

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2016

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I voted against H.R. 5063, the Stop Settlement Slush Funds Act of 2016, and voted in favor of amendments that would reduce its scope. I recognize that the power of the Attorney General to impose fines (or civil settlements that have the same economic effect) should normally be used to generate funds for the United States Treasury. Normally the amount paid by the wrongdoer should go to the United States Treasury, and it should be up to Congress to appropriate funds. When appropriate, Congress should provide funds to mitigate the damage done by the wrongdoer. However, the bill that came to the floor of the House was in essence a purely Republican bill with substantial flaws. In particular, it did not provide a mechanism for major settlements to be reviewed and approved by Congress when those settlements provided for payments to third parties. I look forward to working next year on truly bipartisan legislation designed to address the concerns voiced by the supporters of the bill.

KENT OBERT: PHOENIX, ARIZONA

HON. DAVID SCHWEIKERT

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2016

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, Kent Obert, 18 years old, died of an accidental prescription drug overdose in 2003. One night during his sophomore year of high school, Kent called his mother to say that he was out with some friends and wasn't coming home that night. He was calling because he didn't want to worry his mother, but when they hung up she knew something was wrong. Kent's mother waited for him when he came home at 6:00 AM.

Life changed for the Obert family that morning. Kent went to the doctor and tested positive for substances. His family restricted Kent's computer time and monitored his activities. They made a lot of changes that next year and Kent adjusted fairly well. He transferred schools and graduated with ease. Kent got a job he loved and spent time with his friends and family. His family thought they had dodged the bullet—Kent didn't want to be addicted to drugs so they mistakenly thought they were out of the woods. It seemed that all was well, but Kent's family didn't know any better.

Before Kent turned 18, he was scheduled to have his wisdom teeth removed. His mother filled the prescription before his surgery and as she was looking at the bottles, she noticed that one of them had fewer pills in it than the

other. When she confronted Kent about it he admitted to having taken some.

She asked Kent why and his answer was chilling. He asked his mother to think about a time in her life when she had felt "Great"—"The Best." When she nodded Kent said, "The first time you get high, it's better than that. It feels so good that you want to feel that way again—only it's physically, chemically impossible." He explained how the drugs alter your brain chemistry and why people take more and increase their frequency of use in an attempt to get back to the feeling of that first high.

On a Monday in September, 2003, there was a knock on the Obert family's door and soon they heard the words: "Your son has died."

Kent and two other kids crushed some Oxycontin and washed them down with beer. Kent got sleepy and the other two left. As Kent slept, the drug slowed his respiratory system down until it stopped completely. His roommate found him the next day—already gone.

CELEBRATING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2016

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to bring to the House's attention the 250th Anniversary of St. Michael's Church, which has served as a place of spiritual refuge, communal gathering, and a historical landmark for the surrounding community of Tilden Township, Pennsylvania.

Located at 529 St. Michael's Road in Tilden Township, St. Michael's Church was originally organized in February 1766, although services were still held in houses and barns. It would be another three years before the congregation would have a physical building donated by Philip Jacob Michael, the namesake of the Church. Michael would leave the Church in May 1777 to be a chaplain in the first battalion under Col. Michael Lindemuth—one of the original elders of the Church—during the Revolutionary War. As the need for a larger meeting space grew along with the congregation, a decision was made to move the Church to the present-day site in 1810.

Two centuries later, St. Michael's continues to thrive with a robust congregation that carries on a long tradition of engaging with the community through ministry, fellowship, and service.

My heartfelt congratulations are extended to the members of St. Michael's Church on this 250th Anniversary. I am confident that I speak on behalf of the community when I thank them for their efforts on behalf of the people of Tilden Township and Berks County as a whole.

I ask the House to join me in offering well wishes and congratulations to the men and women of Tilden Township's St. Michael's Church. May the next 250 years continue to see congregational growth and meaningful outreach to the surrounding communities.

TRIBUTE HONORING THE COMMISSION OF THE USS MONTGOMERY NAVY SHIP

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the commission of the USS *Montgomery* into military service as a Navy ship. Alabama's capital city is honored to have another ship to bear its name in the U.S. Navy operating in the U.S. 7th Fleet.

