

AIREONNA JENSEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Aireonna Jensen for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Aireonna Jensen is an 8th grader at North Arvada Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Aireonna Jensen is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Aireonna Jensen for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JIM
McCLELLAND FOR HIS 41 YEARS
OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO
GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF CEN-
TRAL INDIANA

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career and accomplishments of Jim McClelland. For more than four decades, Jim served as President and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District and central Indiana are forever grateful for Jim's community leadership.

Jim has spent most of his professional life with Goodwill. After receiving his Bachelor of Industrial Engineering degree from Georgia Tech and his MBA from the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University, he served in the military for three years. He then began his career with Goodwill and has been with the company ever since. He started with the company in 1970 in Texas and moved to Indianapolis in 1973 to work with then-President and CEO Alan McNeil. Alan, a role model to Jim, tragically passed away less than a year after Jim moved to Indiana. Jim was named his successor and has been building and developing the organization ever since. Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana has only had three CEOs since its founding in 1930 and Jim has been at the helm since 1974.

Goodwill of Central Indiana has blossomed under Jim's leadership. He clearly has a true passion for Goodwill's mission and is an outstanding leader and social entrepreneur. When he first joined the Indianapolis team, the nonprofit had 558 employees, eight retail stores, and \$3 million in revenue. Today, the company has more than 3,100 employees, 55 retail stores, 10 commercial sites, 10 charter high schools, and \$310 million in revenue. All profits from the retail side go back into improv-

ing the community. With these profits, Jim launched many social services aimed at reducing the long-term effects of poverty.

He also worked tirelessly to expand job opportunities for unemployed Hoosiers and led philanthropic efforts in education and health. Two of his most notable accomplishments are the creation of the Excel Center, a program offering education to adults wanting to earn their high school diploma, and bringing the Nurse-Family Partnership to Indianapolis, a nonprofit that helps first-time, low-income mothers.

Jim is undoubtedly a savvy businessman and wise investor, but his commitment to humanitarianism is what shines through the most. He always puts others first, combining his talents to improve the future of others. His commitment to helping others extends far beyond his position with Goodwill of Central Indiana. He is involved with Goodwill Industries nationally and internationally, has served on the boards of numerous not-for-profit organizations, and been honored with awards in the nonprofit arena. Just to name a few of his accomplishments, he helped start a new Goodwill organization in South Korea, sits on the board of the Indiana Public Charter Schools Association, and was named Nonprofit Executive of the Year by The Nonprofit Times in 2000.

On behalf of the grateful constituents of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District, I congratulate Jim on the occasion of his retirement. His entrepreneurial and humanitarian spirit has left an everlasting impact on the Indianapolis community and beyond. I wish the very best to Jim, his wife, Jane, and their two children as he enjoys a well-deserved retirement.

HONORING ROHIT RAINA**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Rohit Raina attends Dawson High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: select an important event that has occurred in the past 15 years and explain how that event has changed our country.

A NEW NATION IS BORN

The time had come, Election Day in 2008. Republicans and Democrats were standing in anxious positions, waiting to see who would emerge victorious; Barack Obama, or John McCain. The Democrats were obviously rooting for Barack Obama, whereas the Republicans were cheering on for John McCain. However, only one could stand victorious. After a long collection of votes, the new president was declared; Barack Hussein Obama, the first African American President of the United States of America.

November 4, 2008 will be a day to remember in our American history. That day was when all tides had turned, and a movement was born. Barack Obama, a three time senate member for Illinois, became the first African American man to ever become president in the history of the United States of America. The turnout of this election was a complete change in the perspective of the American people; where people were used to "White supremacy" and social inequality. After the election, peoples' mindsets changed about socialism and the attitude toward racism in the workplace. I had read a book by Joseph E. Stiglitz, *The Price of Inequality*, which this book references how after Obama was elected, the whole nation changed. In the workplace, people were more respectful to the African American race, there wasn't as much racial discrimination as there previously was. In the book I had read, office employers would be somewhat racist; to a point where a Caucasian man with a critical record had a higher chance of getting a job they tried out for than an African American man without a criminal record. Socially, people were more understanding of the African American race, because they now knew with Obama as president, the African American people were seen to have potential and were not judged any longer.

Barack Obama has honestly been one of our greatest presidents in the American nation.

Understandably, presidents such as FDR and Lincoln fought through tough times, but Obama was not any less of those two great men. By signing the economic stimulus and fighting through an economic recession, Barack Obama has led the Land of the Free out of grave trouble and into the path of success. President Obama had led us out of two wars in the Middle East, lowered gas prices, and helped the American nation by producing an amazing healthcare system called ObamaCare. By his second term, he had created a better nation, besides the 18 trillion dollar deficit the United States is currently under. With better gun control (because of the Sandy Hook shooting), the assassination of the Taliban terrorist leader Osama Bin Laden, and the search for better relations with Cuba, Obama has clearly led this nation to the path of power.

Barack Obama's election and reelection was one of the most effective changing thing in American history. For the past 15 years, America was getting better and thriving, but with Barack Obama, our nation has re-emerged as a much more powerful superpower. Who knows where we will be in 5 more years, but with Barack Obama's leadership and his effect on the future presidency line, we will be in great shape.

IN HONOR OF DR. JERRY MCGEE'S CAREER**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Jerry McGee for his faithful service as President of Wingate University in the 8th Congressional District of North Carolina.

When Dr. McGee became President of then Wingate College in 1992, he brought visionary leadership that transformed this educational institution from college to university status. During Dr. McGee's presidency, Wingate's enrollment increased more than 125 percent. Under his leadership, Wingate went from a

small college to a thriving university. Wingate University has been recognized as one of the best small liberal arts colleges in the Southeast and the premier small private university in North Carolina.

