

spent producing such untenable outcomes. While our continued inability to modernize our broken immigration system is bad for businesses, the overall economy and the federal deficit, it is completely devastating to hundreds of thousands of families who suffer the consequences every year.

The U.S. House of Representatives has neglected its responsibility to address our broken immigration system for far too long. Every passing day brings devastating consequences to thousands of families throughout our country. Our current enforcement-centric approach is a relic of another time that needlessly destroys families, and leaves thousands of U.S. citizen children without one or more of their parents. This approach runs contrary to our American system of values.

HONORING KHIQUITA "KEKE" YOUNG

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 10, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Khiquita "Keke" Young.

Khiquita Young is the founder of Independent Survival Living (ISL) and owner of K's Farm and Ranch in Crystal Springs, MS. ISL originated in Jackson, Mississippi. Young presents agriculture methods at church conferences with families and local farmers and ranchers.

In 2007 Mrs. Young's mother had a stroke that left her disabled on the left side of her body and troubled in her speech. Khiquita was frustrated to discover the lack of assistance for much needed help not only for her mother, but others as well.

This journey led Young to encourage those who are broken spiritually and financially to become self sufficient. It is her desire for the elderly and stroke victims to become independent individuals again. She doesn't want the elderly and stroke victims to depend on others who do not offer genuine help or who neglect disabled people.

Young is a visionary who actively pursues change in destiny. The vision she was given in 2007 was to pursue the mission in agriculture, to establish urban gardens and farms for the elderly and stroke victims. Participation gives them some control in their lives allowing them to manage, operate and become profitable to survive.

Khiquita is the National Women in Agriculture Association Chairwoman of Southwest River Region in Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Khiquita "Keke" Young for being a visionary and giving back to others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 10, 2014

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall votes No. 5, on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 455, and No. 6, on adoption of H. Res.

455, I was unavoidably detained and unable to cast my votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on these two votes.

HONORING ROBINSON'S GROCERY, LLC

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 10, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a rural town minority owned business, Robinson's Grocery, LLC.

Robinson's Grocery, LLC opened for business on November 27, 2006 in Bolton, Mississippi. Mr. Pelvia Rene Robinson, owner and operator, saw a need for a small town grocery store that could supply the community with quality products and friendly service without traveling to the neighboring city, which is approximately six to seven miles away.

As a lifelong resident of Bolton, Mr. Robinson understood the hardships many in the community faced in acquiring necessities, such as, fresh deli meats, eggs, and cheeses. In addition to meat and dairy products, his store offered hot meals, such as chicken and pork or beef ribs and a variety of household items that many in the community would use on a daily basis.

Establishment of Robinson's Grocery rallied the community together, giving the townspeople a sense of community pride knowing that a grocery store was within walking distance, helping to tremendously decrease the need for sometimes weekly trips to neighboring towns for relatively simple household goods and groceries.

Robinson's Grocery grew as various vendors solicited commercial space for their wares on the store shelves. Currently, the store is in the process of renovating and restructuring its look. Upon completion, the store will also provide a fresh look and an overall enhanced shopping experience in addition to new products and services.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Pelvia Robinson and Robinson's Grocery, LLC for its remarkable contribution to the thriving rural Bolton community.

FIRST AFRIKAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH DAY

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 10, 2014

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, First Afrikan Presbyterian Church has been and continues to be a beacon of light to our district for the past twenty years; and

Whereas, Reverend Dr. Mark A. Lomax and the members of the First Afrikan Presbyterian Church family today continues to uplift and inspire those in our district; and

Whereas, the First Afrikan Presbyterian Church has been and continues to be a place where citizens are touched spiritually, mentally and physically through outreach ministries and community partnership to aid in building up our district; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious Church of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the needy and empowered our community for the past twenty (20) years; and

Whereas, this Church has produced many spiritual warriors, people of compassion, people of great courage, fearless leaders and servants to all, but most of all visionaries who have shared not only with their Church, but with DeKalb County their passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the First Afrikan Presbyterian Church family for their leadership and service to our District on this the 20th Anniversary of their founding; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR., do hereby proclaim December 8, 2013 as First Afrikan Presbyterian Church Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 8th day of December, 2013.

