

non-cooperative owned dairy exporters agree that supply management will have a negative impact on their ability to be reliable suppliers in the world market.

Dairy regulations are complex, outdated and inefficient. Proposed reforms in the Farm Bill should not reduce exports, cut jobs, and add more regulations. The Dairy Title should allow the dairy industry a chance to compete and grow without government regulating the amount of milk a farmer can produce. Our citizens and the world population deserve an abundant, affordable and sustainable food supply.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT and I have developed a viable, bipartisan alternative. Join us to support a revenue insurance program that will help dairy producers without including a government controlled supply management program.

A TRIBUTE TO ANNE THOMAS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Anne Thomas for being named a 2013 Hero of the Heartland by the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa recognizes Heroes of the Heartland by selecting everyday Iowans who have done extraordinary things to help their neighbors and communities. The Iowans honored with this prestigious award displayed selflessness in a variety of courageous, charitable and thoughtful acts. The Heroes of the Heartland program not only showcases the heroes among us, but also helps raise crucial funds to ensure that the American Red Cross is prepared and equipped to assist those that need food, shelter, and comfort during emergencies and difficult times.

To be named a Hero of the Heartland, Anne Thomas of Clive started the local organization "Let's Soar Together" in 2006 with a group of her friends. Let's Soar Together filled a need in her community to advocate for children with special needs and provide support and resources for their families. Ms. Thomas' organization has donated dozens of iPads and iPods to children with behavioral disorders and autism in the Waukee School District, built adaptive swings for Maple Grove Elementary School, and donated more than a thousand dollars to the Waukee YMCA to install a playground with adaptive play equipment. Anne's commitment to a cause greater than herself continues to change lives and benefit her community.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Thomas' actions that earned her the title a "Hero of the Heartland" are a testament to the humble, hardworking and helpful people who make up the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Anne on a job well done, thanking the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa for their life changing efforts, and wishing all of those involved in the Heroes of the Heartland program continued success for years to come.

CONGRATULATING HOMEBY INDUSTRIES ON THEIR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Homeboy Industries, a non-profit organization which offers comprehensive reintegration services including job skills training and social services to former Los Angeles gang members, on their 25th anniversary.

In 1988, Jesuit priest Father Greg Boyle began Homeboy Industries to address the need for employment opportunities among local youth. Today, Homeboy Industries is much more than a jobs program. Homeboy Industries gives young people who have lost their childhood to gangs a chance to take back their lives as adults by providing former gang-involved youth with tattoo removal, case management and legal services, as well as mental health and substance abuse counseling.

Thanks to Father Boyle's leadership during the past 25 years, Homeboy Industries has grown from a small job development program in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles into the largest, most comprehensive and most successful gang prevention, intervention, and rehabilitation program in the country.

According to a recent study from the Vera Institute of Justice, the five most common reintegration priorities self-reported by individuals exiting Los Angeles County Jail are: employment, housing, substance abuse, relationships, and staying out of trouble. Through the jobs and support services Homeboy Industries provide, men and women in the LA region are finding these needs met. Homeboy Industries has a 70 percent rate of retaining clients in services, while similar programs across the country have 20–30 percent rates of retention. When weighed against the 70 percent recidivism rate nationally among ex-offenders, Homeboy Industries' ability to engage clients in the process of reintegration and personal transformation is particularly revealing. This organization shows the benefits of investing in impoverished communities that have been impacted by gang violence.

Between 240 and 280 people are hired every year in restaurants and stores owned and operated by Homeboy Industries throughout Los Angeles. When hiring, Homeboy Industries doesn't look for diplomas or job experience. They look for visible gang tattoos and juvenile arrest records. As a business, Homeboy Industries isn't concerned with profits or executive bonuses. Their concern is with their staff and ending the cycle of gang violence one person at a time.

Once again I congratulate Homeboy Industries and their inspirational founder and leader, Father Greg. I had the good fortune and honor of representing Father Greg and Homeboy Industries for nearly 25 years, first in the California State Assembly and then in the U.S. House of Representatives. In closing, I want to express my deepest admiration both for Father Greg's tireless and dedicated efforts and for all former gang members seeking to change their lives and end the culture of gang violence once and for all.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,794,349,827,897.30. We've added \$6,167,472,778,984.22 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING STEVEN ORTIZ

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 2013 recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. Hailing from Willington, Connecticut, Steven Ortiz is the first Costa Rican-American to receive this honor in award's 27-year history.

