

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 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 \$18,492,091,120,833.99. We've added \$7,865,214,071,920.91 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.

RECOGNIZING HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF TACOMA AND PIERCE COUNTY FOR THEIR 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Habitat for Humanity of Tacoma and Pierce County for their thirty years of invaluable housing assistance and support to families throughout our region.

Since 1985, this organization has been dedicated to building quality and affordable housing for families from all walks of life, offering an opportunity for families who are otherwise unable to obtain proper financing to achieve their dream of homeownership.

In order to qualify for a home, families must contribute five hundred hours on the construction of their or someone else's home, which in turn fosters a sense of ownership and a greater sense of unity in the community. In the last year alone, the organization built fourteen new homes and renovated almost a dozen others, providing a better living situation for over eighty adults and children.

This positive impact on the lives of families would not have been possible without the vision and devotion that Habitat for Humanity of Tacoma and Pierce County and its countless volunteers have shown. They have played a key role in making Pierce County a better place to live—both for their clients and the community at large.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the work of Habitat for Humanity of Tacoma and Pierce County on their thirtieth anniversary as a positive contributor to the community. Their commitment to lifting up the lives of so many Pierce County families over three decades is admirable and I look forward to their future positive impacts.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF MONTGOMERY EMANCIPATION OBSERVANCES

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recog-

nize the 150th anniversary of the Montgomery community observing the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation which started on January 1, 1866.

On January 1, 2002, a historic marker was placed at One Court Square in downtown Montgomery to help highlight Montgomery's first observance. On January 1, 2016, the Emancipation Association of Montgomery will once again celebrate the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing the Emancipation Association of Montgomery as well as the City of Montgomery a memorable 150th anniversary celebrating the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

HONORING DRS. AZIZ SANCAR AND PAUL MODRICH

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of North Carolina School of Medicine's Dr. Aziz Sancar and Duke University School of Medicine's Dr. Paul Modrich on receiving the 2015 Nobel Prize for chemistry.

This is a remarkable accomplishment for Drs. Sancar and Modrich and for the universities and researchers who support their work. As a UNC graduate and a former Duke professor, I am especially thrilled with the announcement.

Drs. Sancar and Modrich were awarded the prize in recognition of their work with Dr. Thomas Lindahl of Britain on DNA mismatch repair. The consensus of the scientific community is that this is critically important work that could pave the way for innovative new treatments for cancer and other diseases.

Dr. Aziz Sancar is the Sarah Graham Kenan Professor of Biochemistry and Biophysics at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. A native of Savur-Mardin, Turkey and the first Turkish-American Member of the National Academy of Sciences, Dr. Sancar runs the Sancar Lab at UNC, directing the university's biomedical research. He has called North Carolina home since 1982, and he and his wife Gwen created the Turkish House in Chapel Hill and are spearheading efforts to create a permanent Turkish Center at UNC.

Dr. Paul Modrich is the James B. Duke Professor of Biochemistry at Duke University and a Member of the Duke Cancer Institute. He has been an investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute for over 20 years. He heads the Modrich Lab, which has been responsible for a number of major innovations in cancer and biomedical research. He has been at Duke since 1976.

This announcement is another important reminder that Congress must renew its commitment to research and innovation. Roughly, two-thirds of our nation's basic research is directly supported by federal agencies. Federal funding from the NIH and CDC provides researchers with critical financial support, and it is one of the most important investments we can make both for public health and the economy. Biomedical research alone creates millions of jobs and adds two dollars to the economy for every dollar invested. We must re-

verse the shortsighted cuts to research funding imposed by Congress in recent years and once again make robust investments in the sort of research conducted by Drs. Modrich and Sancar.

I join with well-wishers from North Carolina and around the world to congratulate Dr. Modrich and Dr. Sancar on their historic accomplishment, and I am proud that these two world-class leaders in biomedical research call the Triangle home.

