

This forum will engage junior high school and high school students living in the Douglas area who are eager to gain leadership experience through volunteer initiatives tied to the improvement of health care in rural areas.

I hope that many young people in Cochise County and elsewhere in Southern Arizona will take this opportunity to participate in this very worthwhile endeavor.

During the forum, attendees will hear from established youth leaders. Also speaking will be long-time Douglas leaders who support the advancement of youth into leadership roles.

The Arizona Rural Health Association is sponsoring this important event. Other sponsors are the city of Douglas, Chiricahua Community Health Center, Cochise County Health Department, Cochise County Youth Health Coalition, Douglas Family Care, Douglas High School Health Occupation Students of American, Douglas High School Med Club, People's Choice Hospital, Southeast Arizona Area Health Education Center, Southeast Arizona Medical Center, Students Against Destructive Decisions, University of Arizona Center for Rural Health and the Voice of Douglas.

I am proud to recognize the first Douglas Youth Leadership Development Forum and encourage residents of my district to fully support it.

HONORING JARED DALE GOULD

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jared Dale Gould. Jared 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 1393, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jared has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jared 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, Jared has earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Jared has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jared constructed a fire pit at Heartland Presbyterian Center outside of Parkville, Missouri.

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

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding my absence from the House for votes on the evening of November 18, 2013, due to a medical issue. I would like to submit how I would have voted had I been in attendance for the following votes:

Rollcall No. 588, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, the Digital

Accountability and Transparency Act (H.R. 2061): I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 589, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, a bill (H.R. 272) to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense joint outpatient clinic to be constructed in Marina, California, as the General William H. Gourley Federal Outpatient Clinic: A Joint VA-DOD Health Care Facility: I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall no. 589, I was unable to be present for the vote on H.R. 272.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

KEEP YOUR HEALTH PLAN ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 15, 2013

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a temporary, one year extension of health care plans in the individual market. Although this bill isn't perfect, I believe it is important that Congress works together to give Michigan residents certainty and stability in their healthcare choices while the Administration works out the problems in the implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

I want to emphasize my support for health care reform. I voted for this important law in 2010, and have voted 40 times against efforts to repeal and dismantle health care reform. However, many of my constituents have called my office confused by the cancellation letters sent by insurers. Compounding this confusion is the ongoing technology glitches that are keeping people from signing up on the exchanges and learning about new options for health insurance.

At a time when too many Michigan families are still struggling economically, it is important that we keep our promises that the law would allow you to keep your insurance and doctor if you want to.

The President announced his plan to grandfather in health care plans that have been recently canceled, but I believe that Congress must also vote to support that decision legislatively. I believe that this temporary, one year extension of health care plans is necessary while people can get the information they need to make the right choices for their family on the benefits of the Affordable Care Act.

I support the President's requirement to have insurers disclose better information about these grandfathered plans and new plans that might be available. That is why I also joined in sending a letter to Secretary Sebelius stating that we must require insurers to explain to policyholders what benefits they would be losing under the grandfathered plans, and the tax credits and subsidies they could be eligible for

in the new insurance marketplace. We must ensure that insurance companies provide a clear explanation when any future changes to plans are not a requirement of the Affordable Care Act.

As I have always said, I am willing to work in order to make improvements to ACA as they are needed. Clearly a fix is needed to ensure that people can keep their insurance if they like it. It is important that we work together to give certainty on this issue, and Congress should pass a bipartisan bill to achieve this goal.

RECOGNIZING ZORAIDA RIOS-ANDINO

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize the public service of Zoraida Rios-Andino. Zoraida was born in East Chicago, Indiana. Her passion for social justice started when she was studying at Saint Joseph's College where she received a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and Education. As a student, she was the founder of an organization called "Palante" and was the assistant director of a college TV program, "Know Your Community," which informs Latino students about issues affecting the Hispanic community. She is the proud mother of her two children Carolina Raquel and Gilberto Antonio. Her pride and joy is her granddaughter Analiz Diana Balderas.

In 1979, Zoraida moved to Puerto Rico and worked for several community services companies. In 1986, she returned to Indiana and began advocating for the rights of the Puerto Rican and Latino community. She served as President of Madre Atrevete Muevete Ahora (MAMA) and Secretary of the Latino Historical Society. She was also active with the Northwest Indiana Voter Registration and Education Foundation, United Citizens Organization, and United Farm Workers. Zoraida was the co-founder and President of the National Conference of Puerto Rican Women and received their Lifetime Achievement Award in 2000. She also received the Roberto Clemente Community Service Award from the Northwest Indiana Coordinating Counsel.

After moving to Florida with her family, Zoraida became the founder and President of the National Conference of Puerto Rican Women's local chapter in Orlando. She is also a member of the Asociación Borinqueña and La Casa de Puerto Rico. In 2008, she got involved with various social justice groups and served as Vice President for Frente Unido 436 and Vice President of the National Council of Puerto Rican Rights. She is also involved with the Black, Latino, Puerto Rican Alliance for Justice and is founder and co-director of the Orlando chapter of the National Congress of Puerto Rican Rights. She is currently working on her project "Boricua," a tool to unite the worldwide Puerto Rican community.

I am happy to honor Zoraida Rios-Andino for her public service to the Hispanic community.

