

the participating schools and the art teachers who helped facilitate the process by assisting their students.

High School, Art Teacher:

Carroll Senior High School, Eric Horn & Summer Neimann.

Carrollton Christian Academy, Holly Hendrix.

Coppell High School, Tamera Westervelt.

Creekview High School, Bob Thomas.

Grapevine High School, Jeff Nisbet.

The Hockaday School Jack E., Janet Yoshii-Buenger.

Newman Smith High School, Keith Mueller.

Parish Episcopal School, Beka Johnson.

Prestonwood Christian Academy, Brenda Robson.

Ranchview High School, Erin West.

Jack E. Singley Academy, Amy Moore.

St. Mark's School of Texas, Max Wood.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these exceptional high school artists on becoming finalists in the 24th Congressional District of Texas Art Competition.

TO RECOGNIZE NONIE DARWISH

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of and appreciation for Nonie Darwish.

In 1949, Nonie Darwish was born in Egypt—the Muslim daughter of a lieutenant general in the Egyptian Army. Today, she is a champion for equality and respect of women within the Islamic culture in which she grew up.

After coming to America in the late 1970's she became an outspoken advocate for human rights around the world—including in the Middle East-region—and has voiced her support for a strong and sovereign Israel-state. Her unique life story has led her to become one of the most fascinating and passionate women in our society, and has helped her pen three nationally recognized books.

It is a great honor that Ms. Darwish is speaking in my district—bringing her exceptional message of equal rights and a world free of hate to an audience in Bucks County.

It is of note that her address comes in Washington's Crossing—just miles from the location of one of the most crucial points in American history. When General Washington crossed the frozen Delaware more than two centuries ago, he was battling for a government that respected the inalienable rights of the individual—regardless of race, creed, gender or religion. Ms. Darwish's message rings true with the values fought for on that ground.

I wish to thank Nonie Darwish for her life of leadership and for her coming visit to my district.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF ERIC CROWNOVER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Eric Crownover, who served

honorably as a Marine during the Iraq War. Eric's commitment and dedication to ensuring the safety of the American people deserves to be commended.

Eric was born in Chowchilla and attended Chowchilla High School. In 1997, he graduated and soon after enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps.

After completing boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Eric completed the School of Infantry Training course and was designated as an infantryman. He qualified as Expert on the M-16 rifle and reported to Company F, 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment at Camp Pendleton.

Eric quickly advanced in rank and military proficiency. He completed the Machine Gunners Course and became involved in the USMC Mixed Martial Arts. Eric decided to re-enlist and remained in the 1st Marines.

In January 2003, the 1st Marines were deployed to Iraq as part of Regimental Combat Team 1, a combined task force of 5,000 men. Eric and his fellow Marines fought their way from Kuwait to Baghdad, with actions at An Nasiriyah, Al Kut, and Baghdad.

After the fall of Baghdad, Eric and the regiment conducted security and stability operations in Baghdad and Al Hillah. He returned to Camp Pendleton in the summer of 2003, where he completed Martial Arts Grey Training. Later in 2003, Eric returned to Iraq for a second tour and was in combat in Fallujah and Ramadi.

In addition to his service in Iraq, Eric also spent several months in Afghanistan fighting the Taliban and insurgent forces. He eventually returned to Camp Pendleton where he joined Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment. He continued with the USMC Mixed Martial Arts and earned a brown belt.

Eric became a CST instructor and was selected for the Sergeant's Course. After completing the course, he was promoted to sergeant. During his off-duty hours, Eric took courses in criminal justice at Saddleback College, Mission Viejo.

In February 2006, Sergeant Eric L. Crownover received an honorable discharge from the United States Marines Corps. For his service, he was awarded the Combat Action Ribbon with one star, Presidential Unit Citation, the Good Conduct Medal with one star, the Iraq Campaign Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, and Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, Letter of Commendation, and Letter of Appreciation. He was also awarded the Expert Rifleman's Badge and a Brown Belt in Mixed Martial Arts. Eric has three children and lives in Merced, California. He is a Life Member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Chowchilla Post 9896.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Eric Crownover for his honorable service to our great nation and wishing him the best of luck and health in his future endeavors.

