

and his wife Yvonne moved to the City of St. Clair Shores in 1964, where they raised six children and still reside today.

Mr. Wahby began his successful career in the financial services industry working at Comerica Bank, serving in numerous high-level capacities for 31 years. In addition to his accomplishments as a businessman, Mr. Wahby believes in giving back to the community and has devoted his immense talents to serving the public for the last 34 years. Since 1979 he has served as a school board member, city councilman, Mayor, and as County Treasurer from 1995 to present.

However, the main reason for this honor is for his strong leadership and advocacy for better health care. Mr. Wahby has been a charitable leader for over four decades. Through the years, he has strategically leveraged his business and political skills to make critical advances for very important causes. He has served as a member of McLaren Macomb's Hospital Board of Trustees since 2000 and has been chair of that board since 2002.

In 2001, almost 70 percent of cancer patients in Macomb County had to drive far from their home. McLaren Macomb saw the need for compassionate cancer care of the highest quality close to home and with the leadership of Ted Wahby, they decided to open a cancer center.

This mission of opening the center was very personal for Mr. Wahby, as he and his wife both lost family members to cancer. Those involved with the project felt profoundly that the generous amount of time and expertise Mr. Wahby gave was vital to its success. He was a tireless supporter and fund-raiser from the very beginning, and worked for many years to influence other local leaders to get behind the project and to invest in the capital campaign. The hospital was proud to name the facility the Ted B. Wahby Cancer Center, which opened its doors in 2004.

For his selfless efforts, Mr. Wahby has earned many accolades, including the 2005 Health Care Leadership Award from the Michigan Health & Hospital Association, and the 2005 Thanks for Giving Award, presented for extraordinary volunteer service to hospitals in the Metro Detroit area. For all of the numerous awards he has received, Mr. Wahby summed it up best when the cancer center opened, by stating that "his greatest reward will come when the center is operating and more people can access the quality care they need."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of Ted Wahby. I thank him for his immeasurable contributions, and I am so pleased to join with the entire community in paying tribute to him.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF YOANI SÁNCHEZ, A COURAGEOUS BLOGGER AND ACTIVIST FOR FREEDOM IN CUBA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution honoring Yoani Sánchez, a courageous blogger and activist for freedom in Cuba, for her ongoing efforts to challenge political, economic, and so-

cial oppression. She has become a prominent voice through social media for millions of Cubans who reject the oppression of the Castro regime, having said, "We Cubans don't deserve what we are living through. I think Cubans deserve to be citizens of the 21st century, in all senses, to test the challenges of modernity."

Yoani Maria Sánchez Cordero was born in Havana, Cuba on September 4, 1975, and went on to major in Spanish Literature at the Pedagogical Institute before completing a degree in Hispanic Philology at the University of Havana in 2000. While working at Editorial Gente Nueva, Sánchez came to the realization that, like many Cubans, the wages she earned legally were not enough to support her family and highly qualified individuals were unable to find sufficient work. Disenchanted and seeking greater economic opportunities, she moved to Switzerland in 2002 but returned to Cuba in the summer of 2004, discovering her passion for computer science.

In 2004, Sánchez and a group of like-minded compatriots founded *Consenso*, a magazine of reflection and debate, and three years later she worked as a web master, columnist, and editor for the website *Desde Cuba*. In April 2007, Sánchez created the blog known as "Generation Y," which started as an outlet for self-expression but has since found an audience with half a million people around the world. Through her weekly blog posts, tweets, and Facebook updates, made possible thanks to the donations of online supporters and Sánchez's unwavering persistence, she has provided an unfiltered glimpse into the realities of day-to-day life in Cuba.

The Castro regime branded Sánchez as a dissident and, since March 2008, blocked access to her blog from within Cuba, where mobile phones, flash drives, and used laptop computers have become lifelines of communication given economic and government barriers to the internet. Sánchez refused to be silenced and continued to write with the help of friends and volunteer collaborators abroad, who post her entries in solidarity and have translated *Generation Y* into 20 languages.

