

But with all this knowledge and fancy technology, in 2015 animals are still becoming extinct.

The situation for elephants and rhinos is bad.

The elephant population in Tanzania has dropped by 60 percent in just the last 5 years.

A total of only five northern white rhinos are left in the world today.

A big reason why is money. The black-market price of ivory in Africa is over \$1,000 per pound.

Rhino horn is now worth about \$27,000 per pound. That's twice the value of gold and platinum and more than cocaine or diamonds.

When a person lives on less than \$2 a day like many of the poachers do, that's a lot of money.

Poachers are willing to risk getting caught or even shot because the payday is just too big.

One rhino horn is enough for them to support their whole family for a year.

That might be why some locals in the community refer to "rhinos" simply as "billions".

In all, the illegal wildlife trade is estimated as a \$10–20 billion per year business.

It is not just low level poachers getting most of the profits.

Transnational criminal organizations and terrorist groups are getting billions of dollars a year from this business. Al-Shabab [al-Shah-Bob] and Joseph Kony's the LRA are two examples.

The same groups that traffick elephant ivory and rhino horn also traffick drugs and weapons. So this isn't just a wildlife problem. It is a national security problem.

Currently, I have been working with my colleagues on the Foreign Affairs committee to make sure the U.S. government is doing everything we can to stop wildlife trafficking.

Part of the solution is understanding the problem.

Ranking Member on my Terrorism Subcommittee, Mr. KEATING and I have amended the Intelligence Authorization bill to require the Director of National Intelligence to produce a report on wildlife trafficking, how terrorist organizations are involved, and its impact on U.S. national security.

In addition to this a GAO study is being conducted to evaluate the job being done so far at trying to stop wildlife trafficking. Both of these should help us understand the problem better.

I'm happy to be an original cosponsor of Chairman ROYCE's bill to encourage countries to work together on this problem and elevate wildlife trafficking as a predicate offense under racketeering and money laundering statutes.

It is a strong bipartisan bill that I hope is passed into law soon.

Working together will stop wildlife trafficking in its tracks.

In the 1950s there were only a few hundred white rhino left in the world. Thanks to the work of people like Ian Player, today there are over 15,000.

The threat has been beaten back before and it can be done again.

And that's just the way it is.

THE IRAN DEAL: A DANGEROUS GAMBLE FOR THE U.S. AND OUR ALLIES

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the administration's nuclear deal with Iran.

Earlier this year, over 350 Members of Congress—myself included—wrote the president with objectives that a deal must reach before we'd consider sanctions relief. We said there must be anytime, anywhere site inspections. Above all, it must stop Iran's march toward a nuclear weapon.

The deal before us does not meet these objectives. Yet, it gives Iran upwards of 100 billion dollars in sanctions relief almost immediately. Money it can use to finance the spread of terrorism and violence.

This agreement is a dangerous gamble. The security of America and our allies is on the line, and the deck is stacked in favor of a sworn adversary to the United States.

I will be voting to reject this bad deal. I encourage all my colleagues to do the same.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF BRIAN SILAS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the brilliant career of Brian Silas, a renowned pianist from India. Mr. Silas is beloved by many, not only for his music but for his dedication to humanitarianism.

Mr. Silas' passion for the piano began early in his life. He was raised in Kanpur, where he was immersed in music and tradition, leading him to his affection for the piano. His instinct and desire to perform drives his musical proficiency. Mr. Silas' talent has led him to some of the world's largest stages and venues, without any formal training.

Mr. Silas' desire to share his gift of music has allowed him to perform his life's work at various venues across the globe. During his career he has packed auditoriums, theatres and runways from the United States to Mauritius. No matter the venue, Mr. Silas' performances are met with the highest of praise. One of his highest honors was in 1998, when Mr. Silas was invited to perform at the United Nations to celebrate India's 51st year of independence.

