

local team supervisor, service as a Boy Scout Troop Leader and devoting 8 years as as a DEC Team Leader for Brush Up Buffalo.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor and recognize Mr. Martin Doster. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Doster on an accomplished career, and to commend him for the exemplary work he has done to enrich the communities and protect the environment of Western New York.

**NATIONAL SYRINGOMYELIA AWARENESS MONTH**

**HON. ROGER WILLIAMS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize May as National Syringomyelia Awareness Month, with the hope that increased awareness of this disorder will bring a cure.

Syringomyelia, often referred to as SM, is a progressive disease of the spinal cord and has no known cure. Over 40,000 Americans are affected by SM and those individuals can suffer from chronic pain and even paralysis. It is imperative that we educate the public and provide resources to the medical community in order to find a cure for this disease.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me not just today but every day in helping to raise awareness to Syringomyelia.

**INTRODUCING THE ENDING CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IN SCHOOLS ACT OF 2015**

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to end the use of corporal punishment in our nation's schools.

Corporal punishment is a form of physical punishment where someone deliberately inflicts pain on another individual in order to punish them. In schools, it includes the spanking or paddling of children by school officials.

While corporal punishment in schools has its place in our nation's history, it must be banned immediately. Not only is there no conclusive evidence that it is actually beneficial in modifying disruptive behavior, but it is disproportionately used as a form of punishment for African American students and children with disabilities. These punishments can result in physical as well as emotional harm to children.

Schools are supposed to be safe places where students are protected from harm. They are intended to nurture children as they grow and develop. However, 19 states still allow corporal punishments in school. Last year, the Children's Defense Fund (CDF) reported that, on average, 838 children were hit each day in public school, based on a 180-day school year. This equates to just over 150,500 instances of corporal punishment per year. This statistic is astonishing considering the fact that 31 states have already banned corporal punishment in schools.

This bill would prohibit any educational institution from receiving federal funding that allows school personnel to inflict corporal punishment on students and creates grants to encourage climate and culture improvements in schools which promote positive behaviors.

Mr. Speaker, corporal punishment is not proven as an effective means of disciplining children or modifying disruptive behavior. School should be a safe space for children to learn, grow, and develop, not live in fear of those who have been charged with their academics. I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

**UNVEILING THE SOUTHBURY SENIOR CENTER WALL OF HONOR**

**HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the unveiling of the Wall of Honor at the Southbury Senior Center.

Today, we recognize the senior citizens from Southbury who proudly served our country in uniform. These men and women answered the call of duty to protect our nation and defend its ideals. They served during war and during peace, at home and abroad. No matter their deployment or their mission, each of our veterans deserves the recognition and accolades they will receive during today's ceremony.

While we can never fully repay our veterans for their service and sacrifice, I believe it is important to take every opportunity to thank and honor them. I hope when the wall is revealed, each veteran will feel the appreciation and gratitude of our community and the entire nation.

I would like to thank Wayne Rioux, Amanda Hadgraft, the staff and volunteers at Southbury Senior Center for creating this memorial to recognize these local American heroes.

**OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT**

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 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 \$18,152,487,619,906.99. We've added \$7,525,610,570,993.91 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.

HONORING THE LUFKIN HIGH SCHOOL PANTHERS, 2015 CLASS 5A STATE SOCCER CHAMPIONS

**HON. LOUIE GOHMERT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, state championship titles are always an extraordinarily exciting accomplishment for athletes. But when that state championship is unprecedented, it takes on a new dimension.

It is truly an honor to acknowledge the outstanding achievement of the history-making Lufkin High School Panthers soccer team. The Panthers completed their most impressive season yet by claiming the title of 2015 Class 5A State Soccer Champions, a victory which is also the first state soccer title claimed by a northeast Texas school of its size.

After an unsteady start to their season with two back to back losses, the Panthers immediately recognized the challenging road ominously lying ahead of them. With renewed focus and zeal, the Panthers recovered from those losses and overcame stiff competition from their fellow east Texans to become the district champions. Due to their hard work and dedication, the Panthers then entered the playoffs with an exceptional win-streak of nineteen matches.

