

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE 2013 MAIN STREET BUSI-
NESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSO-
CIATION, INC. ANNUAL DINNER
AWARDS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding recipients of the 2013 Main Street Business and Professional Association, Inc. Awards.

The Main Street Business and Professional Association, Inc. is an association of business and professional men and women living in, owning, or operating a business or service in the Niagara Street Community. They are dedicated to improving and aiding in the development of the community. The members of the Association work together to make Main Street a progressive and serving community of which one can be proud. This year's awardees embody these noble values.

The recipients of the 2013 Main Street Business and Professional Association, Inc., Awards are the Chu's Dining Lounge, Dr. Margaret O'Keefe, Dr. David Taylor, Matt Green, Joseph Hotchkiss, Jim Haid, Robert Pascoal, Niagara Falls Clean Mob, Mitch Alegre, Austin Collins, Laurice Russell, and Kayla Carrisquillo.

Each of these impressive individuals has made significant contributions in various career and community endeavors. I am proud to see such dedicated, hard-working individuals be recognized tonight, and applaud their efforts to better our community.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for giving me the opportunity to recognize the recipients of the 2013 Main Street Business and Professional Association, Inc., Awards, and those who work tirelessly for this valuable organization. Their achievements are commendable and their devotion to our community is inspiring. I wish each and every one of them the best in all their future endeavors.

S.252, THE PREEMIE
REAUTHORIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the PREEMIE Reauthorization Act, bipartisan legislation I introduced with Congressman Leonard Lance to expand research, education, and prevention of preterm birth. This legislation will reauthorize important programs created by the first PREEMIE Act, which I championed in 2006.

November is Prematurity Awareness Month, and it has come with good news. Just days ago, the March of Dimes announced that the preterm birth rate in America dropped for the sixth consecutive year to 11.5 percent largely due to the original PREEMIE Act.

But each year, half a million babies are still born prematurely. Preterm birth is the leading cause of newborn mortality and the second leading cause of infant mortality. Babies born

even a few weeks too early can require weeks to months of hospitalization after birth, and premature birth can sometimes lead to developmental delays and disability later in life.

In addition to the emotional and physical toll of prematurity, there are significant health care costs to families, medical systems and our economy. A report by the Institute of Medicine found the cost associated with preterm birth in the United States was \$26.2 billion annually, or \$51,600 per infant born preterm. While employers, private insurers and individuals bear approximately about half of the costs of health care for these infants, 40 percent is paid by Medicaid.

We are making great strides in reducing infant mortality—the U.S. infant mortality rate fell by 12 percent between 2005 and 2011, in part due to the decline in premature births. Unfortunately, we still fall far behind the majority of other developed countries, and this is something we have the power to change with continued research and prevention.

The PREEMIE Reauthorization Act will help us learn the causes of premature birth by requiring the HHS Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality to develop a report that identifies research gaps and opportunities to implement evidence-based strategies to reduce preterm birth rates. Appropriate representatives of the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Health and Services Administration should be involved in developing this report along with the experts from the Advisory Committee.

In my Congressional District, Stanford University teamed up with the March of Dimes to establish the transdisciplinary March of Dimes Prematurity Research Center in 2011. These NIH-funded researchers are bringing cutting-edge medical discoveries from the lab to the bedside. In the last two years, they've made new discoveries that reduce preterm birth and made great strides in ensuring that the tiniest preemies are given the best chance at life.

The PREEMIE Reauthorization Act passed the Senate unanimously on September 25th and I ask my colleagues in the House to follow their lead and send this bill to the President's desk for his signature.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES
COLLINS

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commemorate the accomplishments of veteran James Collins of Dartmouth, Massachusetts, the Southeastern Massachusetts Veteran of the Year.