Sánchez attempted to travel outside of Cuba on 20 occasions, but was repeatedly denied the required exit visa. In January 2013, the Cuban government lifted travel restrictions for citizens and issued Sánchez a passport, allowing her to embark on an 80-day international tour, including Brazil, the Czech Republic, Spain, Mexico, and the United States, to share her experiences living under the Castro regime firsthand. On her first U.S. visit, she will meet with Members of Congress in Washington, D.C. Following her tour, Sánchez intends to return to Havana, where she lives with her husband Reinaldo and their 20-year-old son Teo, and dreams of starting an independent news outlet, saying, "Life has taught me that the wall comes tumbling down only when you push it."

Sánchez is the recipient of numerous honors and awards for her activism. In 2009, she became the first blogger to ever interview U.S. President Barack Obama, who applauded her efforts to "empower fellow Cubans to express themselves through the use of technology." She has also received the Ortega y Gasset Award for Digital Journalism in 2008, was named one of Time magazine's 100 Most Influential People in the World in the "Heroes and Pioneers" category for 2008, been award-

ed the Maria Moore Cabot Prize from Columbia University in 2009 for coverage of Latin America, and received the International Woman of Courage Award from then Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in 2011.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, which honors Yoani Sánchez and commends individuals like her who have dedicated their lives to protecting and strengthening civil rights in the face of adversity. Despite violent attacks and protests from Castro supporters and leftists, she has vowed to never stop writing until the people of Cuba are able to express their views freely. I join Yoani Sánchez and her fellow activists in looking forward to the day when all Cubans can freely express themselves in public without fear of reprisal.

HONORING JACOB CONNER WILSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Conner Wilson. Jacob 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.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob 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, Jacob has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jacob planned and constructed an additional walking trail in the Parkville Nature Sanctuary in Parkville, Missouri.

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

TRIBUTE TO JOSH FLEMING

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Josh Fleming 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.

Josh Fleming is the Digital Strategy Director at Lessing-Flynn Advertising Company. In this role, Josh has excelled through his outstanding creativity and enthusiasm. One of Mr. Fleming's creations for Lessing-Flynn, AdMavericks.com, has now become one of Iowa's most-read marketing blogs. Another creation, Lessing-Flynn's Battle of the Brands, provides Iowa companies a chance to compete and showcase their brands in an innovative social media format. Outside of the office, Josh serves as president of the American Marketing Association of Iowa, is a board member of Prevent Blindness Iowa, and travels the country as a public speaker on topics relevant to advertising in the digital age. Josh's passion for his work and community engagement is something that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Josh in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Fleming 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 Josh 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.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMBASSADOR
RAYMOND TELLES

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the legacy of a great American, Ambassador Raymond Telles, a true pioneer in international and civic leadership.

Ambassador Telles passed away on March 8, 2013 at the age of 97 in the company of those who loved him. He is survived by his daughters, Dr. Cynthia Telles and Dr. Patricia Telles-Irvin and their families. His life was the very definition of a trailblazer. Ambassador Telles was America's first ambassador of Latino descent, the first Latino to be mayor of a major American city and a decorated U.S. Air Force Colonel.

Born September 5, 1915 in El Paso, Texas, Ambassador Telles began his career at the Department of Justice before being drafted into the United States Army Air Force where he admirably served as the Chief of the Lend-Lease Program for South and Central America. In honor of his distinguished work, he was awarded the Mexican Legion of Merit, the Order of the Southern Cross from Brazil, Columbian wings, and the Peruvian Flying Cross. Later Ambassador Telles served as a military aide for President Harry S. Truman and General Dwight D. Eisenhower during World War II.

