cottonwood and Pecan Creeks on the South. Although many residents worked for businesses on the nearby city square, at the College of Industrial Arts (now Texas Woman's University), and as servants for white households, Quakertown prospered as a self-supporting community. Several churches, a physician's office, lodges, restaurants, and small businesses joined homes to line the streets of the community. The neighborhood school, the Fred Douglass School, burned in Sep. 1913 and was rebuilt along Wye Street in Southeast Denton in 1916, foreshadowing events to come.

By 1920, the proximity of Quakertown to the growing College of Industrial Arts and the civic-minded interests of Denton's white residents threatened the future of Quakertown. Many believed that it was in the best interest of the College and the Denton community to transform Quakertown into a city park. In Apr. 1921, with little input from its residents, the City voted 367 to 240 in favor of a bond to purchase Quakertown. More than 60 families lost their homes. The majority of the displaced residents relocated to southeast Denton on 21 acres of land, platted as Solomon Hill, sold to them by rancher Albert L. Miles. Others, including many Quakertown Community leaders, chose to leave Denton altogether. By Feb. 1923, Quakertown had disappeared in the midst of the new park's construction.

The Texas Historical Marker commemorating the site was approved by and paid for by the Texas Historical Commission as one of a select group of applications made each year to recognize untold stories. The selection was a result of a successful 2010 application by the Denton County Historical Commission, supported through the efforts of the Denton Public Library and the Denton Parks and Recreation Department.

It is my honor to recognize these organizations and the efforts of the individuals involved and to represent Denton County and the City of Denton in the House of Representatives.

HONORING CHIEF PETTY OFFICER CHRIS KYLE

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2013

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I solemnly stand today to honor and pay respect to a true American patriot, a devoted father, and a loving husband, Chief Petty Officer Chris Kyle. Sadly, on February 2, 2013, Chris and close friend Chad Littlefield were tragically killed on a remote ranch in Texas while attempting to help a troubled veteran who was suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. Chris leaves behind his lovely wife Taya, and their two children.

Born on April 8, 1974 in Odessa, Texas, Chris began shooting and hunting with his father when he was eight years old. After an accident ended a short-lived career as a professional bronco rider, Chris was moved from within to satisfy his life-long desire to serve his country and join the military. Chris enlisted in the United States Navy, and ultimately worked his way to becoming a member of the United States Navy's Sea, Air, Land Teams, also known as the U.S. Navy Seals, one of our nation's most elite group of special forces units.

From 1999 to 2009, Chris served four tours in Iraq as a member of SEAL Team 3 where he was involved in every major battle of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Throughout his time in Iraq, Chris' courage and heroism in battle earned him the title and honor of the most elite sniper in U.S. history.

Fearful for his deadly accuracy, Chris was nicknamed The Devil of Ramadi by insurgents, and recorded a record 150 confirmed kills—one of which was a 2,100-yard strike, 1.2 miles away. More importantly however, Chris is most remembered for his selfless and unwavering ability to protect American troops while perched on rooftops. In fact, despite being shot twice and directly involved in multiple IED explosions during his tours, Chris always made doing his job and his fellow teammates his top priority. For his bravery, Chris was awarded two Silver Stars, five Bronze Stars with Valor, two Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medals, and one Navy and Marine Corps Commendation.

In 2009, Chris retired from his military career in order to dedicate more time to his wife and family. Shortly after, he released his New York Times bestselling autobiography, *American Sniper*, which shares his battle experiences and sheds light on the true sacrifices that service members and their families endure. Unprepared for the books immediate success, Chris ultimately donated proceeds from the book to the families of fallen service members. For those that knew Chris personally, this was nothing out of the ordinary.

Chris was not just an exemplary soldier; he was a successful businessman, a trusted friend and team member, and a devoted husband, father, and son. He lived by the professional motto, "It is our duty to serve those who serve us." This principle became the driving force behind his decision to found Craft International, a military and law enforcement training and security company, as well as help create Fitco Cares Foundation, a nonprofit organization that helps veterans overcome post-traumatic stress disorder and adjust to civilian.