Steven is the founder and director of The Good Samaritan Project, which donates new and slightly worn clothing throughout Latin America and has provided educational scholarships in Costa Rica. His clear global vision, leadership and philanthropic spirit has ensured that his organization is run completely by volunteers and that 100 percent of donations are used for charitable purposes.

Steven serves in the Massachusetts Air National Guard as the Commander and conductor of the Air National Guard Band of the Northeast. Under his leadership, the band's various ensembles provide support for military units and civilian events, and perform for tens of thousands of people every year throughout the Nation.

He has taught at the elementary, middle, and high school levels in both public and private schools in Connecticut and has led ensembles at the collegiate level. As an undergraduate student, Ortiz founded the Danbury Youth Band and has provided numerous instruments at no cost to children at home and abroad. He has facilitated thousands of hours of free and low-cost music instruction in an effort to keep children safe and engaged in productive activities, while ensuring they learn valuable life lessons.

The Ellis Island Medal of Honor is a prestigious award presented to an immigrant who dedicates his life to helping others, preserves and celebrates the history, traditions and values of his ancestry while proving himself as a valuable citizen of the United States. Recipients like Steven strive for tolerance and acceptance among ethnic, racial, and religious groups in our nation and abroad and above all, they share their personal or professional gifts for the benefit of humanity. I ask that my colleagues join with me in congratulating Steven Ortiz on his impressive achievement.

A TRIBUTE TO DOUG ARMSTRONG

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Doug Armstrong for being named a 2013 Hero of the Heartland by the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa recognizes Heroes of the Heartland by selecting everyday Iowans who have done extraordinary things to help their neighbors and communities. The Iowans honored with this prestigious award displayed selflessness in a variety of courageous, charitable and thoughtful acts. The Heroes of the Heartland program not only showcases the heroes among us, but also helps raise crucial funds to ensure that the American Red Cross is prepared and equipped to assist those that need food, shelter, and comfort during emergencies and difficult times.

As a Senior Fire Medic for the Des Moines Fire Department, Doug Armstrong is dedicated to the welfare of his community on a daily basis. In April of last year, while enjoying an off-duty dinner, Mr. Armstrong noticed an elderly man choking on a piece of meat. Upon seeing the man in distress, Doug wasted no time successfully performing the Heimlich maneuver to avert the life-threatening situation. Even while off-duty, his quick thinking and professional response left an entire community grateful for his actions. Whether on or off the job, Doug is an example that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Armstrong's actions that earned him the title a "Hero of the Heartland" are a testament to the humble, hardworking and helpful people who make up the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Doug on a job well done, thanking the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa for their life changing efforts, and wishing all of those involved in the Heroes of the Heartland program continued success for years to come.

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL ALFORD

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor Michael Alford, who has recently been recognized as this year's TIME Automobile Dealer of the Year.

The TIME Dealer of the Year award is presented to an individual who displays both professional excellence and dedication to serving the community. Mr. Alford has exemplified both of these characteristics as the president of Marine Chevrolet Cadillac in Jacksonville, North Carolina, where he resides with his wife Alicia and their three children.

Before becoming involved with the automobile industry, Mr. Alford enjoyed a successful career in banking. After purchasing Marine Chevrolet Cadillac from his father-in-law in 1997, he successfully applied many of the skills he had acquired in banking to his new

position. Under Mr. Alford's leadership, sales at Marine Chevrolet Cadillac have nearly doubled.

Mr. Alford's expertise positively impacted not only his car dealership, but also his community. The presence of Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in Onslow County causes the population to fluctuate often, and Mr. Alford has worked regularly with government officials since 2007 to alleviate the negative consequences of these changes. He also served North Carolina as a member of the Board of Transportation.

Mr. Alford has been a blessing to the residents of Eastern North Carolina in many capacities. His success at Marine Chevrolet Cadillac has allowed him to become a leader in Onslow County, a position in which he has excelled. I am grateful for Mr. Alford's service and pleased to have him recognized by the United States Congress.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NATIONAL POLICE DEFENSE FOUNDATION ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER HONOREES

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nicholas Turturro, Jack Garcia, Tyree Bacon, Christine Levinson, the Honorable BILL PASCRELL, Jr., the Honorable Lenin Voltaire Moreno Garcés, Jose Zhanay and Norma Delgado as they are honored by the National Police Defense Foundation. Each of these distinguished honorees has made significant contributions to the law enforcement community.

