

had little confidence could be accomplished the end of the Cold War.

Within minutes of his swearing in, news broke in one of the most widely followed situations of that time. President Reagan announced the Iran hostage crisis was over. The Americans were coming home. Make no mistake the significance of his election was an intimidating and influential factor in their release.

When the entire country was devastated by the *Challenger* tragedy, Reagan addressed a grieving nation by giving one of his most memorable and touching speeches. His ability to heal the brokenhearted was more than an admired political attribute. He never talked above the people, always to the people. It was what made him one of us. He just got it.

And of course, there is his most beloved legacy. He single handedly made the jelly bean a national treasure.

Reagan never took himself too seriously. Even when his own life was on the line, the leader of the free world was cracking jokes. On his way into emergency surgery after the 1981 assassination attempt, he looked up at the surgeons and said, "I hope you are all Republicans."

While he was a one-of-a kind politician the Everyman of our time. He was a pull yourself up by the boot straps kind of guy.

From union halls to country clubs, everyone felt like Reagan was one of them. Being an American meant something to him He was unabashedly unapologetic for our country's success.

He was the great defender of capitalism. Reaganomics was hailed ingenious by the supply-side, pro-growth economists and harshly criticized as voodoo by the big government crowd.

Reagan proved that lower taxes and leaner government stimulates growth, spurs private enterprise, inspires harder work and enables more savings and investment.

In the midst of another presidential election, Americans find themselves wondering where our next Ronald Reagan is. The American people got it then, and they want it back now.

As we celebrate the 104th birthday of President Reagan this Friday (or the 65th anniversary of his 39th birthday; he never missed a chance to poke fun at his own age), we should learn from The Great Communicator.

And that's just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 5, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for roll call votes 59–64 due to a family emergency.

Had I been present, I would have voted no on #59, no on #60, no on #56, yes on #61, yes on #62, yes on #63, and no on #64.

HONORING TIM WEBB AND JUSTIN WOOTEN

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 5, 2015

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I submit remarks in honor of Mr. Tim Webb and Mr. Jus-

tin Wooten, communications officers at the Galax Police Department's dispatch center, and also in recognition of the important work of all emergency dispatchers.

On December 29, 2014, Mr. Webb was working his routine shift when he took an incoming call from Cheri Grable and her daughter Melissa, who were caring for 17-month-old Aidan Paul Walker, Melissa's son. Aidan had been running a slight fever, but it took a sudden, dramatic spike, which caused him to convulse violently. Aidan stopped breathing, and his eyes rolled back into his head.

Mr. Webb's partner at the dispatch center, Mr. Justin Wooten, dispatched the call and fielded other duties so Mr. Webb could assist Cheri and Melissa with young Aidan.

However, the nearest ambulance was nearly 20 minutes from their home. When it was made clear that neither Cheri nor Melissa were trained in CPR, Mr. Webb—who is a certified CPR instructor and had worked for Laurel and Pipers Gap rescue squads for 20 years—walked Cheri through performing CPR and helping Aidan breathe again. As noted by WSL's Bethany Teague, this is especially notable because the Galax Police Department does not have emergency medical dispatch certification, so dispatchers like Mr. Webb typically are not allowed to provide CPR instructions over the phone.

"I never have done CPR on anybody," Cheri told the Galax Gazette. "[A]nd [Mr. Webb] told me what to do, and I did it, and the baby came back to life."

Aidan began breathing about a minute into the CPR. But Mr. Webb stayed with them over the phone, checking the boy's pulse and keeping Cheri and Melissa calm. About 18 minutes after the dispatch call, the ambulance arrived and EMTs took Aidan on board. He was taken to Northern Hospital in Surry County, North Carolina for further treatment.

Galax Police Chief Rick Clark said of Mr. Webb, "He did an exceptional job. He deserves to be recognized. In my mind he's a hero."

However, Mr. Webb wishes to share his recognition with his partner that day, Mr. Wooten. Mr. Webb said, "Without him, this couldn't have been a success. Without Justin taking care of other calls while this was going on . . . if one person had tried to handle this call, dispatch and handle radio traffic as well . . . I just don't know that it could have been done. Within the first 15 seconds, he had it dispatched. And he's only worked with me a year. For someone with that level of experience—he really deserves a pat on the back."

This isn't the only recognition Mr. Webb has received for his work. Last spring, he and other 911 dispatchers received an award from the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials' Virginia Chapter for their efforts in regards to the tragic 2013 Easter Sunday car accident on Interstate 77, which involved more than 90 vehicles.

