

During his career, Assistant Attorney Duncan has played an active role in the community through his board and chair memberships of several organizations and commissions, such as: the United Cerebral Palsy Association, the Onondaga County Criminal Justice Advisory Board, the City of Syracuse and County of Onondaga Drug and Alcohol Abuse Commission, the Onondaga County Youth Court Advisory Board, and the Town of Dewitt Police Commission.

Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney John Duncan has gone well beyond the call of duty while serving and protecting the 24th district. I wish Mr. Duncan well in his retirement and would like to thank him for his years of hard work, dedication, and service to our community.

IN MEMORY OF CHARLES RYLAND REVERE

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reflect on the life of Charles Ryland Revere, known by most as "Charlie," a native son and lifelong resident of Middlesex County in Virginia's First District. It was a privilege to be among the hundreds upon hundreds of admiring friends who joined Charlie's family in celebrating his life on June 7, 2015, in what many congregants noted to be perhaps the largest funeral gathering in the history of Lower United Methodist Church, a sanctuary that has stood across four centuries in Hartfield. As Charlie's eulogist noted, his lifelong contributions to his family, his community, and his beloved church were "incalculable." Another of Charlie's grateful friends observed, "Charlie's passion for life and his Christian compassion for others were beyond measure." Charlie's dedication to humbly serving, uplifting, and caring for others took many forms—Army officer, county supervisor, hospital board chair, youth league booster, free health clinic advocate, volunteer firefighter, bank board member, farmer, employer, and church leader, to name a few. His commitment to the professional men and women of Revere Gas touched thousands of families over the more than 50 years of operation. Charlie did not allow tragedy or any adversity to deter his loving embrace of life and all those who were blessed to know him. As a person of extraordinary humor yet humility, Charlie was never concerned with accolades or recognition. His life certainly reflected a notion often associated with Presidents Reagan and Truman—that there is no limit to what can be accomplished and the good that can be done when we don't worry about who gets the credit. We in the First District will miss him dearly but we will long note and take heart from his selfless devotion to his community, his country, his family, and his faith. I submit the text of an article from the Southside Sentinel that gives a small glimpse of the impact of the lives of Charlie and his remarkable wife, Sally Gayle. [From the Southside Sentinel, Apr. 18, 2012]

"FRIENDS TO THE COMMUNITY"

(By Tom Chillemmi)

HARTFIELD.—Many stories were told about Charles and Sally Gayle Revere of Hartfield

during last Saturday's 14th annual Pride of Middlesex award banquet. Most involved good-natured ribbing. Sprinkled among the humor were heartfelt affirmations of a grateful community.

Sallie Belle Benedetti, a longtime friend, shared memories of their college years at the University of Richmond, where Charles and Sally Gayle met.

On a serious note, Benedetti said, "You've shared your time and talent so unselfishly. You have touched us in so many ways and we are better for knowing you."

Benedetti closed with a quote she said describes the Reveres so well. "The real purpose of our existence is not to make a living, but to make a life... a worthy well-rounded useful and loving life. If anyone has done that well, I think Sally Gayle and Charlie have."

Johnny Fleet of Hartfield, who grew up with Charles, told several stories. However, he also had this to say. "The word 'generous' comes to mind when I think about Charlie and Sally... generous, not just in monetary things. In today's world, generosity is better judged by the time spent and time given. And it truly applies to them. I don't know how they keep up. They are absolutely tireless in their efforts and the time they spend with their family and this community for all the things they are involved in."

Fleet made a point of noting Sally Gayle's many acts of kindness. "She has made more visits, sent more cards, sent more birthday acknowledgments, sent more get-well cards and more food than anyone I can imagine."

The Reveres are "friends to the community," said Fleet.

In selecting the Reveres, the Middlesex Rotary Club "brought the cream to the top," said Jimmy Pitts of Urbanna. "No two better people could have been picked for what they've done for the county of Middlesex and all of us in it. We thank you so much." Charles Bristow of Urbanna said, "I don't know of anyone else that is more deserving."

