

Sergeant Debra Kaspar, Detective Timothy Speth, Detective Cassandra Dusseau, Detective Louis Licata, Investigator Lynn Thompson, and Investigator Brent Blosser, Detective Jeff Pasler and Sergeant Donald Kennard of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office Pharmaceutical Diversion Investigative Unit received the Unit Citation Award.

Officer Peter Vilardi of the Sarasota-Manatee County Airport Authority Police Department, Officer Andres Perez of the Bradenton Police Department, and Officer Joshua Fleischer of the Holmes Beach Police Department received the Preservation of Life Award.

Deputy Justin Warren of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office received the Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award.

On behalf of the people of Florida's 16th District I congratulate each of these outstanding law enforcement officers and offer my sincere appreciation for their service and dedication.

I also appreciate the law enforcement agencies that made such outstanding nominations and panel that judged them. I believe these awards are a fitting tribute to our officers and a reminder of the important role they play in our communities.

COMMEMORATING BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2013

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the start of Building Safety Month, specifically in recognition of the expertise, leadership, and influence of the International Code Council (ICC). The ICC develops and publishes the building safety, energy efficiency, and fire safety model codes used throughout the United States, as well as in many other nations.

Over the past year, we have had several sobering reminders about the effects of properly-enforced building codes. When Hurricane Sandy devastated New York, New Jersey, and several other states, we were reminded of how much we rely on these vital safety standards in mitigating damage and loss of life. Reports after Sandy and other natural disasters show that the loss of life and property damage would have been considerably worse had modern building codes not been in place and enforced.

For these reasons, I want to congratulate the leaders of the ICC who sponsor Building Safety Month. These leaders include Ronald Piester, the Director of New York State Division of Code Enforcement and Administration, Stephen D. Jones, Construction Official for Millburn Township, New Jersey, and Guy Tomberlin, Code Specialist for Fairfax County, Virginia. These professionals also act as the President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer of the ICC's Board of Directors. ICC's Chief Executive Officer Dominic Sims will join them in Washington, DC this week to discuss the critical need for the adoption and enforcement of current building codes in order to maximize our safety.

I would also like to thank the thousands of men and women who work every day to make sure our buildings comply with building and

fire codes. Their work, largely unseen and often unnoticed, is critical to keeping Americans safe. The model building codes, produced by ICC, allow every community in the United States to share the advantage of building codes that are adaptable to local conditions, but at the same time incorporate the very latest research, materials, and building practices. This is achieved in a private-public partnership, saving local jurisdictions from bearing the significant cost of code revision, updating and coordination. These model codes are produced with the input of thousands of local officials as well as the building industry and represent a consensus on what the minimum safety requirements are for various building types, all developed without using federal taxpayer funds. In fact, the Architect of the Capitol maintains the safety of this building, and all congressional office buildings, following the requirements in the current International Building Code.

During May's Building Safety Month, I recommend that all of my colleagues aim to reach out to building code and fire officials from their districts to learn more about the great work they do in ensuring the safety of the American people and infrastructure through building code compliance and enforcement.

Thank you again to the hard working members and leadership of the International Code Council.

HONORING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WHO HAVE DECIDED TO SERVE THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2013

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor seventy-one high school seniors in Florida's 22nd District who have decided to enlist in the United States Armed Forces.

