

Pharmacists provide patients with expertise, knowledge and accessibility, all crucial factors to support improvement in our nation's public health.

Pharmacists are best positioned to be the health care professionals to help patients improve their adherence to their medications, and provide patient care services that ensure optimal medication therapy outcomes.

The American Pharmacists Association has declared October as American Pharmacists Month with the theme "Know Your Pharmacist, Know Your Medicine." I rise today to join my colleagues and the American Pharmacists Association in recognizing October as American Pharmacists Month.

Today's health fair is excellent demonstration of the important preventative health services our community pharmacies provide to many in rural towns and cities in Georgia and across the country. I call upon all Americans to acknowledge the valuable services of pharmacists to provide safe, affordable and beneficial patient care services and medications to all citizens.

IN SUPPORT OF CONTINUING
EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT
COMPENSATION BENEFITS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, unemployment benefits are a critical lifeline for our citizens and our economy. Although our economy is gradually improving from one of the worst economic recessions in its history, the economic crisis remains a daily reality for 11.3 million unemployed workers and for the millions of Americans experiencing record levels of food insecurity, poverty, and foreclosure.

Now is not the time to cut unemployment. Our economy continues to need federal unemployment benefits to support its growth. Jobs still remain hard to get with 2 million fewer jobs now than at the beginning of the recession. We continue to experience historic levels of long-term unemployment with over one-third of unemployed workers having been out of work longer than six months. Further, unemployment remains high in many areas of our country, like in my home state of Illinois where the unemployment rate is 9%. The non-partisan Economic Policy Institute estimates that failing to extend emergency unemployment benefits another year will damage our fragile recovery, reducing economic growth by 0.4 percentage points in the first quarter of 2014 and costing 310,000 much-needed jobs next year.

Now is not the time to cut unemployment. Millions of Americans rely on unemployment assistance to survive. In Illinois, approximately 389,000 people relied on unemployment benefits during 2013. The insistence of the Republican Leadership on slashing federal emergency assistance will impose incredible hardship on approximately 3.2 million Americans, with 1.3 million cruelly stripped of benefits just after Christmas and another 1.9 million losing benefits in the first six months of next year. The failure of the Republican Leadership to extend this critical lifeline would impose incredible hardship on over 153,000 Illinoisans.

These Americans lost their jobs through no fault of their own, they tirelessly try to find work when the jobs are few and far between, and they struggle to cover basic food, housing, and transportation costs for their families on an average of \$290 a week, a pittance which typically replaces only half of the average family's expenses. Failing to help these citizens is unacceptable.

Government leaders have a responsibility to protect our citizens and our country, especially during times of national crisis. Failure to continue emergency unemployment benefits will harm our economic recovery and harm Americans who already are hardest hit by the economic crisis—including older Americans, low-income Americans, Americans from racial and ethnic minority groups, and Americans without a high school diploma. Congress must quickly act to support our citizens and our economic recovery by continuing emergency unemployment benefits.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II
VETERANS OF SOUTH MISSISSIPPI

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an organization that has been serving our Greatest Generation since 2011. I'm referring to the Mississippi Gulf Coast Honor Flight.

Under the leadership of Kimberly Foster Moody and a dedicated team of board members and volunteers, our Mississippi Gulf Coast Honor Flight has taken almost 600 veterans to Washington spread among seven trips and I was proud to be there to meet every single group. They did it all free of charge, using private donations. For many of these veterans, it was their first and only time to visit the nation's capital, or the World War II Memorial. On Tuesday, November 5, 2013, this organization completed its work with a final flight carrying more than 70 veterans to Washington.

These veterans live among us as our friends and neighbors. They made huge sacrifices protecting the very freedoms that we enjoy today. They fought in some of the most hostile environments, and against some of history's most formidable foes, so that the world can be what it is today.

It has been a privilege to be able to join our Mississippi World War II veterans during these flights and see the look on their faces when they see their monument. As a Marine veteran of the Persian Gulf War, I feel a special kinship to these men and women who served so long ago. They also remind me of my own grandfather, who served in the Pacific on Guadalcanal during World War II.