James Collins, born in Kentucky, served in the Air Force as a staff sergeant in Korea and Japan, as well as at the Otis Air Force Base on Cape Cod. In 1965, Mr. Collins moved to Dartmouth, Massachusetts and has selflessly served veterans in his community, primarily as a Dartmouth Veterans Service Officer from 1996 to 2003. In his retirement, Mr. Collins has continued his service to the veteran community providing needed assistance and securing benefits for veterans and their families. In addition, Mr. Collins is a member of the Dartmouth Veterans Advisory Board which he

helped establish in 1997. He is the current Adjutant and Services Officer for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #9059 and is a member of the American Legion Post #307. In all of these organizations, he has worked tirelessly to increase membership and raise funds for projects such as local Veterans Memorials and the annual Dartmouth Memorial Day Parade. Mr. Collins has given so much to his community, and serves as an example of what it means to serve one's country.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize James Collins for his service in the Air Force and his community. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the work of Officer James Collins, the Southeastern Massachusetts Veteran of the Year.

KEEP YOUR HEALTH PLAN ACT OF
2013

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3350, the Keep Your Health Plan Act of 2013.

The Obama administration's health exchange enrollment announcement yesterday is one of myriad reasons we must pass this bill. Frankly, these long-awaited numbers did not come as a surprise. A mere 106,185 patients registered for healthcare on the new marketplaces, a fraction of their 500,000 target. According to the Health and Human Services report, the number does not distinguish between those who've paid a premium and those who "selected a plan by clicking a button on the website." Mr. Speaker, the number of Americans who've had their health plans cancelled is in the millions—exponentially higher than those who've received coverage from Obamacare.

This disastrous law was destined to fail from the start. For more than three years now, we've warned the law is unworkable for small businesses, unfair to patients and physicians, and unaffordable for taxpayers.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTH-
DAY OF CHIEF JOE MEDICINE
CROW

HON. STEVE DAINES

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an extraordinary tribal leader in Montana, Chief Joe Medicine Crow, who recently celebrated his 100th birthday. As the Crow Tribe's last traditional War Chief and oldest living man, Chief Medicine Crow is not only a celebrated member of the Crow Tribe but an important historic figure in Montana.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army and joined the 103rd Infantry Division. As a proud member of the Crow Tribe he never went into battle without his war paint beneath his uniform and a sacred eagle feather beneath his helmet. During World War II he achieved the war deeds to be declared Chief. He also earned the Bronze Star for acts of bravery or merit for his

service in the U.S. military and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor.

Among his many accomplishments, he was the first member of the Crow Tribe to earn a master's degree. A celebrated writer, he also received an honorary doctoral degree from the University of Southern California and Rocky Mountain College. As a distinguished lecturer and historian, Chief Joe Medicine Crow has worked tirelessly for decades as an advocate for the Crow Tribe. I am proud to know Chief Joe Medicine Crow and thank him for his leadership and loyalty to this country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 571, I was unable to be present for the vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING THE U18 USA POWER SOCCER TEAM

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of the U18 USA Power Soccer Team.

Team USA recently traveled to Paris, France to compete in the Powerchair Football World Cup. After defeating Ireland's National Team in the semifinals, 13–0, Team USA went on to win the championship with a 5–0 victory over the host French team. The Americans showed incredible strength and team-effort, not surrendering a single goal during the entire tournament.

Team USA included three Hoosiers Lexi Heer, Zackary Dickey and Michael Rodriguez. Their contributions helped the USA bring home another world cup championship. These young athletes embodied the best of American sportsmanship and competition and I was proud to have them representing our country in this tournament.

I join the entire 6th District and Americans across the Nation in congratulating the U18 USA Power Soccer Team for a fantastic and thrilling 2013 Powerchair Football World Cup championship. I look forward to seeing what each of these talented young men and women will achieve in the future.

HONORING MIKE NUSSBAUM

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and Chicago actor, Mr. Mike Nussbaum. As an actor and director, Mr. Nussbaum has certainly made an indelible mark on the city of Chicago, Hollywood and

the world. His unstoppable energy and dedication to his work keeps Mike Nussbaum on stage at age 90. His love for his family and friends, with four great-grandchildren and counting, also keeps him young.