Of these seventy-one, nine have joined the Army; their names are the following: Alexander Meyer, Cory Warr, Steven Britt, Victoria Danielson, Evan Giarritta, Brenela Good, Richard Ramos, David Vogelsong, Diego Gonzalez. Nineteen have joined the Navy; their names are the following: Tatiana Parra, Kethleen Souza, Kassondra Uhl, Michael Hamlin II, Alex Riebmman, Kevin Sanchez Villalba, Angevens Eugene, Falon Murray, Nathaniel Hopkins, Jose Colon, Camille Grant, Tylar McCranie, Bryant Ruano, Michael Tesch, Taylor Wachtel, Dandy Barrios, Celines Ocasio, Andrea Castillo, Anthony Celenie. Thirty-eight have joined the Marines; their names are the following: Alexander Field, Christian Garcia, Cody Kruse, David Munoz, Devon Genova, Diana Bustamante, Felipe Moresco, Guilson Godinez, Henry Villatoro, Joshua Carter, Kevin Nguyen, Lucas Ferreira, Austin Pastor, Cameron Kelley, Craig Baumann, Erik Littlefield, John Angeles, Kyle Stewart, Lucas Tavares, Paul Louis Curd, Yira Medina, Anna Dolmany, Lorena Guimaraes, Alma Castillo, Brian Abreu, Edwin Garcia-Gonzalez, Erik Mendez Aguilar, Evan Stimely, Garrett Marshall, Israel Manuel-Pedro, Jona-

than Villalba, Junior Jayseus, Kevin Bradlow, Kyle Marciulonis, Manuel Gonzales, Melissa Gunther, Christian Matute, Iridian Maldonado. Four have joined the Air Force; their names are the following: Paul Girao, Brianna Dipasquale, Stephen Favreau, and Lee Golladay.

It is in thanks to the dedication of patriots like these that we are able to meet here today, in the United States House of Representatives, and openly debate the best solutions to the diverse issues that confront our country. On behalf of myself and all of my constituents in Florida's Twenty-Second District, thank you for your service and best of luck as you pursue this challenging endeavor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2013

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding my recent absence from the House on Thursday, April 25th and Friday, April 26th. During this time, I attended the opening of the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. Because of this absence, I missed several important votes on the House floor, and would like to submit how I would have voted had I been in attendance. The votes were:

Rollcall 124, on Agreeing to H. Res. 178, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 527) to amend the Helium Act to complete the privatization of the Federal helium reserve in a competitive market fashion that ensures stability in the helium markets while protecting the interests of American taxpayers, and for other purposes. I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall 125, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 1765, The Reducing Flight Delays Act. I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall 126, on Agreeing to the Amendment to H.R. 527, the Dent of Pennsylvania Amendment No. 2. I would have voted "no".

Rollcall 127, on the Motion to Recommit with Instructions to H.R. 527. I would have voted "no".

Rollcall 128, on Passage of H.R. 527, to Amend the Helium Act. I would have voted "yea".

A TRIBUTE TO SIX HEROES OF THE HEARTLAND

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Ryan Brown, Dave McCaulley, Ben Wier, Rob Bacon, Doug Bates, and Matt Myers 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 Heroes of the Heartland, these six men responded in an extraordinary fashion to what began as an ordinary game of golf. On July 12, 2012, at the sixth tee box at Indian Creek Country Club, Dennis Kjarland suffered a heart attack. Without hesitation, these six men responded to the life-threatening situation by calling 911 and collectively performing chest compressions and assisted breathing for 15 minutes before first responders arrived. Because of their brave actions and quick thinking, Mr. Kjarland recently had the opportunity to celebrate his 70th birthday. The actions of these six men are truly an example that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, the actions of these men that earned them each 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 these six men 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.

REDUCING FLIGHT DELAYS ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1765, authorizing flexibility to the Secretary of Transportation for the purpose of transferring funds into the FAA operations budget to prevent additional furloughs from further slowing commercial aviation traffic.

This is a commonsense action to ensure that understaffing at air traffic control centers does not compromise the safety of the flying public. In addition, reliable commercial aviation service underpins the business travel that is vital to America's economy and is especially critical to America's tourism industry as the summer vacation season approaches.

While this is a necessary action, it is just a quick-fix and does not address the budget shortfall that will prevent the FAA from performing all the important tasks our nation expects of it. Current air travel delays are only one example of the counterproductive budget cuts included in sequestration that will harm our economy.