HONORING WILLIAM (BILL) DESHUN ROBINSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. William D. Robin-

son, who is a motivated Greenwood High School student, athlete, and citizen of Leflore County.

William (Bill) D. Robinson was born in Greenwood, Mississippi on October 11, 1994. At the age of four, his mother and he moved to Michigan where he attended public and charter schools. Even at a young age, his peers noticed that he had leadership potential and the academic motivation to excel. He was voted "Most Likely to Succeed".

After living in Michigan for five years, his mother moved his family back to Greenwood. His brother, two sisters and he were excited to be back home with their family and friends. Bill continued to love learning and enjoyed seeing old friends and meeting new ones.

In school his academic success was recognized by being named to the Greenwood High School Honor Roll, being honor Mr. William D. Robinson, who is a elected treasurer of the GHS Beta Club, and motivated Greenwood High School student, being chosen Student of the Month by his teachers.

Sports have been a passion for him throughout his middle school and high school years. Through the Greenwood High School football team, he has been named 2nd Team All-Commonwealth Defensive End and has twice been a member of the 4A District Championship team. He also participates in the GHS Track and Field Team.

As an employee of Greenwood Market Place, he has been promoted as Student Produce Manager. In his job, Bill manages department inventory and maintains product quality.

Bill participates in many school and community organizations. He is a member of the GHS Youth Advisory Council, the SkillsUSA organization, and the Distinguished Gentlemen of Maroon and White. He serves on the Teen Advisory Group of the Greenwood Leflore Library, was recognized as the Rotary Club Student of the Month for January. He often volunteers at the Golden Age Nursing Home.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an exemplary young man, Mr. William D. (Bill) Robinson, someone who balances academic success, life skills, and good citizenship.

RECOGNIZING THE CAMELOT COMMUNITY PATROL (NWP)

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Camelot Community Patrol Neighborhood Watch Program, CNWP, of Fairfax County, Virginia, and join the community in celebrating the Watch's 35th anniversary.

Neighborhood Watch is one of the oldest and best-known crime prevention efforts in North America. In the late 1960s, an increase in crime heightened the need for a prevention initiative focused on residential areas and involving local citizens. The National Sheriffs' Association, NSA, responded, creating the National Neighborhood Watch Program in 1972 to assist citizens and law enforcement.

In the aftermath of September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, strengthening and securing communities became more critical than ever.

Neighborhood Watch programs have responded to the challenge, expanding beyond their traditional crime prevention role to help neighborhoods focus on disaster preparedness, emergency response, and terrorism awareness.

While every Neighborhood Watch program in the country deserves our recognition and appreciation, the Camelot Neighborhood Watch Program stands out as one of the best in the Nation. The CNWP is the oldest, continuously active Neighborhood Watch in the United States. In the 35 years since its inception, the CNWP has achieved great success, helping lower the general crime rate in its community. Boasting the largest number of volunteers in Northern Virginia, the CNWP is the "eyes and ears" of local law enforcement, informing the authorities of suspicious activities and giving their neighbors peace of mind.

Those who take the time to cast a watchful eye on their surroundings ensure a safer, friendlier place to live. Through committed neighborhood watch, CNWP participants have proven that community involvement can and does make a difference. In 2013, the CNWP volunteers conducted 599 patrols totaling 763 hours. There are 50 active patrollers, each of whom volunteered an average of 64 hours per month.

One of the greatest assets of the CNWP is its ability to bring neighbors together. In that spirit I am proud to recognize Mr. Paul Cevey, CNWP founder and coordinator for the first 12 years; Mr. Dave Shoner, who for the next 11 years continued to mold the program into the great success it is today; and Mr. Frank Vajda who continues the great CNWP tradition.