The city of Montgomery is proud to celebrate the second ship named for the state's capital. It is especially noteworthy to have a Navy presence in a predominately Air Force town, and I along with the city of Montgomery and the state of Alabama are honored to know that this U.S. Navy ship from Alabama will go all over the world.

The USS *Montgomery* commissioning has been a six-year process which began in 2010, when it was proposed to Montgomery Mayor Todd Strange. The ship has since been referred to as one of the most technologically advanced warfare systems in the world.

The USS *Montgomery*, an *Independence*-class Littoral Combat Ship (LCS), will operate close to shore providing surface, undersea and mine warfare along with search and rescue missions, maritime surveillance and interdiction, intelligence, amphibious operations and disaster relief.

The ship will support its sister ship, the USS *Independence*, and will operate in the U.S. 7th Fleet and will be under the command of Officer Daniel G. Straub.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognition of the commission of the USS *Montgomery* into military service as a Navy ship.

COMMEMORATING ACACIA LODGE NO. 586, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS ON ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2016

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Acacia Lodge No. 586, Free and Accepted Masons, of Waynesboro, PA, on its 125th anniversary.

The Waynesboro community has been fortunate to have the Acacia Lodge No. 586 since it was constituted on May 22, 1891, and today

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

I congratulate the Lodge for standing as a symbol of brotherly love, relief, and truth for 125 years.

Since the club's chartering, its members have included a diverse group of individuals united in their passion for everlasting fraternal bonds combined with service to community. In that time, hundreds of men have lent their time and talents to improve the quality of life throughout the Waynesboro area. Though much has changed throughout Waynesboro in the past 125 years, the commitment of the Masons has remained steadfast, serving the needs of the local community and remaining dedicated to the betterment of humanity.

Countless meetings, man-hours of work, and events have enabled the Acacia Lodge No. 586 to reach a community presence of which its 1891 founders would be proud. I am grateful for their contributions throughout Pennsylvania's 9th district and would like to thank all who have helped the organization reach this momentous milestone of 125 consecutive years of service.

RECOGNIZING THE TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE APACHES' 2016 NJCAA DIVISION III WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2016

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it is with tremendous joy, heartfelt satisfaction, and a humble appreciation that I once again rise and address this chamber in recognition of the Tyler Junior College Apaches Baseball Team. In securing a third straight win of the Division III NJCAA World Series baseball tournament, this championship team of accomplished athletes has shown the unflagging enthusiasm, grit, and moxie found in the best and most industrious individuals.

You may remember that last year I undertook a similar endeavor when the TJC Apaches brought their second straight World Series win back to Tyler, remarking at that time that the 2015 champions were 'doggedly tenacious' in their pursuit—and they most certainly were. But if 2015's champions were doggedly tenacious, the only appropriate characterization for the 2016 TJC Apaches has to be herculean.

The TJC Apaches travelled to Kinston, North Carolina for this year's tournament. From the start, the odds were stacked against them. The TJC Apaches had lost all but 7 of their seasoned veterans from the 2014 and 2015 championship wins, and despite coming into the showdown with 38 wins and only 16 losses, managed to find themselves down 3 runs to 0 in the game that would decide it all. That didn't faze or discourage this team of young men in their quest for excellence, however. With their eyes trained toward the prize and the strength of their camaraderie uniting them, the TJC Apaches turned the game around and emerged the victors.

The TJC Apaches were led by a top notch management team, including: Head Coach Doug Wren; Assistant Coaches Chad Sherman and Taylor White; Training Staff Brett Adams, Shelby Davis, Eddy McGuire, and Spenser Deeken; and Support Staff Colter Dosch and Justin Doelitsch.