The efforts of communications officers such as Mr. Webb, Mr. Wooten, and other emergency workers may go largely unrecognized, but their actions and service to the community are to be commended. I am honored to pay tribute to Mr. Webb, Mr. Wooten, and others like them. Please join me in thanking Mr. Webb, Mr. Wooten, and others for all that they have done and continue to do for the people of this great nation.

175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHARTER FOR SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 5, 2015

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the charter for Southwestern University in Georgetown, TX. The Lone Star State's first institution of higher education and Texas' leading undergraduate liberal arts and sciences university, Southwestern has progressed from its early pioneering roots to become a vibrant and diverse center of growth and potential.

By fostering a liberal arts community whose values and actions encourage contributions toward the well-being of humanity, Southwestern reflects the best values of Central Texas. Southwestern offers small classes and numerous collaborative undergraduate research opportunities. Over 1,500 students enjoy the warm, small-town feel of historic Georgetown as well as the close proximity of Austin with its vibrant, innovative, and creative culture. Outside the classroom, students are civically engaged and volunteer in the community at more than twice the national average. Half of all students study abroad and most take advantage of leadership, service, and activism opportunities in Southwestern's 90+ student organizations.

Engaging minds remains at the forefront of the university's mission. Southwestern professors balance the highest level of scholarship with a serious dedication to teaching and collaboration with our students. The university has been recognized as a leading institution of higher learning. Both U.S. News & World Report and USA Today College rank Southwestern University the top national liberal arts colleges in Texas. Southwestern is consistently recognized as one of 40 colleges in the publication Colleges That Change Lives.

I'm proud that Southwestern University calls my congressional district home. For 175 years, this great college has been transforming lives and preparing our nation's next generation of leaders for success. I wish Southwestern University only the best as it continues its proud mission of scholarly excellence.

INTRODUCTION OF H. RES. 92, RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PROJECT HEAD START

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 5, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and deep appreciation for the opportunities this great nation affords to its citizens that I rise to announce that joined by more than 65 co-sponsors, I have today introduced H. Res. 92, a resolution commemorating the 50th anniversary of Project Head Start, one of the signal achievements of the Great Society and boldest initiatives launched by the nation in the War on Poverty.

Launched in the White House Rose Garden on May 18, 1965, by President Lyndon Baines

Johnson, the aim of Project Head Start was bold and audacious in its scope and design.

As President Johnson stated in announcing the opening of a new front in the War on Poverty with the launch of Project Head Start:

"We set out to make certain that poverty's children would not be forevermore poverty's captives. . . .

"This means that nearly half the preschool children of poverty will get a head start on their future. . . .

"These children will receive preschool training to prepare them for regular school in September. . . .

"They will get medical and dental attention that they badly need, and parents will receive counseling on improving the home environment."

Conceived as an eight-week summer program designed to provide pre-school training not just to prepare 5 and 6 year-olds to enter regular school the following September, but also to give nearly half the preschool children living in poverty "a head start on their future."

At its launch, the Head Start Program, administered by the Office of Economic Opportunity and wonderfully and skillfully led by its Director, Sargent Shriver, consisted of 2,500 projects, covering 11,000 Child Development Centers, serving about 530,000 poor children in every state of the Union.

Mr. Speaker, President Johnson recognized that the bleak future waiting for children trapped in poverty was not a phenomenon concentrated in the inner-cities of the large urban cities of the North but could be found in every region in every state in the nation.

That is why the Head Start Program was launched not as a mere demonstration project limited to a handful of counties, but as a program national in scope serving every city, suburb, and rural area in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to providing pre-school training to prepare poor children to enter regular school and help put them on an even footing with their classmates as they enter school, the Head Start Program had an even higher aim and nobler purpose: to assist children prepare for the challenges they will face in life and to combat poverty's great weapons—hunger and malnutrition; illness and poor health; ignorance and cultural deprivation.

Project Head Start was from the start a national undertaking, utilizing the services of 41,000 professionals, including teachers, doctors, dentists, nurses, nutritionists, employing more than 47,000 persons, who were assisted by more than 500,000 volunteers.

Based on its initial success as a summer program, the following year, in 1966, Head Start was funded as a primarily part day, 9 month program, largely through existing community action programs.

In later years, the Head Start Program would be expanded to serve children with disabilities, Native Americans, homeless children, and to provide bilingual and bicultural migrant and seasonal programs serving 6,000 children in 21 states.

Today, the Head Start Program serves nearly a million poor children, including:

160,829 enrolled in Early Head Start for 3-year olds;

910,833 enrolled in Head Start;

20,627 American Indian/Alaska Native children enrolled in Head Start;

4,722 American Indian/Alaska Native children enrolled in Early Head Start;

32,082 children of migrant or seasonal workers enrolled in Head Start; and

40,853 homeless children enrolled in Head Start.

