

325 years of peaceful British rule. Nowadays, Bahamians typically commemorate their independence with a week-long celebration beginning on July 3rd consisting of a number of "Junkanoo" street parades, fireworks, political speeches, and other events.

Mr. Speaker, I join with the people of The Bahamas and the Bahamian diaspora worldwide in commemorating the 40th anniversary of their independence. This resolution reaffirms the strong friendship and partnership between our two countries, which are united by a shared history, common values, and a commitment to democracy and human rights.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF MRS. JOHNNIE
JACQUELINE YOUNG MIMS SANDERS

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mrs. Johnnie Jacqueline Young Mims Sanders who will celebrate her 100th birthday on October 31, 2013. I ask my colleagues to join me in offering best wishes to Mrs. Sanders on this most historic occasion.

Mrs. Sanders was born on the last day of October in 1913 in my Congressional District in Vance County in the City of Henderson, North Carolina. She has dedicated her life to improving the lives of generations of North Carolinians through teaching, ministry, and community involvement.

Mrs. Sanders graduated from Henderson Institute in 1932. The Institute was established in 1887 and was the only secondary school in Vance County that was open to African Americans. She continued her education at my alma mater of North Carolina Central University—then North Carolina College for Negroes—ultimately graduating with three degrees including a Bachelor of Arts in 1942, Bachelor of Science in 1946, and a Master's Degree in Elementary Education in 1951.

Drawn to educating and shaping young minds, Mrs. Sanders served as an educator for 46 years. She was a teacher at Kittrell Grade School and Eaton-Johnson Elementary School. Following that, she served as a Media Specialist at both Eaton-Johnson and E.M. Rollins Elementary Schools and also coordinated the organization of the Enrichment Center while working in the Vance County Schools' Central Office.

There is no doubt that Mrs. Sanders positively influenced the lives of countless young people while in the classroom. Outside the classroom, she has and continues to be one of the cornerstones of Shiloh Baptist Church in Henderson, where, "Mother Sanders," as she is known, helps to mentor and advise young and old alike. For the past 93 years she has dedicated herself to her church and has been part of many ministries including teaching at the Baptist Training Union and singing in the Chancel Choir, often performing solos.

Mrs. Sanders' kindness and dedication to her community reached far beyond the classroom and church. Over the last century, Mrs.

Sanders has helped young people and adults continue their education, sponsored trips to state and national church conventions, and organized and funded recreational trips across the United States. She has even helped people in the community start businesses without ever expecting anything in return. She is a true humanitarian and Vance County, the City of Henderson, and our great state of North Carolina are privileged to count her as one of their own.

For the majority of the last century, Mrs. Sanders has helped to improve the lives of her friends, neighbors, and strangers alike through her work with countless civic organizations. She has been a member of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, and the General Baptist State Convention just to name a few. And, even at the age of 100, she continues to serve others through her work with the Golden Age Club, the North Carolina Association of Educators, and as a representative for the Senior Health Insurance Program.

Mr. Speaker, for the past century, Mrs. Sanders has lived a life worthy of emulating. Her dedication to education, her church, and her community deserve our highest praise. I ask that my colleagues join me in expressing our deep appreciation for the selfless way with which she has led her life.

HONORING CLARENCE E. SASSER

HON. BILL FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the heroism of Specialist Fifth Class Clarence E. Sasser of the United States Army.

Specialist Fifth Class Clarence E. Sasser was a private in the 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division and when he earned the U.S. military's highest decoration, the Medal of Honor, for his selfless and courageous acts on January 10, 1968, in Vietnam.

As a combat medic in Vietnam, Specialist Sasser served our country above and beyond the call of duty.

On January 10th, 1968, his company was making an air assault when it took fire from enemy positions on three sides of the landing zone.

While under enemy fire, Specialist Sasser helped drag a wounded soldier to cover, all while refusing medical treatment for a wound in his left shoulder. He then returned to help more of his fellow soldiers. He quickly treated soldiers in need and then continued to search for other wounded.

