

13, 2015. I congratulate the American Cancer Society Relay For Life and I look forward to their future contributions and success.

HONORING JEWISH WAR VET-
ERANS, MAURICE KUBBY
POST 749

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to recognize the Jewish War Veterans, Maurice Kubby Post 749, as a distinguished Veteran Service Organization in El Paso, Texas. The Post has been active in our community since April 1965 and was named in honor of fellow El Pasoan, Maurice Kubby. Kubby was an Army veteran and founding member of Post 749, and served several times as the organization's Commander.

As one of six posts in Texas, Post 749 serves El Paso and Las Cruces area veterans of the Jewish faith. One of the most important efforts undertaken by the Jewish War Veterans is their dedication to combatting anti-Semitism and bigotry. The organization works diligently to eradicate these negative sentiments and foster a stronger American-Israeli relationship through sponsored trips to Israel each year.

The organization is well recognized in our community for supporting veteran, civilian and Jewish religious activities. Jewish War Veterans Post 749 works to provide assistance to all veterans and their families in our area. The Post volunteers with local organizations such as the Fisher House to help veterans and their families and participates annually in Fort Bliss's Veterans Week, which aims to raise awareness for Veteran Service Organizations throughout the country. Post 749 also offers scholarships to students and is actively involved in youth outreach through the Boy Scouts.

Jewish War Veterans, Maurice Kubby Post 749 is an asset to our community and I thank them for their commitment to honoring our veterans and promoting tolerance as one of their core values within our El Paso community.

HONORING TYLER DODD

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tyler Dodd of Rolla, Missouri on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. This award is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America, with only a small percentage of its members reaching this achievement.

Tyler has demonstrated a true enthusiasm towards service and spent countless hours helping others as he advanced through the ranks of the Boy Scouts. Tyler has held several leadership positions, such as Patrol Leader, during which he used his skills and knowledge to help younger scouts with their own progression through the Boy Scouts. His achievements extend outside of the Boy Scouts as well; Tyler is a member of the Na-

tional Honor Society—Rolla Chapter and a section leader in the Rolla High School Marching Band.

Tyler possesses the important values such as honesty, loyalty, and civility that inspire others. His commitment to good citizenship, physical fitness, and education is an asset to our community, as well as the nation. Tyler is a role model for young and old alike, and it is my pleasure to recognize his achievements before the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING THE GRAYSLAKE CENTRAL BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Grayslake Central's boys cross country team on their first place finish at the 2A state championship. This victory marks the first time in the school's history that the boys cross country team has won state.

Consistently strong all year, the Rams won conference, regional, and sectional championships. This hard work culminated at the state championship, where, led by Coach Jimmy Cantella, six out of seven runners achieved their personal best time. Junior Jack Aho won the race with a time of 14:25, followed by junior Matt Aho in seventh place. Other all-state athletes include senior John Girmscheid who came in twenty third and sophomore Eli Minsky who rounded out the top twenty five. The final three competitors who helped Grayslake cinch the tide were seniors Jack Battaglia who came in twenty sixth, Danny Vincent at fifty first, and Alden Aaberg at one hundred and eighth.

Mr. Speaker, the Grayslake Central boys cross country team is an inspiration to the school and community, and I am proud to recognize these young men for demonstrating the power of teamwork and perseverance.

HONORING DANNY TRULL, SR.

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Danny Trull, Sr., on his retirement as the United Auto Workers Union's (UAW) Assistant Director for his service to the men and women of the United Automobile Workers, and for his years of service on the Texas State Democratic Executive Committee. Mr. Trull's well-deserved retirement comes after a forty-two year tenure in organized labor. During this time, Mr. Trull has been dedicated to advocating for worker's rights, promoting the values of the Democratic Party, and supporting the local, state and national labor movement.

During his years of work with the labor movement, Mr. Trull has made a direct impact on his community through his numerous roles at UAW and with the Democratic Party of Texas. Mr. Trull began his career at UAW on

July 9, 1973, when he started working for Tyler Refrigeration and became a member of Local 514. Upon the closing of Local 514, he became a member of Local 276 and went on the International Staff in 1987, working in the Time Study Department. In 1996, he transferred to Region 5 as a Service Representative based in the Dallas office and continued to serve Region 5 out of the Dallas office when he was transferred to the National CAP Department in 2007. He was appointed to his current position of Assistant Regional Director in 2012, from which he is retiring at the end of this year.