As a former veteran myself, I truly understand the sacrifices Chris and his family made for our great country. Chris' devotion to a higher calling and his commitment to God, Country, and Family should serve as a constant reminder that freedom isn't free. We all owe a debt to men and women like Chief Petty Officer Chris Kyle.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Officer Chris Kyle, a true American hero and a man of great principle. I extend my deepest condolences to Chris' family, and my thoughts and prayers are with them as they move forward in Chris' honor.

RECOGNIZING SIX GRADUATING SENIOR BASKETBALL PLAYERS AT BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize six outstanding members of the senior class at Buffalo State College. Four members of the men's varsity basketball team, Anthony Hamer, Jake Simmons, Seth Runge, and Ken Owusu, and two members of the women's basketball team, Erica Derby and Alicia Bowman, will graduate this spring. I commend each of these students for their contributions to Buffalo State, and congratulate them at the culmination of their illustrious collegiate athletic careers.

Scholar athletes have the unique challenge of balancing the academic demands of undergraduate work with the physical demands of a collegiate sports program. Full participation in each requires incredible discipline and commitment. Each student athlete is accountable not only to themselves, but to their teammates, coaches, and greater campus community.

Despite such great expectations, Anthony, Jake, Seth, Ken, Erica and Alicia have excelled. Each will earn their bachelor's degree. Jake has the distinct honor of scoring the most points in the history of Buffalo State men's basketball. As an alumnus of Buffalo State College myself, I will be proud to call them fellow alumni.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing my colleagues to join me in recognizing these exceptional Buffalo State Bengals and wishing them the best as they complete their undergraduate careers. I have no doubt their work ethic and determination will bring them success in all their future endeavors.

SCIENCE DIPLOMACY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, 2013 will mark the 10th anniversary of a unique and historical gathering of scientists from 15 Middle East countries: Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Palestinian Authority, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey and United Arab Emirates. In 2003, the

first conference, "Frontier of Chemical Sciences: Research and Education in the Middle East—A Bridge to Peace," was held on the Mediterranean island of Malta. These conferences later came to be known as "The Malta Conferences."

In each of the conferences, scientists meet for five days with six Nobel Laureates to work on scientific issues of importance to the region: Air and Water Quality, Alternative Energy Sources, Nanotechnology and Material Science, Medicinal Chemistry, and Science Education for All Levels. Since 2003, five conferences were held. By invitation from UNESCO, Malta V was held at UNESCO's Headquarters in Paris in December 2011. The conference was opened by the Director General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, and followed by a speech by HRH Prince Hassan of Jordan on his vision for the new Middle East.

Although acts of war and terrorism have destabilized the political and economic climate in the Middle East and around the world, it remains possible for scientists from opposing sides of the political and cultural conflict to meet in an attempt to forge relationships that bridge the deep chasms of distrust and intolerance.

In the Middle East, it is especially important that stable, mutually respectful, personal relationships be created that will enhance research interactions and collaborations, contribute to a more peaceful atmosphere, encourage international development, help establish a more favorable environment for regional peace and security, and foster further growth in regional scientific and technological cooperation. This is the goal of the Malta Conferences.

In 2012, the Malta Conferences Foundation was established as a nonprofit organization and my great friend and constituent Zafra Lerman was elected its president. Like other people who foster social change, she too had a dream. The fulfillment of this dream was the Malta Conferences.

Zafra Lerman is a world-renowned scientist and science educator. She received her Ph.D. from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel and conducted research on isotope effects at Cornell University, Northwestern University, and at the Swiss Polytechnic in Zurich, Switzerland. Professor Lerman developed an innovative approach of teaching science to non-science majors by integrating science with the arts, and with students' personal interests and cultural backgrounds. These methods have received national and international recognition. She has been invited to lecture on her methods all over the U.S. and around the world.

For the past 25 years, she has worked tirelessly on behalf of dissidents all over the world. She chaired the Committee on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights for the American Chemical Society (ACS). At great risk to her personal safety, she has worked within the Soviet Union, China and other countries and has succeeded in preventing executions, releasing prisoners of conscience from jail and bringing dissidents into freedom.

Professor Lerman has received many national and international awards. In 1999, she received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring from President Clinton. In 1998, she received the Kilby Laureate Award for extraordinary contribution to society through science,