

Before her election to the City Council, Preet served as a Planning Commissioner for 10 years. She is an advocate for building a foundation for children of academic, economic and social opportunity so that they may thrive. She is particularly passionate about empowering young girls and women to reach their highest potentials. Preet spearheads quarterly Community Health and Safety forums in collaboration with local police, fire, schools and mental/public health agencies to educate the public.

Whereas, Preet is also actively involved with local Runs to support Girls on the Run, Run Drugs out of Town, Hands of Hope Run for the Homeless, and Breast Cancer and Alzheimer's Research. She also collects backpacks for Western Farm Workers families every fall and volunteers for Back to School shopping with the Sutter-Yuba Association of Realtors to support low-income families and children. Preet's personal devotion rests in a desire to give back to the community that has given her so much.

Resolved, that I Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI of California's Third Congressional District, do hereby recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Preet Didbal.

HONOR THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY
OF LANGHORNE MANOR BOROUGH

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, heartiest congratulations to my friends and neighbors on the 125th anniversary of Langhorne Manor Borough, which is notable for its role in the history of Bucks County, as well as the modern sense of community maintained one generation after another. A small group of investors, called the Langhorne Improvement Company, purchased 800 acres—attracted by the open, country setting and the nearby Boundbrook Railroad. The newly founded borough was named for the area's first landowners, the Langhorns'. Government and community leaders of this thriving, small borough cherish their history and remain dedicated to maintaining a quiet community nestled in the bustle of Lower Bucks County. The borough is home to the former Langhorne Manor School, a one-room schoolhouse listed, in 2008, on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1959, it was sold and converted to the borough hall, which is the present-day seat of government. Again, congratulations on this historic milestone and best wishes for the future.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY CATHEDRAL

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the centennial anniversary of Our Lady Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral in Toledo, Ohio. The parish and Toledo

Diocese celebrated this milestone on August 28, 2015.

According to diocesan records, the Cathedral Chapel Parish was established on March 7, 1915, with the Most Reverend Bishop Joseph Schrembs named as pastor. Previous to that date, from the time the Diocese was established in April of 1910, St. Francis de Sales Church served as the cathedral. Shortly thereafter, land was purchased nearby on Collingwood Avenue and a Chancery, residence and school were built on the property in the ensuing years with completion in early 1915. Originally sponsoring both grade school and high school, the parish school soon grew too big. In 1920, Central Catholic High School was established, with most of its students coming from the Cathedral School.

After a storm delivered substantial damage to the building in 1920, it was determined a new church would be built. The plans were developed in 1922. Its original architect and the man who would complete his design envisioned a cathedral such as those built in Europe's Middle Ages and mirrored aspects of the cathedral in Toledo, Ohio's sister city of Toledo, Spain. Thus, Toledo's Catholic Cathedral is unique: there is no other cathedral in the Plateresque style quite like Toledo's. Plateresque is a romantic style developed in 16th Century Spain and Toledo's cathedral combined the Plateresque style with Romanesque and Saracan architecture for a structure that stands alone in style and beauty.

The Cathedral is truly an architectural wonder and treasure. Soaring above its Spanish style roof are twin towers Peter and Paul. Our Lady is carved out of a single block of limestone and is above the doorway. A window above the statue of Our Lady illustrates scenes from her life. The window was made possible by the pennies donated from the children in the Diocese. Other statuary depicting biblical scenes surround. The sanctuary features beautiful frescoes, murals and mosaics depicting stories and people from the Bible, the life of the Holy Family and the history of the church. The Cathedral is home to a grand pipe organ which was the culmination of the career of its creator, the famed Ernest Skinner. The pipe organ's sister resides in the Peristyle concert hall at the Toledo Museum of Art, home of the Toledo Symphony.

The Cathedral's cornerstone was laid on Sunday June 27, 1926. Sufficiently completed to begin services, the building was opened in 1931. Work on the structure continued until completion in 1940. A joyous two day celebration and consecration was finally held on October 1 and 2, 1940.

