

towards the region over the next half century, culminating in European Jewry's attempts to flee Hitler in the 1930s.

After World War II, the desire for a Jewish state became even stronger and world wide support for Zionism grew as the truth of the Holocaust was revealed in all its horror. On May 14, 1948, the Jewish Agency declared the creation of the State of Israel.

Conflicts with the countries surrounding Israel meant that Israel was not the safe haven the Jewish people had envisioned. Nonetheless, and despite the dangers, Israel has thrived as an oasis of idealism, technological wonder, and democracy in the midst of the desert. Strong support for Israel is a core national security interest of the United States, as well as an expression of the decades-long alliance between our two nations.

I ask all Members to join me in commemorating the 66th anniversary of Israel's Independence.

HONORING THE GRADUATES OF THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2013–2014 Congressional Youth Advisory Council. This year 53 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 9 through 12 made their voices heard and made a difference in their community, their country and their Congress. These students volunteered their time, effort, and talent to inform me about the important issues facing their generation.

Each year, the students in CYAC exceed my expectations ten-fold. They share innovative, inspiring, and impacting ideas on how to build a better America now and in the future. Their impressive and diverse credentials speak for themselves. Participating in student government, community service, honor societies, athletics, fine arts, and language clubs exemplifies their educational excellence and steadfast commitment to our community.

Over the past year, we met twice to discuss the most current issues of the day, such as the national debt, balancing the budget, and tax reform. But let me tell you, these students have done much more than just attend meetings. They have filled out surveys, done homework on current events, and engaged in policy conversations impacting their future.

More specifically, they have interacted with community leaders, such as John Schomburger, First Assistant District Attorney for Collin County, who discussed his work at the Veterans court. They also toured the Collin County Threat Fusion Center with Kelly Stone, Director of Homeland Security for Collin County to learn how to respond to a terrorist attack and how the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Justice work together to prevent them in the first place.

Lastly, to ensure that the blessing of freedom is passed from one generation to the next, the members of the CYAC spent time interviewing a veteran and documenting their experience for the "Preserving History

Project." As President Ronald Reagan said, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free." I thank them for learning about the patriotic service of our dedicated veterans who sacrificed so much so we could live free. We are forever indebted to them.

To each member of the Congressional Youth Advisory Council, thank you for making this year and this group a success. You are the voices of the future and know I am very proud of you. God bless you and God bless America. I salute you.

Amit Banerjee, Andre Bergstein, Connor Bresnahan, Julia Bristol, Richard Chen, Bridget Colliton, John Copley, Brock Crawford, Mark Douglass, Alicia D'Souza, William Elliott, Audrey Fisher, Rakshana Govindarajan, Aayush Goyal, Grace Han, Katheryn Hawley, Brent He, Lauren Hebig, Sarah Hossain, Sydney House, Spencer Humphrey.

MacKenzie Jenkins, Thomas Kim, Justin Kong, Candice Lee, Paul Lim, Connor Madden, Daniel Madden, Soumya Mandava, Hollis Meachum, Anthony Niedzielski, Jacob Przada, Regan Railey, Jason Randoing, Sam Schell, Ryan Snitzer, Connor Spencer, Anjali Sridharan, Brennan Stewart, Makenzie Stuard, William Su, Jessica Todd, Amelia Trotter, Simic Tuan, Victoria Van de Kop, Faith Wada, Andrew Wicker.

CONGRATULATING MEGAN MAUREEN KORCZYNSKI AND KEVIN P. GOW, JR. ON THEIR MARRIAGE

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, my esteemed colleagues, please join me in recognizing Megan Maureen Korczynski and Kevin P. Gow, Jr. as they celebrate their devotion to each other and to their future together.

They are to celebrate their commitment to each other on Saturday, May 24, 2014 at Saint Andrew's Catholic Church in Delavan, Wisconsin.

Megan Maureen has been living and working in Chicago receiving her Bachelor degree of Fine Arts in Interior Design from the Chicago International Academy of Design and Technology while her fiancé, Kevin P. Gow, Jr. has also been living and working in Chicago receiving his Master's Degree from DePaul University.

The union of these two individuals, Megan Maureen Korczynski, daughter of Edwin J., Major, United States Air Force/CAP, and Diane M., mother of 5 daughters and a teacher of special education for 25 years; and Kevin P. Gow, Jr. son of Kevin Gow, Sr. Captain USMC and the late Lynne Dwight Gow, mother of 3 and nursing advisor for Met Life Long Term Care.