TO CONGRATULATE THE FUND A
CURE FOR PANCREATIC CANCER
ORGANIZATION OF NEWTOWN,
PENNSYLVANIA

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, November has been designated Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month. This disease and its alarming statistics call for aggressive measures to develop early detection and treatment tools before its incidence increases dramatically. More advanced scientific research will give hope to those diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, which is the only major cancer with a five-year relative survival rate of just six percent. Since there are no effective early detection tools or curative treatments for pancreatic cancer, it is expected to become the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths by 2020. I, therefore, commend the Fund a Cure for Pancreatic Cancer Organization, of Newtown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and its 2013 Run Over Cancer 5K that took place on July 6 with more than 250 participants. Congratulations for raising over \$35,000 for the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital's Pancreatic Cancer Research Team. The proceeds from this annual event will be presented to the hospital in Philadelphia on Dec. 2, 2013.

**HONORING PHILLIP CHRISTOPHER
RUARK**

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Phillip Christopher Ruark. Phillip 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 214, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Phillip has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Phillip 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, Phillip has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Phillip performed needed maintenance work in Wallace State Park in Cameron, Missouri, including raising the necessary funds and installing a handicap-accessible bench.

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

**COMMEMORATING VINCENT
EVERETT FIELDS**

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. LANCE. I rise today to honor the memory of Vincent Everett Fields of Long Valley, New Jersey who honorably served his country during the Second World War. Mr. Fields was a Private First Class, United States Marine Corps, and was killed in action during the battle of Iwo Jima on March 6, 1945.

Mr. Fields was 23 years old at the time of his death and left behind a young wife and a baby daughter. He was a member of the 5th Marine Amphibious Corps, which assaulted the Island with sea and air support. In the battle of Iwo Jima our Nation lost 6,800 American service members.

At the time of this tremendous loss, General James L. Jones, 32nd Commandant of the Marine Corps, stated, "The valor and sacrifice of the Marines and Sailors who fought on Iwo Jima is, today and forever, the standard by which we judge what we are and what we might become."

**IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL
ENTREPRENEURS' DAY**

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Ms. ESTY, Mr. Speaker, today is National Entrepreneurs' Day, a time when we celebrate the hard work of small business owners, inventors, and start-up companies across the country. Entrepreneurs are truly driving growth in our economy, and the small businesses they create account for more than 97% of all employers in Connecticut.

I had the honor of celebrating National Entrepreneurs' Day yesterday—a day early—back home in Connecticut. I visited iDevices, a local company in Avon that creates wireless connectivity for smartphones and tablets. The company builds apps such as the iGrill Bluetooth cooking thermometer, the iShower, and the iKitchen. The CEO, Christopher Allen, started with one product, the iGrill, and \$150,000 of pre-seed funding through Connecticut Innovations. He used that money to grow his business and take his product to market, partnering with key tech players like Apple and receiving a major endorsement from Mark Zuckerberg. Last summer, the founder of Facebook, "liked" iDevice's iGrill, and his endorsement went viral sparking major traffic on iDevice's website and demand for their product.

Since their launch, iDevices has grown from a small staff of 3 people to a company that now employs 28 people. And they're still growing. Yesterday, Christopher told me they expect to have 40 employees by the end of the year. He has built a campus in Avon the likes of what one would expect to find in Silicon Valley that provides a nurturing environment for his engineers and employees to innovate and create new products. The company has also invested in our local students—they hosted four interns this past summer from

local colleges, and those interns will be returning as full-time employees upon graduation.

With all apologies to my colleagues in Northern California, Christopher has created a business in my district that attracts the talent and minds that would typically go to Facebook and Google. He and his team are providing a way to keep our homegrown New England talent in Connecticut for generations to come. iDevices and Christopher are just one of many entrepreneurs making a difference in Connecticut and across the country. I am proud and grateful that they call Connecticut home.

I look forward to continuing to work with my friend Rep. Scott Peters on issues to improve our economy and support job creation.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF EDWARD O. WATTS, SR.**

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge Edward O. Watts, Sr., director of Watts Architecture & Engineering, who passed away on October 31st, 2013 in Buffalo at the age of 70.

A Western New York native, Mr. Watts grew up in Grand Island and graduated from Camden Academy in Alabama. He earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Tuskegee University, and went on to gain his master's degree from Baldwin Wallace College.

Mr. Watts began his career at Lockheed Martin in Atlanta as a design engineer, and moved on to work for DuPont in Cleveland, Ohio before being transferred to Niagara Falls. He was able to follow the American Dream and start his own business, now known as Watts Architecture & Engineering. The company began with just one employee—Mr. Watts himself—and now employs about 100 people. Recently, the firm celebrated its 25th anniversary. Mr. Watts received many business and design awards for his work, perhaps the most prominent being the U.S. Small Business Administration Graduate Firm of the Year Award in 2010.

Dedicated to giving back to communities that helped him grow, Mr. Watts was a member of the Tuskegee University Alumni Association, and frequently returned to the school to raise funds to upgrade the engineering department and for scholarships. He helped fund the Watts Family Scholarships at Alabama State University in honor of his mother, who was a graduate of the university. Mr. Watts also generously contributed to schools in his native Western New York. His company provides scholarships every year at the University at Buffalo for minority students, one for the School of Engineering and one for the School of Architecture. Mr. Watts completed the University at Buffalo Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership Program, and for more than 10 years he returned as a mentor for numerous business owners.

Mr. Watts was a member of the Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church and served on its board of trustees as church treasurer. His favorite pastime was playing the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail in Alabama—a passion he pursued at home as well. He organized the