And while this bill takes one small step to provide relief, others in our community will still feel the impact of sequestration: cancer patients will still find it difficult to access care because of the two percent Medicare reimbursement reduction, thousands of children will be shut out of a Head Start classroom, and sen-

iors will struggle from reductions in Meals on Wheels programs. Congress must reach a long-term debt agreement that will replace the sequester with a more responsible approach to deficit reduction.

I regret that our nation's air traffic controllers were forced to reduce their level of service to the flying public due to this unfortunate consequence of sequestration. I am privileged to represent many of this nation's 20,000 controllers and applaud them for working through this difficulty.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill and thank our leadership for its consideration.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF STEVE AND CAROLYN WALLACE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a very special occasion today—the 50th wedding anniversary of Steve and Carolyn Wallace. This event will take place on May 4.

Clark Stephen Wallace was born on November 22, 1936, in Anniston, Alabama, and Hannah Caroline Allen was born on November 4, 1942, also in Anniston. They both lived on Mulberry Avenue in Anniston for six years before going on their first date in 1963. After persuasion from family and church members, Carolyn asked Steve to a Valentine's Day banquet at Glenaddie Baptist Church. Steve accepted, and they were married three months later on May 4, 1963, at the same church where they went on their first date.

Steve served six years in the United States Air Force and retired from the United States Post Office. Carolyn retired from the Calhoun County School System where she was Assistant Manager of the Saks Elementary School lunchroom.

Together, Steve and Carolyn have two children, Robert Clark Wallace and Rebecca Lucille Wallace Griffin. They have three grandchildren, Robert Brandon Wallace, Michael Stephen McLeroy and Zachary Hunter Wallace. They have one great-grandchild, Alanna Jade Wallace.

Steve and Carolyn are active members of Saks Baptist Church in Anniston, Alabama.

Please join me in congratulating this lovely couple on 50 years together. The celebration will take place on May 4 at a reception with their friends and family members.

CELEBRATING SENIOR CORPS WEEK AND THE SERVICE OF OLDER AMERICANS

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2013

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of national Senior Corps week.

Older Americans bring a lifetime of skills and experience as parents, workers, and citizens that can be tapped to meet challenges in our communities.

For more than four decades Senior Corps, and its three programs—RSVP, Senior Companions, and Foster Grandparents—have proven to be a highly effective way to engage Americans ages 55 and over in meeting national and community needs.

Each year Senior Corps provides opportunities for nearly 330,000 older Americans across the nation, including approximately 1,700 in Arizona to serve their communities. Foster Grandparents serve one-on-one as tutors and mentors to more than 1,400 young Arizonans who have special needs. Senior Companions help more than 860 homebound Arizona seniors and other adults maintain independence in their own homes. RSVP volunteers conduct safety patrols for local police departments, protect the environment, tutor and mentor youth, respond to natural disasters, and provide other services through more than 130 groups across Arizona.

Senior Corps volunteers last year provided more than 96.2 million hours of service, helping to improve the lives of our most vulnerable citizens, strengthen our educational system; protect our environment, provide independent living services, and contribute to our public safety.

Senior Corps volunteers build capacity of organizations and communities by serving through more than 65,000 nonprofit, community, educational, and faith-based community groups nationwide.

At a time of mounting social needs and growing interest in service by older Americans, there is an unprecedented opportunity to harness the talents of 55-plus volunteers to address community challenges.

Service by older Americans helps volunteers by keeping them active, healthy, and engaged; helps our communities by solving local problems, and helps our nation by saving taxpayer dollars, reducing healthcare costs, and strengthening our democracy.

The fourth annual Senior Corps Week, taking place May 6–10, 2013, is a time to thank Senior Corps volunteers for their service and recognize their positive impact and value to our communities and nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 6, 2013

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, during the week of April 23rd, I missed roll Nos. 118 through 128 due to cataract surgery. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on roll Nos. 120, 121, 122, 124, 125, and 126. I would have voted "yea" on roll Nos. 118, 119, 123, 127, and 128.