

Act. This legislation addresses a longstanding issue that affects the indigenous people of Seattle's metropolitan area. This year marks the 160th year since the Duwamish Tribe signed the Point Elliott Treaty in 1855. In exchange for the reservation and other benefits including hunting and fishing rights promised in the Point Elliott Treaty by the United States government, the Duwamish Tribe ceded 54,000 acres of their homeland. Today, those 54,000 acres include the cities of Bellevue, Mercer Island, Renton, Seattle, Tukwila, and much of King County.

The Duwamish people's struggle for federal recognition continues. It was granted to them in 2001, but then denied under dubious circumstances after just eight months. On September 2001, George W. Bush's Interior Department's administration officials denied the recognition of the Duwamish Tribe. U.S. District Judge Coughenour vacated the administration's denial through statements expressing concern on how "plaintiffs should not be left to wonder why one administration thought their petition should be considered under both sets of rules, but a second one did not." I agree with Judge Coughenour.

It has been a long fight for federal recognition of the Duwamish people. During that time the Interior Department's rules for federal recognition of tribes have changed from the original regulations set in 1978 to those that were revised in 1994. There is significant evidence to support Duwamish recognition that is not included in the current record filed over twenty years ago.

I have asked the Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell, to look into this matter as I believe this bill will provide the federal recognition to which the Duwamish Tribe has long been entitled. I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

RECOGNIZING LITTLE CAESARS LOVE KITCHEN'S 30 YEARS OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2015

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great Michigan family-owned company, Little Caesars Pizza, on a very special anniversary in that company's history and the two wonderful people who started and built that company, Mike and Marion Ilitch. 30 years ago today, on April 30, 1985, Mike and Marion Ilitch started the Little Caesars Love Kitchen, which over the years has provided free meals to nearly three million homeless, hungry and displaced families. Since it provided its first free meal, the Little Caesars big-rig pizza kitchen on wheels has traveled to all 48 states in the continental U.S. providing fresh, hot pizza for the hungry, homeless, victims of natural disasters and terrorist attacks in more than 4,000 American cities.

Mike and Marion Ilitch created the Love Kitchen as a way to demonstrate their deep commitment to helping those in need by giving back to the communities in which it does business. Meals from the Love Kitchen are completely free of charge for everyone served. Local Little Caesars franchise owners and company regional offices donate all the food

and labor costs that allows the Love Kitchen to assist those in need. The commitment to helping those in need extends far beyond the Ilitch family and evidence of that fact is that an estimated 50,000 Little Caesars franchise owners and employees have volunteered countless hours of their time over the years to support this program in their local communities. In addition to the local support and participation of franchisees, Little Caesars Enterprises contributes nationally and has invested hundreds of thousands of dollars per year to operate the program, including an investment of \$350,000 in 2014 to launch a second Love Kitchen allowing them to double the number of people they can help.

The Little Caesars Love Kitchen works with local shelters and community leaders across this nation every day to feed the hungry and homeless. When communities are struck by disasters, you can be nearly certain that the Love Kitchen will be rolling into town to provide relief to victims and rescue workers. Just a few of the many examples are that the Love Kitchen has fed families after devastating tornadoes in Oklahoma and Alabama, provided hot meals after Hurricane Sandy and Hurricane Katrina and helped feed rescue workers in the aftermath of the 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center and the bombing of the Alfred Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

I commend Little Caesars founders Mike and Marion Ilitch, their entire family, and the many Little Caesars workers and franchisees for their unwavering commitment to supporting and comforting those in communities across this nation at times of greatest need. I also want to applaud the leadership of the President and CEO of Ilitch Holdings Christopher Ilitch and Little Caesars President and CEO Dave Scrivano for their important work to continue Little Caesars legacy as an outstanding corporate citizen. I salute the Little Caesars Love Kitchen on the occasion of its 30th anniversary and thank everyone at Little Caesars for spreading love, kindness, and hope in so many communities across our great nation.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF THE VIETNAM WAR

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2015

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, today, April 30th, marks the 40th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War. As Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to honor more than 58,000 American service men and women who lost their lives in the war, to honor the Vietnam veterans, and to honor the Vietnamese armed forces who fought alongside us to defend freedom, liberty, and democracy.

Their sacrifices will never be forgotten.

However, just as we remember those brave men and women, we should also recognize the millions of Vietnamese refugees that arrived in the United States following the fall of South Vietnam. Uprooted in a refugee crisis of enormous proportions, these Vietnamese have become an integral part of our society.

I take great pride in representing a part of Orange County's thriving Vietnamese-Amer-

ican community, and I have witnessed the community's growth over the years. Having represented "Little Saigon," I saw much of this growth up close.

I have seen the community grow not only economically but politically as well. Janet Nguyen—who as a five year old left Vietnam by boat—has risen to California State Senate in 2014. Her story of success exemplifies this generation of Vietnamese Americans.

I am sorry to say, however, that in the 40 years since the end of the Vietnam War, much work remains to be done. Political, religious and economic freedoms have been systematically squashed. This is a government that continues to deny citizens of Vietnam the right to change their government.

When I visited Vietnam, I saw firsthand the Communist Party's harassment of those Vietnamese citizens who decided to peacefully set forth dissenting political and religious views. When I met with the venerable Thich Quang Do and Le Quang Liem, I was immediately denounced by that Communist government.