The Pride of Middlesex (POM) award is given annually to recognize and honor individuals or groups that exemplify the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self."

In accepting the award, Charles said, "It's very humbling to be recognized by your peers. It's an honor and we do appreciate this more than you know."

Charles said his family is thankful to live in Middlesex where there is a true sense of community. "This county has some very kind people. They are very, very generous when there is a need, and they all have the best interests of the county and the community."

Sally Gayle thanked all those involved in the event. "We're very humbled to receive this honor. Thank you so much."

Charles also recognized the 37-year career of Reverend Chauncey Mann, Jr., who recently retired as pastor of Grafton Baptist Church. Rev. Mann, a Rotarian, was the emcee of the banquet, which was held in the Hartfield Firehouse pavilion.

"Chauncey is someone I admire," said Charles. "He's always been a great friend, he's always been community minded, he always puts the best interest of the county forward, and he's worked tirelessly for the county. He's just been a model citizen for our county. We are going to miss you."

The Reveres selected two organizations to receive a charitable donation from the proceeds of the Pride of Middlesex award banquet. Donations will be given to the Grafton Baptist Church's after-school program and the Northern Neck Free Health Clinic, which also serves Middlesex County.

BACKGROUND

Charles Revere, a native of Middlesex, graduated from Middlesex High School. He

attended the University of Richmond where he met and married Sally Gayle Shepherd. Sally Gayle grew up in Lynchburg and is a graduate of E.C. Glass High School. She attended Westhampton College of the University of Richmond, and graduated from Phillips Business College.

After Charles graduated from the University of Richmond and completed infantry training in the U.S. Army, the couple moved to Fort Ord, California, until Charles completed his two-year military obligation. Charles elected to participate in the National Guard program for four years after which he was discharged as a captain.

Upon returning to Middlesex, Charles joined Revere Gas, a business his father started as Middlesex Bottled Gas in 1942 by delivering bottled gas from Richmond to a few Middlesex customers. Today, Revere Gas serves customers in 17 counties from six locations. Revere Gas is a family business. Sally Gayle is the firm's secretary/treasurer and for many years she handled the payroll. Both of the Reveres' sons, Craig and Carlton, work for the company.

In 1999–2000, Charles was president of the National Propane Gas Association. During the same period, Sally Gayle was chairman of the Scholarship Foundation of the National Propane Gas Association. Charles has continued the family interest and service to the Hartfield Volunteer Fire Department. His father was one of the five original founders.

Charles was a member of the Middlesex Board of Supervisors from 1980 to 1988. He is a past president of Middlesex Lions Club, and is currently a director on the boards of EVB Bank, Riverside Health System, Riverside Tappahannock Hospital (chairman), and the Northern Neck Free Health Clinic.

Sally Gayle's past services include: president/chair of American Cancer Society (Middlesex); chair of the first Middlesex Relay for Life; president of Middlesex Junior Woman's Club; volunteer work with the Middlesex YMCA (Middlesex Capital Campaign); RGH Hospital volunteer; president of the Middle Peninsula Community Concert Association; chair of the first county rescue squad drive; and a volunteer at the Northern Neck Free Health Clinic and with Red Cross Bloodmobiles.

Charles and Sally Gayle have and continue to serve and support Lower United Methodist Church in many capacities.

Previous POM recipients have included the following notable county residents and organizations: Louise Gray, Sherman Holmes, Ruth Barr, Middlesex Volunteer Fire Department, Middlesex Volunteer Rescue Squad, Joe Fears, Jack Fackler, Tom Hardin, Charles Bristow, Dave and Linda Cryer, sisters Rachel Norris Bridger and Ruby Lee Norris, and Aubrey and Margie Hall.

POLICY INITIATIVE ON IRAN: BREAKING THE STALEMATE, ENGAGING WITH THE IRANIAN OPPOSITION

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, with a long history of serving the American people and the U.S. national interest, we stand together today to call for a new approach in our country's policy toward Iran and the Iranian opposition.

