

of LSSC with enrollment increasing by 79% from 2002 to 2012. LSSC was recognized among the Top 10% of Community Colleges by the Aspen Institute and was listed as a "Best Places to Work" in Lake and Sumter Counties.

Dr. Mojock has served on many boards including the Florida College System Council of Presidents and The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. Dr. Mojock's remarkable service has also been recognized on the national and state levels. He was honored with the Phi Theta Kappa Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction and the Lake County Community Service Award.

I am honored to recognize Dr. Mojock, and thank him for his hard work and many contributions to the Central Florida community. After four decades as an educator, his commitment to excellence, leadership and service is to be admired. My sincerest wishes and congratulations to Dr. Mojock and his family on his retirement.

NATIONAL IBD AWARENESS WEEK

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of those affected by Crohn's disease and Ulcerative Colitis, or Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (IBD), in observance of National IBD awareness week.

IBD affects over 1.6 million Americans, and there is no known cause or cure. The unpredictable nature of these painful and debilitating diseases creates a significant burden on the community and the economy with more than \$2.2 billion in direct and indirect healthcare costs.

As co-chair of the Crohn's and Colitis Caucus, I am dedicated to educating the American public and other Members on awareness of IBD. We must do all we can to assist research dedicated to finding cures for IBD and improve the quality of life for those affected by these diseases.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize IBD Awareness Week and the millions of Americans suffering from these diseases. I urge my colleagues to join me in observance of National IBD Awareness Week.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LOUIS PARDINI, M.D.

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Dr. Louis Pardini of Fresno, California, who recently passed away on November 3, 2015, at the age of 91. He leaves behind his loving family, including Alice, his wife of 65 years, their six sons, 21 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Louis Pardini was born in Daly City, California in 1924 to his parents Louis G. and Caroline Payne Pardini. Lou, as many called him, was a man dedicated to medicine and to

helping others. He graduated from Saint Ignatius High School in the San Francisco bay area and went on to join the United States Army during World War II, serving as a Medical Corpsman from 1942 to 1946. After his service, Lou attended San Jose State College from 1946 to 1947, and then attended the University of San Francisco from 1947 to 1950, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. From 1950 to 1954, Lou attended Creighton University Medical School in Omaha, Nebraska, where he earned his medical degree.

While attending medical school, Lou married Alice Martin in Santa Cruz, California in 1950, and together they had two sons, Louis and Patrick. After graduating, the family moved to Fresno, California where Lou participated in an internship at Fresno General Hospital from 1954 to 1955, and also served as Chief Resident. On July 1, 1958 Lou began his Internal Medicine practice where he worked until his retirement in October 2013.

Among his many accomplishments, Lou was honored with the Knighthood of Saint Gregory 1965 Conferral of Pontifical Honors. Lou also served on numerous medical organizations throughout his practice and was President of the Fresno County Medical Society Review Board in 1984, and Medical Director of ValuCare Health Plan from 1985 to 1988. Further, he served as President of the medical staff for Saint Agnes Medical Center from 1981 to 1982, and as a member of the Board of Trustees from 1987 to 1992. He was also a Quality Assurance Committee Member from 1987 to 1996 and Chairman of the Utilization Committee for five years.

It goes without saying that Dr. Louis Pardini was an honorable man with a strong commitment to his family and his patients for whom he served so graciously. He helped many lives through his practice of medicine, and touched many more through his kindness and wisdom. I am honored and humbled to join his family in celebrating the life of this amazing man, who will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Louis Pardini. His memory will live on through his family and be remembered by our entire community. We are all better for having known Louis Pardini, a remarkable Californian and Central Valley native.

27TH WORLD AIDS DAY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the 27th World AIDS Day. Each year on December 1, we support those living with HIV/AIDS, commemorate those who have died from HIV/AIDS, and encourage the scientific advances being made in the field.

Globally, there are 36 million people living with HIV and 35 million people have died from HIV and AIDS-related causes since the beginning of the epidemic since the first cases were reported in 1981. Since 70% of HIV cases are reported in sub-Saharan Africa, countries that are hit the hardest by this pandemic often face

other infectious diseases, food insecurity, and other problems. While the number of newly infected individuals has declined, and the number of individuals receiving treatment has increased, we must remain vigilant with targeted funding and treatment in these vulnerable regions.

