

he also has impaired hearing and a speech impediment. Despite these obstacles, Robert was able to graduate high school. He then went on to earn a certification in welding from the Upper Valley Joint Vocational School in Ohio. Unfortunately, Robert's vision then began to decline. While Robert's vision declined, he was able to work at Walmart for 15 years. Then, in 2010, he lost his vision entirely to glaucoma and was no longer able to work. A year after he was declared legally blind, Robert found Bosma Industries and a whole new purpose in life. He went through the rehabilitation program and later began utilizing Bosma's employment services. First, Robert was taught how to acclimate himself to the outside world. He was hesitant to leave the comfort of his community but with Bosma's orientation to mobility training he began to come out of his shell. Robert learned how to build a computer, write a check, repair a broken door and other life skills. He even learned sculpting and pottery at Bosma. Bosma got Robert ready to take on the world through counseling, workshops on resume writing and how to find different ways of performing everyday tasks. Robert currently enjoys his time volunteering at Goodwill Industries, and hopes it will lead to a paid position soon. Bosma Industries empowers people to succeed.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to extend my support to the AbilityOne Program. I also want to thank Lou MoneyMaker, the President and CEO of Bosma Industries and their staff for their dedication and support to changing the lives of Hoosiers struggling with blindness or vision loss. They have forever transformed these lives and have had a positive impact on all of our communities.

TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER CHITTENDEN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Jennifer Chittenden of the Des Moines Downtown Chamber of Commerce for being named a 2014 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2014 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of nearly 600 business leaders and growing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Jennifer in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Ms. Chittenden for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Jennifer on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business

Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2014 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF THELDA DOBBINS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th birthday of Mrs. Thelda Dobbins.

Thelda Kirschner Dobbins was born on April 26, 1914 in Lisbon Falls, Maine. She graduated from Lisbon Falls High School in 1930 at the age of 16 and went on to receive a teaching degree from Farmington State Normal School, now known as the University of Maine at Farmington, as a member of the Class of 1932. Thelda went on to teach grade school in Durham, Maine for three years, making \$12 a week during the Great Depression.

Thelda continued to teach until she married Lester Dobbins in 1938, and the couple gave birth to their only child, Herb, in 1941. After the onset of World War II, Thelda returned to teaching in Sabattus and then at Pettingill School in Lewiston until her retirement in 1971.

Thelda and Lester enjoyed over 60 years of marriage until Lester passed away in 2000. Thelda continues to be an active member of the Auburn community as a resident of The Chapman House.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in celebrating the 100th birthday of Mrs. Thelda Dobbins, who has led an extraordinary life dedicated to her family and the education of Maine's children.

IN HONOR OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF LA PLAZA

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor La Plaza, whose tireless work over the past ten years has blessed thousands in my hometown of Indianapolis.

La Plaza exists to serve, empower, and integrate the Latino community of Central Indiana. The organization was founded in 2004 through the merger of Hispanic Education Center, Fiesta Indianapolis and El Centro Hispano. By bringing together the separate resources and services under one organizational umbrella, La Plaza committed to provide strong programming under a more efficient model. Today, La Plaza continues to fulfill this charge through its mission of strengthening Central Indiana by advocating and preparing Latino students for educational success and by connecting Latino families to health and social services.

La Plaza is Central Indiana's largest provider of culturally and linguistically appropriate services to Latino families. The organization's work is increasingly important as the Latino population in Indianapolis continues to grow. Data from the 2010 Census shows a 154 per-

cent increase in the number of Hispanics in Marion County, increasing from 33,000 to more than 84,000 in the last 10 years.

Serving as a trusted liaison between Central Indiana Latinos and the community at large, La Plaza connects over 5,000 individuals each year to over 20 community partners to deliver high-quality health and social services. The range of services spans from providing a pediatric and dentistry clinic to case management and basic needs assistance. La Plaza's educational initiatives additionally serve over 2,000 elementary to college-aged students. These programs help encourage and support Latino youth to excel in school and to pursue a post-secondary education. La Plaza also provides many of these first-generation college students with scholarships to ease the financial burden of college.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring La Plaza for its efforts to strengthen and integrate the growing Latino community in Central Indiana by providing them with vital educational and social services.

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Crime Victims' Rights Week. This is an important reminder that there is much work still to be done to promote the rights and needs of victims of crime in our communities.

As a State senator, I was the author of the first anti-stalking law in the country—before this legislation, there was very little legal protection available for stalking victims. I also worked to establish rights for crime victims in California's state constitution as author and campaign co-chair of Proposition 115. Proposition 115 gives victims the rights to a speedy trial, reduces the number of times crime victims must testify, increases sentences and punishment, and requires reciprocal discovery of evidence.

When I arrived in Congress, I made it a priority to address stalking at the federal level. In 1996, I introduced the Interstate Stalking Punishment and Prevention Act, which was signed into law, making it a felony to cross state lines to stalk someone. I am also a cosponsor of a Victims' Rights Amendment, which gives victims of crime the same protections as their offenders. Crime victims deserve equal consideration in the criminal justice process. In addition, I am a cosponsor of Justice for Crime Victims Act of 2014, legislation to legislatively further some of the same goals of the Amendment.