Ours is an independent initiative, motivated by our concerns for United States national security, as well as justice and opportunity for

millions of Arab and Persian citizens whose futures are being shaped by current events, and the unending suffering of the Iranian people, who have been deprived of their most fundamental rights for over 35 years under the tyrannical regime ruling Iran.

We are also concerned about the safety and security of the approximately 2,500 Iranian opposition members trapped in Camp Liberty in Iraq, whom our government, through its military, has pledged in writing to protect. Their safety while being processed for onward relocation by the United Nations remains a moral obligation for the United States, arising not only from our written guarantee but also from the valuable help and intelligence—including information about Iran's nuclear program—provided by these opposition members. Our country's failure to uphold its solemn promises to these defenseless men and women is inexcusable, and is a by-product of our government's misreading of the Iranian regime's intentions.

We are united in our understanding of the nature of the regime in Iran, a subject about which many of our colleagues in Washington seem uncertain. While we share the goal of seeking an end to Iran's nuclear weapons activities through diplomacy if such an outcome can be negotiated, we believe it is a mistake for Iran's actions in Syria, Iraq, Yemen and elsewhere to be overlooked, minimized, excused or even welcomed. We also believe it will better serve our country's interests to pay closer attention to the human rights and aspirations of the Iranian people.

Today we call for an end to the misguided position of those in Washington who seek to isolate, exclude or otherwise ignore Iran's largest, most established and best organized political opposition, the National Council of Resistance of Iran, led by Mrs. Maryam Rajavi. In recent years we have come to know Mrs. Rajavi and the NCRI, and we know the resistance far better than many in Washington who believe that the NCRI should be kept at arm's length for one reason or another.

We call as well for immediate pressure by our government on the government of Iraq, which depends on United States military and financial aid, to end the systematic torment of the MEK members still in Iraq that has thus far resulted in 142 deaths (101 outright murdered, 15 victims of rocket attacks, and 26 denied access to proper medical treatment) and the ongoing denial of livable health, sanitary and nutrition conditions. This cessation of harassment should be followed immediately by their physical removal from Iraq to countries in which Iranian opposition members are already leading productive lives, including the United States.

Mrs. Rajavi's steadfast message, to political and religious leaders around the world over a period of many years, is a 10-point plan for the future of Iran that would resolve Iran's most dangerous and destabilizing challenges. The plan would restore political legitimacy through universal suffrage, guarantee rights for all citizens and particularly women and minorities, end the cruel excesses of the judiciary and establish the rule of law, end the nightmare of fundamentalist Islamic dictatorship by once again separating church and state, protect property rights, promote equal opportunity and environmental protections, and—last but certainly not least—seek a non-nuclear Iran, free of weapons of mass destruc-

tion. The idea that Washington should continue in 2015 to disregard a worldwide group of Iranians promoting such a platform is indefensible. The United States should be maintaining a vibrant and constant dialogue with the National Council of Resistance of Iran.

It is by now beyond dispute that the regime in Tehran is fomenting instability and conflict throughout the region, most notably in Syria, Lebanon, Yemen and Iraq. Its campaign to undermine stability was launched because the regime sought to enhance its influence throughout the region and because it feared the emergence of more open political systems in nearby countries that could revive the democratic forces behind the Persian Spring of 2009. Iran shares responsibility for the rise of ISIS; this phenomenon was cynically facilitated by Syrian dictator Bashar al Assad and then-Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki in Iraq to divert the focus from their own divisive sectarian actions, supported by Iran, about which we have repeatedly warned in previous years.

Iran's regime has sustained a leader in Damascus guilty of major war crimes against his own people and in defiance of a Presidential "red line," a UN-brokered transition process and the united stance of Arab League governments insisting on his departure. It has supplied military-grade weapons to Hezbollah, a Lebanese non-state actor with the blood of American diplomats and Marines on its hands. It has supported and led sectarian militias in Iraq assaulting Sunni villages and towns. It has provided long-range rockets to Hamas in Gaza to be aimed at population centers in Israel, destabilizing efforts at a negotiated two-state solution. And it has supplied arms, explosives, and funds to an insurgent group in Yemen that has driven out foreign Embassies, including our own, seized power and provoked a new regional military conflict.