Aside from his work with UAW, Trull has continued to be a community leader as a delegate to state and national Democratic Conventions, and as a State Democratic Executive Committee member in 2002. Mr. Trull is a well-known champion for Texas jobs and workers, coordinating UAW political activity in the state and region and fighting for higher wages and benefits for hardworking Americans. The automobile industry is a powerful economic engine in the 33rd Congressional District and will continue to be for years because of Mr. Trull's lifelong commitment to his community and the people who live and work there. I wish him all the best.

In honor of Mr. Trull's retirement and his dedication and leadership within the public service community, this statement will be submitted on Monday, November 16, 2015.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PFC.
MARK JOSEPH ALLSTOTT

HON. TODD C. YOUNG

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pfc. Mark Joseph Allstott, of French Lick, Indiana.

I ask you all to join me in honoring the life of a fellow Hoosier veteran.

Allstott enlisted in the United States Army two short months after high school graduation. As a United States Infantryman, Allstott personified bravery and dignity while serving with his fellow Wolfhounds in the 27th Infantry Regiment.

Before deploying to South Vietnam, Allstott told his sister of foreboding premonitions that indicated he would not return home from the war. Rather than respond with fear, Allstott gave away all of his earthly possessions and went to serve his country.

Fellow Wolfhounds developed a great level of respect for Allstott's fearlessness. In correspondences to his family, soldiers spoke of Allstott's bravery in the face of peril, his easy-going manner, and his warmth to fellow comrades.

Allstott's true character is best summarized by one Wolfhound brethren who wrote, "... his mind was always on another buddy and the job to be done for the honor of his country instead of his own being. Not only did your son not turn his back on any of us in any firefight. All of us knew we could depend on him"

Allstott was a true American hero and it is a privilege to stand here today in celebration of his noble life, which ended on the battlefield in South Vietnam in February of 1968.

On that day in February, as the Wolfhounds maneuvered to capture an enemy position, it

is said Allstott's final actions saved a member of his unit from capture. As a United States soldier, there is no greater honor than laying down one's life to save a brother-in-arms.

While more than forty years have passed since Allstott gave his last measure of devotion, the cause he fought for lives on in the ripples throughout history his heroic efforts will have caused.

It is a privilege to honor Pfc. Mark Allstott's bold and courageous life. Such distinguished service to the United States of America continues to serve as an inspiration to us all.

LETTER FROM GOVERNOR GREG
ABBOTT

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following letter from Governor Greg Abbott:

NOVEMBER 16, 2015.

Hon. BARACK OBAMA,
President of the United States,
Washington, DC.

DEAR PRESIDENT OBAMA: As governor of Texas, I write to inform you that the State of Texas will not accept any refugees from Syria in the wake of the deadly terrorist attack in Paris.

Further, I—and millions of Americans—implore you to halt your plans to accept more Syrian refugees in the United States. A Syrian “refugee” appears to have been part of the Paris terror attack. American humanitarian compassion could be exploited to expose Americans to similar deadly danger. The reasons for such concerns are plentiful.

The FBI director testified to Congress that the federal government does not have the background information that is necessary to effectively conduct proper security checks on Syrian nationals. Director Comey explained: “We can query our database until the cows come home, but there will be nothing show up because we have no record of them.”

The threat posed to Texas by ISIS is very real. ISIS claimed credit last May when two terrorist gunmen launched an attack in Garland, Texas. Less than two weeks later, the FBI arrested an Iraqi-born man in North Texas and charged him with lying to federal agents about traveling to Syria to fight with ISIS. And in 2014, when I served as Texas attorney general, we participated in a Joint Terrorism Task Force that arrested two Austin residents for providing material support to terrorists—including ISIS.