The Cathedral parish and school grew through the 1960s, but as Toledo's population moved to the suburbs and new parishes were established, the central city Cathedral parish and school saw a decline in families enrolled. Beginning in 1976, the Cathedral was to undergo extensive renovations to comply with the changes to the Mass brought by Vatican II. The renovations did not detract from the original design and the church was rededicated on September 18, 1979. In 2000, restoration was completed to remove the decades from the interior of the church and restore it to its early brilliance.

The spiritual home of Toledo area Catholics, the cathedral serves as the mother church of the Diocese's parishes. Though its home parish is smaller now, Catholics from throughout

the city and its suburbs see the Cathedral as their own, celebrating Baptisms, First Communions, Confirmations, Marriages and Requiem Masses. Priests are ordained at the Cathedral and special Masses are celebrated through the year. In tradition harkening back to the days they were part of the original parish school, the students of Central Catholic High School walk in procession for a yearly Mass.

Though soaring vaulted ceilings, beautiful works of art, statuary, bell towers, giant wood doors and marble floors and ancient pews on which thousands have gathered over the years to celebrate Mass make the Cathedral a grand and glorious house of worship, at the same time it is intimate and peaceful. The faithful can always hear that "still, small voice" even among the grandeur. More important than the structure, though, are the people. We reflect on the early founders, those whose hopes, dreams and labors brought forth our stunning Cathedral, and in the present day we stand in solidarity with them. I was pleased to join in the celebration recognizing 100 years of faith in Our Lady Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral. Through our cherished Cathedral, we are one.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, September 18, 2015, I was attending a family funeral and thus missed roll call votes Numbers 504, 505, and 506. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on Number 504 and "yea" on Numbers 505 and 506.

HONORING SUSAN YOUNG

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Susan Young an Educator, Agriculture Advocate, and one of my district's 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, on the Twenty-Second Day of September, of the Year Two Thousand and Fifteen, Susan Young was recognized as a 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, Susan Young is and has been an Agriculture teacher at Sutter Union High School for the past 35 years. She and her husband live in Live Oak and farm in Meridian.

Whereas, during Susan's tenure at Sutter Union High School, she has served as a Future Farmers of America Advisor and has been involved in numerous activities promoting agriculture in the Yuba/Sutter area and at state, national, and international levels.

Whereas, Susan is actively involved in the American Boer Goat Association, Northern California Meat Goat Association, and the Morgan Horse Association. Her participation on the Yuba-Sutter Livestock Committee and Youth in Ag has helped support and promote our region.

Whereas, Susan has positively impacted countless young people throughout her long career as an outstanding teacher, mentor, and role model. She has instilled the values of hard work, dedication, and love of agriculture to all who have surrounded her. Her gift is her ability to reach students from all walks of life and motivate them to do their best.

Resolved, That I Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI of California's Third Congressional District, do hereby recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Susan Young.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, on September 18, 2015 I was unavoidably detained during a series of Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "NAY" on Roll Call number 504 the Motion to recommit H.R. 3134 with instructions. I would have voted "YEA" on Roll Call number 505 Passage of H.R. 3134 the Defund Planned Parenthood Act, and Roll Call number 506 Passage of H.R. 3504 Passage of the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.

OUTSTANDING TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Leah Bolton for being awarded the Brazoria County Business Hall of Fame's Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award.

Leah Bolton, a Career and Technology teacher at Manvel High School, earned this recognition thanks to her efforts to further engage students in career preparation and technology courses. In her classes, she incorporates volunteers from the local Junior Achievement organization to help teach her students about working in the business sector and the community. Her students were even selected by Junior Achievement to teach financial literacy lessons to younger students at local elementary schools. Ms. Bolton gives her students great hands-on experience that prepares them to conquer the world. Thank you to Ms. Bolton for her leadership, dedication, and inspiration. Manvel High School is lucky to have you.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Leah Bolton for being named Outstanding Teacher of the Year.

TRIBUTE TO THE PATTERSON FAMILY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

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

and Roy Patterson of Des Moines, Iowa for the birth of their new baby girl, Analisea Sophia.

