

as part of the first class of its Registered Nursing program. Denise got her start on the Medical-Surgical floor and within the first 2 months of receiving her license she was promoted to Charge Nurse and later to Clinical Manager. In 1985, Denise received the Certification for Adult, Pediatric and Neonatal Critical Care Nurses (CCRN), an advanced nursing specialty she still holds today. This past April, she was recognized by the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses for being one of 397 RNs nationwide to hold this certification for over 30 years. During her retirement, she looks forward to volunteering in the Intensive Care Unit at ECRMC.

I would like to commend Sally Denise Thornburg for her 43 years of dedication to ECRMC's staff and for her commitment to expanding and improving medical services in Imperial County.

FARM CREDIT CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 6, 2016

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, as we near the 100th anniversary of the Farm Credit System, I rise today to commend the cooperative owners and the employees of the Farm Credit System for their continuing service in meeting the credit and financial-services needs of rural communities and agriculture.

I was pleased to cosponsor House Resolution 591, commemorating the Farm Credit System's centennial. The Farm Credit System was established by Congress through the Federal Farm Loan Act of 1916, signed into law on July 17, 1916, by President Woodrow Wilson. Congress designed the Farm Credit System as a permanent means to support the well-being and prosperity of the Nation's rural communities and agricultural producers of all types and sizes.

The State of Vermont is served by Yankee Farm Credit, which provides more than \$400 million in loans to more than 1,000 Vermont members, as well as financial-services such as recordkeeping, payroll, income tax preparation, consulting, appraisal, and crop insurance.

Nationwide the Farm Credit System provides more than \$237 billion in loans to more than 500,000 members.

Yankee Farm Credit is involved in the agricultural community throughout Vermont, working with Vermont's Agency of Agriculture and other organizations and agencies such as the Vermont Agricultural Credit Corporation, the University of Vermont Extension Service, and the USDA's Farm Service Agency. Yankee Farm Credit supports youth in agriculture. Yankee Farm Credit together with CoBank has provided more than \$10,000 in grants each to 4-H and FFA in the past three years.

Congress designed the Farm Credit System as a network of cooperatives, independently owned and controlled by its borrowers. The cooperative governance model, whereby directors are accountable to the rest of the membership is an important tenet of the Farm Credit System.

Farm Credit has demonstrated its commitment to its customer owners in Vermont for a century, and we look forward to its continued commitment for the next one hundred years.

IN HONOR OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ANNISTON ARMY DEPOT

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 6, 2016

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the 75th Anniversary of the Anniston Army Depot in Anniston, Alabama. The Depot has a very rich history for its work in defense over the years. It continues to serve as an economic engine for Northeast Alabama.

In March of 1940, the War Department began planning construction of the Depot and by early 1941, construction began. By September, the Depot's workforce was made up of four individuals, but by November of 1942, the workforce number grew to over 4,300 individuals.

In the 1950s, the Depot's mission was to overhaul and repair combat vehicles. By the 1960s, reconditioning for a number of vehicles began.

In August of 1962, the Depot was renamed to its current name today, the Anniston Army Depot, and became an installation under the jurisdiction of the Army Materiel Command. By 1963, maintenance and storage of chemical munitions began.

In the 1970s, new vehicle overhauls began as well as conversions of vehicles and in the 1980s, missile maintenance was added as a new mission.

In August of 1992, the Depot's general supply mission was assumed by the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) and in 1993, the Depot became a forerunner in Public-Private Partnerships.

In the mid-1990s, a chemical stockpile was transferred to the Anniston Chemical Activity under the Chemical and Biological Defense Command.

In August of 2001, the Depot was designated as the Center of Industrial and Technical Excellence for Combat Vehicles, Artillery and Small Caliber Weapons by the Secretary of the Army. In 2002, the partnership with General Dynamics/General Motors on new production of Stryker vehicles began.

In August of 2003, the Depot's stockpile of chemical munitions began to be safely and securely destroyed at the Anniston Chemical Disposal Facility. By December, the Depot and other TACOM installations fabricated Armor Survivability Kits for HMMWVs in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

From 2004 through 2006, the fabrication sustainment for DOD M1 systems culminated in the creation of the Joint Assault Bridge and Assault Breacher Vehicle programs and by early 2006, production on damaged Stryker vehicles began.

