

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, on July 27, 2015, my flight was delayed and I was unable to vote on S. 1482, H.R. 1656 and H.R. 2770.

If present, I would have voted “yea” on S. 1482, “yea” on H.R. 1656, and “yea” on H.R. 2770.

HONORING BARBARA DUBLER

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Barbara Dubler of Boynton Beach and to congratulate her on her retirement after forty years of dedicated service to the children of Florida.

A Bronx native, Mrs. Dubler moved to South Florida in 1960 and later became an educator after graduating from the University of Florida. Since then, she has worked tirelessly to inspire and educate her students. After nearly twenty years teaching in the Dade County Public Schools, she moved in 1993 to Palm Beach County to continue her work as a teacher, most recently at the Woodlands Middle School in Lake Worth, Florida. During her tenure at Woodlands, she primarily taught sixth and eighth grade English, and consistently produced some of the best-performing students in the county. Over the course of her career, Mrs. Dubler also served as the Chair of the English Department and ran a high school drama program, which she considers one of her fondest memories. Barbara's efforts have not gone unnoticed. In 2000, Mrs. Dubler was the recipient of the Social Studies Teacher of the Year Award for Palm Beach County.

Dedicated teachers like Mrs. Dubler are the backbone of the American education system. Throughout her career, she worked tirelessly to foster a positive class environment, while keeping her students engaged and eager to learn both inside and outside of the classroom. She truly serves as a model for other educators to emulate.

As a loving mother and wife, Barbara is still happily married after twenty-nine years to her husband Dr. Gary Dubler, and they have one son. In her free time, Barbara enjoys reading, traveling, and going to the theater.

In honor of her tireless work to educate our children, I am proud to recognize Barbara Dubler and to thank her for her forty years of service to our children. I wish her good health and a well-earned retirement.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL ANDREW COOLEY

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I stand in recognition of the late Major General An-

drew Cooley; a dear friend and tremendous patriot who dedicated a life of service to this great nation. A true leader and a combat veteran, he faithfully served 38 years leading from the front and accomplishing much along the way. His career was marked by several tours at home and abroad, including the command of an Army Division, and was witness to combat in Vietnam, Korea, Lebanon, Somalia, Bosnia, Kosovo, and Angola.

In 1951 General Cooley enlisted in the army at the age of 17, and went on to receive his commission from Officer Candidate School at Ft. Benning in 1955. Over the course of his career he served in various staff and command positions including the principal representative of the Department of Defense to the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations and Commanding General of the 24th Infantry Division. Upon retirement from the Army, General Cooley was instrumental in instituting a forward focused logistical infrastructure that remains instrumental to our nation's defense.

Without a doubt General Cooley's many accomplishments should be honored. However, his accomplishments could only be realized with the support and commitment of his wife of 57 years, Joan and their two children, Cathleen and Caroline.

Mr. Speaker, I stand here today humbled by the many accomplishments of a true patriot and it is my great honor to recognize Major General Andrew Cooley for his friendship and his service to our great nation.

WE CARE ACT

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Grace, Sharon, and Eric Li. Together, these siblings founded a group called We Care Act and have helped countless people around the world.

We Care Act began in response to the 2008 earthquake in the Sichuan Province of China. Since its founding, We Care Act has distributed goods to over 30,000 people while involving 30,000 donors and volunteers. Most recently, the group gathered donations for families affected by the Houston Memorial Day floods and the victims of the Nepal earthquake. They've donated everything from laptops to letters of condolences to countries from Nicaragua to Japan. Sharon, a recent Dawson High School graduate, is headed to Yale in the fall with a \$10,000 scholarship from Kohl's and a \$20,000 from the Coca-Cola Foundation. We are proud of how much these siblings have helped people all over the world.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, thank you to the Li siblings and We Care Act for all they do to help people at home and around the world.

TRIBUTE TO MAKENNA LILLY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Makenna

Lilly of Bridgewater, Iowa, for being chosen as a charter member for the 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassador Team. Makenna is the daughter of Rich and Brooke Lilly of Adair, Iowa.

Charter membership is given to youth who demonstrate exceptional leadership and communication skills. Through the program, ambassadors develop their skills in leadership, public presentation, citizenship, community service, public relations, and team building. The character and work ethic Makenna has displayed to achieve charter membership is a true example of Iowa spirit, and I commend her for her hard work.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to represent future leaders of America like Makenna in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating her on this outstanding achievement and wish her nothing but continued success moving forward.

RECOGNIZING ALYSSA BARTON

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I am grateful to welcome Alyssa Evelyn Barton on her visit to the U.S. Capitol. Alyssa will attend Lemon Road Elementary School in Falls Church, Virginia this fall.

A model student, Alyssa is frequently named to the Honor Roll. She is active in martial arts and dance, interested in politics, and her future career aspirations include being an attorney. I congratulate her parents, Darlene and Jacob Barton, on raising an impressive young lady, and I am confident in her future success.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

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 \$18,151,893,254,765.19. We've added \$7,525,016,205,852.11 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL OF THE SACRED HEART

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 150th Anniversary of the Country Day School of the Sacred Heart in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.

Today, the school remains committed to the philosophy envisioned by St. Madeline Sophie Barat, founder of the Sacred Heart school network, to provide young women with a challenging education, develop their faith, and promote a desire to help others.

