

I would also like to share with our community that despite Clarke County's substantial ability to pay for public education, we are woefully underfunded and have been for years. The fiscal and philosophical challenges we face today are the same ones that Eleanor Smalley, Dennis Kellison, and Wade Johnson also faced. I have talked to each of them, and each has shared that, in one way or another, not much has changed in the last 45 years. It is time to view the education of our children as an investment, not as a burden.

I believe that a community conversation about what is really important to the citizens of Clarke is long overdue. How we pay for and provide services to the young, the disabled, the elderly and everyone in between is essential for the future. And whether we like it or not, it should be a conversation about family wage jobs, affordable housing, economic development, and the creation of a sustainable future, both on and off the farm. It is time to educate, engage, and evolve like never before. This conversation is long overdue, and won't happen unless we talk about it.

I would also like to remind the residents of Berryville that the Nov. 5 School Board election is not about Mike Murphy. It is about electing a leader who will model the values of honesty, integrity, and respect and who will put the needs of children, all children, before the needs of the plutocracy.

As you can imagine, after serving for five-plus years in "the hot seat," the stories are many, and most of them are not only unbelievable, but true. Serving in a community where some consider the education of our children a burden has indeed been a challenge.

But despite the challenges, the anonymous bloggers, and those who hide behind their keyboards twisting the truth with every stroke, we have been more than successful. In fact, I would say we have been victorious. Our legacy is all around us, and they are 2,000 strong. They are the children of this community, and they deserve the best we have to offer.

In closing, let me remind our staff, and share with our children and community, the three most important tools in your tool box: your head, your heart, and your voice. Use your heads to make decisions that embrace the future of an exuberant Clarke County full of love, laughter, and life; use your hearts to remember what our legacy is really all about, and that is the children we love and nurture and send on to a better tomorrow; and use your voices, loud and vibrant, to stand up for what you believe. Above all else, believe in compassion, social justice, and the hope for a better tomorrow for our children. Not somewhere else, but here, in beautiful Clarke County.

Having rambled long enough, I would like to announce that after 36 years of doing what I love, I'm ready for a change. It is time to spend more time with my son, get to know my three stepdaughters a little bit better, plant that long-awaited garden, start a few more bee hives, build the boat I have always dreamed of, and finish reading the stack of books on my night stand. The future belongs to those who create it, and I have plans you can't even begin to imagine.

Retirement beckons, and Marie and I are ready to begin the next chapter in this wonderful life we share. We will do it together, as husband and wife, best friends, and partners.

As such, June 30, 2014, will be my last day as Superintendent of Clarke County Public Schools.

IN RECOGNITION OF EL DIARIO LA PRENSA'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, on this day I rise to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the Nation's oldest Spanish-language newspaper, El Diario La Prensa. This important periodical is the result of a historic merger between competing press companies, El Diario de Nueva York and La Prensa in 1963. La Prensa was founded in Brooklyn on October 12, 1913, and has since grown to serve approximately 300,000 daily readers across the country, many of them in my beloved District that includes the Washington Heights, El Barrio and The Bronx. The Spanish press is important, especially today when our U.S. Latino population has grown to nearly 53 million individuals. I congratulate El Diario for its dedication to providing indispensable information to the Latino community, as well as coverage on important issues that affect my dear constituents, such as immigration and health reform.

During its 100 years, El Diario La Prensa has served the several waves of Spanish-speaking immigrants who boldly ventured to the United States in search of a better life. New York City has traditionally served as the "Gateway to Freedom" for many Dominicans, Puerto Ricans, Mexicans and South Americans and this extraordinary company has provided an outlet for these distinct communities. Although this new era of digital communication and the recent economic crisis have brought unprecedented challenges for our local newspapers, el El Diario La Prensa will continue to play a dominant role in news media. Its popularity and reputation for providing quality news coverage has allowed the publication to withstand these blows and strengthen its circulation during the past few years.

El Diario La Prensa also serves to help assimilate Latinos into the greater realm of American culture. Important American milestones and tragedies were covered and printed in Spanish by El Diario, such as the tragic assassination of President John F. Kennedy, the moon landing, and the fall of the Berlin Wall. Moreover, it has documented Hispanic American breakthroughs, including the election of Herman Badillo as the first Puerto Rican to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives and the appointment of Sonia Sotomayor as the first Latina Supreme Court justice. El Diario has also displayed great initiative in preserving Hispanic heritage by installing photo exhibitions at Hostos College and the King Juan Carlos Center at New York University, as well as creating guides for New York City educators who wish to teach their students about Hispanic American culture.