HONORING TURLOCK CITY MANAGER ROY WASDEN

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Turlock City Manager Roy Wasden on his retirement; and to personally thank him for his many years of dedication and profound service to the Turlock community.

Joining the City of Turlock in June of 2009, Mr. Wasden took on the chief role of city manager and became responsible for the efficient and effective management of city services. Over the course of his career, Mr. Wasden has brought large corporations to Turlock and paved the way for countless new job positions for its residents. His exemplary customer service was vital to landing these new employers to the community.

Mr. Wasden was instrumental in the construction of projects that immensely benefited the City of Turlock including the new Public Safety Facility, the Carnegie Arts Center, the development of the Regional Transit Facility, and the construction of the new affordable housing project called Avena Bella, as well as the large upgrades to the Regional Water Quality Control Facility. These successful projects were achievements that have greatly and positively impacted the economic development in Turlock.

Leading the efforts to balance the City of Turlock's budget, Mr. Wasden has executed the task with efficient management and good planning. The city is fiscally sound and continues to provide a high level of service to the community.

Before Mr. Wasden's leadership role with the City of Turlock, he spent many years in a variety of public service positions, including more than 30 years working in law enforcement. In 2000, Mr. Wasden was sworn in as Chief of Police for the City of Modesto Police Department. In 2002, the Modesto Police Department was involved in the investigation of the infamous murder case of Laci Peterson, which gained national recognition. It was under Mr. Wasden's leadership that the department was credited for successfully handling this renowned investigation. He was an asset to the police department throughout the complex case.

Mr. Wasden's proudest accomplishment is the life he created with his high school sweetheart, Linda Wasden. They have been married for 40 years and together have been blessed with 7 children and 13 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Turlock City Manager Roy Wasden on his retirement and thanking him for his exemplary

leadership and service to the community of Turlock. We wish him continued success in his retirement and future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SEED'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor SouthEast Effective Development (SEED), a nonprofit from Seattle, Washington, on its 40th anniversary.

SEED was founded in 1975 with the purpose of revitalizing struggling neighborhoods in Southeast Seattle. During that time, many community members lacked access to much-needed resources and the area was riddled with deteriorating infrastructure. As a result, SEED made it their mission to improve the quality of life in Southeast Seattle through a series of economic development, housing, and cultural programs.

SEED is regarded by many as having been integral to rejuvenating one of the area's most historic business districts—Columbia City—and generating several other thriving commercial areas. Other projects have included the Rainier Valley Cultural Center, Rainier Valley Square, Washington Care Center, and The Dakota at Rainier Court. SEED's approach to economic development, which includes collaborations with the private sector, government, and non-profits, has proven to be a successful model. The result has been not only new commercial development, but also increased capacity in neighborhoods to lay the groundwork for future success.

The organization's housing programs have also had a tremendous impact, including the addition of over 1,000 affordable housing units for low-income families. In 2005, one of SEED's housing development projects won the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Phoenix Award for its successful restoration of a contaminated building into a livable space. SEED is also credited for bringing the first medical clinic and the first senior living community to the area.

In addition, SEED has worked to cultivate a more active arts and cultural scene in Southeast Seattle. The SEEDarts program has remodeled several structures into art galleries and performing arts theaters, and organized cultural events that have become staple community activities. Through SEEDarts, as well as its other programs, SEED continuously strives to nurture a stronger sense of community in Southeast Seattle.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize and congratulate SEED for its four decades of service to Southeast Seattle. SEED's enduring commitment to the strength and vitality of our community is truly admirable, and I look forward to hearing about their future successes.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. CARLOS LEON-CAMPOS' RETIREMENT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CAO

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Carlos Leon-Campos of Arlington, Virginia, on the occasion of his retirement on November 13, 2015 after more than 31 years of service to the United States House of Representatives.