In all of these actions, while the U.S. Administration has exercised restraint in the apparent hope of moderating Iran's behavior, Iran's leaders have shown nothing but contempt for longstanding American, European, and Arab interests throughout the Middle East. They have also clearly demonstrated that money is no object in their efforts to quell popular movements for more open and democratic governance, both domestically and in neighboring Arab countries.

Inside Iran, while many Americans have for years detected signs of moderation, the regime has become, if anything, more repressive since Hassan Rouhani became President in 2013. Imprisonment and executions have increased. Information, including access to the internet, radio, and television, as well as social media, are now substantially controlled by the Revolutionary Guards. The 2013 elections were carefully managed by the regime to avoid a repeat of the open rebellion in the streets in 2009, after which many were executed and more have been imprisoned.

The editors of The Washington Post, writing about its reporter, whom they say is "entirely innocent of the charges" for which he has been imprisoned in Iran since July of 2014, write that this "blatant abuse of the human rights of an American journalist" raises "disturbing questions about a regime that Mr. Obama is counting on to implement a complex and multifaceted accord limiting its nuclear activities." The Post editors ask, "If [Foreign Minister] Zarif and President Hassan Rouhani either countenance or cannot stop such bla-

tantly provocative behavior by the Iranian intelligence services and judiciary, how can they be expected to overcome the entrenched resistance to limiting Iran's uranium enrichment?"

We share these concerns. We also recognize that the fundamentalist regime in Tehran, in violating so many norms of political governance and international behavior since the 1979 revolution, survives not through the ballot box but only by absolute suppression and its false claim to religious authority—a formula which has now been repeated by Sunni extremists attempting to create an Islamic State in Iraq and Syria. No one should misunderstand why the National Council of Resistance of Iran is the single entity feared most by the rulers in Tehran: it is because the MEK and NCRI directly challenge the religious claim of authority that the mullahs have used to exercise and maintain political power.

The ayatollahs' thirty-five-year war against the MEK and the NCRI; the repeated deadly assaults against the residents of Camp Ashraf and Camp Liberty; their intelligence services' covert influence and propaganda campaigns against the Resistance in Western countries; their constant diplomatic requests over the past two decades for the U.S., France, and other governments to place the MEK on their lists of terrorist organizations; their confiscation of satellite dishes and jamming of Iran National TV signals reaching the population inside Iran; their arbitrary arrest, imprisonment, and execution of anyone supporting the Resistance—all these aspects of the regime's obsessive focus on the Resistance are due to one fact.

This is not about terrorism, not about culture, not about the Iran-Iraq War or the aftermath of the 1991 Gulf War. All the propaganda generated by the regime to defame and criminalize the Resistance has now been exposed, and the NCRI has challenged every terrorist listing and won. No, this obsession of the mullahs with the Resistance is about Islam, and the desire of millions of Iranians to exercise their faith while living in a modern society with higher education, and economic and political empowerment for women and men alike. The concept of *Velayat-e-faqih* in the new regime's constitution—forcefully imposed by Ayatollah Khomeini after the fall of the Shah to place total religious and political power in the hands of one man—has been a disaster for the Iranian people, for Iran, and for the world. You will not hear any debate in Washington that ISIS must be stopped; it is high time Americans also recognized that if ISIS succeeds, what the world will get is a Sunni version of Khomeini's Iran.

We recommend the following four initiatives to our government and to presidential candidates and prospective candidates in both parties, aimed at de-escalating conflict throughout the Middle East, in part by recognizing these realities, standing for American principles and basic international norms, and opposing the destructive role of Iran in the region.

