

the traditional STEM fields. This is what my resolution accomplishes.

Art and design are key parts of the innovative process, and I urge all of my colleagues to keep this in mind as we consider education legislation. In classrooms and laboratories across the country, the innovative nature of art and design play an essential role in improving STEM education and advancing STEM research. In my home State, the Rhode Island School of Design continues to be a leader in this field, and I commend their efforts to unlock our full creative potential.

STEAM is a strategy for investing in job creation and ensuring that we have the best educated and creative college graduates on the planet. It is wonderful to see a growing interest in STEAM, and I hope we can turn this energy into policy changes this Congress.

HONORING THE HARD-WORKING MEN AND WOMEN OF THE OIL FIELDS OF WEST TEXAS

(Mr. CONAWAY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the hard-working men and women of the oil patches of west Texas. I have lived most of my life around those oil fields. I grew up in Odessa, Texas, where my dad was a roughneck. I have seen up close the hard work these good men and women do and the risks they face every day.

These individuals, from wildcatters to roustabouts and roughnecks and company men and women, have led the charge in the American energy revolution. Each has played an integral part in rewriting America's energy story and changing our Nation's course toward energy independence.

We have witnessed the impact of their strong entrepreneurial spirit and innovative technological advances that have grown our economy, created jobs, and bolstered our national security. We depend on their exhaustive and dangerous work to power our homes, pave our roads, fuel our cars, farm our lands, and everything in between that keeps this Nation running.

It is imperative that Congress support energy policies that are as adaptive and innovative as these hard-working men and women. Our policies must cut through bureaucratic red tape to encourage exploration here at home, reduce job-killing regulations, and repeal the antiquated crude oil export ban of a bygone era.

To that end, I am introducing H. Res. 243 that will pledge the House's support to these criteria. I hope my colleagues will join me in this show of support for a hard-working industry.

HONORING JANE PHIPPS FOR 30 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, in April 1985, Jane Phipps began her first job as a receptionist for the office of John Murtha at the age of 19.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jane Phipps for her 30 years of service to the United States House of Representatives. Jane Phipps has seen many historical and great Members move through the House of Congress here and has done a great job serving many Members honorably, but most of the time was spent working for Mr. Murtha for 25 years until he passed. After that, Jane continued her service with Congressman Mark Critz, and then she joined my office in 2013, which was my freshman year.

Jane is known in the office and around the House as someone who is very caring, very committed and passionate about her work, and she loves Maryland and knows so much about the history of the hometown where she is from. She has a great sense of humor and love of her family, including her father, who served honorably in World War II in the Marines.

I would like to take this moment to thank Jane Phipps for 30 years of service to the House and to personally thank her for all of her hard work for so many Members, including myself.

Our office has benefited greatly from her presence.

TOMORROW'S SOUTH DADE

(Mr. CURBELO of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the work being done to rejuvenate the South Dade neighborhoods in Florida's 26th Congressional District. Prepared by more than 300 residents and businesses, the plan entitled "Tomorrow's South Dade" is a community-driven effort to provide a vision for the future of the region over the next several decades.

South Dade has a rich history based in agriculture and military and is home to one of our country's great natural treasures, Everglades National Park. The leaders of Tomorrow's South Dade program have established nine committees to focus on different areas in which to strengthen the economy, including infrastructure, agriculture, and education.

I commend the bold leadership of Homestead Mayor Jeff Porter and Florida City Mayor Otis Wallace, and with the help of Bill Durquette of Homestead Hospital and Bob Epling of Community Bank of Florida, I am confident local government and businesses can work in unison for the betterment of our community.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress to promote Tomorrow's South Dade and ensure future generations have a community they are proud to call home.

REMEMBERING ROCHELLE TATRAI RAY

(Mr. JOLLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my deepest condolences and those of Florida's 13th Congressional District to the family and friends of Rochelle Tatrai Ray. No words can truly convey the loss that has been felt since Rochelle's most tragic passing.

Rochelle was the president and CEO of Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services and had been with the agency for 12 years. She was responsible for managing the organization's 600 employees, working with 60 different programs, covering 32 counties of the State of Florida.

She worked tirelessly to help those with serious physical disabilities and impacted many families around the country as an advocate for children's mental health policies. She frequently spoke around the country to share her passion for the welfare of children.

Rochelle's life was tragically cut short in an abhorrent case of domestic violence last December. Rochelle was just 46 years old. I wish to honor the life of Rochelle, who is survived by her two daughters, Marisa and Selena; her parents, Louis and Gai Linn Tatrai; and her sisters, Dana and Gai Linn. Rochelle will be greatly missed, but her memory will live on through those she has touched and influenced throughout her life.

May God bless Rochelle Tatrai Ray; may God bless her family, and may God bless the family of Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF WILLCOX, ARIZONA

(Ms. MCSALLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the people of Willcox, Arizona, in my district, on their city's upcoming 100 years of incorporation on May 3.

Willcox is rich in history of the Southwest. Incorporated in 1915, the city was founded over 30 years earlier as a construction camp of the Southern Pacific Railroad. The railroad contributed greatly to Willcox's development as one of America's busiest ranching towns. In 1936, Willcox shipped more cattle directly from the range than any other shipping point in the U.S., and ranching is still an important part of that community today.

The city is the birthplace of Rex Allen, known as the Arizona Cowboy, and is home to the Headquarters Saloon, where the youngest of the fabled Earp brothers, Warren, was killed.

Today, the city lies at the heart of the region's blossoming wine industry, where three-quarters of all wine grapes produced in Arizona are grown.

Mr. Speaker, on this historic centennial, I congratulate the people of Willcox on preserving this gem of the Old West and wish them many years of future success.