Near the end of the action, even with two additional wounds immobilizing his legs, he crawled through mud toward another soldier 100 meters away, and while faint from blood loss and in agonizing pain, he continued treating soldiers for hours until they were all evacuated.

Specialist Sasser received the Medal of Honor from President Richard Nixon in 1969 and on November 7, 2013, he will become the

eighth Texas Aggie to be added to Texas A&M University's Medal of Honor Hall of Honor.

Specialist Sasser was born in Chenango, Texas, and following his military service he attended Texas A&M University on a scholarship offered by then President James Earl Rudder in August 1969.

After attending Texas A&M, he began working at an oil refinery for more than five years before going on to work at the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, it is such a great privilege that Specialist Sasser's Medal of Honor and associated citation will be housed and showcased on the campus of Texas A&M University, which I am honored to represent.

Specialist Sasser's sacrifice and heroic efforts will never be forgotten. It is for his fearless courage, heroism and true dedication to our country that Texas A&M is proud to remember and honor the actions of Specialist Fifth Class Clarence E. Sasser.

I would like to close by asking all Americans to please pray for our country and for our brave American men and women who serve in the military to protect her.

TRIBUTE TO ARMY SPECIALIST
WESLEY ACUNA

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Army Specialist Wesley Acuna of Round Rock, TX who was recently awarded the Expert Field Medical Badge. This symbol of excellence is a sign of his technical and tactical proficiency.

With only a 17-percent pass rate, the Expert Field Medical Badge remains one of the most prestigious and coveted awards a medical professional can obtain in the Army. The testing process, which mirrors the dynamic role medics play in operations today, emphasizes tactical combat casualty care, evacuation, communication, and warrior skills. The security of America permits no compromise when it comes to upholding these high standards.

Inspired by the support from both his section and his unit, Spc. Acuna excelled through these challenging tests and finally persevered through the grueling final stages of the qualifying event, a 12 mile march in full combat load in the blazing Kuwaiti desert. Under harsh and stressful conditions, he proved himself as both expert medical professional and skilled warrior. That he was one of 21 elite soldiers to be awarded the Expert Field Medical Badge speaks volumes about his excellence, professionalism, and determination.

Despite his tremendous accomplishment, Spc. Acuna has no time to rest on his laurels. He is currently deployed to the Middle East with the 36th Combat Aviation Brigade in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The needs of his mission and his country continue.

Spc. Wesley Acuna's commitment to excellence not only displays the best values of central Texas, but is a reflection of the greatness of the men and women of our armed forces. I commend his achievements and celebrate his commitment and perseverance.

OCTOBER AS THE 26TH ANNIVERSARY OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize this October as the 26th anniversary of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the United States. Every day women across our nation live in fear of being abused by a partner. An estimated 1.5 million people in the United States fall victim to domestic abuse each year and one in four women will experience domestic violence at some point in her life. Like a cancer, this abuse knows no limits and crosses all ethnic, socioeconomic, and party lines.

For years, the consequences of domestic violence were ignored or minimized, but our nation has since witnessed many advances to protect and support victims of domestic abuse. The reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), passed into law this year, will be critical in strengthening the ability of governments, law enforcement, and service providers to combat domestic violence.

But the effects of domestic violence are far-reaching and plague generation after generation, so we must continue to work hard to intervene in ways that fit individual victims' needs and prevent future violence. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting stronger public policy initiatives to meet the overwhelming need that remains for victim services and a range of domestic violence programs. As community leaders, we must pursue every opportunity for domestic violence education, advocacy, and prevention services. These are the means by which we can help turn domestic violence victims into survivors and prevent future domestic abuse.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL WORK AND FAMILY MONTH

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Work and Family Month.

As a mother of three school-aged children, I know how difficult it is to juggle a demanding career while caring for a family. Despite our best attempts, our schedules are never entirely predictable—fevers, flight delays, and life's unexpected surprises have a way of throwing off the schedules we planned so meticulously. As we try to navigate life's twists and turns, a big part of our success hinges on the flexibility in our work environments.

Advances in technology are making greater workplace flexibility possible, but there is still a lot more we can do to make a healthy work-life balance become the norm rather than the exception.

