

On a personal note, I have been truly blessed by Randy's steadfast friendship and support. I was delighted when, several years ago, his good friend Colonel Curtis Wright, USAF (Retired) introduced us. My wife, Vivian, and I will cherish the wonderful memories we have of Randy's bright smile, upbeat personality, and close friendship.

Randy is survived by his two sons, Walter Andre and Marshall; three sisters, a niece, three nephews, and other beloved relatives and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me and my wife, Vivian, in saluting Lt. Col. Walter "Randy" Randall, USAF (Retired) for his outstanding service to his country and to his community. We extend our deepest sympathies to Randy's family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time and we pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

REMEMBERING DEMI BRAE CUCCIA

HON. KEITH J. ROTHFUS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Demi Brae Cuccia. Demi was a student and cheerleader at Gateway High School in Monroeville, PA with an outgoing personality and big aspirations for a successful future.

Tragically, Demi was a victim of teen-dating violence, murdered just one day after her sixteenth birthday on August 15, 2007.

Teen-dating violence such as physical, emotional, or sexual abuse and stalking is unacceptable. No child deserves to be subjected to abuse and violence. As a father of six, my heart goes out to the family and friends of Demi, especially her parents, Dr. Gary and Jodi Cuccia.

More must be done in our communities to prevent future tragedies like the one that took Demi. The Cuccia family is working hard to educate Western Pennsylvania students and families about how to recognize and prevent teen-dating violence through the Demi Brae Cuccia Awareness Organization. Because of the Cuccias efforts, Demi's story has also been recognized by national news outlets and in the documentary Teen Dating Violence: The Murder of Demi Cuccia.

It is my hope that thanks to the Cuccias efforts more families can be spared from the tragedy of teen-dating violence.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Demi today and in thanking the Cuccias for their commitment to end teen-dating violence.

TRIBUTE TO CYNTHIA K. RAFFETY

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cynthia K. Raffety, who on June 13, 2014 will step down from an exceptional ca-

reer as a public school mathematics teacher, a profession in which she has been engaged over the past four decades.

Born in Baltimore, MD on February 23, 1948, Cynthia is the daughter of Samuel and Ellen Kirby, an engraver and a nurse, respectively. She graduated from Eastern High School in 1966 and attended the University of Maryland, where she earned a BA in Education—Mathematics. In 1991, Cynthia obtained her Masters of Education from West Virginia Wesleyan College (WVWC).

Upon graduation from the University of Maryland, Cynthia served as a public school teacher in Prince George's Co., MD, and Gloucester Co., NJ. After a stint as a stay-at-home mom in the mid-70s to raise her two children, Jennifer and Robert, Cynthia returned to teaching in Fairfax Co., VA in 1980, and has been active in the classroom ever since.

Cynthia's most notable contributions as an educator took place in the Upshur County (WV) Public School System. From 1983 to 1990, Cynthia taught 8th Grade Math at the Buckhannon-Upshur Middle School as a member of Team H. She then transitioned to the Buckhannon-Upshur High School, where from 1990 onward Cynthia instructed a wide range of math courses, including: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, and Dual Credit College Algebra and College Trigonometry. Along the way, in 1991, Cynthia picked up her Masters of Education from West Virginia Wesleyan College (WVWC).

Outside of her duties as a public school teacher, Cynthia also serves as an Adjunct Professor of Mathematics Education at WVWC and Fairmont State University. She also served as Program Director for WVWC's Summer Institute, as well as lead instructor of SAT Math Prep. Cynthia routinely opens her high school classroom to undergraduate and graduate student teachers, as well as students engaged in clinical education research in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education.

In addition to her excellence as a math educator, Cynthia also graciously volunteers her time as the faculty advisor to several school organizations, including the alcohol, smoking, and drug-awareness activities of Teen Institute/RAZEWV, and the civic and volunteer undertakings of Interact (Youth Rotary).