As George Elliot once said, "What greater thing is there for two human souls that to feel that they are joined together to strengthen

each other in all labor, to minister to each other in all sorrow, to share with each other in all gladness, to be one with each other in the silent unspoken memories?"

It is with great excitement and anticipation that both families share in the happiness of this union. Their commitment to each other is one to be celebrated and commended and one in which I offer my congratulations and wish them well as they begin their new life together.

RECOGNIZING THE ASIAN BUSINESS DIVISION OF THE GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Mr. BARTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the newly formed Asian Business Division of the Grand Prairie, Texas Chamber of Commerce. I was honored to speak at this unique group's first meeting on May 13, 2014.

The Asian population is the fastest growing community in this already diverse city. The Chamber's new division will focus on reaching out to this demographic to make sure they have the tools and resources to build a strong business community in Grand Prairie.

It is based in a complex known as Asia Time Square. The shopping development is already home to dozens of Asian businesses—with plans to add dozens more.

The Asian Business Division plans to drive economic growth in the city by continuing to lure businesses and jobs to the area, taking a strategic approach to building the groups' brand, improving the overall value of the Grand Prairie Chamber of Commerce in the area, and creating a dynamic business development plan that assists a diverse employer base.

This unique partnership wouldn't be possible without the hard work of countless people, including leadership of the Chamber of Commerce and the Loh Family (which owns and operates Asia Times Square).

I am confident that this new relationship will benefit everyone in the area and ensure that it competes successfully for new businesses, new jobs and only makes Grand Prairie a more attractive place to live, work, play and raise a family.

CHARLENE FARRELL—HOSPICE OF HUNTINGTON RETIREMENT

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, tonight, Hospice of Huntington will honor one of its long time stalwarts and earliest leaders. This great organization is distinguished by the respect and gratitude of the larger community it so ably, and with so much empathy, serves so faithfully. One daughter, whose father had been a hospice patient, wrote with her "sincere and heartfelt appreciation" about the "graceful care and gentle mercy shown to my father in his

last days." Indeed, there is much to be thankful for this evening.

In fact, it is no overstatement to say, that for countless families, Hospice of Huntington has helped answer many prayers for relief and the joy of comfort.

According to a local news account, this Hospice—with 140 employees and more than 300 volunteers, an annual budget of about \$12 million a year, of which more than 80 percent goes directly to patient services—serves about 1,000 patients a year in Cabell, Wayne, Lincoln and Mason Counties in West Virginia, as well as Lawrence County, Ohio.

Tonight, there will be much talk—and rightly so—of references to angels and angelic acts here on earth. Through my work with constituents, in getting them the government services they need and deserve, I know for a fact that Hospice of Huntington harbors a host of the better angels among us.

And if there is one on this earth who has guided and grown, directed and expanded and led and served the resources, services and programs for that host of angels to employ, it is none other than the archangel we so thankfully have in Charlene Farrell. Not only does Charlene trumpet the potential and possibilities of Hospice's many programs, echoing the skills and talents of Gabriel himself, but like Michael, she never fails to unsheathe her sword to defend those programs and the people who make them possible for the families they serve.

It is my honor to share these comments about Hospice of Huntington and its champion, Charlene, with my colleagues and our Nation. Ours is a blessed Nation because we are a giving Nation. Charlene Farrell's body of work, her spirit of giving will live on and grow long after she has turned the keys and passwords into the able hands of Melanie Hall.

As Sarah Denman, Chairwoman of the Hospice Board has said, Charlene "has created a team that will be able to carry that legacy into the future. That's the greatest gift—when you step away, the organization will continue at the same level with the same values and the same vision."

All this, Mr. Speaker, will continue to contribute to the greater benefit of the People of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I close my remarks honoring Charlene with these lines from Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, the "Ode to Joy":

Your magic brings together what custom has sternly divided.

All men shall become brothers, wherever your gentle wings hover.

To Charlene, and her husband, Judge Paul Farrell, may your next symphony, the one with those seven loving grandchildren, be just as complete.

HONORING JANE SNOWDEN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jane Snowden, who after thirty years and at the age of eighty-eight, is retiring as an Ombudsman for residents of both nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Napa County, California. I thank Mrs.

Snowden for her thirty years of dedicated service to the senior citizens of Napa County, during which time her advocacy for the rights of seniors living in facilities helped to improve the quality of care for thousands.