Man of the Year honoree Nicholas Turturro has portrayed police officers in a positive light as an actor. He worked on "NYPD Blue" as Detective James Martinez for several seasons and currently plays Sergeant Anthony Renzulli on "Blue Bloods." He earned two Emmy nominations for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series for his role on "NYPD Blue." In addition to his law enforcement roles on these television dramas, Mr. Turturro has made appearances in several movies and other television shows.

Lifetime Achievement Award recipient SSA Jack Garcia (Ret) served with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for 26 years. He served as an undercover FBI Agent for 24 years, working on over 100 operations against domestic and foreign organized crime groups, corrupt politicians, corrupt police officers and drug dealers. SSA Garcia also helped with National Security Investigations and national and international terrorism cases. He serves as a member of various organizations, including the FBI Agents Association, the Society of Former Special Agents of the FBI and the NYPD Honor Legion among many others. Today, SSA Garcia utilizes his vast expertise as a lecturer as well as Managing Director of security firm Pathfinder Consultants International, Inc.

Valor Award honoree Lt. Tyree Bacon is a New York State Court Officer. During the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack, Lt. Bacon rescued a woman from Tower Two as it collapsed and killed 3 of the responders. He has

received numerous commendations for his heroic actions, including the Medal of Excellent Service and Medal of Valor from New York State and the Senior Court Officers Association. In addition to his service as a court officer, Lt. Bacon is an Ocean Beach Police Department officer and Lieutenant of Islip Volunteer Fire Department Ladder Company One. Lt. Bacon also dedicated 20 years of service to the United States Air Force Reserve, rising to the rank of Master Sergeant.

Profiles in Courage Award recipient Christine Levinson is the wife of Robert Levinson, retired FBI Supervisory Special agent who was kidnapped in Iran while there on private investigation business. Since his disappearance on March 9, 2007, Mrs. Levinson has dedicated her time to finding her husband. She has met with several officials, including President Obama, then Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and FBI Director Robert Mueller to impress upon them the importance of the case. She also travelled to Iran with one of her sons and met with Iranian officials in an effort to locate SSA Levinson. Mrs. Levinson continues to search tirelessly for her husband.

Legislator of the Year recipient Congressman BILL PASCRELL, JR. is currently serving his ninth term as the Representative for New Jersey's 9th Congressional District. Mr. PASCRELL is a supporter of firefighters and veterans, authoring the Firefighter Investment and Response Enhancement (F.I.R.E.) Act and fighting for Purple Heart eligibility for victims of traumatic brain injury. He is also an advocate for police officers, creating the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program and has fought to continue the program. Mr. PASCRELL served honorably in the U.S. Army and U.S. Army Reserve.

Humanitarian Award honoree Lenin Voltaire Moreno Garcés has served as the Vice President of Ecuador since 2007. As a paraplegic, Vice President Moreno advocates for those with disabilities. His work on behalf of the disabled community has earned him several recognitions, including a nomination for the 2012 Nobel Peace Prize.

One of two Member of the Year honorees, Jose Zhanay is the National Police Defense Foundation's (NPDF) Delegate to Ecuador. He immigrated to the United States from Ecuador when he was 16 years old and worked his way up to opening his own jewelry company at the age of 21. A member of the NPDF since its founding, Mr. Zhanay has worked to help Ecuadorian children and U.S. police officers in need of medical assistance. He also dedicates his time to various other organizations and has received numerous commendations for his work.

Another Member of the Year honoree, C.O. Norma Delgado (Ret.) served as a Corrections Officer for the New York Department of Corrections for 16 years. A native of Peru, Mrs. Delgado has worked hard in pursuit of the American Dream. She worked various jobs and attended Bronx Community College in pursuit of a nursing degree and became employed at Jacobi Hospital in the Bronx. Her venture into law enforcement service began on the advice of NPDF Director Joseph Occhipinti. Mrs. Delgado is the recipient of the National Police Defense Foundation Special Achievement Award and the New York City Department of Corrections Hispanic Society's Roberto Clemente Award. She currently serves as the Administrator of the Operation Kids program of the NPDF.