Years of CNWP success have merited several notable accolades. The Fairfax County Mason District Police Department has recognized the CNWP as one of the most effective crime reduction units in the county. In fact, Camelot is one of the most crime-free communities in Fairfax County and the CNWP deserves much of the credit. The Virginia Crime Prevention Association has also recognized the CNWP as the Best Neighborhood Watch in Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank the Camelot Neighborhood Watch Program for 35 years of dedicated service to its community. Programs like the CNWP are vital in our efforts to combat crime. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the CNWP's past accomplishments and in wishing the program continued success in the many years to come.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Calvary Baptist Church of San Diego on its 125th anniversary and to recognize its long service to the African American community. Calvary Baptist Church of San Diego was one of the first African American Baptist churches in San Diego to address the emotional, physical, and spiritual needs of the African American community.

Throughout the years, Calvary Baptist Church has honored its history through faith,

forgiveness, fellowship, friendship, and family and community union. As it did 125 years ago, Calvary Baptist Church continues to support the emotional, physical, and spiritual needs of the African American communities throughout San Diego.

Calvary Baptist Church of San Diego has prospered, reaching new heights physically, financially, and spiritually. I would like to commend Calvary Baptist Church of San Diego on their 125th anniversary and thank them for their enormous contributions to our community.

ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, this year, we celebrate 66 years of Israeli independence as well as over six decades of steadfast friendship between Israel and the United States.

When President Truman recognized the State of Israel on May 14, 1948, only eleven minutes after David Ben-Gurion declared independence, the United States became an unwavering supporter of the Jewish state.

Israel is now our strongest ally in the Middle East as well as the longest-standing democracy in the region. It's a partnership based on shared values and common goals.

That is why the United States will continue to be the greatest force against efforts to delegitimize Israel in the international community as well as the greatest advocate for a lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians and recognition of Israel by all of her neighbors.

Together, we will continue our efforts to turn these goals into a reality.

I join all Israelis in celebrating this year's Yom Ha'atzmaut.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 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 \$17,468,093,940,076.33. We've added \$6,841,216,891,163.25 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF JACKY PARKS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jacky Parks for being honored

as the 2014 Labor Leader of the Year by the Fresno, Madera, Tulare, and Kings Central Labor Council. The outstanding contributions he has made to the law enforcement community in Fresno and the entire San Joaquin Valley must be commended.

Jacky was born and raised in Oakdale, California. Upon graduating from Oakdale High School in 1983, Jacky went on to attend Merced Community College where he majored in criminal justice.

In 1985, Jacky was hired by the State of California and began his career as a peace officer. Throughout his law enforcement career of nearly three decades, Jacky has served as a patrol officer, field training officer, narcotic detective, and street violence detective. For the past 19 years, Jacky has been with the City of Fresno Police Department.

In October 2004, Jacky's peers elected him to be president of the Fresno Police Officer's Association (FPOA), a position he has held for a record five consecutive terms. As president, Jacky serves as the lead negotiator for the FPOA Basic and Management Units. He coordinated and participated in a successful campaign to defeat California Propositions 74, 75, 76, and 77, and joined forces with local labor leaders to successfully defeat the City of Fresno's Measure "G."

In addition to serving as President of FPOA, Jacky serves in other leadership positions. Jacky is a member of the City of Fresno Health and Welfare Trust, and he sits on the executive committee and board of directors of the Peace Officer Research Association of California (PORAC). Jacky is a terrific representative for the Fresno Police Department and regularly participates in community events and town hall meetings. In addition, he is active in educating law enforcement labor groups around the state and nation.

Throughout his career, Jacky has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to service. In 1989, Jacky left the World Series baseball game to work with the California State Police in assisting citizens affected by the 1989 San Francisco earthquake. He also served as a street violence detective investigating the Marcus Wesson homicide case which resulted in a successful prosecution and conviction.

Because of Jacky's efforts, he has been the recipient of several awards presented by the Fresno Police Department including: a Life Saving Medal, the Fresno Police Department Nominee Rookie of the Year award, and the Southeast District Police Officer of the Year award. Jacky also received a special recognition award at the 2008 PORAC Conference for his dedication and efforts to promoting the goals of the organization.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Jacky Parks for his service and commitment to our community. His hard work and dedication to ensuring public safety is greatly appreciated.

HONORING CALEB ROBINSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, Caleb Robinson, a