

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MAX REED

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Iowan Max Reed of Bellevue for being selected as a Star of Life by the Iowa Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Association.

Ahead of National EMS Week in May, the American Ambulance Association has recently recognized our nation's best emergency responders, who embody the example of honorable and professional service in their communities. Stars of Life, like Max, are selected by their paramedic, emergency medical technician (EMT), and ambulance service personnel peers to represent them in Washington, D.C. as they meet with Members of Congress.

A founder of the Bellevue Ambulance Service in 1972, Max is the only "founding father" of the 46 volunteer member service still actively responding to the community's calls. Mr. Reed has completed every level of EMT in our great state and has truly seen it all. From consoling grieving friends and families of accident victims to comforting new parents as their babies are brought into this world, there is no doubt Max's work has led him to become one of his community's greatest advocates. A CPR instructor since 1973, Mr. Reed assists his community with CPR instruction and education, as well as several other events related to his work, including EMS Education Days and Operation Prom, just to name a couple. Max's selfless efforts have helped grow the Bellevue Ambulance Service's location from a small section in the local fire department to a new independent building that he helped design. Of course, Max would say he could have never attained this level of success if not for the love and support of his wife, Mary.

Mr. Speaker, for over 41 years Mr. Reed has unselfishly given his time and talents to ensure his community is well cared for. Max's co-workers count him as a mentor, an advisor and a great friend, and I find it no surprise they have entrusted him with the distinction of representing them and their shared passion this week in Washington, D.C. as a Star of Life. Max's leadership is a testament to the hard working people of Iowa, and I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating him on a remarkable career, thanking him for his decades of service, and wishing him continued success in the years ahead.

IN MEMORIAM OF RITA VOGLER

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of one of my constituents,

Rita Vogler, who passed away last week from lung cancer. A valued member of the Hesperia, California community, Rita formerly served as mayor and a city councilwoman. She also furthered the interests of the City of Hesperia as an active member of the Hesperia Kiwanis Club and the National Federation of Republican Women.

Rita is just one of 1,660,290 people expected to be diagnosed with cancer this year, according to the American Cancer Society's statistics. Approximately 580,350 Americans will die of cancer this year, or 1,600 people per day. In my home state of California alone, 57,290 people are expected to die from cancer in 2013.

I hope Rita's death will remind my colleagues of the importance of our continued pursuit of a cure for this terrible disease. At the signing of the National Cancer Act of 1971, President Nixon declared war on cancer. In that year, 215,000 Americans died from cancer. Yet the number of deaths each year has more than doubled to reach the 2013 prediction, and even when adjusted for population inflation, incidence and death rates have not shown the evidence of the nation's efforts to eradicate the disease. More Americans continue to die, leaving family and friends behind to mourn their losses. In Rita's case, her death came barely two weeks after her diagnosis with lung cancer. However, I am encouraged by the progress made by researchers every year and hope that we continue to see strides forward.

Rita's friends describe her as kind and sincere, a mentor and inspiration to many, devoted to serving her community. She is survived by her husband Al and children Rocky and Allise.

NATIONAL EYE DONOR MONTH

HON. ALAN NUNNELEE

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Mr. NUNNELEE. Mr. Speaker, over 1,000,000 people have had their sight restored since the Eye Bank Association of America was created in 1961. Since 1983, each March has been designated as National Eye Donor Month. As a recipient of two corneal transplants, I am honored to participate this year.

In high school I was diagnosed with keratoconus, a degenerative disease of the cornea. From then and through much of my college life, I lived with the belief that I would one day lose my eyesight. As a junior in college, I was told I was potentially a good candidate for cornea replacement surgery. On April 25, 1980, I had my first surgery and the results were almost instantaneous. Two years later, I had another, equally successful transplant procedure on my other eye. I live every day with the knowledge that not only was my vision saved, it took tremendous strength and compassion on the part of two families to make it possible.

With corneas, the doctors are not concerned with matching by blood type, but they need to match by age. The reason is simple: the cornea does not need to wear out before the recipient does. So two families who lost a son, daughter, husband, or wife in their teens-to-mid-twenties made a decision under the worst of circumstances, and donated their loved ones corneas so that a stranger might see.

I encourage all Americans to register to become eye donors and inform your families of your wishes.

I urge my colleagues to work with their local eye banks and the EBAA to promote eye donation and its life enhancing effects on corneal recipients.

During this month, let us remember the donors and their families who have forever changed so many lives, including my own, for the better.

ANASTASIA LAWRENCE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Anastasia Lawrence for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Anastasia Lawrence is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Anastasia Lawrence is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Anastasia Lawrence for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

9TH GRADER SOPHIE BOUCHER OF NAUGATUCK, CONNECTICUT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with you and all of my colleagues a letter I recently received from Sophie Boucher, a ninth grade student at Naugatuck High School in the Borough of Naugatuck, Connecticut. She writes:

"I think everyone in this state, country, continent, and world can agree that the events that unfolded in Newtown were tragic. Our hearts go out to the kids and teachers who lost their lives in Sandy Hook and also

• 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.

to their parents. We can do something to prevent this from happening again, though. I feel that one of the first issues we should address to restrain this from occurring again is gun control."

"We have all heard the saying, "Guns don't kill people. People kill people." That may be true, but guns make it a whole heck of a lot easier. On the same day that Sandy Hook faced tragedy, 22 children in China were stabbed. Not one child was killed. If that man who stabbed these children had a gun, chances are the children would have been killed. We cannot just let anyone get their hands on guns, especially assault weapons. There should be stricter laws on who can obtain guns and who cannot."