As a result of Dr. McGee's leadership, Wingate University has expanded to new campuses in Charlotte and Henderson, opened 37 new buildings, and refurbished every facility on campus. Wingate opened its School of Pharmacy in 2003, and it now offers six health-care related graduate degrees and seven pre-professional undergraduate health programs. In a ten-year period starting in 1993, the number of Wingate undergraduates pursuing degrees in science or health-care related fields quadrupled.

The Wingate University community has expressed its support and praise for Dr. McGee's leadership through an influx of millions of dollars in gifts and grants for endowments, scholarships, and campus development. During Dr. McGee's presidency, Wingate University's endowment increased by 420 percent and its operating budget has nearly doubled.

Dr. McGee is a native of Rockingham, North Carolina, and received his Bachelor's Degree from East Carolina University and a Master's Degree from Appalachian State University. He went on to receive his Doctoral Degree from Nova Southeastern University.

Before being named President of Wingate University, Dr. McGee served as Vice President of Institutional Advancement at Meredith College and Vice President for Development at Furman College. Dr. McGee is actively involved in our local and state community, and he is the recipient of North Carolina's highest civilian honor, The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, in recognition of his exemplary service to North Carolina. Dr. McGee is also a member of the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame for officiating 404 NCAA Division I college football games, 20 of which were bowl games.

It is truly an honor to extend these remarks congratulating my friend Dr. Jerry McGee on his retirement and to thank him for his esteemed service to our community as a visionary educator and leader.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 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 \$18,152,382,569,585.32. We've added \$7,525,505,520,672.24 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 JEANNE BURTON ISRAEL

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize retiring Pleasanton City Councilwoman Jeanne Burton Israel. She has served with distinction, and is now ending her tenure after six years on the Pleasanton City Council.

A San Antonio native, Jeanne moved to Atascosa County in 1982, becoming the first female Fuel and Ash Operator at San Miguel Electric Power Plant. Two years later she relocated to her current home of Pleasanton. After twelve years at San Miguel Electric, Jeanne Israel started Errand Girl Services, a courier service in Pleasanton. Her position as a small business owner propelled her into local politics and in 2000 she served as Treasurer for the Atascosa County MHMR.

Mrs. Israel also became an active and esteemed member of her local Lions Club, known for her initiative and dedication to the community. She founded and served as the advisor to the Lions' youth organization, the Pleasanton Leo Club from 2002 until 2006. Sitting on several City Charter Review Committees sparked her interest in local government and prompted her to run for a seat on the city council in 2009.

From 2009 to 2015 Mrs. Israel has represented the people of District 6 on the Pleasanton City Council. During her 6-year tenure, she has been an avid supporter of the arts and has backed efforts to preserve and protect county history. Mrs. Israel has also been a proponent of education and increased citizen involvement in government. She has also worked to revitalize Pleasanton's downtown area and improve city infrastructure. In recognition of her outstanding service to the City of Pleasanton and the people of District 6, she has received awards from multiple community organizations in Pleasanton including the Pleasanton Lion of the Year, the Sons of Hermann Lodge #310 Humanitarian Award, and the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce Business Person of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Jeanne Burton Israel on the occasion of her retirement from the Pleasanton City Council. Her years of dedication and commitment to her community have made Pleasanton, Texas a better place.

CELEBRATING THE 275TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Township of Morris as it celebrates its 275th Anniversary.

The Township of Morris, originally formed on March 25, 1740, is also known as the "doughnut" because it completely encapsulates the Town of Morristown. Morris Township was also one of the original 104 townships of New Jersey at the state's founding.

Morris Township is not just known for its geography, however. This township is home to more than 22,000 people, who are very active in their community. Morris Township is also home to many historic landmarks such as Pruddentown, Alnwick Hall which is known today as "The Abbey," and Normandy Park.

Morris Township, founded in 1740, is older than the United States itself, and has changed drastically since over two hundred and seventy-five years. At the town's beginning, it encompassed nearly half of Morris County and was primarily all farmland. As time progressed, however, the township would evolve into the more 'urban' setting it has today. In addition to this urbanization, Morris Township was divided into many other towns such as Roxbury, Morristown, Mendham, and Chatham. Morris Township was also home to a number of events in American history. From the encampment of The Continental Army and George Washington during The Revolutionary War, to "Millionaires Row" which housed many of New Jersey and New York City's millionaires until the 1940's, when income taxes led to the demolition of the houses, this township has a very rich history. Along with these historic sights are places such as, The College of Saint Elizabeth, The Seeing Eye and many other institutions which are able to call Morris Township their home.

To celebrate its 275th Anniversary, the Township will host several events, including a 5K run, family picnic, concerts, exhibits and tournaments. The Morristown and Township Library will be introducing a new exhibit to celebrate this landmark event as well. The exhibit will open April 8th and close on the 16th of August. To celebrate the opening of the exhibit, the library will host an opening ceremony on April 8th serving light refreshments for those who wish to attend. The exhibit will have on display all historical moments in the town's history, landmarks and important people to the community. The festivities will be celebrated by friends and neighbors, and will surely be a night to remember.

I commend the citizens, the Township Committee and the Mayor of The Township of Morris in honor of all of the hard work put in to keep Morris Township a culturally rich and growing community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in wishing the Township of Morris a happy 275th Anniversary.

A TRIBUTE TO SARA KUROVSKI

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Sara Kurovski for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field.