Mr. Silas' gift to the world does not stop behind the piano. He donates his time to multiple charitable organizations, who aid the underprivileged, sick and neglected. Mr. Silas is deeply involved with the "Artists of Empowerment" who provide gender bias rehabilitation for victimized women. He has striven to help those affected by HIV by endorsing organizations such as "CORE" who strive to educate police personnel on the virus. Mr. Silas also frequently fundraises for organizations such as "Prayaas" who provide homes for the homeless.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me to honor Mr. Brian Silas. I ask my colleagues to

join me in extending the highest regards and wishes for continued success. Mr. Silas' passion for music and humanitarianism will surely continue to touch lives for years to come.

2015 NATIONAL SEAPERCH CHALLENGE MIDDLE SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to celebrate the accomplishment of the Egg Harbor Township Police Athletic League's SeaPerch Challenge Middle School Team. The Submersibles placed first in both the obstacle challenge and the finesse course of the 2015 National SeaPerch Middle School Championship.

This is a remarkable accomplishment stemming from months of hard work and determination and one in which these bright young men can feel proud. Their accomplishments this year, as well as their first place finish in the 2014 championship, are certainly deserving of this special recognition.

On April 24, 2015 the team won the Philadelphia SeaPerch Regional competition at Drexel University giving them the opportunity to compete at The University of Massachusetts in Dartmouth on May 29th and 30th. At the national championship, the team defeated 71 other teams nationwide to secure their second national SeaPerch title in 2 years.

SeaPerch is an innovative underwater robotics program that equips teachers and students with the resources to build an underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV). The program provides students the opportunity to learn about robotics, engineering, science, math, teamwork, leadership, and public speaking while competing against their peers at a national level.

The National Championship team includes: Jhadyn Seward (Egg Harbor Township), Aidan Himley (Egg Harbor Township), James Massey (Egg Harbor Township), Brandon Kusnirik (Hamilton Township), Anakin Leatherwood (Egg Harbor Township), Luke Williams (Northfield), and coaches Mike and Denise Massey.

Again, I wish to extend my sincere congratulations to the Submersibles and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO CHANDRA McCANN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Chandra McCann, from Greenfield, Iowa for her retirement from the Adair County Courthouse after 35 years of service.

Through her countless years of dedication to the citizens of Adair County she was able to provide valuable services to those who passed through the Adair County Courthouse. She always came to work with a smile on her face and a willingness to serve.

I applaud and congratulate Chandra for her accomplishments and for providing excellent customer service to Adair County and its citizens. I am proud to represent her in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating Chandra and wish her nothing but the best in her retirement.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF NORTHWEST NEW JERSEY COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to celebrate Northwest New Jersey Community Action Partnership, otherwise known as NORWESCAP, located in Morris County, New Jersey, as it celebrates its Fiftieth Anniversary.

In 1965, NORWESCAP was incorporated by a group of concerned citizens from Hunterdon, Sussex and Warren counties, whose mission was to eliminate poverty in the area. NORWESCAP is one of twenty-three Community Action Agencies in the State of New Jersey. The agency actively supports low-income households, as these citizens develop their abilities to become self-reliant and build relationships within the community.

Over the past fifty years, the agency has expanded its reach into Morris, Somerset, and Passaic Counties. NORWESCAP assists more than 35,000 individuals each year, with a portfolio of emergency, preventative and self-sufficiency services. With 270 full and part-time employees and 1,400 volunteers operating 15 unique programs, the agency has been working to improve the lives of low income individuals and families by "Creating Opportunities" and "Changing Lives." An example of one of their programs is the Family Success Center, which brings together residents and leaders in the community to address the struggles that poverty-ridden families deal with every day.

Another significant program that NORWESCAP provides is the Child and Family Resource Services. With twenty-five years of enhancing the accessibility and quality of early care and education, the agency has proven its dedication to strengthening families and communities in the area. The Child and Family Resource Service staff is committed to the belief that all children deserve access to quality affordable child care. Furthermore, by providing information, referrals, various child care subsidies, education and collaboration of efforts among all those involved in child care, this team has had a positive effect on the community. CFRS has been cited for "a number of best practices regarding the management of the programs they implement." They became Child Care Aware Quality Assured in 2005; this identifies the agency as one that strives for excellence.

