

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW CONNOLLY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Matthew Connolly for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Since 2000, *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Matthew Connolly is the president of his own green builder company, Generation Green Builders Company, and resides in the Beaverdale neighborhood of Des Moines with his wife Jodi and their two children, Malaya Rose and Lane Matthew. Mr. Connolly's path to being a successful businessman and family man was anything but easy and required overcoming a serious mental illness, schizophrenia. Matt credits his ability to maintain his recovery since 2004 on five pillars of recovery—medication, therapy, social worker support, family and friends, and support groups. Today, Mr. Connolly is running his own company and serving as an advocate for mental illness awareness. Matt's ability to not only survive, but thrive, amidst his mental illness is a testament to his unwavering work ethic and commitment to bettering himself and those around him.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Matthew in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Connolly for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Matthew on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

HONORING CASIMIR PULASKI DAY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Polish and American freedom fighter Casimir Pulaski. In my home state of Illinois, we celebrate Casimir Pulaski Day,

which is observed on the first Monday of March.

Born in Warsaw, Poland, on March 6, 1745, Casimir Pulaski was a skilled commander who fought against Russian forces in Poland. Based upon his work fighting for freedom in Poland, Pulaski was recruited by Benjamin Franklin to join in the American Revolution. In his first correspondence to George Washington, Pulaski famously wrote, "I came here, where freedom is being defended, to serve it, and to live or die for it." In his first battle of the Revolution, the Battle of Brandywine on September 11, 1777, Pulaski helped alter the course of history by rallying a counterattack against advancing British forces that afforded Washington and countless American troops the time needed to successfully retreat. As a result, Washington promoted Pulaski to brigadier general of the American cavalry.

His influence on American independence did not end there. Pulaski introduced some modern military tactics to the American revolutionaries and led troops in numerous battles and sieges up and down the eastern seaboard. He organized the Continental Army's first successful cavalry unit, often using his own money to finance equipment for his men.

On October 9, 1779, during the Battle of Savannah, Pulaski was struck by grapeshot while attempting to lead a secondary charge against the entrenched British. He was taken aboard the USS *Wasp* and died from his wounds two days later. On October 15, he was buried at sea. Today Pulaski is remembered as the father of the American cavalry and one of the heroes of the American Revolution. He has been memorialized across America, through the naming of towns, counties, roads, and other landmarks.

In 2009, on the 230th anniversary of his death, Congress honored Pulaski posthumously as an honorary citizen of the United States, marking only the seventh time in American history that an individual has been granted such an honor.

This past Saturday, I joined the Polish Highlanders Alliance at their headquarters in Chicago's Archer Heights community to celebrate Pulaski Day. In my address to the group gathered to remember Casimir Pulaski, I praised the long friendship between the United States and Poland, and pledged my continued support for bringing Poland into the Visa Waiver Program.

Today, I ask all Americans to remember a true Polish and American hero who devoted and ultimately sacrificed his life to the pursuit of freedom.

HONORING NANCY ANN DANIEL

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague Mr. COSTA, to honor

Nancy Ann Daniel, of Mendota, California. For years, she served as a tireless advocate and leader in California's San Joaquin Valley. Mrs. Daniel passed away on February 4, 2013 after decades of service to our Valley's most vulnerable citizens. She will be sorely missed.

Nancy and her husband, David, were labor contractors who specialized in cantaloupe harvesting. Using their own resources, they founded the Westside Youth Center in 1977 as a local boxing club for Mendota's at-risk youth. Over the years, the center added computers to help students with homework, a football team, and provided a safe place where children could spend afternoons and weekends with positive role models.

Through her leadership and financial stewardship, Nancy was able to ensure that the services at the Westside Youth Center remained free of charge. Due to the economic downturn impacting many in the community, the Westside Youth Center has become an absolutely integral part of our Valley.

The many lives that have been impacted by the Westside Youth Center will ensure that Nancy's legacy lives on for years to come. Her passion and dedication to her community provided an excellent example to the Mendota community. She will be remembered for her smile and her constant positive and upbeat attitude.

Mrs. Daniel was humble in her commitment and dedication to the City of Mendota. She once reflected, "You can't help them all, but it makes a big difference when you help a couple." Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and Mr. COSTA in remembering Mrs. Nancy Ann Daniel for her invaluable service to the San Joaquin Valley.

TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW HARRIS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Matthew Harris for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Since 2000, *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Matthew Harris is an Iowa native and alumnus of the University of Northern Iowa. In March of 2011, Matthew was appointed Administrator of the Iowa Arts Council, a division

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs. Professionally, Harris is charged with leading the state arts agency's staff, grant-making initiatives and programming while helping advance the agency's mission of enriching the quality of life in Iowa through support of the arts. Outside of work, Matthew is heavily involved with the Character Counts in Iowa program and the Les Hale Endowment Fund. In both facets of his life, Matt is an example of hard work and service that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Matthew in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Harris for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Matthew on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

HONORING THE PEOPLE OF
NAGORNO KARABAKH

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today alongside my colleague, Representative DAVID VALADAO, to pay tribute to the people of Nagorno Karabakh.