WE NEED TO DO MORE TO BUILD THE WATER SUPPLY FOR THE WEST

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, this week, we made some important strides on water in the West, especially in the time of drought we have in California.

We need to do much more to build the kind of supply that is necessary to get out of the drought. Unfortunately, the bureaucracy doesn't reward that with slow permit process or even some of the things we had to battle this week, such as deferring more water for fish that isn't even in records of decision or been feasibly shown to be scientifically sound.

At the same time we have to curb the bureaucracy, we have to be positive moving forward with new storage projects, such as Sites Reservoir, such as other obstacles we have in the State of California and throughout the West to address this drought, not just take it to the "church of climate change" and think that is the whole problem.

We are going to have to be proactive, as we have been in previous generations.

□ 1100

FOSTER CARE MONTH

(Ms. BASS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join President Obama in recognizing May as National Foster Care Month.

The goal of this special month is to raise awareness about the experiences of more than 400,000 youth in the foster care system and to recognize the essential work that foster parents, social workers, and advocates have in the lives of children in foster care throughout the United States.

Foster care was created as a temporary placement for children who have been abused or neglected. The act of removing a child, even from an abusive home, is traumatic; yet, even in the face of these challenges, the resiliency of foster youth remains strong.

For example, Maurissa, a young woman who spent most of her high school years in a residential facility in Los Angeles, was able to graduate high school with honors and go on to Oxnard College. It took Maurissa almost 10 years to complete community college. She explains: "I was living on my own and working a minimum of 40 hours per week, and I had to take algebra nine times to pass."

Maurissa struggled to get past her experiences but was able to find some-

one who believed in her. Dr. Adam Grudberg, a faculty member at the residential facility, encouraged her to reach her dreams.

When Dr. Grudberg died at the young age of 30, Maurissa knew she couldn't let him down. She went on to graduate from California State University with her undergraduate degree in psychology and then on to Harvard Graduate School of Education to receive her master's degree in human development and psychology.

In honor of Maurissa's courage and Dr. Grudberg's inspiration, I invite my colleagues to join the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth and cosponsor the bipartisan resolution in recognition of National Foster Care Month.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GUILLERMO OCHOA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HARDY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from California (Mr. DENHAM) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life of a beloved leader in the Ceres community, former Ceres City Councilmember Guillermo Ochoa. The beloved father, son, son-in-law, brother, and uncle died at the age of 54 on Monday, March 2.

Guillermo was born on August 29, 1960. He immigrated to Ceres, California, from Mexico when he was 9 and became an American citizen. He attended school in Ceres at Caswell Elementary School, Mae Hensley Junior High School, and Ceres High School.

After graduating from Ceres High in 1979, Guillermo attended Modesto Junior College and transferred to St. Mary's College of California. He earned a BS in business administration and economics from St. Mary's in 1984.

Over the course of 17 years, Guillermo was employed in an administrative capacity for several employers, including Campbell's Soup, Diamond of California, Yellow Roadway, and ConAgra Foods.

Guillermo became a dedicated public servant in 2005, when he was appointed to the Ceres City Council. He ran for a seat on the city council 2 years later and won, making him the first Latino immigrant to become an elected city councilmember in Ceres.

"Working and succeeding together" was a slogan Guillermo lived by. He demonstrated his dedication to community service through the many committees, boards, and organizations he was a member of.

The list includes the Ceres Chamber of Commerce, the Society for Human Resources Management, the StanCOG Policy Board, the Tuolumne River Regional Park committee, the Mello-Roos joint powers authority board, the City-School Committees, the Ceres Partnership for Healthy Children Committee, the Howard Stevenson Memorial Com-

mittee, the Daniel Whitmore House Preservation Committee, and the Latino Community Roundtable. He also served as president and vice president of the Hispanic Leadership Council during various periods of his life.

He was a true servant to the public and a strong community leader. He motivated Ceres students to actively learn, working diligently with a Modesto group of students in an HLC organization called Hispanic Youth Leadership Council. The council has had a lasting impact on the educational success of students in both communities.

Although he was not reelected again in 2011, a few years later, he achieved his true dream of opening his own business, Garcia's Market, a new grocery store in Empire, California. To this day, Garcia's Market remains a vibrant testament to the economic vitality of the American free enterprise system.

One has to admire men like Guillermo Ochoa, who display consistent dedication to public service. He remained active in the community even after he was unseated from the city council.

Guillermo was once asked what sets him apart. His response was: "My business and professional experience, as well as being a product of two diverse cultures, which helps me understand the issues that face our community as a whole."

Guillermo has set a loving standard of humanity for us all to remember him by. Guillermo leaves behind his wife, Martha Ochoa; a daughter, Kimberly Ochoa; and a son, Christian Ochoa—each of them from Ceres, California.

Also from Ceres, he leaves behind his father, Guillermo Ochoa, Sr.; mother, Maria Ochoa; sister, Luz Ochoa; nephew, Alexis Ochoa; sister, Irma Ochoa; brother-in-law, Rosendo Ruiz; nieces, Kassandra Ruiz and Clarissa Ruiz; and nephew, Angel Ruiz.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and recognizing my very, very good friend for his unwavering leadership and many accomplishments and contributions to our community.

He had a genuine love for the people and community he worked so hard to help. We will have a long memory of him.

I now yield to the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MOONEY).

SYRIAN ATROCITIES

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to lend a voice to the people of Syria, many of whom have been silenced by a cruel and oppressive dictator.

This very moment, 5,500 miles from this Chamber, in the country of Syria, innocent people are suffering under a regime bent on crushing freedom.

I met recently with a group of Syrian Americans in Charleston, West Virginia, my congressional district. Many of them have family members and loved ones in Syria. The stories I heard are alarming.

Syrian dictator Bashar al-Assad is waging an all-out war against his own