It is apparent that NORWESCAP's value to the public is priceless, and I express great admiration for their service.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating NORWESCAP, its Board of Directors, administration and employees, as it celebrates its Fiftieth Anniversary.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This landmark legislation was critical to ensuring all Americans living with disabilities were guaranteed equal access to opportunities to live a full and meaningful life without being discriminated against. With over 55 million people living in our nation with disabilities, it is sometimes hard to realize that before 1990, so many barriers stood in their way to leading happy, successful lives.

My own godson lives with significant disabilities and if this law had not been enacted before he was born, his life would have turned out very differently—it would have been difficult to access transportation, public and private spaces, and receive an education. It is so important that we continue building upon the successes of the ADA and that we do everything within our power for those who need us to fight just a little bit extra for them, and that is why we must remember this anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO JACOB "JAY" BOJORQUEZ

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Jacob "Jay" Bojorquez. A resident of Temple, Texas, Jay became an angel on July 13, 2015. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

Jay was a native son of Monticello, New Mexico. His was a life of service and devotion to causes bigger than himself. Growing up in the rugged Land of Enchantment instilled in Jay a desire to protect our environment and, as a young man, he volunteered to fight forest fires in the scenic Black Range Mountains. As a Korean War veteran, Jay experienced firsthand the sacrifices our men and women of the armed forces make for the cause of freedom.

Blessed with a fierce intellect and aptitude with numbers, Jay graduated from Western New Mexico University with a bachelor's degree in accounting. He applied his talents as a financial auditor for El Paso's Thomason General Hospital.

Committed to public service, Jay played an active part in making any community he resided in a great place to live and work. Jay served as an elected member of the Horizon Regional Municipal Utilities District Board of Directors, Commander of the American Legion Post, President of the Lion's Club, President of the Horizon Communities Improvement Association, Treasurer of the Horizon Volunteer Fire Department, and a member of the Troop Committee for Boy Scout Troop 55 (Yucca Council). He also served on the City of Temple's Tax Increment Finance Reinvestment Zone Board.

Jay was married to Betty, the love of his life, 47 years. During their joyous life together, they lived, loved, and prospered as one. Proud parents of seven children, grandparents of eighteen, and great-grandparents of fourteen, Jay and Betty kept family at the center of their lives.

While we mourn Jay Bojorquez's passing, his presence was a blessing for all who knew him. The positive impacts he had on the lives of others will live on and remain in our hearts forever.

IN HONOR OF CORPORAL STEVEN L. LEVY

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of fallen officer Corporal Steven Levy of the Washington Township Police Department in Gloucester County, New Jersey, for his extraordinary sacrifice and exemplary service to the citizens of New Jersey and the United States.

Corporal Levy was a decorated officer of the Washington Township Police and a volunteer member on the Gloucester County Critical Incident Team. Serving as a police officer is an admirable quality in itself, but answering the call of CIT duty requires a superior level of dedication.

On October 21, 1999, Corporal Levy was killed in the line of duty while responding to a call about a domestic standoff in Woodbury, NJ. His untimely death left behind his beloved wife, Mrs. Janeen Levy and two children, Kevin and Jessica.

I have the pleasure of knowing his son, Kevin, who is following his father's example of public service and interning in my office this summer. It is because of Kevin, and the families of fallen public safety officers like him, that I decided to cosponsor The Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship Act, which makes the children of law enforcement officers, firefighters, EMS workers, and fire police who died in the line of duty eligible for the maximum available Pell Grant.

Mr. Speaker, public safety workers like Corporal Steven Levy dedicate their careers to serving their communities, putting their lives on the line every day to protect us. The loss of these selfless men and women is a devastating loss for our communities, but no one suffers more than their families. Although nothing can replace the loss of a loved one, we owe it to local heroes, like Corporal Levy, to honor their memory by taking positive action on behalf of their families.

TRIBUTE TO MARY O'RILEY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mrs. Mary O'Riley, of Creston, Iowa for being selected as Union County's 2015 inductee into the Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame.