

One of the most striking disparities as we know for LGBT people of color is in HIV/AIDS rates. In 2010, African American gay and bisexual men between ages 13 and 24 accounted for more than twice as many new infections as their white or Latino peers.

These numbers show clearly that as we close out the month of June with our celebration of Pride Month, we must not lose sight of the hard work that remains to be done, in this country and around the world. Discrimination, unemployment, and even physical violence continue to be the daily reality for far too many LGBT people and it needs to stop.

Congress needs to act. We must pass ENDA, SNDA, my bill, the REPEAL HIV Discrimination Act, and other critical pieces of legislation that create real protections for LGBT people and full equality under the law.

I close by reiterating how proud I am to represent a district with a strong and diverse LGBT community and join my LGBT Equality Caucus colleagues in staying the course and fighting for what's right.

CONGRATULATING MRS. LUCETIA MANWARING FOR 20 YEARS OF SERVICE AS A CONGRESSIONAL STAFF MEMBER

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mrs. Lucetia Manwaring as she embarks upon 20 years of service as a congressional staff member. As a Senior Constituent Services Representative in my office, Mrs. Manwaring has established herself as a distinguished professional with a demonstrated record of achievement.

Lucetia holds a unique blend of experiences having also served in the U.S. Navy from 1989–1993. During this time, she served on the U.S. Navy Submarine Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; Nuclear Repair Division; Served honorably in U.S. Desert Storm Campaign; and was a member of the U.S. Ready Reserve from 1993–2000. In addition, she has received several awards, including the Navy Wide Command Award, the National Defense Service Medal for Desert Storm, and a Naval Citation.

Lucetia received her Master of Science in Human Services from Capella University, and her Bachelor of Business Administration from Davenport University. She was a member of the Dean's List upon completing both degrees.

Since 1994, Mrs. Manwaring has displayed leadership and commitment, engaging with thousands of constituents throughout the State of Michigan. Her tenure began as a staff member for my uncle, retired U.S. Congressman Dale Kildee. She met Dale Kildee while serving in the Navy, and began her career as a staff member shortly thereafter. Upon his retirement, I was grateful to have her join my staff as well. I am grateful to be represented by such dedicated employees who work hard to make our community and nation a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Mrs. Lucetia Manwaring for her unwavering commitment and extend my heartfelt thanks and apprecia-

tion to her for her years of service to our great country.

COMMEMORATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARC GATEWAY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 60th anniversary of The Arc Gateway. For more than six decades, The Arc Gateway and its dedicated staff have served those in Northwest Florida with developmental disabilities, providing them with increased opportunities and numerous first-class facilities to learn, work, play, and reach their full potential.

Like so many great organizations in this country, The Arc Gateway started out as a grassroots movement to address an unmet community need. Pearl Nelson—whose son, Chris, has Down Syndrome—sought resources to help her son and family, but found that no such organization existed in Northwest Florida. So, she placed an advertisement in the paper to find parents of children with special needs and form a support group. Thus, The Arc Gateway was born. Together, these parents drafted a constitution, opened a one-room school house, and became members of the state and national Arc.

Over the years, The Arc Gateway saw the changing needs of the local community and responded with a number of new programs to meet a range of important priorities. From this environment, the Pollak Activity Center and Pollak Rehabilitation Workshop were created to give adults with developmental disabilities places to continue to learn and grow. The Arc Gateway also realized the necessity of early intervention for children and, in 1974, began the Infant Stimulation Program. Three years later, the Pearl Nelson Center expanded to become the Pearl Nelson Preschool for children ages two through five. Another critical need that arose in the community was residential support programs, and The Arc Gateway, once again, stepped up to meet these needs and established the Women's Residential Training Center.

Today, The Arc Gateway has grown from its humble beginnings to serve nearly 1,000 children and adults. They also provide an extremely impressive array of services to the community, including: the Pearl Nelson Child Development Center, which provides early intervention and pediatric services; the Pollak Training Center, where adults can participate in education classes, computer courses, and art instruction, in addition to job training; community based employment opportunities and services that connect people with local job options where they can succeed and enrich their lives; the Senior Adult Program at Bayview Senior Center, where senior citizens with developmental disabilities can access health, social, and leisure activities; as well as supported living and in-home support services to help individuals function in their own homes, and group homes that provide a great environment for support and companionship.

On behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to recognize the tremendous success of The Arc Gateway over its 60-year history. Thanks to the tireless efforts of

its staff, volunteers, and parents, The Arc Gateway has grown from a small support group to an irreplaceable community staple. It is a shining example of what can be achieved when a community comes together to meet unaddressed needs. My wife Vicki and I congratulate The Arc Gateway on 60 incredibly successful years and wish them all the best as they continue to serve the Northwest Florida community for years to come.