First, on the nuclear issue, we support a peaceful solution if it can be achieved through diplomacy. However, we strongly believe that such a solution cannot be achieved by making concessions to Iran but rather by making clear that Iran will be denied any potential opportunity to obtain a nuclear bomb. Iran under the ayatollahs has consistently shown that it cannot be trusted. Verification, not blind trust in

the Iranian government to fulfill conditions of the agreement, must be an unconditional reality. Furthermore, western negotiators must clarify what is meant by Possible Military Dimension (PMD) activities of Iran before a comprehensive deal can be signed.

Second, Iran's destructive role throughout the region must be curbed and deterred. Far from being part of the solution, Iran is a major part of the problem. There should be no direct or indirect cooperation with Iran under the pretext of fighting ISIS. Iran has been a major engine of the spread of Islamic extremism and fundamentalism. It is globally recognized to be the primary state sponsor of terrorism. The success of a long-term stabilization strategy in the region hinges on ending Iran's cynical and destructive meddling in Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Lebanon, and other countries.

Third, we should be more vigilant and vocal about the serious human rights abuses by the regime that continue inside Iran. Our policy on Iran's internal and external transgressions against universal international norms can no longer be held hostage to the nuclear issue. Indeed, our failure to stand for basic principles and rights only encourages the regime to violate them further with impunity. Nuclear negotiations, which many have taken as an indication of moderation within the theocratic regime, must not inadvertently provide it an undeserved veneer of legitimacy and abet its suppression of the Iranian people. During Mr. Rouhani's tenure as President, the human rights situation in Iran has measurably deteriorated, while illicit arms trafficking and support for terrorist non-state actors has continued unabated. A successful policy toward Iran and the Middle East cannot be based on denial of these realities.

Ultimately, the core of our approach is to side with 80 million Iranian people and their desire, along with people everywhere, for freedom and popular sovereignty based on democratic principles. Engaging with the democratic opposition has been the missing piece of U.S. policy for many years under both Republican and Democratic leadership. Thus, as our fourth initiative, we call on our government to break the stalemate and engage in respectful dialogue with the Iranian opposition, consistent with our country's policy of dialogue with all political groups. Whatever the outcome of nuclear negotiations and in virtually any possible scenario, the wishes of the Iranian people and their desire for change must be taken into consideration.

The fact is that Washington officials, experts, and expatriates cannot possibly know what Iranians living under a violently repressive dictatorship truly believe about their circumstances or whom they would support in an open political process. We disrespect a great people by assuming that a democratic and non-nuclear Iran is impossible. It is not impossible; to the contrary, it is the only way to a future of regional stability.

Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, as a Muslim woman advocating a tolerant and democratic interpretation of Islam enabling Muslims to be accepted and respected by all cultures and faiths, represents the very opposite of the misogynous Iranian regime's dictatorial nature and that of all Islamic fundamentalists and extremists. We need to align our policies with our principles, and begin listening to the voices of brave Iranians, many of whom have waited more than three decades, as their

loved ones endured torture and death in the mullahs' prisons, still believing in the promise of America. All of us here today stand with them in solidarity with their deepest aspirations for a respectable, just, and democratic Iranian government worthy of its people.

Hon. J. Kenneth Blackwell—Former U.S. Ambassador, UN Human Rights Commission

Hon. Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Jr.—Former Special Envoy and Asst. Secretary of State

Hon. John Bolton—Former U.S. Ambassador to the UN

Col., U.S. Army (Ret.) Thomas V. Cantwell—Former U.S. Military Commander for Camp Ashraf

Hon. Marc Ginsberg—Former U.S. Ambassador to Morocco

Hon. Rudy Giuliani—Former Mayor of New York City, Presidential Candidate

Hon. Porter Goss—Former Director of CIA, Former Chairman of House Intel Committee

Hon. Newt Gingrich—Former Speaker of the House

Brig. Gen., U.S. Army (Ret.) David D. Phillips—Former U.S. Military Commander for Camp Ashraf