Carlos Leon began his career with the House in September 1984 as a File Clerk for Congressman Bill Nichols (D-AL). Simultaneously, he held a patronage job operating the Member's elevator in the U.S. Capitol. It was while working this distinguished position that he had the occasion to meet several high-profile individuals. He greeted Tip O'Neill on arrival every day with his customary cigar. He was lucky enough to meet other notables such as Margaret Thatcher, Mikhail Gorbachev, Actor Telly Savalas, and former U.S. President, George H.W. Bush.

Carlos transitioned to work for the Clerk of the House, the esteemed Donald K. Anderson, in 1991. He truly enjoyed working for Mr. Anderson, but when the Republicans won the House in 1995, a Chief Administrative Office (CAO) was established. Carlos went on to work for Scott Faulkner, Acting CAO, and Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House, and in 1997, settled into the job as Inventory Account Counselor under CAO Jay Eagen. He received the Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor given by the CAO, for his exemplary service to the Office of the CAO.

He was promoted to Supervisor, Inventory under the Asset Management department, and quickly rose to Manager, Inventory for Logistics & Support under CAO Dan Strodel. Most of his career has been spent working for the Logistics & Support Department under various CAOs. After 25 years with one organization, he recently received the Employee Length of Service Award given by the House Offices.

Carlos reported to the Assistant CAO, Cam Arthur, for many years. However, most recently he has reported to Rhonda Shaffer, Director, and Tom Coyne, Chief Logistics Officer, of the newly formed Asset Management group. Carlos has always had an encyclopedic mind and knows massive amounts of historical knowledge of the House and its workings. He is beloved by his employees and they respect his leadership. His talents were recognized at a reception hosted by Ed Cassidy, CAO, on October 14, 2015, with a certificate and engraved pen, which acknowledged his contributions to supporting the new organization.

Some of his most memorable experiences in his time of working for the CAO include attending Ronald Reagan's Inauguration in the bitter cold and the Capitol Dome Tour, personally given by Congressman HARPER of Mississippi. He remembers that the view of Washington, D.C. from the Capitol Dome is breathtaking and unmatched.

In retirement, Carlos plans to move to Atlanta, Georgia, where he will pursue art and painting. He also plans to expand his hobby of attending estate sales, and to visit his family more often in Lima, Peru. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Carlos

Leon-Campos for his service and contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. I want to thank Carlos Leon for his commitment to public service, and I wish him and his family all the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK TAKAI

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. TAKAI. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, November 3, 2015, I was absent from the House due to illness. Due to my absence, I am not recorded on any legislative measures for the day.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 583, the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule providing for consideration of House Amendments to Senate Amendments to H.R. 22.

I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 584, the Rule providing for consideration of the House Amendments to Senate Amendments to H.R. 22.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 585, for H. Res. 354, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the safety and security of Jewish communities in Europe.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 586, the Swalwell of California Part B Amendment No. 2 to Rules Print 114-32.

I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 587, the Gosar of Arizona Part B Amendment No. 5 to Rules Print 114-32.

I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 588, the Ribble of Wisconsin Part B Amendment No. 14 to Rules Print 114-32.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 589, the Brown of Florida Part B Amendment No. 15 to Rules Print 114-32.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 590, the Lynch of Massachusetts Part B Amendment No. 29 to Rules Print 114-32.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 591, the Takano of California Part B Amendment No. 31 to Rules Print 114-32.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 592, the Brownley of California Part B Amendment No. 32 to Rules Print 114-32.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 593, the Radewagen of American Samoa Part B Amendment No. 34 to Rules Print 114-32.

HONORING JEFF SHIELDS

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor South San Joaquin Irrigation District General Manager Jeff Shields on his retirement; and to personally thank him for his many years of profound service to South San Joaquin County.

While attending college at Humboldt State University, Jeff studied biological science and natural resources management and graduated with his Bachelor's of Science degree. He has also invested time serving our great nation in the U.S. Air Force.

Working as the general manager for other irrigation companies, such as Emerald Public