RECOGNIZING HUGH RALSTON

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Hugh J. Ralston, a remarkable visionary and steadfast leader whose commitment to the success of his community and the growth of philanthropy are immeasurable.

With over a decade of service as the Ventura County Community Foundation's (VCCF) President and Chief Executive Officer, Hugh Ralston oversaw the foundation increase its assets by one million dollars. This growth in resources included the purchase of the VCCF nonprofit center, the expansion of irrevocable planned donations and philanthropic contributions throughout the community, and a tenfold increase in its annual scholarship support that have benefitted hundreds of Ventura County students. With an annual distribution amount of \$1.3 million, VCCF plays an incredible supportive role for our region's students and nonprofit organizations.

It is powerhouse foundations like the Ventura County Community Foundation that empower the greatest efforts for change and benefits that spread all across our community and nation. The work that VCCF has done, with Hugh Ralston at the helm, has been duly recognized as being in compliance with national standards, the highest form of peer review for U.S. Community Foundations and the only form of accreditation within the U.S. Philanthropic community.

In the past decade, Hugh has secured partnerships with prominent local organizations which support veterans, farmworkers, social justice advocates, medical students, professionals, and many other communal groups. During his time as the head of the VCCF, Hugh established the annual Community Leaders Awards and the biennial President's Awards which create networks and recognition for Ventura County leaders who do countless work with their nonprofits.

Community leaders like Hugh exemplify Ventura County's unsurpassed leadership. Although Hugh will be stepping down from his position as President and CEO of Ventura County Community Foundation, his legacy at VCCF and his immense impact on the community will continue to inspire the future of nonprofits and local philanthropy.

Hugh Ralston has been an amazing force in our region. The efforts that he has made for students, non-profit organizations, and the working community have ensured a remarkable investment in the future and deserve an innumerable level of gratitude.

I graciously thank Hugh for his unwavering commitment and dedication for the past 11

years as the President and CEO of the Ventura County Community Foundation. It has been my honor to collaborate and work with Hugh and there is no doubt in my mind that his influence will extend to many generations of community engagement and philanthropy.

HONORING MR. NEAL HARRELL
FOR HIS WORK AS AN INTER-
NATIONAL FOUNDATION VOLUN-
TEER IN HONDURAS

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Mr. Neal Harrell for his tremendous volunteer efforts with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's International Foundation. It is an honor to have such an upstanding citizen in my district.

Recently, Mr. Harrell, who is an employee of Cuivre River Electric Cooperative, traveled to Honduras as an International Foundation volunteer to help employees at the Roatan Electric Cooperative implement their newly-acquired smart grid system. This trip was part of the Smart Grid Alliance for the Americas project. Mr. Harrell's volunteer efforts supported the Alliance's goal to share experience and provide technical assistance in smart grid technology applications to cooperative, municipal and other small electric distribution utilities in Latin America.

Mr. Harrell's efforts will help the Smart Grid Alliance of the Americas project improve energy efficiency, integrate renewable generation, and most importantly improve access to electricity for underserved communities in Latin America. I ask that you join me in recognizing Neal Harrell for his excellence in volunteer work for electric cooperatives across the nation. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Congress.

IN COMMEMORATION OF YOSEMITE
NATIONAL PARK'S 150TH AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to honor one of our nation's greatest landmarks, Yosemite National Park. I am proud to be joined by: Rep. LAMALFA, Rep. HUFFMAN, Rep. GARAMENDI, Rep. THOMPSON, Rep. MATSUI, Rep. BERA, Rep. COOK, Rep. MCNERNEY, Rep. DENHAM, Rep. GEORGE MILLER, Rep. SPEIER, Rep. SWALWELL, Rep. COSTA, Rep. HONDA, Rep. ESHOO, Rep. LOFGREN, Rep. FARR, Rep. VALADAO, Rep. NUNES, Rep. MCCARTHY, Rep. CAPPS, Rep. BROWNLEY, Rep. CHU, Rep. SCHIFF, Rep. CÁRDENAS, Rep. SHERMAN, Rep. GARY MILLER, Rep. NAPOLITANO, Rep. WAXMAN, Rep. BECERRA, Rep. NEGRET MCLEOD, Rep. RUIZ, Rep. BASS, Rep. LINDA SÁNCHEZ, Rep. ROYCE, Rep. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Rep. TAKANO, Rep. CALVERT, Rep. HAHN, Rep. CAMPBELL, Rep. LORETTA SANCHEZ, Rep. LOWENTHAL, Rep. ROHR-

ABACHER, Rep. ISSA, Rep. HUNTER, Rep. VARGAS, Rep. PETERS, and Rep. DAVIS.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of President Lincoln's Yosemite Grant Act, creating, on June 30, 1864, the earliest parts of what would grow into the beautiful national park that we have today.