Mike Nussbaum represents the epitome of success in the Chicago acting community. He has been nominated for the Joseph Jefferson Award ten times and awarded the prestigious award three times over the course of his long career. He has acted in movies such as *Men in Black*, *House of Games*, *Fatal Attraction* and *Field of Dreams*. He has performed in plays such as Mamet's *Glengarry Glen Ross*, Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice* and Beck- et's *Endgame*.

Mike's signature gift is that he is able to perform in such diverse roles not only because of his talent, but his hard work and unwillingness to quit. His major strategy is to keep his mind and body as supple as possible. For most, it is difficult to perform exemplary work at age 90—but Mike Nussbaum makes it look easy.

Nussbaum helped build Chicago into the theatre powerhouse it is today. Chicago is now widely respected for its cutting edge theater. This could not have been done without Mike Nussbaum. Happy 90th Birthday, Mike!

HONORING COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR HOWARD O. ROBINSON AS HE RETIRES FROM THE ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARD

HON. WILLIAM L. ENYART

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Command Sergeant Major Howard O. Robinson, thanking him for his service and wishing him well as he retires from the Illinois National Guard.

CSM Robinson served as my senior enlisted advisor when I was Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard. I presided at the Change of Responsibility Ceremony in 2011 and passed the sword to CSM Robinson as he became the 10th Command Sergeant Major of the Illinois National Guard. In this capacity he helps provide training for approximately 13,000 Illinois National Guardsmen.

CSM Robinson enlisted in the Illinois Army National Guard in 1983 with the 2nd Battalion, 122nd Field Artillery in Chicago. In 2001 he was selected as the Senior Enlisted Adviser for the 2nd Battalion 123rd Field Artillery in Milan, Illinois. Over the next eight years, his assignments would include: Battalion Command Sergeant Major for the 2nd Battalion, 122nd Field Artillery in Chicago, Brigade Command Sergeant Major for the 404th Chemical Brigade based in Chicago and Army National Guard Land Component Senior Enlisted Adviser.

A 2006 graduate of the United States Army Sergeant Major Academy, CSM Robinson's military education also includes the Army's Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic and Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Courses, Tactical Information Operations Course and the Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Development Course. He served overseas in Germany, participating in a War Fighter Exercise and has participated in various training events throughout Europe.

CSM Robinson has received numerous awards and decorations during his service, including: Meritorious Service Medal (2nd award), Army Commendation Medal (4th Award), Army Achievement Medal (3rd Award), Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (Numeral 4), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Training Ribbon, Long and Honorable Service Medal, Military Attendance Ribbon, State Active Duty Ribbon, and Louisiana Emergency Services Ribbon.

Prior to his current position with the Illinois National Guard, CSM Robinson has enjoyed a career in healthcare administration and is currently pursuing his Master's Degree in Healthcare Administration at Governors State University.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the distinguished career of Command Sergeant Major Howard O. Robinson, congratulating him on his retirement and wishing him well as he enters his next life chapter.

COMMEMORATING MELWOOD'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Melwood, Maryland's second-largest non-profit agency focusing on people with differing abilities, as it marks its fiftieth anniversary.

In 1963, a small group of parents and supporters decided to teach plant care to young adults who were considered by most to be unemployable. It was then that Melwood was launched as a place where people with differing abilities learned new skills with the goal of employment. For 50 years, Melwood has been advocating on behalf of individuals with differing abilities by providing support services, helping them with critical skills, and placing them in jobs that provide independence and dignity.

Today, Melwood continues to provide job opportunities and support services to nearly 1,900 individuals with differing abilities. With 38 AbilityOne contracts at 43 locations, Melwood is the second-largest agency of its kind in Maryland and the largest AbilityOne employer in the Eastern Region. Additionally, it operates the Melwood Recreation Center for nearly 900 adults and children with and without special needs. Melwood's great work has even earned it an international reputation, and Melwood's "social entrepreneurial" model has been copied elsewhere in America and in other countries as well.

Every American who wants to contribute to building our country and strengthening our communities ought not to be held back because of a differing ability, and for a half a century Melwood has empowered people with differing abilities to transform their own lives through opportunities of employment, job training, life-skill improvement, and supportive and recreational services.

Much of Melwood's work helped lay the foundation for the enactment of the Americans