Of the 16 million Americans who left their farms, fields, shops and families to fight evil half way around the world, 400 thousand Americans never returned home. Those who did, asked for nothing in return when they hung up their uniform and returned to their families, jobs, and normal life. I have asked many men and women over the years why they did it and almost all of them have said for God, Family, and Country.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation, I want to say thank you to so many in the

South Mississippi community who volunteered for and supported this organization with its service to our veterans. I also want to once again thank all of our nation's World War II veterans. Truly, these veterans are our Greatest Generation.

HONORING THE INAUGURATION OF
THE CONGRESSIONAL MONTE-
NEGRO CAUCUS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Rep. DOUG LAMBORN of Colorado, to recognize the inauguration of the Congressional Montenegro Caucus and welcome the President of the Montenegrin Parliament to Washington, D.C.

Tonight, we will join with many of our colleagues to formally mark our commitment to strengthen an existing friendship with a young friend but vitally important ally in the Balkans.

Together, our nations work to advance peace and prosperity in the region and across the world. Montenegro has demonstrated a strong commitment to regional stability and peacekeeping efforts. Its openness to American businesses and investors make Montenegro an important economic partner.

For eight years, Montenegro has participated in the National Guard's State Partnership Program, partnering with Maine as the Montenegrin military transitions to an all-volunteer force. Now, the partnership between our two nations grows even stronger with the establishment of the Congressional Montenegro Caucus.

We are especially pleased to welcome the President of the Parliament of Montenegro and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Mr. Ranko Krivokapic, to Washington, D.C. as we celebrate the founding of this important caucus. We look forward to many more years of cooperation and friendship between our countries.

Mr. Speaker, please join us again in celebrating the inauguration of the Congressional Montenegro Caucus.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF THE MISSISSIPPI NA-
TIONAL RIVER AND RECREATION
AREA

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor National Park Service staff, volunteers and partners of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (MNRRA) on the 25th anniversary of its establishment as a national park. This 72-mile park corridor, winding northwest to southeast through the Saint Paul-Minneapolis metropolitan area, crosses some of the most naturally, culturally, economically and nationally significant areas in the United States. It is the only national park dedicated exclusively to the Mississippi River.

The late Congressman Bruce Vento (D-MN-04) provided the vision and legislative

sponsorship that led to the creation of the park in 1988. It is a true honor to have called Bruce a friend. He was a dedicated environmental advocate, and his leadership helped forge a uniquely new kind of national park—a partnership park. The National Park Service owns little of the land within MNRRA, but works seamlessly with local governments, state agencies, non-profits, businesses, educational institutions and individuals to protect our precious lands and resources along the Mississippi River in the Twin Cities.

As the lifelong home of Congressman Vento, it is fitting that Saint Paul is the base of park operations. Both the headquarters as well as the visitor center in the Science Museum of Minnesota are nestled alongside the river in downtown Saint Paul. Despite being in the center of a busy urban area, this stretch of the upper Mississippi River is teeming with life, providing food and shelter for countless birds, fish and mammals. The very symbol of America—the bald eagle—is well represented in the park with one of the largest nesting populations in the country.

The Mississippi National River and Recreation Area offers beautiful trails and scenic landscapes for people to enjoy in the heart of the Twin Cities. Some of the most important sites in our history are located here—Fort Snelling, Saint Anthony Falls and the confluence of the Mississippi with the Minnesota River. Even before settlers dispossessed this land in the 1800s, original Mdewakanton Dakota living here considered this their Eden, the center of the world.

The Mississippi National River Recreation Area is truly a park that brings history, science and recreation together. No better example is the success of the Urban Wilderness Canoe Adventure—a special partnership between the National Park Service, local schools, non-profits, businesses and many others—that is providing an opportunity for 10,000 urban youth each year to experience the river from voyageur canoes. Students learn about the river and its special significance through direct “hands on the canoe paddle” experience.

While it is still relatively new by national park standards, it is an honor to celebrate this major milestone. Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

TO WHERE HEARTS OF COURAGE ROAM—IN MEMORY OF SCOTT CARPENTER

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a poetic tribute in honor of an American Hero, Astronaut Scott Carpenter's passing . . . Scott was the second American to orbit in space. God Speed America's son. I ask that this poem penned by Albert Carey Caswell be placed in the RECORD.

TO WHERE HEARTS OF COURAGE ROAM

(By: Albert Carey Caswell)

To . . .