In the midst of the Civil War, President Lincoln took the unprecedented step of setting aside this scenic tract of wilderness in central California for public use and recreation. The creation of this first public park, preserved for the enjoyment of the public, served as the catalyst for the creation of a vast system of lands that provide recreational opportunities across the country, including more than 400 national parks.

Yosemite's development into a national park made it one of the nation's first travel destinations. Countless millions of Americans have visited the park over the last 150 years to enjoy the scenic beauty of nature. More than just idle viewing, Yosemite's heritage includes a dedication to camping and hiking that allows park visitors to immerse themselves in one of the American people's greatest treasures. Providing these various recreational activities, that so greatly enhance the visitor experience, is the lifeblood of the surrounding foothill communities.

Today, Yosemite National Park receives over 4 million annual visitors. They come from around the world to see the beauty and majesty of our nation. This includes Yosemite's two Wild and Scenic Rivers, the Tuolumne and the Merced; over 800 miles of trails, including the renowned Pacific Crest Trail and the John Muir Trail; the awe-inspiring scenery created by the area's rich volcanic and glacial history; and the groves of Giant Sequoia trees.

The park includes parts of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and contains several of the highest peaks in North America. Some of the world's most spectacular and unique geologic formations exist in Yosemite National Park, including renowned formations such as Half Dome, Sentinel Dome, El Capitan, Glacier Point and the Royal Arches. Where the rivers wind through these impressive geological formations, there are some of the world's most majestic waterfalls: Yosemite Falls, Snow Creek Falls, Sentinel Falls, Bridalveil Fall, Nevada Fall, and Waterwheel Falls, to name a few.

Mr. Speaker, Yosemite National Park is truly one of our nation's greatest treasures and we ask all the Members of this body to join us in celebrating its past and committing to preserving its future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HOME-
COMING OF THE CHARLES W.
MORGAN

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the return of the *Charles W. Morgan* whaling ship to New Bedford, Massachusetts.

The *Morgan* is the last American whaling ship in a fleet that had at one time numbered over 2,700 vessels. Built and launched in 1841, she is the oldest American commercial

ship that is still afloat. Known as a "lucky ship", the *Morgan* successfully navigated dangerous storms, Arctic ice, and the roundings of Cape Horn during her 80-year whaling career. The ship embarked on 37 voyages between 1841 and 1921, covering every corner of the globe.

The *Morgan* was designated a National Historic Landmark by order of the Secretary of the Interior in 1966, and she was also a recipient of the coveted World Ship Trust Award. Since her arrival at Mystic Seaport, more than 20 million visitors have walked her decks. Next week will be a homecoming for the *Morgan* as she returns to New Bedford, Massachusetts, the site of her initial launch on July 21, 1841 from the yard of Jethro and Zachariah.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to celebrate the *Charles W. Morgan* on this joyous occasion of her homecoming to New Bedford. I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating her long and storied career.

IN SUPPORT OF COMPREHENSIVE
IMMIGRATION REFORM

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, efforts to reform our immigration system in the House have been blocked. It's been a year since our counterparts in the Senate passed bipartisan, comprehensive legislation, but the House Republican leadership has rejected the Senate bill without any attempt to shape a House response.

Meanwhile, 11 million undocumented immigrants who pay taxes and defend our country continue to be deported; potentially 135,000 immigrants a year may be wrongfully detained and exploited according to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement contracts with detention centers; and countless others frequently endure harassment and abuse in the workplace because they are not legally recognized.

When did we veer so dangerously far off course? America has always been a nation of immigrants. From the first settlers, to the Great Wave, to the fight for legalization today, we're all either immigrants ourselves or direct descendants of them.

In fact, twenty-six percent of residents in my congressional district were born in a foreign country, compared to 13 percent nationwide.

As a first-generation American, I know the human side of this issue. My father traveled thousands of miles to this land, huddled by his mother's side, fleeing the religious persecution of Christians. He studied, learned, worked and excelled. He married, loved and raised his three children. He flew the American flag in front of his home every day, sang the praises of our country, and said prayers of thanksgiving daily for the blessings of America.

The opportunity my family was given in America is always with me, and I'm committed to seeing that everyone has a share in that same opportunity.

As a policymaker, I recognize that comprehensive immigration reform will also provide immense economic benefits to our country.