Armenians have suffered some of the worst savagery of recent history, from the massacre of more than a million people in the Armenian Genocide, to the cruel repression of Soviet rule, to Azerbaijan's war against Nagorno Karabakh and the ongoing siege of that region. Through these trials and tribulations, the Armenian people have paid a steep price for their freedom. The hero's welcome Azerbaijan recently afforded to Ramil Safarov, an Azerbaijani military officer who murdered a sleeping Armenian officer during a NATO-sponsored program in Hungary, is a stark reminder of the unrelenting hostility Armenians face today.

In this year, which marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of another anti-Armenian atrocity—the Sumgait pogroms—we pay homage to the Armenian people and particularly the people of Nagorno Karabakh, who bravely struggle to maintain their right to self-determination.

COMMEMORATING THE EPILEPSY
FOUNDATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Epilepsy Foundation and two remarkable constituents of New York's 19th Congressional District. Recently, Fiona Carroll of Averill Park and Angelina Dutcher of Glasco had the distinction of being named Northeastern New York's Winning Kids of 2013. This is a noteworthy accomplishment and shows their dedication to fighting epilepsy.

Every year, the Epilepsy Foundation of Northeastern New York names two individuals

to represent all of the children throughout our region who suffer from epilepsy. Through this designation, Fiona and Angelina will attend special events and fundraisers to raise awareness of and to fight this terrible disorder. Additionally, both will receive a scholarship to the summer camp of their choosing.

These two young ladies are incredible individuals and should serve as role models for us all. Fiona is an avid recreationalist and nature enthusiast. She also participates in the Girl Scouts of America, the Averill Park Youth Soccer League travel team, and uses her spare time to try to help others who are less fortunate, including recently cutting and donating her hair to the charity Locks of Love. Angelina is also an unbelievably driven and hard-working individual. She plays various sports and trains in martial arts while attending the 4th grade at the Windham-Ashland-Jewitt School.

I am very proud to have such extraordinary individuals as constituents of the 19th Congressional District. Congratulations Angelina and Fiona. I look forward to working with you both and the Epilepsy Foundation of Northeastern New York to combat epilepsy.

TRIBUTE TO CURTIS BROWN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Curtis Brown for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Curtis Brown lives in Ankeny, Iowa with his wife Rachel and sons Maximilian, Adrian Benet, and Jude, and serves as Economic Development Director for the city. Professionally, Curtis serves the people of Ankeny by building relationships with business leaders and economic development leaders. Privately, Mr. Brown is an active member of Our Lady's Immaculate Conception Church and volunteers as a Spanish interpreter for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Iowa. Both personally and professionally, Curtis is an example of hard work and service that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Curtis in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Brown for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Curtis on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

HONORING LARRY DOBKIN AND
"TUNED IN: THE LARRY DOBKIN
MUSIC SHOWCASE"

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend Larry Dobkin. The world sometimes has a cruel way of taking the best among us, and Larry was one of the best. In September, he succumbed after a noble battle with cancer. He left behind a wife, Nanci and three kids, Alex, Carlie and Sydnie. But Larry's loss was felt far beyond his immediate family. That was Larry's gift—we all felt like family.

Perhaps never have I met another person so fiercely loyal, devoted and loving. If you were a friend—and Larry considered pretty much everyone a friend—then Larry would work himself to exhaustion for you. He made a recruiting visit to his beloved University of Illinois law school even as he was battling late-stage cancer. From his hospital bed, Larry still advocated on behalf of young lawyers in his firm and the children of friends.

I had the privilege of knowing Larry through many lenses, from Aitz Hayam, to the Jewish Federation, to Response Center and Nachshon. His passion for Israel was second to none. On countless trips to Israel, Larry touched countless more people overseas. The Jewish community lost a giant. We all did.

He thought deeply about the world and religion and family and community. Conversations with Larry always sought the highest ground, and they always focused on making the world safer, making it better for the next generation.

One of Larry's greatest endeavors was his support for Response Center, which provides outreach, counseling and sexual health services to teens and their families. For those of us who knew Larry, this isn't a surprise: it's helping kids. In recognition of his peerless efforts, Response Center has created an endowment in his honor and—perhaps even more to Larry's liking—they renamed their annual teen music showcase in his memory. From this year forward, it will be "Tuned In: The Larry Dobkin Music Showcase."

Now, Larry will be responsible for helping support young people and their families. I can't think of anything he'd want more, and I know that somewhere Larry is bear-hugging everyone in sight, not because he's proud of a personal achievement, but because his mission continues.

Though we miss him with all our hearts, our lives are immeasurably better for having shared a lot of his life together. We have to dedicate ourselves to working tirelessly, every single day, working ourselves to exhaustion and beyond because there's a void that Larry left. As we continue to grieve, we continue to work. Larry never stopped and neither can we. Larry, I miss you. We all miss you.

TRIBUTE TO DESMUND ADAMS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Desmond Adams