The Vietnamese-American community has not lost sight of the struggle in their original homeland for freedom, for religious freedom, for freedom of speech, even for the right of young people to sit down in an Internet cafe and have a dialogue without censorship.

They are a part of this effort to make certain that those ideals stay alive so that in the same way that eastern Europe came to evolve into a democratic, market-oriented, tolerant society, that there will be that opportunity in the future for Vietnam.

SISTER ANN KEEFE POST OFFICE

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Sister Ann Keefe, who touched the lives of countless individuals in her service to Rhode Island, and in support of H.R. 651, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 820 Elmwood Avenue in Providence, Rhode Island, as the "Sister Ann Keefe Post Office."

Sister Ann's generosity, compassion, and fearless advocacy for social justice have left an indelible mark on our state. She was a true public servant, speaking for those who had no voice and working tirelessly to assist the disadvantaged. In her more than 33 years of service as a Sister of Saint Joseph, Sister Ann worked to address the challenges facing Providence. No feat was too great; Sister Ann knew how to roll up her sleeves and get the job done, bringing a patient, faithful voice to issues affecting the most vulnerable among us.

Sister Ann's legacy endures through the many lives she touched and the dozens of initiatives and organizations she founded, including the Institute for the Study and Practice of Nonviolence, Providence CityArts for Youth, AIDS Care Ocean State, and the Providence Human Relations Commission. These programs continue to serve those in need and work to make our communities stronger.

Sister Ann faced the problems that others ignored, and her example serves as a reminder that with love, compassion, and determination, a single individual can make a tremendous difference. Sister Ann left us too soon, but our state and our world are better places because she passed through. I am proud to support the naming of this facility as yet another marker of appreciation for, and in remembrance of, Sister Ann, and I thank my good friend and colleague from Rhode Island for introducing this legislation.

RECOGNIZING APRAXIA
AWARENESS

HON. KEITH J. ROTHFUS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2015

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to Childhood Apraxia of Speech, a speech and communication disorder that causes extreme difficulty in learning to speak, which can affect literacy and school performance. Often times, children with Childhood Apraxia of Speech require frequent and aggressive speech therapy to improve their ability to communicate. Sadly, the cause of this disorder is unknown. More progress must be made to understand this complex condition.

Fortunately, the Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association located in Pittsburgh, PA continues to work tirelessly to raise awareness about this condition and to provide support to families of affected children. Thanks to their hard work, great strides have been made toward educating the public, as well as local, state, and federal officials.

Children with apraxia and their families confront tremendous obstacles with determination and persistence. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these individuals on Apraxia Awareness Day this May and in thanking the Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association for their important contribution to our community.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM LEWIS
TROGDON

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2015

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize William Lewis Trogdon, also known as William Least Heat-Moon, an author and native Missourian who was recently awarded for his Distinguished Literary Achievement by the Missouri Humanities Council.

The Missouri Humanities Council (MHC) promotes humanities education and engages the public in dialogue about important issues, bridging the gap between ideas and participatory democracy. Each year MHC recognizes Missouri authors producing exemplary literary works that make a significant contribution to our understanding and appreciation of Missouri's history and culture. Mr. Heat-Moon's body of work displays poignant accounts of traveling through rural America whether by car, boat, or foot with a particular emphasis on Missouri's local geography. His book *Blue Highways: A Journey Into America* records his trip through rural towns across 38 states, and was a New York Times Bestseller for 42 weeks.

As a former teacher, I understand the importance of arts and humanities education in shaping our understanding of history and culture. Again, I would like to congratulate Mr. Heat-Moon for his lifetime of literary achievements and his artistic contributions to the state of Missouri, and express my desire that other authors follow Mr. Heat-Moon's footsteps, exemplifying Missouri's culture in their literary and creative works.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND
VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RE-
LATED AGENCIES APPROPRIA-
TIONS ACT, 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 2029) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes:

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Chair, today I rise in support of the over 180,000 brave veterans in Harris County, Texas who answered the call to duty when America needed them most and urge my colleagues to make much needed changes to the Military Construction-Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill that honor America's promise to all of our nation's veterans.

The MilCon-VA funding bill has traditionally been bipartisan and without controversy. Just last year MilCon passed the House by a margin of 416-1.

This year, unfortunately, this must-pass legislation fails to fully fund critical priorities for our veterans and the American people, including veterans' medical care and military and VA construction.

Nearly every major national Veteran Service Organizations, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, and the American Legion, agree and have called on the House to reconsider this legislation and fully fund the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Yesterday, the national commander of the VFW said that "the nationwide crisis in care and confidence that erupted in the VA last year was caused in many ways by the lack of adequate resourcing that only Congress is authorized to provide. That's why the VFW is demanding that the House amend this bill to appropriate a funding level that fully funds VA."

The national commander for the American Legion voiced similar feelings last week when he called for Congress and the White House to put political gamesmanship aside and fully fund Veterans Affairs.

Madam Chair, I do not recall ever voting against a VA funding bill. Unfortunately, as currently written I cannot vote for this bill and call on my colleagues to demand that the VA be fully funded.

The current funding shortfall for our veterans and military construction, which have always been supported by Democrats and Republicans, further highlights the pressing need for Congress to end the sequestration cuts. We simply cannot continue suffocating essential programs that support our servicemembers and veterans protect working families and our most vulnerable.