To where hearts of courage roam!
To such places the future now so owns!
So where such courage belongs!

So all by themselves, so out there all alone!
To a place where exploration heart's so
roam!

Where life and death,
so lies all on that edge!
So etched all in history's home!
To so find the answers,
Which must now be known!
As we looked up Scott,
And you were gone!
And if I were a Carpenter,
I'd be The Right Stuff moving upward and
on!

As you and your friend John Glenn,
such a dynamic duo had once so formed!
As the bravest,
and the boldest who shall live on!
As a pioneer of space exploration,
all in search of new frontiers!
All out there on that cutting edge,
all without fear!
As your life Scott,
to exploration was so pledged!
While, against all odds you would not hedge!
As an Astronaut heading into the sun!
Raising “The Mercury”,
with the strength of “Atlas” to exploration
you'd run!

To win what so must be won!
And then,
under the oceans for so much more to come!
So ready to pay with your own most precious
life,

as was America's heroic son who shone so
bright!

Pushing that envelope,
so all in flight!
All so that we could be here!
As your family,
anxiously so awaited all in their tears!
Oh yes,

you were a shining star!
Carrying our Nation,
out into the future so fast and far!
To such new heights,
and ever new frontiers!
To a place where others fear!
SO CALM!

SO COOL!

AND SO COLLECTED!

THE RIGHT STUFF!

SO HERE!

Living and dying for something worthwhile,
into each new coming year!

To know,
what must so be known!

To sow,
what must be sown!
To go where hearts of courage,
must roam!

The sole reason why,
Women and Mankind so stand alone!
To a place where hearts of courage must
roam!

Oh what a striking figure Scott,
you'd so cast!
All out there into the future's past,
which so lives on,
so lasts!

Wherever, hearts of honor roam!
That which hearts of exploration wish to
own!

Whether, above the earth or SEALAB below!
As there Scott, you would go!
With such faith and courage you owned!
As why men like you,
The Right Stuff so stand alone!
God Speed America's fine Son!
As your life upon this earth,
is now so sadly done!

But just look,
all in your short life what you have owned!
As so boldly and bravely for our futures,
your heart so roamed,
To do what must so be done!
And where would we all so be,
if it were but not for such courageous ones as
all of these?

God Speed,
ascend to Heaven Scott my son!
To where hearts of courage roam!

CONGRATULATING DUKE UNIVER- SITY HOSPITAL ON THE OCCA- SION OF BEING HONORED WITH THE BALDRIDGE AWARD IN LEAD- ERSHIP

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Duke University Hospital, located in Durham, North Carolina for being recognized by the U.S. Department of Commerce as a 2013 Baldrige National Quality Award Honoree in Leadership.

Since 1988 the Department of Commerce has recognized numerous U.S. organizations from various industry sectors for their exemplary performances in innovative practices, dynamic management, financial management, employee and customer satisfaction, and commitment to excellence and proven results. This year, Duke University Hospital is being recognized, along with one other organization nationwide, for its best practices in leadership.

Duke University Hospital delivers exemplary and innovative care not just to the entire Durham community, but nationally and internationally, by providing a remarkable facility of 924 acute care beds and 18 psychiatry beds. The hospital has a long tradition of excellence and has been repeatedly recognized for outstanding care by publications including TIME and US News & World Report. In 2012 Duke University Hospital became the first hospital to achieve the top recognition by the state of North Carolina's Awards for Excellence program for outstanding businesses practices. The hospital ranks among the best facilities in the country for quality of care, and is one of the preeminent teaching hospitals in the country through their partnership with Duke University School of Medicine.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the doctors, nurses, staff, and students of Duke University Hospital for their commitment to exceptional leadership and quality health care. Duke University Hospital continues to be a tremendous asset and partner with the Durham community. This reward is a testament to the innovation and leadership of Duke University Hospital and reinforces the “City of Medicine” moniker for the City of Durham. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating Duke University Hospital's great achievement by being recognized as a 2013 Baldrige National Quality Award Leadership Honoree.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE ELAINE G. VANN ON THE OCCA- SION OF HER RETIREMENT AS WASHINGTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA'S REGISTER OF DEEDS

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Honorable Elaine G.