Various Presidential Administrations have responded to the HIV/AIDS epidemic by focusing on specific countries and increasing funding levels. For example, the creation of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) in 2003, which began during the Bush Administration and continued through the Obama Administration, brought new attention to address AIDS, as well as tuberculosis and malaria.

While the global HIV/AIDS pandemic continues to receive steady funding through a robust U.S. and international response, the reaction in Texas for African Americans has been slower. In Dallas County, 43% of those living with HIV are black while only 33% are white. Of newly diagnosed HIV cases, 51% are black while only 22% are white. As for black females in Dallas County, one in 144 black women are already living with HIV and are eight times more likely to become infected than their white or Hispanic counterparts.

Funding to reach and educate individuals on a grassroots level is extremely necessary to fight the types of battles we face with the HIV/AIDS in South Dallas. That is why I have been a strong supporter of the Ryan White CARE Act extension packages each time they reached the House floor. We must place our resources where they will be the most effective. On this World AIDS Day, we need to commit ourselves to eradicating AIDS here at home and globally.

IN RECOGNITION OF WORLD AIDS DAY 2015

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, World AIDS Day affords us an opportunity to reflect on our progress in the fight against the global AIDS pandemic and to rededicate ourselves to ending the disease once and for all.

We have come a long way since the first World AIDS Day in 1988 by dramatically expanding investments in HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment, and research.

Strong advocacy has paved the way for the Ryan White Act, the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS Initiative, growing investments in NIH research, and an end to the ban on federal funds for syringe exchange.

Beyond our borders, our efforts have extended care to millions in the developing world, through increased resources for PEPFAR and the Global Fund.

Our investments have saved lives—preventing millions of new HIV cases, expanding access to improved treatments, and enabling medical advances that help HIV/AIDS patients live longer and healthier.

Here and across the globe, AIDS deaths are on the decline, and studies are pointing the way to new approaches to limit the spread of the disease, with treatment as prevention.

While our efforts have grown, we still only reach half of all people eligible for HIV treatment; and more must be done.

Working together, we must continue to strengthen—not weaken—our national and international efforts to combat AIDS and other infectious diseases.

We must work to achieve the Obama Administration’s goal of an AIDS-free generation.

We must honor the memory of those we have lost and act on our hope, optimism, and determination to end the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

We must continue to work with programs and clinics, like the Harris County Hospital District (HCHD), who are treating and caring for patients with HIV/AIDS.

In 1989, HCHD opened Thomas Street Health Center, the first free-standing facility dedicated to outpatient HIV/AIDS care in the nation. The center has become the cornerstone of all HIV/AIDS care available to Harris County residents.

The Thomas Street Health Center has dedicated their services to about 25 percent of Harris County’s HIV/AIDS.

Annually, the health center, along with HCHD, serves 4,463 unique patients for about 37,000 patients’ visits.

We will continue to fight a tough fight against HIV and AIDS. We will continue to strengthen and support centers like Thomas Street Health Center who work diligently with HIV/AIDS patients.

Our focus on HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness will be to ensure all of our friends, relatives and children live healthy and full lives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, November 30, 2015, I was absent from the House because I was unavoidably detained. Due to my absence, I did not record my vote on the first vote of the day. I would like to reflect how I would have voted had I been present for legislative business.

Had I been present, I would have voted “aye” on Roll Call 644.

TRIBUTE TO CARIBOU COFFEE AND EINSTEIN BROS. BAGELS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Caribou Coffee and Einstein Bros. Bagels for the opening of their new coffee and bagel shop in West Des Moines, Iowa.

Founded in 1992, Caribou Coffee is the second largest company-operated premium coffeehouse in the United States with more than 272 company owned stores. Caribou Coffee provides high quality, handcrafted beverages and food options. Einstein Bros. Bagels is part of the Einstein Noah Restaurant Group, Inc. family, and is a neighborhood bagel shop that’s always cooking up new, innovative ways to serve its customers with more than 600 locations in 40 states.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this new business and their staff for the services they provide to the West Des Moines community. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Caribou Coffee and Einstein Bros. Bagels for their new location. I wish them and their staff nothing but the best moving forward.