IH-30 ACCIDENT

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 10, 2014

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, my fellow colleagues, I want to bring to your attention a most unfortunate incident that has taken place in my home district across one of the most vital and important transportation corridors not only to Texas but to the Nation. Interstate Highway 30 begins in Aledo, Texas, west of Fort Worth and ends in North Little Rock, Arkansas. While not the nation's longest highway, Interstate 30 has some of the heaviest truck and trade traffic in the nation and is essential to national security. Because of our nation's growing population—especially in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex—transportation systems, planned over fifty years ago, are being strained and are over capacity. Because of this, our transportation facilities cannot always accommodate the needs of our constituents. This affects not only transportation commerce and mobility but also hinders the first responders and law enforcement from arriving at the scene of the accident in a timely manner.

Early this morning, on Friday January 10, 2014 a major multi-truck accident took place including as many as fifteen vehicles, including semi-trucks on a section of IH-30 that spans Lake Ray Hubbard. The accident has closed all eight lanes of the bridge, headed east and west. After seven hours, the facility remains closed and as there are no frontage roads across the Lake, commuters and drivers are facing multi-hour delays and the national supply chain is being adversely affected.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to those that were injured in this unfortunate accident. And to all those hundreds of thousands who were inconvenienced.

This is a prime example as to why Interstate 30, and our national transportation system, needs renewed attention at the local, state, and federal level. This is not the first time this has happened and this will certainly not be the last. In 2006, I was pleased to be of assistance in causing IH-30 to be designated a Congressional High Priority Corridor on the

National Highway System so that this vital corridor would be eligible to receive the attention it needs.

I now call on the U.S. Department of Transportation to work with the Texas Department of Transportation and Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department to immediately address these issues of safety and mobility along Interstate 30. I call for an expedited review of IH-30 from Dallas-Fort Worth to Texarkana all the way to North Little Rock that will involve not only the DOTs but city and county stakeholders, including the TEX-21 IH-30 Corridor Task Force. I call for recommendations to come forth within 90 days to provide long and short term solutions. When a facility like this is shut down, the economy is affected because as we all know, our transportation system is the backbone of the economy.

It is of utmost importance that those of us from the Texas side work with those from the Arkansas side to implement the proper maintenance and expansion that is needed to handle the demands placed upon the facility by the population increase. We are calling for six lane divided with continuous frontage roads along the corridor so when an accident such as this one occurs we have the necessary infrastructure to keep people and goods moving.

HONORING SHERIFF KELVIN
WILLIAMS, SR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 10, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, Kelvin Williams, Sr., was born in Chicago, Illinois and is the son of Ms. Bobbie J. Williams, a lovely and proud lady. The Sheriffs father, Vick Foster, is deceased. During his school days, Kelvin attended I.T. Montgomery Elementary School and John F. Kennedy Middle School in Mound Bayou; also he attended Ruleville Middle School and Ruleville Central High School in Ruleville. He earned a diploma from Ruleville Central High School in 1986.

Sheriff Williams thereafter attended Mississippi Valley State University, where he majored in Criminal Justice. He then moved to St. Louis and continued his education at Webster University, from which he obtained a B.S. Degree in Management in 1994.

Sheriff Williams chose law enforcement as a career because he wanted to work in a field that had great job stability and a field that allowed him to make a positive difference on the community. Sheriff Williams is a former Cleveland Police Officer.

He was assigned to the Cleveland School District as a School Resource and D.A.R.E. Officer. Prior to returning to Cleveland, Kelvin served with the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department for over 10 years. Kelvin is a former business owner and Investigator for the State of Mississippi.

Kelvin took the oath of office as Sheriff of Bolivar County in January, 2012. On a square mile basis, this County is the second largest county in the State of Mississippi. When observing the three largest counties in this State, we see that Yazoo County has 920 square miles, Bolivar County has 876 square miles, and Hinds County has 869 square miles. Alcorn, the smallest county land-wise, has 400

square miles. When comparing the 876 square miles of Bolivar County to the 570 square miles of the average county size in this State, you may correctly say that Sheriff Williams has a lot of ground to roll over.

In addition to policing 876 square miles of territory, Sheriff Williams maintains control over the Bolivar County Regional Correctional Facility, which houses 432 inmates. There are 120 employees who assist with the awesome duties of the chief law enforcement officer of Bolivar County.

The Sheriff remains steadfastly committed to law enforcement in Bolivar County. In addition to that, he is still committed to the schools, playgrounds and streets where some children hang-out. The Sheriff coaches youths for the Cleveland Park Commission and the United Family Life Center. He serves as volunteer coach for football, basketball, baseball and soccer each year. He has had the opportunity to coach: 8 year olds, 9 year olds, 11 year olds and 12 year olds' baseball teams in the Dixie Youth State Championship games.