Hon. Mitchell B. Reiss—Former Ambassador, Former Special Envoy to the Northern Ireland Peace Process

Hon. Bill Richardson—Former NM Governor, Secretary of Energy, UN Ambassador, Presidential Candidate

Hon. Glenn Carle—Former Deputy National Intelligence Officer for Transnational Threats, National Intelligence Council

Gen., U.S. Army George Casey—Former Chief of Staff and Commander of Multi-National Forces—Iraq

Hon. Linda Chavez—Former Assistant to the President for Public Liaison, Chairman of the Center for Equal Opportunity

Gen., U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.) James Conway—Former Commandant

Hon. Howard Dean—Former Governor of Vermont, DNC Chairman, Presidential Candidate

Dr. Alan Dershowitz—Professor of Law, Harvard Law School

Lt. Gen., U.S. Air Force (Ret.) David Deptula—Former Deputy Chief of Staff for Intel, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance

Hon. Paula J. Dobriansky—Former Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs

Hon. Louis J. Freeh—Former FBI Director

Gen., U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.) James L. Jones—Former Commandant, NATO Commander, National Security Advisor to the President

Hon. Robert Joseph—Former Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security

Hon. Patrick Kennedy—Former Congressman from Rhode Island

Hon. Joseph I. Lieberman—Former Senator from Connecticut

Col., U.S. Army (Ret.) Wesley M. Martin—Former U.S. Military Commander for Camp Ashraf, Senior Antiterrorism Officer—Iraq

Lt. Col., U.S. Army (Ret.) Leo McCloskey—Former U.S. Military Commander for Camp Ashraf

Hon. R. Bruce McColm—President, Institute for Democratic Strategies

Col., U.S. Army (Ret.) Gary Morsch—Former Senior Medical Officer, Camp Ashraf

Hon. Michael B. Mukasey—Former U.S. Attorney General

Hon. Tom Ridge—Former Governor of Pennsylvania, Secretary Homeland Security

Hon. John Sano—Former Deputy Director, CIA National Clandestine Service

Gen., U.S. Army (Ret.) Hugh Shelton—Former Chairman of U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff

Hon. Eugene R. Sullivan—Retired Federal Judge, Lt. Col., U.S. Army (Ret.)

Hon. Raymond Tanter—Former Personal Representative of Secretary of Defense to Arms Control Negotiations

Hon. Robert Torricelli—Former Senator from New Jersey

Hon. Frances Townsend—Former Homeland Security Advisor to the President

Gen., U.S. Air Force (Ret.) Charles (Chuck) Wald—Former Deputy Commander U.S. European Command

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 615, the Department of Homeland Security Interoperable Communications Act. I want to commend Mr. PAYNE on this momentous day for the hard work he has spent crafting and shaping this bill.

A year ago, when I was Chairman of the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, Mr. PAYNE approached me with concern after learning that DHS has not achieved Department-wide interoperability. He told me that although nationwide over \$13 billion has been invested in achieving interoperable communications at the State and local level, the DHS Office of Inspector General, found that "personnel do not have reliable interoperable communications for daily operations, planned events, and emergencies."

As a former U.S. Attorney, who helped set up Indiana's Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council and Fusion Center, I was astounded by this persistent information gap and pledged to work with the gentleman on producing and moving a bill that puts DHS on the path to achieving interoperability.

The bill before us does this by requiring the Department's Under Secretary for Management to develop a strategy for achieving and maintaining interoperable communications between the DHS components. Moreover, it requires DHS to report to Congress on the progress it is making toward achieving these milestones.

Seamless communication between first responders in the aftermath of a disaster is absolutely vital to coordinating an effective response. As we learned on 9/11, inoperability of first responders' communication systems led to confusion, duplication, and discord that cost some brave men and women their lives. The federal government must take the lead in this effort and develop a system that will allow DHS's own components to effectively communicate both day to day and, most importantly, during emergencies.

After nearly a year and three votes on the House floor, I'm proud of the tenacity and