In March of 2006, the Depot named the DoD Center of Industrial and Technical Excellence for ground combat vehicles (excluding the Bradley), assault bridging, artillery and small caliber weapons. In October, the Depot was named the U.S. Army's organic maintenance depot facility for the Stryker.

By 2008, the first full-rate production Assault Breacher Vehicle was shipped to the U.S. Marines and in early 2009, production of the Army's Assault Breacher Vehicle began.

In August of 2009, production operations began at the Powertrain Flexible Maintenance

Facility for overhaul and repair work of reciprocating diesel engines began and by December, the Depot and General Dynamics Land Systems began a 50/50 partnership program to repair and reset Stryker vehicles.

In March 2011, the new industrial wastewater treatment plant was completed and by May the first Stryker variant pilot overhaul program began for the Infantry Carrier Vehicle.

In September 2001, the Anniston Chemical Activity completed demilitarization of chemical weapons along with the Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility.

In January 2012, production operations started in the Small Arms Repair Facility, collocated with DLA's small arms storage facility.

In May of 2012, production operations began at the Powertrain Transmission Facility.

In May of 2014, the Depot held an induction ceremony for low-rate initial production of the M109A7 family of vehicles in partnership with BAE Systems.

By August, the Depot held a rollout ceremony for the Stryker Double V Hull Exchange Program in partnership with General Dynamics Land Systems. In September, the Depot was awarded the Army Award for Maintenance Excellence for accomplishments in ABV program.

Currently, construction has begun on a solar array in collaboration with Alabama Power, the Office of Energy Initiatives, the General Services Administration, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Mission and Installation Contracting Command.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Anniston Army Depot for the important work they do for our country and our warfighter and congratulate them on their 75th anniversary.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT BRIAN DARLING

HON. THOMAS MacARTHUR

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 6, 2016

Mr. MacARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the recent accomplishments of Staff Sergeant Brian Darling as well as to recognize his career of service to the United States of America.

Staff Sergeant Darling recently completed the Advanced Leaders Course at The Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School in Charlottesville, Virginia. Staff Sergeant Darling is a Paralegal Noncommissioned Officer serving in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Joint Force Headquarters, New Jersey Army National Guard. He has recently returned from his third deployment overseas and is about to complete his second master's degree. Staff Sergeant Darling is a decorated service member who has served our nation with honor and courage. He has managed to excel academically during his service, and balance raising his son.

Mr. Speaker, the people of New Jersey's Third Congressional District are tremendously proud to have Staff Sergeant Brian Darling as a selfless and dedicated member of their community, who continues to serve and protect the freedoms and ideals of our nation. I am honored to recognize him for his recent graduation from the Advanced Leaders Course for his Military Occupational Specialty, as well as

for his dedication to completing a second master's degree and to commend him for his outstanding service to his community and our country, before the United States House of Representatives.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATALIE PRICE

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 6, 2016

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Natalie Price of Granville High School for winning the Girls 400 Meter Run at the Division I Ohio High School Track and Field State Championship.

An achievement such as this certainly deserves recognition. The Ohio High School Athletic Association has enabled talented teams and individuals to earn state titles since its founding in 1907. Throughout this time, the champions of OHSAA state level competitions have represented the highest achieving and most talented athletes in Ohio. Each year these elite competitors join the ranks of those who embody Ohio's proud history of athletic success.

Natalie's victory caps a tremendous season. This sort of achievement is earned only through many hours of practice, perspiration and hard work. She has set a new standard for future athletes to reach. Everyone at Granville High School can be extremely proud of her performance.

On behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 12th Congressional District, I congratulate Natalie Price on her state championship. I wish her continued success in both her athletic and academic endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHIGOZIE CHRISTIANA UDEMEZUE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 6, 2016

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Attorney Chigozie "Gozie" Christiana Udemezue on her remarkable efforts on behalf of widows and children in Africa and around the world.

Gozie was born in Enugu, Nigeria in 1971. Early in her academic career she showed incredible aptitude towards educational pursuits, placing highly in her classes and demonstrating the scholarship to continue her education. Gozie pursued Law at Enugu State University of Science and Technology. A childhood dream of Gozie's was to become a lawyer, because she wanted to be in a position to help others. This was a dream that she eventually fulfilled. She had the opportunity to pursue a Master of Laws Degree at the University of London in International Human Rights Law, and continues her pursuit of knowledge still today.