Additionally, Head Start Program serves 136,120 children with disabilities, 15,632 pregnant women, and provides services to 771,840 families.

In my home state of Texas, the Head Start Program serves 661,000 poor children under the age of 5, including 2,471 homeless children, 8,370 children with disabilities, and provides services to 53,333 families.

And in my home city of Houston, a remarkable organization called AVANCE has been serving the needs of low-income children and families since its founding in 1973.

AVANCE offers Head Start, Early Head Start, Parenting, Healthy Marriage, Fatherhood, and other programs designed to prepare and help low-income children, students, and families reach their potential.

Mr. Speaker, not only has the Head Start Program been a great benefit to its direct beneficiaries, it has provided substantial economic and social benefits to the nation as a whole.

Research studies have shown that for each dollar invested, the Head Start program yields a rate of return on investment (ROI) of 7–9 percent and the program is responsible for the direct creation of 236,591 jobs, with an average annual salary of about \$31,000 for Head Start teachers with baccalaureate degrees.

Mr. Speaker, another societal benefit of the Head Start Program is the improved health of the children and families it serves.

Research has shown that the mortality rates for 5- to 9-year-old children who had attended Head Start are 33–50% lower than the rates for comparable children not enrolled in Head Start.

Moreover, Head Start children are less likely to fall victim to childhood obesity and are at least 8% more likely to have had their immunizations than children who did not attend preschool.

Mr. Speaker, the Head Start Program has been an unqualified success for the more than 31 million children and parents it has served since its inception in 1965.

And so it is that we can look back with pride on the 50 year record of this bold and innovative program.

But we cannot yet be satisfied because our work is not done and will not be done until every eligible child is afforded the opportunity to get a head start in life the program provides.

Today, only 42 percent of eligible low-income preschoolers are actually served by Head Start and less than 4 percent are in Early Head Start.

But we should not let the fact that we have more work to do to strengthen the Head Start Program detract from the joy and happiness we are justified in deriving from its half century of success and its vindication of our optimistic belief in the capacity of Americans to solve pressing national problems when people of goodwill work together in the spirit of cooperation rather than conflict.

The record of the Head Start Program shows that it can be done and that President Johnson was right—the Head Start Program was and is "one of the most constructive, and one of the most sensible, and also one of the most exciting programs that this Nation has ever undertaken."

And its reward for this bold act is the collective service and contributions to the betterment of society made by the 31 million children that have been served by the program over the past 50 years.

I invite all Members of the House to join me in sponsoring the resolution celebrating the 50 year record of success of the Head Start Program and urge the Speaker to schedule H. Res. 92 for floor debate and vote at the earliest possible time so that the House may have the opportunity to pass the resolution on or before the May 18, 2015 anniversary date.

I thank all of my colleagues who joined me as original cosponsors of H. Res. 92, and I also wish to express my thanks and appreciation to Chelsea Ukoha and Gregory Berry of my staff for their exceptional efforts and work on this wonderful tribute to a program that has contributed so much to the richness and vitality of our country.

REINTRODUCING THE LENA HORNE RECOGNITION ACT OF 2015

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 5, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the Lena Horne Recognition Act of 2015, which would award the Congressional Gold Medal to the late, renowned singer, actress, and Civil Rights icon, Ms. Lena Mary Calhoun Horne.

As an African American woman born in 1917, Ms. Horne, who passed away in 2010, was truly a woman of firsts, having pioneered the way for many men and women of color through her work in Jazz, film, and the Civil Rights movement. She began her career in the chorus line at Harlem's famed Cotton Club before moving on to record dozens of musical tracks and playing roles in movies and musicals.

As a young woman, Lena drew much fame from her beauty and talent, yet found many roadblocks in her personal success due to the hyper-racialized nature of show business at the time. However, this adversity would not limit her, and presented a platform for her increasing support of and action in the Civil Rights movement.

The first to do so, Lena signed a long term contract with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM) and embarked on a career in Hollywood, as her celebrity had been noticed by many, despite the color of her skin. She was also the first African American woman to be nominated for a Tony Award. However, again, she found road blocks in her professional life, due to state-law restrictions in on-screen interracial relationships as well as the need to have her roles edited out for Jim Crow abiding viewers. Blacklisted during the period of McCarthyism in the 1950s, Ms. Horne still recorded what would become the best-selling album by a female singer in RCA Victor's history in 1957.

From music and film, Lena had built a substantial fan base, and by the 1960s, at the peak of the Civil Rights movement, she became a staple on Television. She had become so renowned in popular culture despite her race that she appeared on shows such as the Dean Martin Show and Ed Sullivan Show. In 1970, Horne co-starred with well known actor,