

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

must be memorialized to share with future generations.

When I think of the strength that Gold Star Families exhibit, I immediately think of Ray and Leesa Philippon and their family. Their son, Lance Corporal Lawrence R. Philippon tragically lost his life on May 8th, 2005, on Mother's Day and Leesa and Ray's anniversary.

Lance Corporal Philippon committed to fighting for his country shortly after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. He was a part of the Washington D.C. Color Guard, and bravely gave up his position to join the 3rd Battalion Second Marines as an infantryman. They were deployed to Al Qaim, Iraq. Lance Corporal Philippon was killed in action when he was only 22 years old.

The Philippon family has taken their grief and found strength. They have founded the Lance Corporal Lawrence R. Philippon Memorial Fund, which presents awards to local high school students and has funded 200 cleft palate surgeries through Operation Smile.

They have made it their mission to share their son's story, and help other families to remember their sons and daughters who were lost too soon in war. They recently helped organize the visit of the Global War on Terror Wall of Remembrance to their hometown, West Hartford, CT, to help families heal.

I would also like to recognize another Gold Star Mother, Mary Kight. Mary Kight is the President of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. She lost her son Michael while he was deployed to Vietnam in 1967. He had been a helicopter pilot and was killed in a helicopter accident, three months after being deployed.

Mary struggled with coming to terms with Michael's death. The anti-Vietnam War movement made her feel like Michael had lost his life for nothing. She didn't join the Gold Star Mothers for decades, but she has now found comfort in them.

Gold Star Families like the Philippons and the Kights deserve to have their loved ones' stories told, to memorialize their sons and daughters, but also to help their families heal.

On October 25th, a memorial will be revealed that is dedicated to Gold Star Mothers at the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland. This statue of a Gold Star Mother is joining the Fallen Star Memorial there.

In addition to honoring our Gold Star Families with physical memorials, we should also honor their words and stories.

I strongly support the Gold Star Families Voices Act. This bill will give the Gold Star Families the important opportunity to share their memories of our fallen. These service members have given the ultimate sacrifice, and we owe them the opportunity to have their voices heard, even though they can no longer tell their own stories.

I want to thank Congressman CHRIS SMITH for his hard work on this bill, to honor those who have fallen.

I strongly support this legislation and urge my colleagues in the Senate to quickly pass this bill so it can be sent to the President's desk.

JUSTICE AGAINST SPONSORS OF TERRORISM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday will mark the 15th year since that day our nation faced the greatest loss of life on U.S. soil from a terrorist attack.

The years that have passed since that day have not dimmed my memory or diminished my resolve to see an end to terrorism not only in the United States, but around the world.

As a Member of Congress and a senior Member of the Committees on Homeland Security and the Judiciary, both of which deal with national security issues, I have long been committed and engaged in efforts to develop policies that anticipate and respond to new and emerging challenges to the security of our nation and the peace and safety of the world.

I will never forget September 11, 2001 when 2,977 men, women and children were murdered by 19 hijackers who took commercial aircraft and used them as missiles.

I stood on the East Front steps of the Capitol on September 11, 2001, along with 150 members of the House of Representatives and sang "God Bless America."

I visited the site of the World Trade Center Towers in the aftermath of the attacks and grieved over the deaths of so many of our men, women, and children.

I want to thank and commend the work of our first responder community on that day and every day since September 11 for their efforts to protect their communities and our nation from acts of terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, September 11, 2001 will always be remembered as a day of tragedy and heroism, heartbreak and courage, and shared loss.

But the loss remains especially painful to those whose loved ones died or were injured by the criminal acts of terrorists on that fateful day.

They remain in our thoughts and prayers and they have our sympathies.

Mr. Speaker, this past July the Judiciary Committee, upon which I sit, held a hearing on S. 2040, the "Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act," at which the bill's supporters offered powerful and compelling testimony in favor of insuring that 9/11 families have access to their day in court against the parties directly and vicariously liable for the injuries they suffered.

The "Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act," amends the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act of 1976 to create a new exception to the Act's general grant of foreign sovereign immunity.

As the Ranking Member of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigation, I am committed to doing all that I can to ensure that they receive their day in court.

I am sensitive, however, to the concerns raised by the Administration regarding unintended consequences that may result if the bill is passed in its current form.

In particular, the Administration, allied nations, and others point out that enactment of S. 2040 in its current form may lead to retaliation

by other countries against the United States.

Additionally, the Administration raises the legitimate concern that if enacted in its current form, S. 2040 may hamper cooperation from other nations because they may become more reluctant to share sensitive intelligence out of fear that such information may be disclosed in litigation.

I am confident, however, that these legitimate concerns can be addressed and resolved as the legislation makes its way through the legislative process and I look forward to working with the Administration and the bill's sponsors and supporters to craft acceptable legislation that can be presented to the President for signature.

I thank the House and Senate sponsors of this important legislation, my colleagues Congressmen PETER KING and JERROLD NADLER of New York, and Senators JOHN CORNYN of Texas and CHARLES SCHUMER of New York, for their tireless efforts on behalf of fairness and justice for the 9/11 families.

TRIBUTE TO EARLHAM LION'S CLUB

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Earlham Lion's Club for being honored as the 2016 Citizens of the Year at the Earlham Freedom Fest.

Earlham Lion's Club was chartered on June 1, 2009 and have since faithfully served their community. They provide eyesight screenings and collect used eye glasses for use on missions in developing countries. Earlham Lion's club members have provided a free community Thanksgiving dinner and provide school supplies for children in need along with a number of other programs.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating the Earlham Lion's Club for being selected as the 2016 Citizens of the Year. It is an honor to represent them in the United States House of Representatives and I wish them all nothing but continued success.

CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY MONTH

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2016

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Campus Fire Safety Month during the month of September.

I first became involved in the issue of campus fire safety following a tragic fire at Seton Hall University, in which three students were killed. Since that time, we have made many strides, including the passage of the Campus Fire Safety Right to Know Act, which will ensure that prospective students and their families are provided with the fire safety records, information and statistics of colleges and universities.

Last academic year, there were no college-related fire deaths anywhere in the U.S. for