Mrs. Snowden began working as an Ombudsman in 1985, first as a volunteer and then later as a member of staff. Initially, the Ombudsman Program was coordinated through the Volunteer Center, before it became a direct service offered by the Area Agency on Aging Serving Napa and Solano. In addition to her work as an Ombudsman, Mrs. Snowden has volunteered and worked extensively in the Napa area. She worked as a Quality Control Supervisor for Christian Brothers Winery for fifteen years and was also a Medical Technologist. She has worked at the Blood Bank and as a hospital aide. Mrs. Snowden is a devoted member of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Napa, where she serves on the Altar Guild.

In addition to her work on behalf of the Napa community, Mrs. Snowden is a devoted mother; together with her late husband, Red, she raised four sons in Napa. She is admired by friends for her elegance, tenacity and capacity to teach and mentor others. Mrs. Snowden is known not only for her love of flowers, but also for her talent to create wonderful floral arrangements.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor and thank Mrs. Snowden for her invaluable service to the senior citizens of Napa. Her unyielding dedication to protecting and improving the quality of care that our seniors receive is greatly appreciated by the entire Napa community and we wish her a most enjoyable retirement.

SINISE NAVIDAD—IN HONOR OF GARY SINISE AND HIS CAREER AND DEDICATION TO OUR TROOPS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Blue Island, Illinois and our Nation's best, Gary Sinise.

Gary is one of America's finest actors, but it pales in comparison to his tireless dedication to America's military and their families. Following in the steps of like men like Bob Hope, Bing Crosby and Rich Little, he is a true patriot. He's got their back.

I ask that this poem entitled "SINESE NAVIDAD," penned in his honor by Albert Carey Caswell, be placed in the RECORD.

SINISE NAVIDAD

(By Albert Carey Caswell)

In Blue Island Illinois a little boy is born

not to be The Forgotten one . . .

For he was no Imposter my son!

"Houston, we've got a problem" this one!

as a youth,

like A Rebel Without A Cause . . .

until something inside him gave pause,

as The Big Bounce had so begun!

His problems, but could he solve them?

Because life can be like The Green Mile,

leaving The Human Stain all the while . . .

like Snake Eyes you just can't run!

To find your passion!

Your life's direction . . .

your SINISE NAVIDAD,
and your life's quest and satisfaction . . .

From out of The Grapes of Wrath,

as Gary was looking for his path!

As so was Gary's past,

for there can be no greater blessing one
could ask . . .

then like a Truman to fin your path!

It's like having Christmas everyday to last!

As out there on the road of life,

as out there when you don't think twice!

As when you so find your future dreams to
cast!

Playing in Bands,

as Gary so thought school was just a bunch
of rules . . .

and Reindeer Games until he turned the
page!

And like a true West Side Story,

Gary so soon found out where lie his true
life's glory . . .

Was but up on a stage . . .

As so soon he became All The Rage!

Like a Albino Alligator he said I'll see you
later.

And someday, to The West, The True West
. . .

to Hollywood his heart would make its way!
First, on his magic carpet ride . . .

founding Steppenwolf Theater Company he
would glide!

While, gaining stature on Broadway!

But he wasn't just,

Being John Malkovich . . .

he was being his true self ovich!

While, getting such great results ovich . . .
of the likes of which,

like a Mission To Mars such greatness was
conveyed!

For Gary was a real C.S.I. New York kind of
guy,

detecting all those great projects as they
came by!

With The Stand he so took,

all in those roles he so played which made
people take a second look!

You see, Hollywood is a tough town . . .

as most of us have found!

With The Quick and Dead lying all around,

and no Ransom to be found!

But for all of the right reasons,

Gary's career was became so pleasing . . .

In his life . . . That Championship Season
. . .

Yea the bastard's got such talent now!

As in our throats we all so got lumps while
watching Forrest Gump!

As it we quote . . .

As Lt Dan so took command,

showing us all Of Mice and Men,

making all of our hearts pound!

Like George Wallace,

he didn't pussyfoot or find solace in Bruno
on A Midnight Clear . . .

As we all found what was inside of his heart
which appeared!

That this man with such great talent,

career was taking off like Apollo 13 here . . .
Thrusting forth into such bright new worlds
and future dreams,

with his most brilliant career unfurled so as
seen!

Making us so all believe,

from My Name Is Bill Wild to Jack The Bear,
that it's A Gentleman's Game where a Fallen
Angel could not be saved!

And now over the years,

we have all so become The Witness so clear!
That Gary has such great talent here!

For there are no Family Secrets,

Gary is such a man of heart who so seeks it!
With the kind of characters that he plays
bringing our hearts to tears!

Because he is,

The Caretaker of his craft . . .

And his Road to Nirvana was to act!

As The Landscape of The Body of his work is
to be revered!