

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MARIAN BUSEY ON THE OCCASION OF HER 102ND BIRTHDAY

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 28, 2014

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colorado Springs artist and businesswoman Marian Busey on the occasion of her 102nd birthday.

For a century, since the age of 2, Mrs. Busey has been an artist. As a co-founder of Arati Artists Gallery in Old Colorado City, Mrs. Busey has helped ensure that art in the Fifth Congressional District will live on for centuries to come. It can be argued that Mrs. Busey helped start the vibrant arts scene that now exists in Old Colorado City and the Westside by taking a chance on opening the Arati Gallery back in 1977.

Mrs. Busey has been quoted as saying that she enjoys watercolor painting because, "once you put the brush on the canvas, you're done quickly, you can't complicate the painting." I know I speak on behalf of the Fifth Congressional District when I wish Mrs. Busey a very happy birthday and many more years of complication-free painting.

RECOGNIZING THE CARTER FAMILY AS THE 2013 ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA, FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 28, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize the Carter Family for being selected as the 2013 Escambia County, Florida, Farm Family of the Year.

Matt Carter discovered his love of both farming and quality produce at an early age while working alongside his father, Lance, at Cray Dairy. Matt also gained additional agricultural knowledge and experience as a member of the Northview Chapter of Future Farmers of America, where he served as chapter president.

In 2008, Matt established his own farming business to provide fresh and high quality vegetables to the Northwest Florida community. As a result of the Carter Family's dedication, their farming operation experienced great success and expanded from their first farmstand on Byrneville Road to a larger venue at the Palafox Farmer's Market.

Matt, his wife of nine years, Dawn, along with their daughters, Emily and Jayden, all contribute to the Carter family farming operation to help sell fresh vegetables at their farmstand, Matt's Produce. The variety of produce at the Carter Farm has grown over

the years and now boasts a bountiful collection including: peppers, tomatoes, squash, potatoes, onions, zucchini, turnips, mustards, collards, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, peas, and butter beans. For the past five years, the Carter Family Farm has increased in acreage, new crops have been added, and plans for certifying their farmstand's kitchen are in place. There is no question that the success of the Carter Family Farm and its expansion is largely attributed to the family's hard work and joint effort.

In addition to overseeing the family's farming operation, Matt continues to play an active role in the agricultural community as a member of the EscaRosa Young Farmers and Ranchers.

Mr. Speaker, our great Nation was built in part by the tireless work of farmers and their families. The Escambia County Farm Family of the Year Award is a true reflection of the Carter family's devotion to both farming and family. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my congratulations to the Carter family for this great accomplishment. My wife Vicki and I wish them the best for continued success.

IN HONOR OF MR. AND MRS. BILL AND JUDY GRESSER AND DR. AND MRS. ADALBERTO AND MARIA ROBLES

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 28, 2014

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Bill and Judy Gresser on the recent sale of their restaurant, the Papa-San Rice Bowl in Yuma, Arizona, and to its new owners, Dr. and Mrs. Adalberto and Maria Robles.

Mr. and Mrs. Gresser opened Papa-San on February 27, 1993 and sold it on February 28, 2014, making them the owners of the restaurant for 21 years and one day. The Gressers were eager to sell the restaurant so they could retire, but they wanted to ensure that the new owners would keep all the restaurant's employees. They chose the Robleses' offer over the various other offers they received because the Robles family agreed to keep the restaurant's employees so that the staff would not lose their jobs during the change in ownership.

I am proud to represent people such as these, who are concerned not only about their bottom line, but also about the people who work for them. Entrepreneurs like the Gresser and Robles families make such a significant contribution to our communities. After all, it is small businesses like theirs that will lead us out of our current economic problems.

Congratulations to Bill and Judy Gresser on 21 years of success and to Adalberto and Maria Robles; may Papa-San have many years of continued success under their ownership.

THE FIRST ONE THOUSAND DAYS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 28, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, this week I convened a subcommittee hearing entitled The First One Thousand Days: Development Aid Programs to Bolster Health and Nutrition.

There is perhaps no wiser investment that we could make in the human person than to concentrate on ensuring that sufficient nutrition and health assistance is given during the first one thousand days of life: A thousand days that begins with conception, continues throughout pregnancy, includes the milestone of birth and then finishes at roughly the second birthday of the child.

