

Beau was a gifted lawyer who was twice elected attorney general in the state of Delaware and served his country in the National Guard in Iraq. But more than that, he was a devoted son, a loving husband, and a caring father.

JOE and his boys lived through great personal tragedy with the loss of his wife, Neilia, and daughter, Naomi. They have an unbreakable bond. And they, along with the rest of the family, have found the greatest joy in spending time together. No one who has come in contact with the Biden family can miss the deep love and devotion they have for one another.

I had the privilege of getting to know Beau better during the Obama-Biden reelection campaign. We were together on several occasions, including in the immediate aftermath of the Biden-Ryan debate. A very proud son was beaming about his dad's stellar performance. In that moment, you could see Beau's competitive spirit fuse with his devotion to his dad.

I extend my deepest sympathies to my friends JOE and Jill, to Beau's wife, Hallie, and their two children, his siblings, Hunter and Ashley, and the entire Biden family. I hope that they can take comfort in the love they share and the knowledge that they do not walk alone in their grief. We have lost Beau far too soon, but his memory lives on until we meet again.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. PENNY REDDELL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Penny Reddell upon her retirement after 38 years of exemplary public service. She earned her first of many degrees at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches. From there, she went onto the University of Texas at Tyler to obtain her master's degree before finally earning her doctorate from Baylor University.

Dr. Reddell began her education career as a teacher and has capably served in multiple capacities including diagnostician, assistant principal, principal, gifted and talented program consultant, and adjunct college professor. She is retiring from Lewisville ISD as the Associate Superintendent for Learning and Teaching, a position she has held for the last six years. Her areas of responsibilities have included: Strategic Design implementation, Curriculum and Instruction, Special Education, Early Childhood, Literacy Intervention, Program Evaluation, District Grant Writing, Gifted and Talented, Advanced Academics, Assessment and Accountability and Federal Programs, ESL, Dual Language, Bilingual, and World Languages. Dr. Reddell's leadership has had a positive and profound impact on all the programs that she has overseen.

As Dr. Reddell retires, her commitment and hard work on behalf of the students and faculty of Lewisville ISD will be greatly missed. After almost four decades as an educator and administrator, Dr. Reddell retires as a professional beloved by her colleagues and leaves an indelible mark to be emulated. It is a privilege to honor such an esteemed constituent in the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING ANDREW MCLEAN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew McLean. Andrew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 362, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Andrew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Andrew has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Andrew has earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and became a Brotherhood Member in the Order of the Arrow. Andrew has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Andrew completed a garden around a statue of Mary at Little Sisters of the Poor, an elder care facility in Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Andrew McLean for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING CHABAD JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF PLACER COUNTY

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Chabad Jewish Community Center of Placer County on the momentous occasion of completing its Community Torah.

Led by Rabbi Yossi Korik, Chabad Jewish Community Center opened in 2005 to educate and support the local Jewish community and inspire people from all walks of life.

As part of this effort, the Chabad of Placer County commissioned a professional scribe in Israel to write a Torah scroll in the traditional method, which dates back thousands of years.

The Torah contains the Five Books of Moses and is the most precious article in Jewish life. Its guidance provides a strong foundation for morals in today's global society.

In October of 2014, members of the Jewish community gathered with rabbis and public leaders in Placer County to witness the first letters of the Torah being inscribed. This weekend, many months after the project's inception, the same community will once again gather—this time to celebrate the scroll's completion.

This tremendous accomplishment will be celebrated on Sunday, June 14, 2015, with a festive parade. The Torah will travel down Douglas Boulevard under a Chuppah, led by a local marching band.

Mr. Speaker, George Washington stated in his Farewell Address: "of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports." We are fortunate to have the Chabad

Jewish Community Center as a pillar of religious and moral teachings in the Fourth Congressional District of California, and I am honored to share in this occasion.

I thank members of Chabad for their continued positive impact on the Placer County community, and I am proud to stand with them in celebration.