RECOGNIZING STEVE GABEL

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Steve Gabel on being selected for induction into the Farm Credit Colorado Agriculture Hall of Fame. This honor is reserved for those who have made a significant contribution to the agricultural industry of Colorado and the United States.

Currently, Mr. Gabel owns Magnum Feedyard, a 22,500-head feedlot in Wiggins, Colorado. He also manages Gabel Cattle, his family-owned cow-calf business. In addition, he is currently a member of the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association and president of the Colorado Livestock Association. He previously served for fifteen years as chairman of the Colorado Beef Council.

Mr. Gabel also understands the importance of giving back to his community. He prides himself on volunteering as a Weld County Livestock volunteer judging coach, where he mentors youth on the importance of agriculture. Mr. Gabel has shown true leadership in his industry and community.

On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my best wishes as Mr. Gabel pursues his future endeavors. His passion and dedication to the agricultural industry makes him more than worthy of this distinct recognition. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Mr. Steve Gabel for his accomplishments.

HONORING MAYOR JIM HAGGERTON OF TUKWILA, WASHINGTON

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jim Haggerton, Mayor of Tukwila, Washington, on his retirement.

There have been few greater champions for the City of Tukwila than Jim Haggerton. For over four decades, Jim has dedicated himself to bettering his community in many ways. After concluding his service in the U.S. Marine Corps, Jim and his wife, Carol, purchased their home in the McMicken Heights neighborhood in 1972. There, they raised their two children, Terri and Care.

Despite the rigors of a hectic schedule with a young family and a burgeoning career, Jim found time to devote to his city. He served nine years on Tukwila’s Planning Commission, helping to guide the city through a period of tremendous growth. He built on this service when he was elected to serve as a

Councilmember; a position that he held for thirteen years. Then, in 2007, he was elected as Tukwila’s Mayor.

As Mayor, Jim led the successful effort to develop and implement the city’s first Strategic Plan, which was notable for its creation of the award-winning Community Connectors program. He also led the negotiations for dozens of major development and public infrastructure projects that have benefited the entire region. These include Jim’s efforts to bring transit options to Tukwila, including light and heavy rail. Expanded transit access has accompanied and supported the development of commercial projects that attract commerce from surrounding communities.

In addition to his work at City Hall, Jim has been a tireless advocate for Tukwila in a long list of regional organizations. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Association of Washington Cities, Sound Cities Association, and the Cascade Water Alliance. He also served as the President of the Southcenter Rotary Club and is a member of the American Legion Post 235 in Tukwila.

As Jim passes the baton following his decades of service, he leaves the city on strong footing. Tukwila today has a AA rating from Standard and Poors, despite the challenges posed by the recession and ongoing recovery. Engagement with the community has never been stronger, either. This past year, Tukwila was recognized for its efforts to engage the city’s diverse communities in the update of Tukwila’s Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Mr. Jim Haggerton for his years of service and his tremendous impact on the City of Tukwila and King County.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROSA PARKS’ ACT OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, sixty years ago today, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Through a simple act of civil disobedience, she inspired a movement, gained worldwide acclaim, and secured a place in American history.

However, on that cold morning in Montgomery, Mrs. Parks was not creating a legacy—she simply saw a wrong and wanted to right it. She showed us that any person can make a difference if they have the strength of their convictions. By simply sitting down on the bus, she turned an ordinary act into something extraordinary, and inspired thousands in Montgomery—and later across America—to do the same.

But Mrs. Parks is more than just a figure to be revered—she is an example to be upheld. And on days like today, we must ask ourselves whether we honor her with our actions as well as our words.

Because of the work of Mrs. Parks and her contemporaries, our nation is an undeniably different place than it was sixty years ago. Jim Crow is no longer the law of the South. Segregation is no longer legally mandated. An African-American is President and the Congressional Black Caucus counts 43 members.