Today, El Diario continues its vigilant watch by focusing on stories related to immigration politics and other issues that greatly influence the lives of Latino and non-Latino citizens. Despite having a limited number of staff and resources, El Diario La Prensa manages to distribute more than 42,000 copies daily in New York City; this allows many undocumented immigrants who rely on El Diario to stay abreast of developments that affect their struggle towards citizenship.

As we celebrate El Dario's 100th year Anniversary, we are emboldened by its mission to

serve as a voice for America's underrepresented Latino community. We can further advance this goal by passing legislation on comprehensive immigration reform in the House of Representatives. The Spanish press serves a particularly important role in dispelling the rumors and misunderstandings often attached to progressive immigration reform legislation. That it is why I invite all members of our wonderful Congress to form strong partnerships with Spanish-language media in their respective communities.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise, and hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating El Diario La Prensa's century of outstanding service to our nation's Latino Community. In the meantime, I will continue to fight for all my constituents who strive to build a better life and fulfill of the American Dream. America's immigrants, for generations, have bolstered our economy, enriched our culture, and patriotically defended the United States. We are, by large, a nation of immigrants, and now is the time to pass comprehensive immigration reform legislation that helps grow our economy, prevents families from being separated, and creates a pathway to citizenship.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,151,627,467,959.50. We've added \$6,524,750,419,046.42 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN RECOGNITION OF C.F. MARTIN & COMPANY'S 180 YEARS AS A GUITAR CRAFTSMANSHIP WORLD LEADER

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate C.F. Martin & Co. of Nazareth, Pennsylvania on achieving 180 years as a guitar-maker on November 6. C.F. Martin & Co. has been as an icon of craftsmanship in America's rich musical heritage, a stalwart provider of specialty jobs and specialty exports, an inspiration as a legacy family business, a trend-setter in sustainable practices, and a supporter of its local community over its many years of operations.

Since 1833, C.F. Martin & Co. has been producing some of the most highly respected and innovative guitars in American history. Blending hand craftsmanship with state-of-the-art technology, Martin guitars were very difficult to match in tone, playability, quality, and enduring value. Embraced by artists in all corners of the globe, Martin guitars helped to define many musical genres including country, folk,

blues, and rock and roll. As the oldest surviving acoustic instrument producer in the world, C.F. Martin & Co. led the charge ever since the guitar began to take hold in the early 1800s and eventually surpassed the piano as the most popular instrument.

Impressively, six generations of the Martin family have continuously owned and operated C.F. Martin & Co. The company persevered through the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World War I, the Great Depression, World War II, and even the disco decade. C.F. Martin's adherence to high standards of musical excellence and the company's adaptability have helped account for its remarkable longevity. Business conditions and musical trends have changed over the years, but Martin's attitude toward guitar-building clearly has not.

C.F. Martin & Co. is also a commendable corporate citizen, with a long-standing dedication to responsible timber sourcing and a willingness to support its local community of Nazareth and the Lehigh Valley. Nationally and internationally, royalties from more than fifty signature edition Martin guitar projects have been donated to support of an array of charitable causes of various recording artists' choosing.

C.F. Martin & Co.'s achievements are a reflection of its guitars' high quality and the inspiration those instruments imbue in artists' hands. The company's accomplishments are a source of pride for its generations of employees and for Martin guitar players around the globe. I extend my wishes for continued high contributions to the world of music for many years to come.

CONGRATULATING SHARON
STANLEY

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Sharon Stanley, my constituent from Circleville, OH, on being inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame for 2013. Each year, Governor John Kasich honors a handful of distinguished veterans with this recognition. Throughout her life and career, Ms. Stanley has been unwavering in her dedication and service to our great nation, and I commend her for this distinction.

Sharon Stanley was an Army nurse on both active duty and the reserves, and she continued to serve her community after retirement. From 2009 to August 2013, she served at the national level as Chief Nurse of the American Red Cross, where she led and trained Red Cross nurses in all areas of service, including disaster response and the National Student Nurse Program.

During her time with the Red Cross, Ms. Stanley was responsible for the volunteer management of over 15,000 Red Cross nurses and volunteer nurses. She also increased the presence of Red Cross volunteer nurses in both military hospitals and the health care system at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

But her service does not stop there. Ms. Stanley has been a part of the Community

Health Resilience Initiative for the Office of Health Affairs and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. She serves on the editorial board of the American Journal of Nursing, and she is directly involved with Wright State University in developing a national standardized program that will provide nurses with a certificate in Disaster Nursing.