RECOGNIZING LISA PURCELL FOR HER OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO THE BUFFALO COMMUNITY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize and honor Mrs. Lisa Purcell for her work in the Buffalo community. Mrs. Purcell has dedicated her time to aiding various charity organizations in the Buffalo area.

As the founder of the Ryan Purcell Foundation, Mrs. Purcell has organized the annual Purcell Memorial 5K race. The Foundation is dedicated to her son Ryan Purcell who was killed in a hit and run accident in October of 2011. The Foundation is committed to honoring the life and memory of Ryan Purcell and raises funds to give to scholarships to high school students in the Buffalo area.

Mrs. Purcell has also been a large supporter of the Mount Mercy Academy 5K race as well as their scholarship program. Mount Mercy Academy has been educating the young women of Western New York for over 110 years. Their Alumnae have grown to over 10,000 members, 70% of whom still live and work in Western New York. Mrs. Purcell is married to Dr. Peter Purcell D.D.S. and has five children as well as three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor and recognize Mrs. Lisa Purcell. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Mrs. Purcell on an accomplished history of giving to charitable organizations, and to commend her for the exemplary work she has done to enrich the communities of Western New York.

CONNECTING HOUSTON AND TAIPEI

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a new connection between Taipei, Taiwan and Houston, Texas. Beginning on June 19th, 2015 a new direct flight will connect these cities and allow Houstonians to travel to Taiwan and Asia more easily. This new opportunity will also promote business and tourism, which means economic benefits for both Texas and Taiwan.

The United States and Taiwan already enjoy a robust economic partnership. Taiwan is our 10th largest trading partner. Our bilateral trade amounts to more than \$67 billion in 2014. I am confident this important relationship will continue to thrive and will continue to support our close friend and ally.

REUNIFICATION OF CYPRUS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Cyprus has made great strides in the past decade. It turns out that, just like the United States, Cyprus has a lot of natural gas. Let's hope they don't have as much bureaucracy to get through to export their gas as we do. But the country is held back because it is still divided by a foreign power. Turkey still has 30,000 troops in Cyprus. Erdogan thinks he is still in control. The beauty of democratic elections is that you can see what the people really want.

And faced with the choice between a candidate that wanted to keep Cyprus divided and one that wanted to reunify Cyprus, Turkish Cypriots chose reunification.

It is encouraging to hear that negotiations between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots are getting back on track. You know, I was a judge in my former life. I dealt a lot with one word: justice. And as a judge I would never have allowed the kind of bullying that is seen by Turkey. The Turkish Cypriots should be able to negotiate on their own behalf. If they want peace, they should be able to get it. They don't need another foreign country like Turkey telling them what they can and cannot agree to. They do not want to be dependent on Turkey. They want to enjoy the economic freedom of the EU.

Reunification will require a lot of work, but ultimately it will only happen if the two sides talk to each other. This time next year I hope we can come together to celebrate the reunification of Cyprus and the end of over 40 years of Turkish occupation.

And that's just the way it is.

H.R. 1493, THE PROTECT AND PRESERVE INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL PROPERTY ACT

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to submit the thoughts of my friend, Matthew Polk, regarding the consideration of H.R. 1493, the Protect and Preserve International Cultural Property Act. Matthew Polk is deeply involved in the preservation of cultural heritage and I believe his comments are both insightful and valuable to the ongoing effort to preserve the cultural heritage of civilizations around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I first wish to thank Congressman Issa for his interest in this matter and the opportunity to provide a statement for the Congressional Record.