Consider this: According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), 6.6 million children died before reaching their fifth birthday in 2012; an average of roughly 18,000 daily deaths among children under five years old. Among the factors contributing to such a grim tally are malnutrition, obstructed newborn breathing, pneumonia, and diarrhea. All these, and other causes, are ones which we are capable of addressing, if we apply resources and political will to the problem.

The hearing I held complements various hearings our Global Health Subcommittee has held over the past several years. It was inspired in part by what I experienced at the UN Millennium Development Goals Summit in New York in September 2010.

There I had the privilege of participating in an extraordinary roundtable meeting of First Ladies of African nations that concluded with the signing of a declaration to end maternal and child malnutrition, with particular emphasis on "the first 1000 days in the life of a child from the moment of conception." The roundtable focused on that great killer of children, malnutrition.

The roundtable concluded that undernutrition alone remains "one of the world's most serious, but least-addressed problems—killing an estimated 3.5 million children annually." In other words, food insecurity is a plague which ravages our future, ending the lives of little boys and little girls throughout the developing world well before their time. The roundtable also pointed out that 60 percent of the world's chronically hungry are women.

According to the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition, or GAIN, cosponsor of the roundtable, malnutrition's most devastating impact is actually in the womb, often causing death or significant mental and physical disability to the precious life of an unborn child.

Children who do not receive adequate nutrition in utero are more likely to experience life-long cognitive and physical deficiencies, such as stunting. UNICEF estimates that one in four children worldwide is stunted due to lack of adequate nutrition.

Children who are chronically undernourished within the first two years of their lives also

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

often have impaired immune systems that are incapable of protecting them against life-threatening ailments, such as pneumonia and malaria. Adults who were stunted as children face increased risk of developing chronic diseases, such as diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease. Mothers who were malnourished as girls are 40% more likely to die during childbirth, experience debilitating complications like obstetric fistula, and deliver children who perish before reaching age five.

We must take a holistic, mother-and-child approach to the problem.

By helping women throughout pregnancy receive adequate nutrition and supplemental micronutrients—such as iodine, Vitamin A, and folic acid—and ensuring that they are well-fed while nursing, both children and mothers thrive.

In addition to addressing undernutrition, there are a number of other interventions that can make an impact. About 44% of all under-five deaths occur within the first month of life, during the neonatal period. Among newborns the greatest threats to survival are prematurity and failure to breathe at birth, known as birth asphyxia. Following the neonatal period through the first five years of life, child survival is imperiled primarily by pneumonia and diarrhea.

The solutions are often readily at hand. Most neonatal deaths can be prevented at little to no expense with neonatal resuscitation, prompt administration of antibiotics, and nutrition supplementation. Inexpensive interventions like oral rehydration salts (ORS), which cost \$0.05–0.10 per dose, are also effective in curbing diarrheal deaths.

Nor must we ever pit the survival of the child against that of the mother, as both are complementary objectives. Curbing child mortality in the womb and at birth also goes hand-in-hand with reducing maternal mortality.

Best practices to radically reduce maternal mortality can and must be life-affirming—protecting from harm both patients, the mother and the child in the womb. Of course, we have known for more than 60 years what actually saves women's lives: skilled birth attendants, treatment to stop hemorrhages, access to safe blood, emergency obstetric care, antibiotics, repair of fistulas, adequate nutrition, and pre- and post-natal care.

Political will is absolutely essential to address this problem and to make sure it is adequately resourced. It is one thing that I hope this hearing will bring to light, that such interventions in the first 1000 days of life is not only morally imperative but also cost effective.

One group of Nobel Laureate economic experts ranked efforts to address undernutrition as the single most cost-effective investment in foreign aid. The economists concluded that each dollar spent on reducing undernutrition could yield a \$30 benefit.

One other thing I hope this hearing will highlight is the importance of Faith Based Organizations in fighting this battle, and to underscore the need for our aid programs to work with such organizations. We will hear from representatives from two such organizations, Food for the Hungry and World Vision, to discuss their insights.

Faith Based Organizations play an absolutely critical role in places such as Africa, which one can say is a Faith Based Continent. Matthew 25—"when I was hungry, you gave me food, when I was thirsty, you gave me

drink, when I was naked, you clothed me"—inspires these and other great organizations such as Catholic Relief Services, just as it inspires the work of this subcommittee.