When she was eight years old, Gozie lost her mother and she was left in the care of an older relative. This developed her understanding of how difficult life could be when families are pulled apart by death, conflict, or

other reasons. In 1994, Gozie was married to Chief Emeka Udemezue and they lived happily together for many years, they had three children together. Unfortunately, Chief Udemezue passed away before their third child was born, leaving Gozie to raise her children on her own.

In many parts of Africa, local, state, and national laws dictate that when a husband passes away, the property and holdings of that man pass to his brothers and not to his wife and family. Often in these situations the wife and children are left with nothing, forced to fend for themselves with no resources or protections. Seeing this injustice, Gozie and Chief Udemezue established a fund to take care of these widows and their children. Three years later, her husband passed away, and Gozie experienced and fought this injustice first hand.

The Udemezue's established the Healing Hearts Widows Support Foundation (HHWSF). The HHWSF has provided support to over five thousand widows throughout Nigeria, providing medical support, food, loans, education, and legal financial support to widows who are fighting to maintain the lives that they led. In 2014, Gozie established the "Adopt-a-Widow" program, utilizing social media to solicit funds worldwide to help support these efforts. The HHWSF has fought to change the constitution in Nigeria, and works with local leaders to fix the laws and application of the laws in local communities. Gozie continues to act as a powerful presence in the media, reaching out to, and educating widows across Nigeria about their rights and the support that is available to them. It is important to recognize that this work is not without danger, in many areas, Gozie's work is met with the threat of violence and intimidation, for her attempts to change the status quo. Despite those dangers, she marches on, fighting this injustice whenever, and wherever she can. Gozie Udemezue is an incredible woman and deserves our gratitude and appreciation for her trailblazing work.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Chigozie Christiana Udemezue for her contributions to humanity. I thank her for her leadership and commitment, and wish her many years of success and happiness.

HONORING THE 1,050TH ANNIVERSARY OF POLAND'S CHRISTIANITY AND FOUNDING

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 6, 2016

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 1,050th Anniversary of Poland's Christianity and founding as a nation.

I want to recognize the group of Polish organizations and leaders, which include the Polish American Congress, who are a cornerstone of our community in the Tenth District of Illinois. These groups organized a celebration of this Anniversary, which along with other celebrations, will bring communities together to commemorate this important time in Poland's history.

I wish the Polish-American community all the best at their celebration, and I look forward to continuing to work with our Polish American community to amplify their voice in the United States Congress.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 6, 2016

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 \$19,316,931,693,227.11. We've added \$8,690,054,644,314.03 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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 6, 2016

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for votes on Tuesday, July 5, 2016. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on roll call votes 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349 and "yea" on roll call vote 350.

CONGRATULATING MR. BRUCE SHARENDOFF ON BEING APPOINTED TO THE TRAVEL AND TOURISM ADVISORY BOARD

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 6, 2016

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Bruce Charendoff, the Chief Public Policy Officer for Sabre, on his 2-year appointment to the Travel and Tourism Advisory Board.

Sabre is a cutting edge technology company that transforms travel and is headquartered in Southlake, Texas. Sabre employs over 10,000 people worldwide and over 2,500 are in my district. The Travel and Tourism Advisory Board ("TTAB") was first chartered in 2003 and serves as the advisory body to the Secretary of Commerce. The TTAB focuses on the travel and tourism industry in the United States. The 32-member board is responsible for tackling important issues including travel promotion, sustainable tourism, visa policy and data and research by providing important guidance and strategies that facilitate collaboration between the public and private sectors.

Mr. Charendoff is uniquely qualified to fulfill the duties of the TTAB because he has been part of the travel and tourism ecosystem for over 25 years. Besides being a board member for the TTAB he is the Chairman of the Travel Technology Association, Executive Committee and Board member of the U.S. Travel Association, a member of the Board of Directors of the European Travel and Technology Services Association and on the Corporate Advisory Council of the American Society of Travel Agents. As the Chief Public Policy Officer at Sabre he has been instrumental and a proven