With regard to H.R. 1493, I applaud this bipartisan effort to protect Syrian cultural property as well as to coordinate our Government's enforcement efforts to protect international cultural property. I also applaud Mr. Chabot's and Mr. Engel's understanding that this bill is not meant to target the lawful trade in Syrian or other cultural goods and that it only authorizes import restrictions on artifacts illegally removed from Syria after the start of its civil war. Nonetheless, it must be emphasized that the

burden remains on the Government to prove that the artifact in question is illicit. While protecting Syrian cultural artifacts from looting is important, it is also important that we stay true to our own values. Our tradition of due process requires that the Government meet its burden of proof before private property may be seized or forfeited. This legislation does not change the burden placed on the Government under the Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act. Here, as under the CPIA, the Government must establish: (1) the item is of a type that appears on the designated list of Syrian artifacts that will be created; (2) the item was "first discovered" in Syria and is subject to Syrian export control; and (3) the item was illegally removed from Syria after the effective date of the restrictions, which in this case is March 15, 2011. The fact that an object's "country of origin" or manufacture may be "Syria" cannot constitute the sole basis for its seizure and forfeiture under either this legislation or the CPIA.

Sincerely,

MATTHEW S. POLK, JR.,
Board Member—The
Committee for Cul-
tural Property,
Former Trustee—The
Baltimore Museum
of Art, Member—The
Museum Trustees
Association, Mem-
ber—The Walters
Art Museum Collec-
tions Committee,
President—Historic
Textile Research
Foundation.

RECOGNIZING SOUTH KOREAN PRESIDENT PARK GEUN-HYE AND U.S.-KOREAN ALLIANCE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am disheartened to hear that South Korean President Park Geun-Hye's visit to Washington, D.C. was postponed due to the growing threat of the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (MERS) outbreak in the Republic of Korea. I know this is a very difficult time for the South Korean people and would like to send my deepest sympathy to the victims of this deadly virus. I express my utmost confidence in President Park's ability to lead the people of her beautiful country out of this crisis.

As always, the success and future of the Peninsula remain a priority for me. As a Korean War veteran, I have a very personal tie to Korea and its people. Since returning home from my service in the Korean War over six decades ago, I have proudly witnessed South Korea's rise as a war-torn nation to becoming an international giant, which is a testament to the resilience and industriousness of the Korean people. All across America, Koreans have inspired us with their entrepreneurialism and perseverance toward strengthening the fabric of our nation.

I commend President Park and Ambassador Ahn Ho-Young for further strengthening U.S.-Korean ties. As you know, the relationship between our country and the Republic of Korea is deeply rooted in our unbreakable bloodshed

alliance. As we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Korea from Imperial Japan, I will continue working to help promote peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula—in hopes that the two Koreas will be reunified in my lifetime.

RETIREMENT OF DR. JAMES HADLEY BILLINGTON

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary leadership of Dr. James Hadley Billington, the 13th Librarian of Congress and renowned scholar of Russia. Following 28 years of tireless service, Dr. Billington announced that he will be retiring from his post as the Librarian of Congress. During his tenure, Dr. Billington made significant contributions by providing visionary leadership as he ushered the Library of Congress into the digital age.

Since being unanimously confirmed by the Senate in 1987, Dr. Billington has overseen the expansion of the Library's collection size. It has roughly doubled, from 85.5 million items in 1987 to more than 160 million items today. Dr. Billington dedicated much of his efforts to ensuring that our nations historic items and collections be made readily available to the American public. In his early years, at the dawn of the internet age, he worked to facilitate an innovative program for the Library of Congress known as the National Digital Library (NDL) Program, which ensured that American historical and cultural information was available online. As a result of his efforts, projects such as the NDL, Congress.gov, and numerous pieces of information from the U.S. Copyright Office have become frequently used in K-12 education systems across America.

In addition to efforts ensuring the spread of the richly diverse history of the United States, Dr. Billington is also responsible for the development of the World Digital Library. A project similar to the NDL, the World Digital Library compiles cultural materials from the 193 countries listed in the UNESCO into one database for public access. I can say without question that throughout his decades of service, Dr. Billington has been firmly dedicated to the spread of information.

Dr. Billington has been an outstanding leader and educator to both our nation and the world. I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors. I have no doubt that his contributions to our global society will have a significant impact on scholastic achievement for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the service and sacrifice of Dr. James Hadley Billington.

COBDEN HIGH SCHOOL CAPTURES STATE BASEBALL TITLE

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to Cobden High School for capturing the Illinois