For example, in 2004, along with my colleague on the Foreign Affairs Committee, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, I sponsored an obstetric fistula resolution, seeking to address one debilitating factor that wreaks havoc on the lives of mothers and their children. The following year I was able to amend the Foreign Relations Authorization Act to fund twelve centers in the developing world to treat and prevent obstetric fistula, as well as to provide funding for skilled-birth attendants. Importantly, I was also able to remove restrictive language from the original bill that would have prohibited faith-based hospitals in the developing world from receiving funding. Again, I must stress, that it is these faith based organizations that are doing yeoman's work on the ground to address child and mother mortality, and they must be supported.

In this Congress I introduced H.R. 3525, the International Hydrocephalus Treatment and Training Act. Hydrocephalus, or "water on the brain," is a disease which affects three to five out of every 1000 newborns in developing countries, who are either born with it or acquire it due to neonatal infections in the first few months of life. For such children, it is often a death sentence. Doctors—assuming there is even a doctor around—often do not know how to treat it.

Moreover, if they do treat and use the traditional surgical procedure which requires the life-long use of a shunt, such shunts often become infected, leading to death a few years later.

Our bill would train doctors in Africa in a new and proven technique which does not require a shunt and is effective in at least two thirds of the cases of infants with hydrocephalus. It is ideally suited to conditions in the developing world. The amount required to make a difference in the lives of these children and their parents is relatively little—an estimated \$15 million over 5 years. I invite my colleagues who are present here to join in co-sponsoring this legislation, as one way to address the problem of child mortality.

Initiatives such as these are ones which should gather support across the political aisle—they are life-affirming, and can save the life of both mother and child. We have common ground here.

By addressing health during the first 1000 days of life, beginning at conception, we help ensure that over the next 25,000 days—or whatever the number is that our Creator has allotted—our brothers and sisters the world over can best reach their potential, leading fulfilled lives of health, vigor, and dignity.

UKRAINE SUPPORT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2014

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4278, the Ukraine Support Act.

This bill will send an important signal to the Ukrainian people that the United States of

America will stand by them as they resist Russia's aggression. This is not just a symbolic gesture on our part. In addition to the condemnation of Russia's actions through targeted sanctions, this vital legislation provides assistance to stabilize Ukraine's economy and to support important anti-corruption initiatives.

As a great nation of over 45 million people and a breadbasket for Europe and the world, Ukraine has the potential to be a true economic powerhouse. But decades of mismanagement and corruption at the highest levels have stifled Ukraine's economic growth and military readiness.

This weakness has allowed Russia to bully its way into Ukraine's internal affairs—culminating in the recent invasion and annexation of Crimea. Although the world has condemning this illegal land grab, Russian actions continue to threaten Ukraine's prosperity and territorial integrity.

Our support is vital to ensuring that Ukraine has the ability to defend its sovereignty and strengthen its democracy in order to resist external coercion. By extending a hand to Ukraine, we give them the opportunity to shake off Russia's influence once and for all. The people of Ukraine, as well as Ukrainian Americans in New Jersey and around the nation, want the United States to hold true to our values by standing shoulder-to-shoulder with Ukraine in her time of great need.

I am grateful that we can come together on a bipartisan basis to quickly bring forward this much-needed legislation. It is high time that we solidified our commitment to Ukraine. Much more remains to be done, but this bill is a step in the right direction. I urge my colleagues to support it.

IN RECOGNITION OF VICKI
KALABOKES FOR RAISING
AWARENESS OF ALOPECIA
AREATA

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 28, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise awareness of alopecia areata and the contributions of devoted individuals working to improve the lives of patients affected by this condition.

I am proud to represent the foremost organizations working exclusively to better the lives of individuals and families affected by alopecia areata, the National Alopecia Areata Foundation. President and Chief Executive Officer Vicki Kalabokes recently announced that she will be stepping down after 27 years of service at the foundation. Her leadership in the field will be missed and I congratulate her on behalf of the alopecia areata community as well as the dermatology and autoimmune disease communities for an impressive, productive and meaningful career.

Ms. Kalabokes has been both a scientific resource for medical experts at the National Institutes of Health and a compassionate champion for children struggling with the impact of alopecia areata. Her dedication led to the establishment of the Alopecia Areata Treatment Development Program, which should generate some of the first Food and Drug Administration-indicated treatment options for the community. While there is a still a great distance