

Caleb Power Young Marine Unit in the First District of Virginia to promote Red Ribbon Week. Their efforts in this national drug prevention campaign are impressive. The work these young men and women are doing is vital to our community and shows their commitment to making our schools, cities, counties, Commonwealth and Nation drug free. I am proud to represent the First District of Virginia, where young women and men are striving to make our communities better.

The Young Marine Program is a drug demand reduction program for children ages 8 through the completion of high school that instills the Corps values of teamwork, leadership, and discipline. The mission of the Young Marines is to positively impact America's future by providing quality youth development programs for boys and girls that nurtures and develops its members into responsible citizens who enjoy and promote a healthy, drug free lifestyle.

Red Ribbon Week serves as a vehicle for communities and individuals to take a stand for the hopes and dreams of our children through a commitment to drug prevention and education and a personal commitment to live drug free lives, with the ultimate goal being the creation of a drug free America.

The Fredericksburg unit of the Young Marines is named after Lance Corporal Caleb John Powers, a Fredericksburg resident and former Young Marine who joined the United States Marine Corps and was killed in action in Iraq in 2004.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking these Young Marines and their families for their dedication to improving this great Nation.

HONORING RITA BROCK-PERINI

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Rita Brock-Perini on her induction into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame. This accolade is reserved for the men and women in community who have unceasingly served their country after the conclusion of their active duty.

Capt. Brock-Perini epitomizes what this honor stands for. After being raised in a formerly rural region of Arizona as one of ten children, she pursued higher education in nursing at St. Joseph's School of Nursing and Arizona State University. During the Vietnam War, she answered her nation's call for service and enlisted in the Air Force Nurse Corp until 1971. Afterwards, she investigated medical fraud for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services until her retirement in 2003. Today, Capt. Brock-Perini has continued her career in service in a plethora of ways. She is a commissioner on the Phoenix Military Veterans Commission, the Vice President of the Veterans Medical Leadership Council, and a judge advocate for the American Legion. Additionally, she has worked with NPR and the Veterans History Project to share her unique story with generations to come.

From these accomplishments, it is clear that Rita Brock-Perini has dedicated her life to superior citizenship. I am privileged to represent her in congress. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating her on her induction to the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame, and in thanking her for all she has done for her country and fellow veterans.

NATIONAL DIABETES AWARENESS MONTH

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, the month of November has been set aside to focus the nation's attention on one of the most chronic and debilitating diseases in the nation—Diabetes. It is estimated that the national cost of diagnosed diabetes in the United States is \$245 billion. Diabetes is a challenging disease that affects the entire family in many ways, which is why the theme for 2013 National Diabetes Month is Diabetes is a Family Affair.

The theme reinforces the work of National Diabetes Education Program and its work with individuals, families and communities to take action and encourage simple, but important lifestyle changes to improve their health—particularly if they have diabetes or are at risk for the disease. Raising awareness and understanding of diabetes, its consequences, management and prevention of Type II Diabetes are important elements in this month's effort.

Diabetes is a group of diseases characterized by high blood glucose levels that result from defects in the body's ability to produce and/or use insulin. If left undiagnosed or untreated, diabetes can lead to serious health problems such as heart disease, blindness, kidney disease, stroke, amputation and even death. With early diagnosis and treatment and lifestyle changes, people with diabetes may prevent the development of these health problems.

Nearly 26 million children and adults in our country suffer from diabetes. Another 79 million people have pre-diabetes and are at risk for developing Type II Diabetes. Unfortunately, the occurrence of diabetes is at least two to four times higher among minority women compared to white women.

An estimated 1.3 million adult New Yorkers (almost one in eight) now have diabetes. A record number of New Yorkers, approximately 5,695 people, died from diabetes and related causes in 2011—about one death every 90 minutes, 16 deaths every day. These numbers are so staggering that diabetes has been declared an epidemic by the NYC Health Department. For too many Americans, diabetes is thought of as a minor hindrance, rather than a life-changing disease.

Diabetes is 24/7, 365 days a year and it takes extraordinary efforts to live an ordinary day with diabetes.

I am committed to educating the public about how to stop diabetes and support those living with the disease. I applaud the efforts of the New York Chapter of the American Diabetes Association and other diabetes support

and education programs, including St. Lukes/Roosevelt Endocrine Clinic, Mt. Sinai Endocrinology, Naomi Berrie Diabetes Center, Montefiore Conical Diabetes Center and North Bronx Health Care Network for their continued service to the residents of the 13th Congressional District.

