

Mr. Speaker, for several years Business Roundtable, a fine organization that represents CEOs of more than 200 of the country's largest companies, has released a comprehensive Sustainability Report in conjunction with Earth Day. The companies participating in the report—most of the Roundtable's members—submit considerable information about the many ways in which they are striving to take sustainability to an even higher level.

Some companies have focused on drastically reducing the energy they use or increasing their use of renewable energy. Others have cut their waste production while increasing their commitment to reuse and recycle in ever more innovative ways. Still others have built sustainability into their products and workforce policies. Many have made progress on several fronts at once.

The 2015 edition of the Business Roundtable's Sustainability Report, "Create, Grow, Sustain: Leading by Example," is hot off the presses, and it is a pleasure for me to introduce it into the RECORD today. What is most notable—and impressive—to me is that the CEOs themselves contributed to this report through signed letters. These leaders personally attest to the steps taken by their companies and are justifiably proud of them. What a perfect way to mark this Earth Day.

Beyond that, what is most striking about the long list of accomplishments in the area of sustainability by our nation's largest firms is that for the most part, their actions have been taken not because they were forced to by regulations and legislation but because they were good for the bottom line. We see this happening more and more. Companies are using their ingenuity to reduce their impact on the environment, not because they are threatened with government action, but because they consider solid corporate citizenship, including lessening their environmental footprint, to be a major company value.

Mr. Speaker, I hope our colleagues will take the time to review "Create, Grow, Sustain: Leading by Example" so that we all can share with our constituent companies the many lessons that Business Roundtable companies have to offer.

EQUAL PAY DAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, roughly three months into the New Year, we commemorate Equal Pay Day—the typical time into the year where a woman's wage catches up to what men were paid the previous year. This day symbolizes the blatant and persistent wage gap between men and women. Even in 2015, women earn only 78 cents to every dollar made by a man. It's time to make equal pay not just a nice slogan but a reality for women and families.

Unequal pay is not just a women's issue—it's a family issue. Our country is evolving and more than ever before families rely on income from two parents. In fact, two out of three families now depend on the wages of working moms. Additionally, women are the primary breadwinners in 40 percent of U.S. households. It is a very real consequence that when

women are discriminated against in the workplace the entire family struggles. This serves as an urgent reminder why we need to work together to ensure equal pay for equal work.

Women have made remarkable strides in workforce participation and higher education. Today women make up nearly half of all workers as compared to 37 percent in 1970 and receive nearly 60 percent of all bachelor degrees granted in the U.S. Yet, regardless of the level of academic achievement, women's median earnings are still less than men's earnings. Sadly, a recent study by the American Association of University Women found that regardless of a woman's college major, occupation, age, geographic region, hours worked and more there is still an unexplainable seven percent wage gap a year after college graduation.

The gap in wages only grows from there, leaving a disproportionate impact on women and their families throughout the rest of their lives. The Joint Economic Committee found that lower earnings "can result in smaller private savings to draw upon in retirement, smaller contributions to employer-sponsored retirement plans, smaller Social Security benefits, and smaller paychecks for those women who continue to work later in life." The disparity is even more devastating when calculated over a course of a woman's career. By the time a woman retires it's estimated that she's lost over \$430,000 to the pay gap.

It is important to recognize that women make tremendous contributions to our nation's economy with potential to make even more. It's estimated that greater pay equity between men and women would produce nearly half a trillion dollars of additional income, stimulating our economy by close to three percent of 2012 Gross Domestic Product. Also, by closing the wage gap between men and women we could cut the poverty rate in half, raising an entire nation to a better standard of living.

Paying women their equal share has many implications. It means that we are a nation that stands for equality. That we are choosing to uplift women and families, reduce poverty and boost our economy. That is why I support the Paycheck Fairness Act, which strengthens the Equal Pay Act by closing loopholes and providing effective remedies to women who are not being paid equal wages for doing equal work. I urge my colleagues to pass this important legislation that confronts discrimination in the workplace. It is time for us to prioritize the long-term well-being of our nation's hardworking women and families.

GIRLS OF STEEL

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Mr. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Girls of Steel robotics team on winning the Chairman's Award at the 2015 Buckeye Regional FIRST® Robotics Competition in Cleveland, Ohio.