The Country Day School of the Sacred Heart has a long tradition of fostering the growth of young women into scholars and leaders. By offering a strong liberal arts program, the Country Day School of the Sacred Heart has helped many young women reach their personal and scholastic potential. Students are able to develop academically, personally, spiritually and socially through the school's well-rounded curriculum.

I appreciate the dedication of the staff members who work around the clock to educate and guide the students. Their persistence has empowered generations of young women, helping them attain the skills and character to become the leaders that St. Madeline Sophie Barat imagined.

Mr. Speaker, the Country Day School of the Sacred Heart has been changing the lives of young women for the past 150 years. I congratulate the school and look forward to seeing the excellent work it will continue to do in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO EMILY DOOLEY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Emily Dooley of Madison County, Iowa, for qualifying for the National Junior High Rodeo Finals in the pole bending event.

Each summer, approximately 1,000 youth competitors from across the country qualify to compete for scholarships and prizes at the National Junior High Rodeo Finals. I commend Emily for her hard work and dedication to achieving her goals. She is a phenomenal young role model for others who are aspiring to compete in this prestigious national event.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I represent Iowans like Emily in the United States House of Representatives. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Emily on a job well done, and wishing her nothing but continued success.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. RINIA SHELBY-CROOMS

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, if there are three core qualities that make an exemplary public servant, they might be the following: integrity, energy, and compassion. Mrs. Rinia Shelby-Crooms, who is leaving my office after 13 years of extraordinary service, uniquely embodies each of these qualities.

Rinia is a woman of undeniable integrity. Her commitment to her family, her faith, and her focus on building a better world animate her to excellence in the workplace and be-

yond. Whether it's conducting legislative research to protect America's endangered honeybees or juggling a dozen or more urgent scheduling requests over the course of an afternoon, Rinia has always emphasized quality, honesty, and care in each and every one of her undertakings.

Rinia also possesses incredible energy. While caring for two precious young boys, she has written legislation, organized Congressional briefings, counseled and cared for her fellow staffers, managed my often hectic schedule, and ensured my timeliness in arriving at speaking engagements and on airplanes. She maintains an upbeat attitude and focused attention—even when called upon for complicated logistical requests in the wee hours of the morning.

Rinia is driven by deep compassion. Through her legislative portfolio, she has worked toward achieving progress in the areas most aligned with her life's mission: ensuring that foster children have access to safe and loving homes, guaranteeing Americans high-quality food, and defending the rights of Mother Nature. Rinia embodies compassion both big and small. She's not only committed to large-scale change in order to support and protect people and the planet, but also committed to showing the utmost care and kindness to the people she encounters each and every day.

I am indebted to Rinia for her selfless service. But I am also indebted to her husband, Jeremiah, and her two young sons, Jayden and Jayee, who have also made important sacrifices as Rinia spent long hours, late nights, and weekends in service of our mission of advancing the causes of jobs, justice, and peace.

There is one consolation for me as I bid farewell to Rinia: This is only the beginning of her contributions to Southeast Michigan and to our nation. She and her family are returning to the Detroit Metropolitan Area, so that she can pursue work as a consultant focused on bringing new economic opportunity to our region.

Mr. Speaker, I salute Mrs. Rinia Shelby-Crooms for her 13 years of selfless service. I am deeply moved by her example of integrity, energy, and compassion.

TRIBUTE TO ELI KASAP

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Eli Kasap of the Earlham High School Track Team for winning the class IA Shuttle Hurdle State Championship.

Eli, along with his three teammates, finished the shuttle hurdle race in first place with a time of 1:00.23 at the 2015 Iowa IA State Track and Field Championships. Eli has dedicated his time and talents to achieving a single goal and I commend him for his hard work and determination. This group of young men came together to achieve great success.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Eli and his teammates demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the

United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Eli on a job well done, and wishing him nothing but continued success in all his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. GARY EASTERLING

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Gary L. Easterling on his recent election to the Board of Directors at the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU).

Since 2007, Mr. Easterling has served as the President and CEO of United Federal Credit Union headquartered in St. Joseph, Michigan. Under his leadership, the credit union has seen its assets more than double. United Federal Credit Union has over \$1.8 billion in assets, serves over 130,000 members, and employs more than 900 people. With more than 32 years of credit union experience, Mr. Easterling will be an incredible federal advocate for credit unions.

Mr. Easterling served previously as CEO of Century Credit Union in Cleveland, Ohio, and with Wright Patt Credit Union in Fairborn, Ohio, where he held leadership roles in almost every functional area. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio, as well as a Master's in Business Administration from Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion, Indiana. He currently serves on NAFCU's Legislative Committee. Mr. Easterling's deep knowledge of legislative and regulatory issues facing credit unions will give him tremendous expertise on the NAFCU Board, especially as the country continues to recover from the financial crisis.

I wish Mr. Easterling the best of luck in his new role on the NAFCU Board and I look forward to working with him in this capacity. I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating him on this special achievement.

WELCOME TO SCENIC SUGAR LAND, TEXAS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my hometown of Sugar Land, Texas for earning a Gold Level Scenic City Certification. Sugar Land residents know full well what a beautiful city we live in, and we are proud that everybody across Texas agrees.

Scenic Texas, a non-profit organization, awarded the Gold Level Scenic City Certification to Sugar Land for the next five years. The organization took note of our City's beautiful landscapes, tree-lined streets, and dedication to cultural arts. This certification further demonstrates Sugar Land's commitment to improving the quality of life for its residents. We are extremely proud of our growing city and are proud to call it home.