In all of her cherished duties—wife, mother, teacher, mentor, advisor, role-model, and civic leader—Cynthia has displayed unparalleled spirit, drive, and devotion. I am, therefore, honored and pleased to have this opportunity to call to the attention of my colleagues the extraordinary accomplishments of Cynthia K. Raffety. I admire Cynthia's idealism and lifelong commitment to her community, and I join her family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues in thanking Cynthia for her life of service.

SUCCESS AND OPPORTUNITY THROUGH QUALITY CHARTER SCHOOLS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 10) to amend the Charter School Program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Chair, on Tuesday, my amazing wife Rachel gave birth to our seventh child, a fifth daughter to add to our brood. And whether it is our seventh or seventeenth baby, the first few days always feel the same. The curiosity of who this little girl will become is just as high with her as it was when our oldest was born.

We wonder, will she have an affinity for math or be drawn to the classics? Will she excel in music or languages? Will she have an interest in history or world affairs? With all of our children, we know only time can answer these questions, but her schooling will certainly play a part.

It is a sentiment shared by millions of parents. That is why I rise in strong support of H.R. 10, the Success and Opportunity through Quality Charter Schools Act. I am a proud cosponsor of this legislation, and am happy to see it on the floor, especially today.

My congressional district has the 25th highest number of charter schools in the country. All parents want choices and opportunities for our children and charter schools provide those options. Schools no longer have to be dictated by where families buy their house, and a zip code should no longer dictate the quality of education our children receive. These things should be chosen based on the education parents want their children to receive.

Demand for charter schools has never been higher. Currently, over 1 million student names are on waiting lists for a public charter school. From New York City to rural Wisconsin, these schools play an integral role in educating our children. As our new baby girl grows up, we will value the choices she is given because of the Success and Opportunity through Quality Charter Schools Act.

I'm thankful for the committee's work on this important bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on May 6, 2014, I missed rollcall vote 194 and 195. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall 194 and "yes" on rollcall 195.

HONORING THE 66TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Israel's Independence Day.

Sixty-six years ago, the state of Israel celebrated its first independence day. The creation of a modern Jewish homeland is no small achievement, and I am honored to join with Israelis and millions of other people around the world to continue this celebration.

I have now been fortunate enough to visit Israel twice, most recently as part of a Congressional delegation last summer. I was again struck by the diversity that exists in such a small country and the creativity and energy that makes Israel so special.

In speaking with political, business, and social leaders, I learned so much more about what links our two countries. The similarities between Arizona and Israel, where people work hard, embrace ingenuity and creativity, and build stronger communities for their families, are also striking.

On this anniversary I reaffirm my commitment to Israel's security and to a lasting peace in the region. I am proud of the bond between our two countries, a bond built on mutual respect for human rights, democracy and freedom.

As we celebrate Yom Ha'Atzmaut in Israel and the United States, we can reflect on a shared past and look towards a safe and secure future.

RECOGNIZING AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the American Society of Clinical Oncology, ASCO, on its 50 years of advancing progress against cancer. Back in 1964, seven physicians committed to improving the care of people to cancer came together with a vision for a professional society that would educate and lead physicians through this journey. At that time, cancer was largely untreatable and only a handful of hard-to-tolerate and mostly ineffective therapies were available. Flash forward fifty years and ASCO has nearly 35,000 members around the world. In the 1960s, less than one-half of patients with cancer were alive five years after diagnosis. Today more than two-thirds of patients with cancer are alive five years after their diagnosis. The number of drugs available to treat cancer has grown from a small handful to more than 170, and options for toxicity management have vastly increased. Patient quality of life has improved dramatically. This is cause for celebration, but we cannot rest. An estimated 1.6 million Americans will be diagnosed with cancer this year. The growing, aging, and more overweight population makes it likely that cancer will become the leading cause of death by 2030. I commend ASCO for its contributions to the progress against cancer over these 50 years and look forward to working with the cancer community to continue the progress.

HONORING DWAYNE GARNER

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize Dwayne Garner of Henderson County for his exceptional service to our country. Beginning his service with the

Air Force in 1954, Mr. Garner served with distinction, finally earning the rank of Senior Master Sergeant in 1971. Upon completion of twenty years of service with the Air Force, while serving in the Philippines, Mr. Garner was honorably discharged. Soon after, he decided it was time to move back home to Texas with his wife and two young daughters, where he worked as an adult probation officer in Henderson County until his retirement.

Coming from a distinguished family of veterans that "bleeds red, white, and blue," Mr. Garner was no exception. During his time with the Air Force, he was awarded several medals, including the Bronze Star, two Commendation medals, and the Presidential Unit Citation. He remains a true patriot, volunteering his time with different military service organizations in East Texas.

Humbly, I echo the words of President Ronald Reagan, "We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we will always be free." And humbly, I offer my sincere gratitude to Mr. Dwayne Garner for his service and acts of bravery that allow us the freedoms we enjoy today.

RECOGNIZING MAY AS NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as one of the original co-sponsor of the resolution recognizing May as National Foster Care Month, I rise to recognize the selfless foster families who open their hearts and their homes for children in need and to all of those individuals and organizations that work to ensure that every child has an opportunity for a brighter future.

I am honored to be a founding member of the Congressional Caucus for Foster Youth, a caucus that allows Members to gain a better understanding of the current state of foster care throughout the nation and identify potential federal policy modifications that could improve outcomes for the children in our country's foster care systems.

Mr. Speaker, currently there are over 463,000 children living in foster care. These children have been placed in homes on the account of the physical, sexual and emotional abuse they have endured with their biological caretaker.

My state of Texas currently has more than 69,000 children and young persons in foster care.

Nearly two of every three (65%) of children who are not placed in a permanent home emancipate themselves from the system often left unemployed, without a place to live and resorting to homeless shelters.

Less than 3 percent go on to college and emancipated females end up four times more likely to receive public assistance compared to the overall population of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, it is vital that we continue to create more programs, events and activities that will enlighten citizens of the United States on stories of children successfully placed in permanent homes, debunk myths about the process and acknowledge the thousands of children who could potentially become a part of these statistics.

Through these efforts we can increase the rate of adoption, decrease the rate of homelessness among the youths in this group and help develop future leaders and innovative thinkers of tomorrow.

I would like to take a moment to recognize the families who have opened their hearts and homes to foster children. Foster parents play a critical role in the lives of some of the most vulnerable youth in Texas and across the country.

They help hold our nation's social fabric together by ensuring that thousands of young people in this country stay on track towards successful futures. This month, we celebrate you and your efforts to change the lives of these children.

National Foster Care Month is an appropriate time to recognize and commend all those who are helping to improve the lives of children in foster care.

But it also serves as a reminder that more must be done. These children deserve to grow up in a loving home that is safe, happy, and most importantly one they can call their own.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. TODD GAMBLIN

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exemplary scientist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) in Livermore, California.

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Science has selected Dr. Todd Gamblin to receive funding as part of Department's Early Career Research Program (ECRP). His project, entitled "Statistical Methods for Exascale Performance Modeling," was selected by the Office of Advanced Scientific Computing Research.

The ECRP is crucial to our ability to maintain American leadership in science. It was created to support the development of individual research programs of outstanding scientists early in their careers and stimulates research careers in the disciplines supported by the DOE Office of Science.

Dr. Gamblin is a computer scientist in the Center for Applied Scientific Computing at LLNL and has been with the lab since 2008. He received a Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in computer science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2009 and 2005. He received his B.A. in computer science and Japanese from Williams College in 2002.

Awardees were selected from a large pool of university- and national laboratory-based applicants. Selection was based on peer review by outside scientific experts.

I am privileged to represent LLNL and its brilliant scientists like Dr. Gamblin. Their hard work and skill are what keeps America secure and at the forefront of scientific innovation. I want to congratulate Dr. Gamblin and wish him well in his work with ECRP.