This is the most prestigious award at FIRST and it honors the team that best represents a model for other teams to emulate and best embodies the purpose and goals of FIRST. The Chairman's Award is presented to the team judged to have the most significant

measurable impact of its partnerships among its participants and community over a sustained period, not just a single build season. The winner is able to demonstrate progress towards FIRST's mission of transforming our culture. I think that winning this award is a remarkable accomplishment that speaks volumes about the dedication these young women have in pursuing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math or "STEM" careers, along with the hundreds of hours they have spent conducting outreach in the community. They even served to inspire the two female tech characters in the recently released Pixar film, "Big Hero 6".

FIRST, which stands for "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology," is an organization dedicated to engaging students in STEM fields. Hundreds of thousands of students gain practical, team-based engineering experiences through FIRST every year.

As a founder and co-chair of the Congressional Robotics Caucus, I believe competitions like these are valuable tools for helping our young people explore potential careers in STEM. I've witnessed firsthand the incredible economic growth and development that these fields can produce in my district, and I strongly believe that these fields are crucial to our nation's future prosperity. I want to commend organizations like FIRST for their important work in encouraging young people in these pursuits. The FIRST Robotics Competition allows students to apply creativity and critical thinking in the demanding and competitive field of robotics, all while instilling a strong sense of pride in participants.

Fifty young women from 8th through 12th grades associated with schools located in and around the Pittsburgh area are members of this year's Girls of Steel, and in recognition of their hard work, intelligence, and teamwork, I would like to mention each of these aspiring STEM professionals by name. They are Vishi Agrawal, Sonia Appasamy, Isabella Arnone, Arushi Bandi, Emilia Bianchini, Madeline Butch, Tristan Close-Abuyen, Samantha Eppinger, Adelle Fernando, Mackenzie Ferris, Payton Ferris, Marie Gerges, Kyra Halbert-Elliott, Corinne Hartman, Kristina Hilko, Sydney Hnat, Anna Jablonowski, Alaina Kotchey, Greta Lazzara, Jisus Lee, Sophia Lee, Sylvie Lee, Gayathri Manchella, Clara McCormick, Sree Mekala, Cheyenne Meyers, AJ Molder, Hera Mukhtar, Gigi Nieson, Anne Kailin Northam, Maddie Oppelt, Sanam Parwani, Helen Paulini, Sofia Porter Bacon, Priya Ray, Rachel Sadeh, Isabella Salvi, Lauren Scheller-Wolf, Sarah Seay, Alexa Selwood, Kriti Shah, Makayla Shreve, Annika Urban, Molly Urbina, Becca Volk, Mhairi Webster, Ziya Xu, Alayna Yates, Julia Young, and Natalie Young.

In addition, I want to commend the staff of Carnegie Mellon University's Field Robotics Center, who have mentored the Girls of Steel since 2010. As a result of their efforts, more young women can experience real-world technological challenges and learn from some of the nation's best at solving these problems. These experiences will certainly benefit these young women in the future.

I look forward to hearing about their progress as they advance to the FIRST Championship in St. Louis—the final and largest competition of its kind. This will be their fifth consecutive trip in five years and they will be competing against top teams from all over

the world. I congratulate the Girls of Steel and wish them all continued success in their academic and professional endeavors.

CONGRATULATING ZACH JOHNSON

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Zach Johnson, a Cedar Rapids, Iowa native, on his 9th place tie the 2015 Masters Tournament held at Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Georgia.

Zach Johnson attended Regis High School, lettering on the varsity golf team. The 2007 Masters Champion made the cut at even par after the first two rounds. He followed up on Saturday and Sunday with back to back 68 stroke rounds to finish with a final score of –8, his lowest ever final score at Augusta.

I also wish to commend him for his community service and charity work. Founded in 2005 by Johnson and his wife Kim, The Zach Johnson Foundation through the “Birdies that Care” program has raised over \$800,000 for organizations that serve at-need children in the Cedar Rapids area. In the golfer’s own words: “This Foundation will fulfill a dream of mine and Kim’s to give back to Cedar Rapids in a long-lasting, meaningful way.”

I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to Zach Johnson on his successful 2015 Masters and would like to recognize him for giving back to his community. I look forward to cheering on a fellow Iowan during the rest of the tournaments this summer.

HONORING ERIC HUBER

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Eric Huber of Fredericktown, Missouri, for his outstanding achievement of receiving his Eagle Scout Award. This award is not easily attained and cannot be achieved without a steadfast determination to succeed.