After being recalled as the Executive Officer of the 67th Tactical and Reconnaissance Group during the Korean War, Raymond Telles was elected Mayor of El Paso, Texas in November 1957. While in office, he encouraged fire and police departments around the city to diversify their workforce. Following a close first election, he went on to win a second term unopposed. After his tenure as mayor, President John F. Kennedy appointed

him as U.S. Ambassador to Costa Rica. In 1967, President Richard Nixon called on Ambassador Telles to serve as Chairman of the U.S.-Mexican Border Commission. He would later be appointed as Commissioner of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission where he served in the administrations of Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford.

Although Ambassador Telles will be known in many political circles as a tireless public servant, he will eternally be remembered by those closest to him as a caring father, loving husband, and mentor who paved the way for others to succeed long after his passing. As someone who advised so many young emerging leaders, he can rest comfortably knowing that the light of his legacy will shine for several generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, we are truly fortunate to live in a country which gives every one of us an opportunity to make our dreams come true. A few remarkable Americans achieve a level of service to country that opens the door not just to their dreams but to ours as well. Many of us, therefore, have a profound desire and abiding obligation to look up to the sky to say to Ambassador Raymond Telles, "Thank you!" Surely, he is smiling upon us now as he surveys the countless dreams he brought to life. May Ambassador Telles rest in peace and may his family celebrate the life and memory of a dear family man and American patriot.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF HAR-
LEM'S BELOVED ADVOCATE FOR
EDUCATION ARTHUR "ARTIE"
GEORGES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great sadness as I pay tribute to one of Harlem's distinguish dynamic and influential members, Arthur "Artie" Georges, who passed away on January 29, 2013. As I speak with profound sorrow, I ascend to celebrate a life well lived and to remember with fondness the accomplishments of a remarkable leader.

It is without question that Artie's outstanding contributions to the Holcombe Rucker Basketball League, the National Association of Each One Teach One, Inc. and our famed Harlem Week Golden Hoops places him in a very special category in a long line of remarkable men who have given so much to our children and to the Greater Harlem community and beyond. Artie's passion for public service is well documented by his important and outstanding 30-year career work as a Methadone Maintenance Treatment Counselor—at a time when heroin crippled and took the lives of so many of our best and brightest young men and women.

Artie served his Nation proudly in the United States Army and was a loyal member of the Colonel Charles Young American Legion Post 398. An advocate of education, he loved being a part of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association and Basketball Tournament Weekend; the Pelham Fritz Basketball League Scholarship Fund; and the John Hunter Memorial Camp Fund.

Great men like Artie are precious gifts we temporarily have in this world, but their assist-

ance, contributions and accomplishments are far remembered and everlasting. Artie was a dear friend and was known to many of us as a brilliant hardworking community leader who dedicated his life work to the education of our youth.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and the 50th anniversary of the March On Washington, let us celebrate the life of our beloved Arthur "Artie" Georges who dedicated his life to our youth and the Black American Experience.

CLARITY RECOVERY AND
WELLNESS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sigma House of Springfield, Inc. under its new name, Clarity Recovery and Wellness.

First opened in 1977, Sigma House of Springfield, Inc. was the area's first addiction treatment center. Focused on individualized long-term treatment of substance abuse, it provided 1,150 units of treatment in its first 19 months. Over the last 25 years, the center has expanded to include four facilities. In 2012 alone, it treated nearly 12,000 people.

Treatment and long-term recovery from substance abuse can offer a renewed outlook on life for those who are addicted and their family members, which can lead to more productive and fulfilling lives and an improved quality of life for the entire community.

Resources for treatment and recovery provide important assets for the communities of Springfield, Branson and surrounding counties, and I am proud that Clarity Recovery and Wellness remains committed to providing quality care to those in need of rehabilitation services.

HONORING RICHARD GRIFFITH
KESLER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Richard Griffith Kesler. Griff 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 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Griff has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Griff 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, Griff has earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow. Griff has also served as a counselor-in-training at Rotary Camp and is a member of the National Honor Society. For his Eagle Scout project, Griff contributed to his community by designing and constructing five