There is also much work to be done to serve victims of human trafficking—a growing issue in Southern California. That's why I've cosponsored the Strengthening the Child Welfare Response to Human Trafficking Act. This legislation helps ensure that child welfare agencies have the necessary tools to understand the unique needs of child trafficking victims and the resources to appropriately serve them.

I encourage you to visit <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/incvrv/> to learn more about Crime Victims' Rights Week and what we can be doing in our

local communities to raise awareness about the rights, needs, and concerns of victims and survivors of crime.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TULSI GABBARD

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, from January 6, 2014 through January 17, 2014, I was in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, reporting for mandatory annual National Guard training. I missed rollcall votes Nos. 1–23. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 1: "Present"—On Quorum Call of the House.

Rollcall No. 2: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 724.

Rollcall No. 3: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 3527.

Rollcall No. 4: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 3628.

Rollcall No. 5: "no"—Ordering the Previous Question.

Rollcall No. 6: "no"—On Agreeing to the Resolution H. Res. 455.

Rollcall No. 7: "yes"—Agreeing to the Sinema Amendment.

Rollcall No. 8: "yes"—Agreeing to the Tonko Amendment.

Rollcall No. 9: "yes"—On Motion to Recommit with Instructions.

Rollcall No. 10: "no"—On Passage of H.R. 2279.

Rollcall No. 11: "yes"—Final Passage of H.R. 3811.

Rollcall No. 12: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 1513.

Rollcall No. 13: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass S. 230.

Rollcall No. 14: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 2274.

Rollcall No. 15: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 801.

Rollcall No. 16: "yes"—On Approving the Journal.

Rollcall No. 17: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 2860.

Rollcall No. 18: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 1233.

Rollcall No. 19: "no"—On Ordering the Previous Question.

Rollcall No. 20: "no"—On Agreeing to the Resolution H. Res. 458.

Rollcall No. 21: "yes"—Concurring in the Senate Amendments with an Amendment on H.R. 3547.

Rollcall No. 22: "yes"—On Motion to Recommit with Instructions.

Rollcall No. 23: "no"—On Passage of H.R. 3362.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE BANASIAK

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Mike Banasiak of

Legacy Financial Group for being named a 2014 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2014 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of nearly 600 business leaders and growing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Mike in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Banasiak for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Mike on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2014 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

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 \$17,555,437,713,940.26. We've added \$6,928,560,665,027.18 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.9 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

THE INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO DIRECT THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO CONDUCT A RESOURCES STUDY TO DETERMINE THE SUITABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF ENTERING INTO PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS TO OPERATE FEDERALLY OWNED GOLF COURSES IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to introduce a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a resources study to determine the suitability and feasibility of entering into public-private partnerships to operate federally owned golf courses in the District of Columbia. The three golf courses—Langston Golf Course, Rock Creek Golf Course and East Potomac Golf Course—are owned by the National Park Service (NPS). The courses have long been in desperate need of capital invest-

ment to reverse decades of deterioration and to maintain and preserve their historic features. From the time Congress created the first of the courses in the 1920s, they have been underfunded. The major reason is that NPS has continued to operate the courses under concession contracts even though concession contracts do not allow for the significant annual capital improvements necessary for golf courses. The concessions approach to operating golf courses has led to an inevitable declining state of repair.

East Potomac Golf Course was built in 1920 and included three courses that accommodated all levels of play, with an 18-hole course and two 9-hole courses. East Potomac was initially segregated, with African Americans permitted to play only on Mondays. The course was desegregated in 1941 by the then-Secretary of the Interior, Harold Ickes, following pressure from an African-American women's golf club, the Wake Robin Golf Club. However, Langston Golf Course opened in 1939 as a segregated course for African-Americans, and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Langston was the home course for the Royal Golf Club and the Wake Robin Golf Club, the Nation's first clubs for African American men and women golfers, respectively. Langston, named for John Mercer Langston, the first African-American elected to Congress from Virginia in 1888, was originally a 9-hole course. Langston's expansion to an 18-hole course began in 1955, but was not completed until the mid-1980s. Rock Creek Golf Course opened in 1923 as a 9-hole course and an additional nine holes were added to it in 1926. None of the courses have been modernized, all three have fallen into disrepair, and all lack the amenities necessary to serve the public today.

My bill would direct the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of NPS, to conduct a special resources study to determine the suitability and feasibility of entering into public-private partnerships with a non-Federal entity or entities to operate the courses. The study would assume that one of the three golf courses will be a world-class, tournament-quality public course, with playing fees commensurate with such courses. The other two courses would be public courses of substantially similar quality to top-ranked courses owned by cities, towns, counties and states. The playing fees for these other two courses would remain the same as they are on the date of enactment of the bill, indexed annually to the Consumer Price Index. The study would also determine which course would be best suitable as the world-class, tournament-quality public course.

The three courses together constitute a magnificent but underutilized public asset that could be renovated and modernized, facilitating affordable recreation, attracting significantly more golfers and generating revenue to maintain the courses. Unlike other NPS facilities, golf courses require significant, continuing capital investment for maintenance. The current fees collected from patrons at the courses, which are established in the concessions contracts, must remain affordable and therefore do not generate sufficient revenue for NPS or the concessioners to properly maintain the courses.

Because the public golf courses in the Nation's capital are in such poor condition and are in need of a different and better means of