Given the tragic attack in Paris and the threats we have already seen in Texas, coupled with the FBI director's acknowledgment that we do not have the information necessary to effectively vet Syrian nationals, Texas cannot participate in any program that will result in Syrian refugees—any one of whom could be connected to terrorism—being resettled in Texas.

Effective today, I am directing the Texas Health & Human Services Commission's Refugee Resettlement Program to not participate in the resettlement of any Syrian refugees in the State of Texas. And I urge you, as president, to halt your plans to allow Syrians to be resettled anywhere in the United States. Neither you nor any federal official can guarantee that Syrian refugees will not be part of any terroristic activity. As such, opening our door to them irresponsibly ex-

poses our fellow Americans to unacceptable peril.

Respectfully,

GREG ABBOTT,
Governor.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTIAN LIFE
CENTER

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Christian Life Center on its 25th anniversary.

With the prayers and planning of a small, but committed, group of Christians, the Christian Life Center was born in 1990. In the years since, the Center has continued to grow in faith and mission at its beautiful complex in Bensalem Township, Bucks County.

Through its tireless work, the Christian Life Center has taken the Gospel into homes and hearts throughout its community while growing a welcoming place of worship for Christian families and individuals dedicated to their faith, each other.

My best wishes for ongoing devotion and continued growth in the coming years.

RECOGNIZING VETERANS DAY

**HON. AUMUA AMATA COLEMAN
RADEWAGEN**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, as we come together today to recognize the service of all who have served in our nation's armed forces, let us take a moment to remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our freedoms and could not be here today to join in the celebration. Let us also remember those young men and women who at this very moment are in far off lands, standing between the forces of oppression and freedom loving people everywhere.

We must also not forget the sacrifices made by the families of our service members, who go long periods of time without seeing their loved ones, and often have to perform the duties of two parents, while the other willfully places themselves in harm's way for our grateful nation.

As you know, our beautiful island, while small geographically in comparison to other states and territories, has the highest rate of enlistment into our nation's armed forces, a fact that I persistently remind Congress of. In fact, it is 10 times that of the states. This means that in American Samoa, today is just a little more special, and I want to personally salute all from our island who have served.

May God continue to bless the United States and those who stand to protect her.

RECOGNIZING THE TEXAS VET-
ERANS COMMISSION OF EL
PASO, TEXAS

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand today in recognition of the Texas Veterans Commission offices located in El Paso, Texas. Created in 1927, the Texas Veterans Commission has a longstanding tradition of honoring Texas Veterans.

Working as a state appointed advocate, the Texas Veterans Commission represents Texas and its veterans before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The commission operates in four areas: claims representation and counseling services for veteran's benefits; educational benefits; employment assistance; and grant services for veteran service organizations, charities, and government agencies. The El Paso offices have extended these important services to veterans in my district and have been helpful in getting these individuals the benefits they deserve.

The local offices are well known for their work in the community. Specifically, the Commission has dedicated itself to combatting veteran unemployment with fairs such as “Hiring Red, White and You!” Since the first job fair in 2012, the Commission has been able to connect over 1,500 job seeking veterans with potential employers and information on opportunities in the El Paso community.

The El Paso Texas Veterans Commission offices have improved the quality of life for our community's veterans and their families. I am grateful for the work of Bruce S. Biegel, Karen L. Rooks, Frances Holden and the entire staff for their unyielding advocacy and assistance to our veterans.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF REVEREND
ALBERT E. CHEW, JR.

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Reverend Albert E. Chew, Jr. for his service to Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church after 56 years of service to the church and his community. His passing on November 6, 2015 leaves a void in the Fort Worth community, and I join in giving our condolences to the Chew family.

Born in Bremond, Texas, Reverend Chew was the son of a Baptist preacher. He attended high school in both Bremond and Waco, Texas before pursuing a college education at Bishop College and Prairie View A&M and completing seminary studies at Brite College of the Bible in Fort Worth, Texas.

Reverend Chew served as a pastor at numerous Texas churches since 1946, but for the last fifty-six years, he served the community at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church. During his time at Shiloh, he not only impacted the Northside neighborhood, but also the greater Fort Worth community through his community involvement.

Chew was a charter member of the Fort Worth Human Relations Commission, an organization that combated discriminatory practices