In June of 2014 Marissa and Roy married and on June 18, 2015 they welcomed a healthy, beautiful baby girl into this world. The road ahead will not be easy, but it will be filled with more joy and happiness than they can possibly imagine.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Marissa and Roy for their commitment to each other and for the birth of their new baby daughter. It is an honor to represent families like them in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them for this momentous occasion and wish their family nothing but continued health and happiness.

NATIONAL FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA BAND

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ricky Lerma on his selection to play with the National Future Farmers of America (FFA) Band.

Ricky Lerma, a senior at Needville High School, is one of only 13 students in Texas to be selected to join the Band. FFA is a national organization that advances and supports agricultural education. Next month, Ricky and his fellow band members will travel to Louisville, Kentucky to perform at the 2015 National FFA Convention & Expo. We are all proud of Ricky's accomplishment and look forward to hearing him perform.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Ricky on this fantastic achievement and best of luck in Louisville.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNIVERSAL PREKINDERGARTEN AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ACT OF 2015

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill similar to a bill I have introduced in four previous Congresses, the Universal Prekindergarten and Early Childhood Education Act of 2015 (Universal Pre-K), to begin the process of providing universal prekindergarten education in public and public charter schools in states that have or plan to phase in or are phasing in prekindergarten education for three- and four-year-old children. The Obama administration and the District of Columbia have made considerable strides since I first introduced this bill, but today's bill is still needed to fill a hole in the "No Child Left Behind Act," which addresses elementary and secondary education but ignores the prekindergarten years, the most critical years for children's brain development. My bill also seeks a breakthrough in public education by providing the initial funding for states to en-

courage local school districts to add prekindergarten for children at three or four years of age, as kindergarten programs were for five-year-olds, which are now routinely available in public schools. The bill would eliminate some of the major shortcomings of unevenly available "day care" and, importantly, would take advantage of the safe facilities required in public schools. Unless early education becomes a necessary part of a child's education, it almost surely will continue to be unavailable to the majority of families with children.

My bill provides federal funds to states, which must be matched by at least 20 percent of state funds, to establish or expand universal, voluntary prekindergarten in public and public charter schools for three- and four-year-olds, regardless of income. The classes, which would be full-day and run throughout the entire school year, must be taught by teachers who possess equivalent or similar qualifications to those in other grades in the school. The funds would supplement, not supplant, other federal funds for early childhood education. The unique money-saving aspect of my bill is that it uses the existing public school infrastructure and trained teachers to make early childhood education available to all, and save billions of dollars in its implementation.

The success of Head Start and other prekindergarten programs, combined with new scientific evidence concerning the importance of brain development in early childhood, virtually mandate the expansion of early childhood education to all children today. However, early learning programs have been available only to the affluent, who can afford them, and to low-income families in programs such as Head Start, which would be unaffected by my bill. My bill provides a practical way to gradually move to universal, public preschool education for the majority of families. The goal of the bill is to afford the benefits of early childhood education to the great majority of the American working poor, lower-middle-class and middle-class families, most of whom have been left out of this essential education for their children.

We cannot afford to continue to allow the most fertile years for childhood development to pass, only to later wonder why Johnny can't read. The bill responds both to the great needs of parents who seek early childhood education, as well as to today's brain science, which shows that a child's brain development begins much earlier than had been previously understood.

Considering the staggering cost of day care, the inaccessibility of early childhood education, and the opportunity that early education offers to improve a child's chances of success, schooling for three- and four-year-olds is overdue. The absence of viable options for working families demands our immediate attention.

My bill reflects what jurisdictions throughout the nation increasingly are trying to accomplish. The District of Columbia, for example, has achieved an extensive integration of early childhood education as part of a larger effort to improve the D.C. public schools. A recent report highlighted the economic benefits of early childhood education, emphasizing its role in expanding job opportunities and in decreasing the amount of money spent on programs to address teen pregnancy, crime, and the like.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support the legislation.