In addition to her recent induction into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, Ms. Stanley was honored in 2013 as one of only five nurses from the United States to be awarded the prestigious Florence Nightingale Medal by the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva.

Ms. Sharon Stanley has improved the lives of countless service members and civilians. She is a hero by nature and a true public servant, and for that I respect and appreciate her. Ms. Stanley has rightfully earned her place in the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, and I offer my deepest congratulations to her.

TRIBUTE TO TIMOTHY MICHAEL
REESE, JR.

HON. MARK SANFORD

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Timothy Michael Reese, Jr. He was a sophomore at Clemson University, I am told a great brother, an even greater son, and a best friend to our son Landon. He lived a short, but remarkable life and in attempting to portray it let me just tell you one story.

I flew home Tuesday afternoon to attend his funeral and in the late afternoon after doing so, but before my flight, I joined maybe a hundred or more close friends to the family in warm remembrances of Michael's life over a meal. It was a perfect South Carolina late afternoon, the sun was light and the sky was blue. There was a light breeze in from the ocean there on Sullivan's Island, and despite the tragedy of a life cut short, there was a mood of peace and warmth and even happiness as we in our different ways reflected on Michael's impact in each of our own lives.

In that setting Tim, his dad, stood up and gave a really special talk about Michael, about God, faith, friendship and love. He talked about after days of tears and grieving, he had come to the point of peace because of his faith and as the crowd in the backyard listened to each word, three thoughts hit me.

One, there are few things in life more extraordinary than the love between a father or mother to a son or daughter. It's ultimately a reflection of God's model of love toward each one of us as a heavenly Father, and that's probably something I've not taken enough time to be appreciative of whether in heavenly or earthly form.

Two, it hit me how significant the gift of life really is . . . and how there can be an even greater gift and inspiration that comes in truly living it. In that regard, Michael, during his nineteen years set the bar. He was infectious in his enthusiasm for life. In the wake of the funeral I had spoken with Landon about Mi-

chael and he made the point that Michael was always positive. That he always added humor or laughter. That as a friend he didn't fight or argue, but instead looked for ways to build up Landon or others around him as they were beginning this journey called life.

He was not only positive, but also had this spectacular sense of adventure that I think would serve as an example for those double, three times or four times his age. Many frankly never find a sense of adventure like his regardless of their chapter in life. This manifested itself in back flips off the dock at our farm, Coosaw. It showed itself in ski jumps out West that frightened me on occasion. It even served as the origin for new words as the boys created "terragoning" as they pulled skateboards behind golf carts at the grandparents' home in Florida. I could give another hundred examples, but I would summarize the thoughts with what I remember reading many years ago on the front cover of Forbes magazine upon the death of Malcolm Forbes. It said simply, "While alive—he lived." Indeed Michael Reese did and in so doing, I believe serves as a vital reminder to every one of us who have been blessed by our Creator with this thing called life, to make the very most of it—and each day in it.

Finally, I was struck by the genuine sense of community. We all yearn for connection. I believe both to those around us and to God above. Sometimes I don't know that we would describe it in those terms, but I believe that the yearning is there in each one of us. This sense of community is as well something with spiritual overtones that I think tie back to being one's brother's keeper. I saw it there in South Carolina that night. Part of it I suspect comes from a local community that's maybe not as transient as some parts of the world, and as a result there are many multi-generational ties that have been there for all the many ups and downs that come with life. There is something special about that kind of community and I am proud to call it home. Maybe it was a reflection of the Reese family. Their roots not only run deep in the community, on a daily basis they've showered it with blessings based on their own warmth and grace. Maybe still another explanation was the spiritual component to what Tim talked about as his prayer and conversation really set the tone for the whole group assembled. So I suspect I could ascribe many different reasons for the sense of community I felt on Tuesday night, October 29th, but I just know that sense of community is vital. It is a reminder to me that if we could get it right in that backyard, we could get it right in my State and in this country and here, even in the halls of Congress.

So Michael Reese has left me with many things to ponder, but more than anything a life that was well and joyously celebrated in each day over his nineteen years of life, and that gives me something to strive for over the next nineteen of mine. My prayer, Mr. Speaker, is that it will do the same for you and for those who hear my voice. Godspeed, Michael. I know Tim and Frannie, Annie, McLean and Baker will miss you. Landon and I along with the rest of the Sanford gang will too, but we will see you soon.