The importance of employers promoting policies that support their employees' success within and outside the workplace must not be underestimated. Study after study shows that employers who offer effective work-life bal-

ance programs are able to attract and retain more talented employees and also maintain a healthier and happier workforce. Workers who have more input and flexibility with their schedules, such as accommodating work hours and paid sick leave, are able to care for their dependents without worrying about their job security—whether that means caring for a sick child home from school with the flu, a husband or wife recovering from a surgery, or an elderly parent who needs help getting to the doctor. Workers who can successfully manage their personal lives are less stressed, which results in a more productive workforce and lower costs associated with employee turnover.

More and more children are now growing up in a household with two full-time working parents, or are being raised by a single parent who works. For the sake of healthy children and families, employers must update their practices to reflect 21st century realities.

Investing in the health and wellbeing of our nation's workforce is not just smart for business; it's smart for our nation's long-term success. As research shows, increased parental involvement is associated with greater academic achievement and lower dropout rates for children, some of whom will become our nation's next generation of leaders.

So as we recognize National Work and Family Month, I encourage my fellow policy makers, employers, and employees to come together to create workplaces that are more flexible and supportive of our nation's hard working families.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK SANFORD

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for votes on Tuesday, October 29, 2013, due to the death of a very close family friend. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

H.R. 2374—"To amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to provide protections for retail customers, and for other purposes," Amendment No. 1. Vote: "no"

Motion to Recommit H.R. 2374, with Instructions: Vote: "no"

H.R. 2374—"To amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to provide protections for retail customers, and for other purposes." Vote: "yes"

CONGRATULATING THE FULBRIGHT-HAYES DOCTORAL DISSERTATION RESEARCH ABROAD GRANT RECIPIENTS FROM DUKE UNIVERSITY

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Duke University students Ms. Sarah Jones Dickens, Ms. Caroline Garriott, and Ms. McKenzie Johnson for being recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as

2013 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Grant recipients.

Since 1961, the Department of Education has provided funding for the Fulbright-Hays Program, which seeks to improve relations and understanding between the U.S. and foreign countries. Fulbright-Hays DDRA Grants are awarded on an annual basis to outstanding graduate students who wish to conduct research in foreign countries for periods of six to twelve months. Ms. Dickens plans to conduct her research in Cambodia; Ms. Garriott plans to research in South America and Europe; and Ms. Johnson plans to research in South Sudan.

Duke University students received three of the 80 Fulbright-Hays DDRA Grants awarded this year. The Department of Education awarded \$3 million to students on a competitive basis from 34 different institutions of higher education for the program in 2013. These achievements are a tribute to the exceptional academic accomplishments of these students and the innovative and quality academic environment at Duke University.

Mr. Speaker, I commend these students and the faculty at Duke University for their commitment to academic excellence. The global approach toward education and the understanding of other cultures demonstrated by these gifted students is essential for achievement and success in today's competitive worldwide economy. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating these students' great achievement by being recognized as a 2013 Fulbright-Hays DDRA Grant recipients.

HONORING SARAH (SALLY) LEONHARD

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Dr. Sarah Leonhard, who retired last month after more than 18 years of dedicated service to the Greater Baden Medical Services (GBMS) and the surrounding community of Southern Maryland.

Sally, as she is known to many, received a bachelor's degree from Loyola University in New Orleans, a medical degree from the University of Miami School of Medicine, and a law degree from the University of Maryland in Baltimore.

Few people can claim to embody the spirit of compassion and community engagement as completely as Sally. An active participant in the Regional Primary Care Coalition, she was also the president of the Community Health Integrated Partnership. Sally is licensed by both the Maryland Board of Physicians and the Maryland State Bar.

The state of Maryland has long benefited from Sally's tenure in the health care field. In addition to serving as the Chief Executive Officer of GBMS for the past 12 years, she previously served as the Medical Director for the multi-site Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). Under her leadership, the FQHC has grown to provide primary health care services to more than 15,000 patients annually in Prince George's, Charles, and St. Mary's counties.