Accolades go, of course, to the young men who were on the baseball diamond, including Jace Cambell, Ryan Cheatham, Jonathan Groff, Hunter Haley, AbeRee Heibert, James Kuykendall, AJ Merkel, Chandler Muckleroy, Kyle Porter, Josh Raiborn, Adan Ross, Garin Shelton, Sam Sitton, Weston Smart, Travis Smith, J.P. Gorby, Austin Ballew, Mason Mallard, Brentten Schwaab, Tanner Arst, Luke Boyd, Nathan Methvin, Matt Mikusek, James Phillips, Payton Stokes, Jordan Trahan, Hunter Wells, Jarrod Wells, Colton Whitehouse, Beau Buesing, Austin Cernosek, Alex Masotto, Jared Pauley, Justin Roach, and Tanner Wisener.

Once again, the students at Tyler Junior College have added another terrific chapter to their storied athletic history. Of course, great credit is owed not just to the students, but to the entire staff and leadership network at TJC, including: TJC President Dr. Mike Metke, Athletic Director Dr. Tim Drain, Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Juan Mejia, Associate Athletic Director Chuck Smith, Assistant Athletic Director Kelsi Weeks, and Administrative Assistant Sherry Harwood.

Naturally, none of the accomplishments of this team would have been possible if not for the supporting families, the terrific enthusiasm of the TJC Apaches' fans, and the positive encouragement of the east Texas community. The solid bedrock these folks provided to the TJC Apaches baseball team undoubtedly helped in their securing of a third World Series win.

It is with great pride that I join the constituents of Texas' First District in extending heartfelt and sincere congratulations to the players and staff of the 2016 NJCAA Division III World Series National Champions, the Tyler Junior College Apaches Baseball Team. Their significant athletic achievement and incredibly laudable legacy is now, and will forever be, recorded in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that will endure as long as there is a United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY OF PORT ANGELES AND THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA BY MR. DWAYNE JOHNSON

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2016

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, when most people hear "Dwayne Johnson" they think of "The Rock," but I want you to stop and smell what I'm cooking. I rise today to recognize Dwayne Johnson of Port Angeles, WA, an educator and a proud member of the Makah and Lummi tribes, and to congratulate him on receiving the Trustee of the Year Award from the Rural Community College Alliance, a national organization representing over 600 rural community and tribal colleges.

Mr. Johnson has been a member of the Peninsula College board of trustees since 2006 and has twice served as chairman. Between 2008 and 2012, when the college faced the challenge of an unprecedented increase in enrollment amid cuts to funding and increased tuition rates, Mr. Johnson and his fellow board members provided critical support to the staff

and administration of Peninsula College. When Peninsula College had to navigate difficult budget decisions, Mr. Johnson was key in engaging the local community to explain the need for some of these changes.

In his other capacity, Mr. Johnson serves as athletic director for the Port Angeles School District. The Washington Interscholastic Activities Association recognized Mr. Johnson's accomplishments in youth sports by naming him 2016's League Athletic Director of the Year for the Olympic League. The Washington Secondary School Athletic Administrators Association also recently recognized his work with their Outstanding Service Award. As a graduate of Port Angeles High School, I've personally seen the investment he makes in young people. It's a difference-maker. As athletic director, Mr. Johnson encourages his students to strive for excellence in both sports and education, urging them to ultimately reach for the next bar in their educational journey. Many of these students pursue higher education at Peninsula College.

Furthermore, as a member of the Makah and Lummi tribes, Mr. Johnson has devoted his energies to projects—including the building of the House of Learning Longhouse—that have encouraged more members of local tribes to participate in the life of Peninsula College. As a result of his efforts, enrollment rates of Native American students at Peninsula College have never been higher.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent a dedicated community leader and friend who is truly a rock for so many young people in our region. I am grateful for his efforts and dedication and am proud to recognize Mr. Johnson's achievements today in the United States Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call votes held on September 12, 2016, I was inescapably detained handling important matters related to my District and the State of Alabama. If I had been present, I would have voted Yes on H. Res. 847 and Yes on H. Res. 835.

GOLD STAR FAMILIES VOICES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4511, the Gold Star Families Voices Act. This bill will allow Gold Star Families to share their stories with the Veterans History Project, and to be remembered for generations to come.

Gold Star families exhibit tremendous strength as they continue on without their loved ones. They deserve to have their voices heard and recorded to the Veterans History Project, to tell their children's courageous, heroic and meaningful stories for them. Our fallen should not be forgotten, and their stories