Lufkin's first playoff match was to be a challenge for the team when the game lasted for nearly an hour before a goal was scored. The Panthers battled on to keep the score at 1-0, winning the game and advancing to the next round of the playoffs. Five hard-fought victories followed, and the Panthers then advanced to the championship game against Georgetown's undefeated East View High School. Even though the championship was played on East View's home field, the Panthers were undeterred due to the fact that they had never lost a game away from home. Dedicated fans from the "Panther Nation" arrived in exuberant force, driving the long distance to cheer on their home team.

The team's skill and fans' encouragement were the necessary ingredients in the final match. Time and again the Panthers' defense was tested, and their offense was held back. This did not last, however, and the Panthers were finally able to overcome East View's defenses and score. When the game was over, the score stood as testament to the Panthers' dogged determination coupled with their tantalizing talent. The final score was Lufkin 3 and East View 1. The Lufkin Panthers had won the state championship.

Congratulations should be extended to team members Terry Mark, Sammy Villegas, Rodrigo Vargas, Cristian Julian, Cesar Camacho, Jesus Cisneros, Bradley Slusher, Alexis Roque, Omar Zamarripa, Javy Montes, Kacy Bennett, Javier Patlan, Chris Marquez, Dorian Bravo, Cristian Pineda, Luis Lopez, Jake Williams, Joel Rodriguez, Gustavo Garcia, Ivan Hernandez, Omar Roque, and Miguel Gonzales.

The staff and faculty who led and inspired the Panthers to victory consists of Lufkin High School Principal Mark Smith, Lufkin ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya Goffney, Head Coach Russell Shaw, Assistant Coach David McPherson, Assistant Coach Eliazar Caldera, Trainer Forrest Bridges, Trainer Sarah Hartman, Student Trainer Edgar Medellin, Student

Manager Coltone Radke, and Student Manager Jessie Santoyo.

It is a privilege to highlight this landmark achievement of East Texas' own Lufkin High School Panthers soccer team. The Panthers not only made history by capturing the title of 2015 Class 5A State Soccer Champions, but they brought Panther pride to their team, their school, the Lufkin community, the First Congressional District of Texas, and the entire State of Texas. The Lufkin Panthers' story of commitment and success is now recorded in the United States CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, which will endure as long as there is a United States of America.

HONORING THE CENTER FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Center for Victims of Torture (CVT), torture survivors and CVT staff and volunteers on the occasion of the organization's 30th anniversary. Since its inception in 1985, CVT has become a global leader in treating victims of torture here in the U.S. and around the world. CVT has provided life-saving mental health services and rehabilitative treatment to thousands of torture survivors from the Bosnian War in Sarajevo in Eastern Europe to the Continent of Africa from Liberia to Sierra Leone.

CVT represents the best of the United States to our planet's most vulnerable citizens, and is one of only three healing treatment centers in the world. The professionals who care for torture survivors represent hope and dignity for thousands of people from more than 60 countries around the globe.

In 1985, CVT set forth on a mission to extend interdisciplinary care to torture survivors in Minnesota, and over the years expanded those services to countries around the world, with healing centers today in Ethiopia, Jordan, Kenya and Uganda. The work has grown to include training professionals in the United States and international locations in the specialized rehabilitation skills needed for people suffering the post-traumatic effects of torture, and also to advocating for human rights and put an end to torture practices.

For the past three decades, CVT has helped more than 30,000 survivors reclaim their lives. Through combined direct services, capacity building and policy advocacy work, CVT has touched the lives of more than 50,000 survivors and approximately 100,000 of their family members.

CVT was instrumental in helping Congress to pass the original Torture Victims Relief Act in 1998, which authorizes federal funding for torture survivor rehabilitation programs in the U.S. and abroad.