In order to receive this award, Eric completed several steps and a service project exemplifying patriotism and his commitment to serve others. He first worked as an assistant scout master with Troop 408 Scout Master Ken Braun. He also constructed and installed four benches along the hiking trail at Amidon Memorial Conservation Area for his service project. The Missouri Department of Conservation was grateful to Eric, his Scout troop and the volunteers for their contribution to the Amidon Memorial Conservation Area because it will benefit Missouri residents for years to come.

At a young age Eric has shown values such as honesty, loyalty, and civility that inspire others. He has shown commitment to good citizenship, physical fitness, and education and he has made himself an asset to our community, as well as the nation. Eric is a role model for young and old alike, and it is my pleasure to recognize his achievements before the House of Representatives.

HONORING ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA’S TWENTY PEARLS OF WISDOM

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a group of women who have shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to serve their community, Alpha Kappa Alpha’s Twenty Pearls of Wisdom. The Alpha Kappa Alpha’s Twenty Pearls of Wisdom has served the Yazoo County community and the State of Mississippi through informational meetings, social and civic engagement.

On October 26, 2013, Alpha Kappa Alpha’s Twenty Pearls of Wisdom were approved as an official interest group under the leadership of the 24th Regional Director, Adrienne P.K. Washington. Under the leadership of the current Regional Director, Mary Conner, Alpha Kappa Alpha’s Twenty Pearls of Wisdom chartering ceremony is slated for May 16, 2015. It is during this ceremony that they will learn of their Chapter’s name.

Launching new dimensions of service throughout Yazoo County and its surrounding area, Mississippi’s newest chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha shall continue steadfastly in its aim to be of service to all mankind as they strive by culture and merit. Energizing Yazoo County and its surrounding areas with C4 power, enabling members to connect, communicate, collaborate, and celebrate.

Alpha Kappa Alpha’s Twenty Pearls of Wisdom members actively participate in Yazoo and surrounding communities through annual: MLK Day of Service; Voter Registration Blitz; HIV/AIDS Abstinence Workshop; Lean & Serve Curb Appeal; Scholarship Award (Yazoo & Humphreys Counties; Warm Heart Warm Feet; Lunch & Learn; MCT2 Preparation; School Supply Drive; Easter with Elders; Reading Can Be Fun; Kids Network Toy; Empowering Teen Girls; College Adoption; Breast Cancer Awareness—Pink Matters 5 Mile Walk; Caring with Coats—Esther Stewart Buford Foundation; MLK Day of Service Can Food Drive; Yazoo City Manna House; Earth Day—Think Pink-Go-Green; A Day of Thanksgiving H.A. Scott Senior Citizen Home; and Pink Goes Red for Cardiovascular Disease.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Alpha Kappa Alpha’s Twenty Pearls of Wisdom for its dedication to serving others, giving back to the community and perpetuating the rich heritage of Yazoo.

A TRIBUTE TO JEREMY WEISS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Jeremy Weiss 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 the combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Jeremy has the determination and drive to be successful in all of his pursuits, which is highlighted by his exemplary work at Sogeti USA, LLC. As a management consultant, Jeremy focuses on transforming business operations to improve their overall effectiveness and efficiency. Jeremy spends his free time serving others by volunteering at the American Red Cross, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Iowa and Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity—just to name a few. Jeremy’s outstanding work ethic and dedication to service, both professionally and personally, makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Jeremy in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Jeremy on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

CONGRATULATING HUMAN SERVICES ASSOCIATION ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Human Services Association, a non-profit organization based in my 40th Congressional District, on the celebration of their 75th anniversary.

Human Services Association (HSA) was founded as an outreach effort of the Presbyterian Church in 1940, when floods in Southeast Los Angeles County highlighted pre-existing poverty in Bell Gardens and surrounding cities. While HSA remains affiliated with the Presbyterian Church today, all of HSA’s services have been administered on a non-sectarian basis since 1975.

Over time, HSA’s services have evolved to meet the needs of the community. In HSA’s early years, it operated under the name Westminster Center, and focused on recreation programs and group work. It later changed its name to Bell Gardens Community Center, and became a multifunctional social service agency. Its staff and volunteers provided direct services, and it collaborated with other agencies to provide additional services on-site. In 1974–1975, the organization envisioned expanding its human services into the cities of Southeast Los Angeles by increasing its services and funding capacity. As a result, the organization incorporated, and it adopted the name Human Services Association. Today, HSA is the largest community-based nonprofit organization in Southeast Los Angeles, and