As a proud cosponsor of the Eliminating Disparities in Diabetes Prevention, Access and Care Act, aimed to promote diabetes research, treatment and prevention in minority populations, I will continue supporting the issues surrounding diabetes and the many people who are impacted by the disease."

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR RICHARD LUGAR

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker I rise today to congratulate former Senator Richard Lugar of my home state of Indiana. Senator Lugar received the Medal of Freedom today from President Obama at a ceremony at the White House.

Few other political leaders in our state's history have rivaled Senator Lugar's accomplishments during his over 40 years of service to Indiana. His work as the chairman of the Agriculture Committee and support for biofuels research has helped Hoosier farmers and brought jobs to rural Indiana. Senator Lugar is recognized around the world for his work on stopping the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. In 1991, Senator Lugar partnered with Senator Sam Nunn to establish a program aimed at eliminating latent weapons of mass destruction in the former Soviet Union. Over 7,500 nuclear warheads have been deactivated through the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction program, making the world a far safer place. As the President of the Lugar Center, Senator Lugar continues to lead, lending his knowledge and wisdom to policy makers working to tackle the foreign policy issues of our day.

Like so many others, Senator Lugar has played an essential role in inspiring my own career in public service. My grandmother Helen Rotzien was a Ward Chairman in Indianapolis when Dick Lugar was first elected mayor. Throughout my childhood, my grandparents repeatedly cited Senator Lugar as a model of achievement and integrity in public service. Later, as I began my own career in public service in Indiana, Senator Lugar took special interest in a young state legislator and Executive Director of the Indiana Republican Party. I will always be grateful for his friendship and guidance.

I ask the entire 6th District to join me in congratulating Senator Lugar on receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom. As a Navy veteran, Indiana public servant and internationally respected statesman Richard Lugar's life has been dedicated to service to his country. Senator Lugar's leadership and public service is an example that all Hoosiers can aspire to.

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE 15TH ANNUAL TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of the 15 Annual Transgender Day of Remembrance.

Fifteen years ago, the tragic murder of transgender musician Rita Hester in Boston offered our nation a glimpse into the daily struggle and injustice suffered by transgender Americans. In honor of her memory, transgender activist Gwendolyn Ann Smith founded the first Transgender Day of Remembrance in 1998 as an occasion to remember all those who have been lost due to violence and prejudice against transgender and gender non-conforming individuals. Despite significant advances in the struggle for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) equality in recent years, many people do not realize or recognize that transphobia exists, and transgender individuals continue to face discrimination in every major aspect of their day-to-day lives.

Tragically, members of the transgender community are too often the victims of hate-motivated violence. Each year around the world, hundreds of transgender individuals of all ages—particularly transgender women of color—are brutally attacked, injured, or murdered simply because of who they are, and the list of names to memorialize grows ever longer. In 2013 alone, this figure topped 238 lives lost, but we know that the real number of deaths is much higher as many cases go unreported and uninvestigated.

All people deserve to be treated with dignity and respect, as well as live free from fear of discrimination and harm. For transgender indi-

viduals, the lack of access to culturally competent health care, disproportionate rates of poverty and homelessness, resorting to survival sex or attempting suicide, maltreatment by law enforcement, and employment discrimination remain serious challenges to their well-being. As a nation, we must do more to address these issues, root out stigma and racism, and foster greater inclusion in our society.

At the federal level, one of the immediate steps that we can take to protect the rights of transgender individuals is to pass the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 2013 (ENDA), a bipartisan measure that strengthens basic employment protections for all Americans and, in my opinion, is long overdue. On November 7, 2013, the Senate sent a clear message that employer discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity should be outlawed when it passed ENDA by a vote of 64–32. I urge Speaker BOEHNER to reconsider his position and allow the House to vote on passage of a fully inclusive ENDA as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker, transgender rights are human rights. As we observe the 15th Annual Transgender Day of Remembrance, let us not only remember the lives of all those whom we have lost to transphobic hate, but honor their memory and sacrifice by recommitting ourselves to making a difference in the lives of LGBT individuals and other vulnerable communities as a whole. I will continue working tirelessly with my colleagues in Congress, the Obama administration, and civil rights advocates to ensure that our laws recognize LGBT persons and provide them with equal opportunities to succeed.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate com-

mittees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, November 21, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's record.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

NOVEMBER 22

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine housing finance reform, focusing on developing a plan for a smooth transition.

SD-538

DECEMBER 11

2:15 p.m.

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine protecting seniors from medication labeling mistakes.

SD-562

DECEMBER 18

2:15 p.m.

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine the future of long-term care policy, focusing on continuing the conversation.

SD-562