Mr. Speaker, on May 14, 2015, the Center for Victims of Torture commemorates 30 years of helping torture survivors rebuild their lives and restore their hope. It is a great honor to work with CVT and its dedicated staff and volunteers. Please join me in paying tribute to the Center for Victims of Torture and its distinguished commitment to providing healing and hope to those who most need it.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF HARKER HEIGHTS COUNCILMAN SAM MURPHY

**HON. JOHN R. CARTER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the career of Harker Heights Councilman Sam Murphy who will retire on May 12, 2015. Sam's extraordinary commitment to community service reflects the best values of Central Texas.

Sam thrived in a 22-year career in the U.S. Army where he took on assignments in the United States, Europe, Korea, and Vietnam. During his prestigious military career, he graduated from Airborne and Ranger schools, had a teaching assignment in the Gunnery Department of the U.S. Army Field Artillery School, graduated from the U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College, and had an assignment at the U.S. Air Force Academy as the Air Officer Commanding of Cadet Squadron 29. He retired from the Army at Fort Hood, Texas on October 1, 1989.

Sam continued his public service by joining the office of former Representative Chet Edwards. He proved to be a leader and voice of the people as he represented servicemen and veterans in then District 11. During his time as Rep. Edwards' liaison to military and veteran communities, Sam's personal military history proved to be an invaluable asset when serving those who have sacrificed so much to preserve our freedoms. Sam retired on March 31, 2007 after working for U.S. Rep. Edwards for 16 years.

With his established community service and his proven leadership skills, Sam successfully ran for Harker Heights City Council. He continued to serve and better his community every day. Throughout his time on the Council, Sam made a positive impact on his beloved hometown and for that we are forever grateful.

Sam's service doesn't stop when the work day is over. He is active in local community affairs including serving as Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Heart O' Texas Federal Credit Union, teaching federal and state government at Central Texas College's Fort Hood Campus, co-founding the Harker Heights Economic Development Corporation and co-founding the Leadership Belton program. His military background and experience prepared him for being president of the Central Texas—Fort Hood Chapter of the Association of the United States Army.

Retirement is to be celebrated and enjoyed. It is not the end of a career, but rather the beginning of a new adventure. I commend Sam Murphy for his hard work and dedication to his community. I wish Sam, his wife Peggy, and their children and grandchildren only the best in the years ahead.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CARROLLTON-FARMERS BRANCH CYCLONES SPECIAL OLYMPICS TEAM

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the 25th Anniversary of the Carrollton-Farmers Branch Cyclones Special Olympics Team founded in 1990 by Julia Scott and Patrick Noonan. The non-profit organization will be celebrating this landmark achievement at a special May 15, 2015 appreciation dinner to honor the founders.

The Cyclones are a chartered Special Olympics Texas team serving the needs of adults and children with intellectual disabilities. The organization provides them with year-round sports training and athletic competition in a wide variety of sports. Some of the sporting events that the Cyclones participate in include bowling, basketball, aquatics, track & field, bocce ball, and flag football.

Since the founding of the Cyclones in 1990, the organization has functioned as an all-volunteer group committed to providing services to hundreds of athletes with intellectual disabilities. Additionally, the non-profit organization regularly raises all the funds needed to support the training, travel, and competition costs of their athletes through a bowling event and a gala.

The Cyclones have been tremendously successful in their endeavors, with Carrollton-Farmers Branch athletes competing with success at both regional and state levels.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating the Carrollton-Farmers Branch Cyclones Special Olympics Team on their successes and in celebrating their 25th Anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO JESSICA MARSHALL

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Jessica Marshall upon winning the Congressional Art Competition in the 3rd District of Iowa. Jessica, a junior at Griswold High School, is the daughter of Michael and Tracy Marshall of Lewis, Iowa.

The Congressional Art Competition, "An Artistic Discovery," is open to high school students nationwide. Since 1982, the competition has been an opportunity for Members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. One winner is selected by a panel of 16 judges, one from each county in Iowa's 3rd District.

Jessica's piece, "Word Art: The Young Child," was named the winner out of over 75 entries. It is a unique and moving graphite pencil drawing of a young boy drawn entirely of words. Jessica's creativity and dedication to her craft is admirable. The example set by this young woman demonstrates the rewards of harnessing one's talents and sharing them