His passion for the youths and sensitivity to their needs remain at the top of his priority list. He counsels youths and conducts presentations for them, which enhances their participation in wholesome activities, uplifts their aspirations, and encourages them to do the right thing. I suggest that this kind of motivation should be applauded.

Sheriff Williams is a member of the Delmar Street Church of Christ, where he serves as a Sunday school Teacher and member of the Finance Committee. He serves on various boards and committees throughout Bolivar County.

His recent awards are DARE Officer of the Year for the State of Mississippi; President volunteer Award; community Image Award; Community Service Award; Politician of the Year Award; Cleveland Currents Volunteer of the Year Award, and his most prestigious award—the “award” which was bestowed upon him by the voters of Bolivar is called Sheriff.

He has been happily married to Mrs. Glendys Hall-Williams for 22 years, and they are the parents of three sons: Kelvin Jr., Glenn and Allen. Sheriff Williams and his wife are also proud Godparents of Jaylen Jones.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an amazing law enforcement officer Sheriff Kelvin Williams for his dedication in protecting and serving the citizens of Bolivar County, Mississippi.

RABBINIC STATEMENT: “STEP BY
STEP TOWARD SHALOM WITH
IRAN”

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 10, 2014

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight a Rabbinic Statement, “Step by Step toward Shalom with Iran.”

Signed by 120 Rabbis, including my own Rabbi, Andrea London of Beth Emet Synagogue in Evanston, IL, the statement opposes any actions that would undermine ongoing negotiations, emphasizes the importance of peaceful conflict resolution, and welcomes the possibility of negotiations with Iran.

As we continue to work to ensure that Iran does not develop nuclear weapons, I believe that the Rabbinic Statement offers an important perspective.

RABBINIC STATEMENT: “STEP BY STEP
TOWARD SHALOM WITH IRAN”

As Rabbis, Cantors, and other Clergy serving the American Jewish community, we are deeply committed, as Jewish tradition teaches—

to the shalom—peace, social justice, functioning democratic process, and ecological sanity—of the country where we live—all of which would be damaged by still another unnecessary war;

to the shalom, peace and security, of the State of Israel, to its democratic character, and to its special relationship with the Jewish people;

to unequivocal action by all the Arab-majority and Muslim-majority states to make peace with Israel, and to Israel's unequivocal action to make peace with all its neighbors, including an emergent Palestine;

to our respect and our prayers for salaam, peace and justice, among our cousins in the Abrahamic tradition, Arab and Muslim civilizations;

to the peace and prosperity of all the “70 nations” of the world;

and to the healing of our wounded planet.

For all these reasons, we welcome warmly the greatly increased possibility of a peaceful resolution of the conflicts among the U.S., Iran, Israel, and other nations.

We especially welcome the new attitudes toward the Jewish people and toward the nuclear issue set forth by the new President of Iran, and his assertion that Iran will never hold nuclear weapons. We also recall the fatwa and repeated assertions by Grand Ayatollah Khamenei that for Iran to possess nuclear weapons would violate Islam.

We urge the U.S. and Iran to move swiftly to agree on a step-by-step process of reducing and ultimately ending sanctions against Iran in accord with steps by Iran to make its nuclear research transparent and to allow verification that its research is directed wholly toward civilian uses of nuclear energy. We believe that such a step-by-step process is the best way to guarantee that both parties are fulfilling their commitments.

We urge Iran to make clear its full acceptance of Israel as a legitimate state in the fabric of international relations, protected like all other states from aggression and attack.

We urge the Government of Israel to welcome steps by Iran to make clear and verifiable its commitment to use nuclear energy and research for peaceful purposes only, not for pursuit of nuclear weaponry, and while this process is under way, we urge Israel to end hostile acts and statements toward Iran.

We urge the peoples of the United States, Iran, and Israel to reject and oppose all statements and actions from whatever source that undermine the swift and thorough achievement of agreements to ensure the civilian nature of Iran's nuclear program and to end sanctions against Iran.

We urge the American people to recognize and do tshuvah (“turning” or “repentance”) for the ethical errors of our own government toward Iran particularly—the U.S. Government's intervention in 1953 to overthrow the democratically elected reform government of Iran; U.S. actions to support the tyrannical regime of the Shah until the Iranian people overthrew it in 1979; and U.S. support for Iraq's wars of aggression against Iran in the 1980s, including U.S. support for Saddam Hussein's use of chemical weapons to kill 100,000 Iranians.