"I feel that one of the ways to go about the stricter laws is by looking at a person's medical history before they obtain a gun. Furthermore, not only the medical history of the person wanting to own the gun should be looked at, but also the medical history of the people living in the house with them. If a mother has a gun in the house, a child, whether the child has mental health issues or not, could easily get their hands on it. We saw this example hold true with Adam Lanza. Though Adam Lanza's mental history was not known, it would have been a smart idea to keep all weapons of any kind away from him. By not having any kind of weapon around a person with a mental health issue, we will be able to decrease shootings of any kind. Therefore, the medical history of the person obtaining the gun and the people living with them should be looked at."

"Sincerely, Sophie Boucher, 9th Grader"

Like my colleagues, I always appreciate hearing from my constituents. I share this particular correspondence because it should serve us all as a reminder that there are many ways in which the Congress can act to address the issues surrounding gun violence—the point is we need to act.

HONORING TIMOTHY BOWMAN

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a young constituent, Timothy Curtis Bowman of Osgood, Indiana.

Curtis attended South Ripley High School and actively participated in the county FFA. He won numerous forestry awards at the state level, enjoyed deer hunting, and worked with his father in their tree trimming business.

We mourn a life that ended too soon and pray for understanding and comfort for family members and those in our community who knew and loved Curtis. While in times of turmoil we struggle to understand the unexplainable, may we find peace and joy in our religious faith and the memories of time shared with those we love.

Curtis will be forever remembered as a friend of his community. I ask the citizens of the 6th Congressional District to join me in keeping his parents, Tim and Pat Pennington Bowman, siblings, Keith, Michael, Tiffany, and Krista, and the entire extended Bowman family in our thoughts and prayers.

ANGELICA MOLINA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Angelica Molina for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Angelica Molina is an 8th grader at North Arvada Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Angelica Molina is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Angelica Molina for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

SUPPORT OF THE FLIGHT SCHOOL SECURITY ACT OF 2013

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the "Flight School Security Act of 2013."

This bipartisan legislation closes a known aviation security gap by requiring individuals seeking flight training on aircraft with a maximum certified takeoff weight of more than 12,500 pounds to be checked against the terrorist watchlist prior to receiving flight training.

I am proud to have the Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security's Subcommittee on Transportation Security, Cedric Richmond, and the Chairman of the Committee's Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies, Patrick Meehan, as original cosponsors of this important legislation.

Under current law, a flight instructor, pilot school, or aviation training center are only required to check aliens—non-United States citizens—against the terrorist watchlist and receive a determination from the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) as to whether that individual presents a risk to aviation or national security prior to providing flight training.

U.S. citizens who seek the same training do not undergo these simple checks.

As a matter of practice, daily checks against the terrorist watchlist are only undertaken for aliens and individuals who hold valid airman's certifications issued by the Federal Aviation Administration; TSA does not check the names of those seeking or undertaking flight training against the watchlist until after they have already been trained on how to fly a plane and are applying for a certificate to take their first solo flight.

The "Flight School Security Act of 2013" closes this security gap by requiring that any

individual seeking training in the operation of any aircraft having a maximum certified takeoff weight of more than 12,500 pounds, including a United States citizen, be checked against the terrorist watchlist to ascertain if the individual may pose a threat to aviation or national security and receive a determination from the Assistant Secretary that the individual does not pose a threat that warrants denial of access to such training.

The "Flight School Security Act of 2013" would subject individuals seeking flight school training to the same terrorist watchlist check that anyone taking a flight domestically undergoes.

It does not compel United States citizens to provide the exhaustive list of personally identifiable information, including fingerprints, which are required to be provided by an alien seeking flight training.

Mr. Speaker, the "Flight School Security Act of 2013" is a common sense, bipartisan bill, crafted in consultation with both TSA and stakeholders.

The bill is the product of the oversight work of the Committee on Homeland Security and represents a common sense solution to a glaring security gap.

Just last week, in an appearance before the Committee on Homeland Security's Subcommittee on Transportation Security, the TSA Administrator, John S. Pistole, stated that this security gap is an issue that has to be addressed, that Congressional action would be welcome, and that checking those seeking flight training against the terrorist watchlist prior to them commencing flight training would be the best security.

I urge my colleagues to support the "Flight School Security Act of 2013" so that we can be secure in the knowledge that no person who poses a security threat that is significant enough to be blocked from boarding an aircraft is allowed to learn to fly one.

HONORING BRONZE STAR MEDAL RECIPIENT SPECIALIST BERNARD L. RUSTAD

HON. STEVE DAINES

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Specialist Bernard L. Rustad, who will be awarded with the Bronze Star Medal on April 5, 2013, for his bravery and selflessness while serving in Vietnam.

Specialist Rustad served with the 1st Infantry Brigade, 5th Infantry Division during Combat Operation Lam Son 719. On April 6, 1971, Specialist Rustad's unit was providing security for the last withdrawing units from the Khe Sahn airstrip area, in the midst of heavy enemy fire. During this time, Specialist Rustad noticed that soldiers from the neighboring unit had been wounded and left unattended. With complete disregard for his own safety, Specialist Rustad ran to their assistance and saved the lives of these young men.

Specialist Rustad's actions demonstrated true bravery—and also stand as an example to all of us as what true selflessness looks like.

It is an honor to present Specialist Bernard L. Rustad with the Bronze Star Medal, and I thank him for his service and sacrifice.