

Eastern District of California opened its doors to serve the people of counties across California, including those who live in my hometown of Sacramento. Over the last half-century, the judges, attorneys, and staff of the Eastern District have worked tirelessly to ensure that justice is served, that cases are adjudicated efficiently and fairly, and that the law is respected and upheld.

Throughout its history, the Eastern District of California has been fortunate in the quality of its leadership. Judge Myron D. Crocker served as the District's first Chief Judge, followed closely thereafter by Judge Thomas J. MacBride. Judge MacBride served in that capacity for eleven years, making him the longest-serving Chief Judge in the history of the Eastern District. Judge Philip C. Wilkins followed Judge MacBride as Chief Judge in 1979, and was in turn succeeded as Chief by Judge Lawrence Karlton in 1983. In 1990, Judge Robert E. Coyle became the court's fifth Chief. His term ended in 1996, when the duties of Chief were assumed by Judge William B. Shubb. Judge Shubb remains on the bench as a Senior District Judge to this day. He was succeeded as Chief by Judge David F. Levi, who held the post for four years until resigning his commission to train the next generation of legal minds as Dean of Duke University School of Law. Judge Garland E. Burrell served as Chief from 2007 to 2008, when he was succeeded by Judge Anthony W. Ishii. After Judge Ishii's tenure as Chief concluded in 2012, Judge Morrison C. England, Jr. assumed the reins of the District Court's leadership. The current Chief Judge of the Eastern District is Judge Lawrence J. O'Neill.

The Eastern District of California has, from its inception, been one of the hardest-working district courts in the United States. Today, the court has the heaviest weighted caseload in the Ninth Circuit. The fact that the Eastern District's docket carries more cases than most other courts in the country means that the judges, attorneys, staff, and volunteers of California's Eastern District are some of the most dedicated and effective people in our country's entire judicial system. I am proud to represent so many who do the critically important day-to-day work of adjudicating cases, dispensing justice, and upholding the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Eastern District of California on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF PAM HILLERY

**HON. RYAN K. ZINKE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. ZINKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Pam Hillery of Havre, Montana. After a four-year battle with Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS), Pam passed away peacefully in the presence of her family late Wednesday night, September 15, 2016. This was a profound loss, not only for Havre, but for all of Montana.

I was truly saddened to hear the news Thursday morning. I only had the privilege of meeting Pam and her husband Paul once, but they left a lasting impression on me and my

staff. Last year, Paul and Pam made the long trek from Havre to Washington to advocate for legislation that would prioritize finding cures for chronic diseases like ALS. At the time, the House was still crafting and debating a solution. I remember kneeling down next to Pam and listening to her story. Despite being bound to a wheelchair, her passion and dedication were truly inspirational. She knew her fate, but was still striving for a better future with those afflicted with this terrible disease. In Pam's own words, "I'm not hopeful, but I'm not hopeless." It was this fervent spirit that led me to cosponsor and help pass the 21st Century Cures legislation in the House of Representatives.

While I only knew Pam for a short time, it became immediately and abundantly clear why her passing is such a loss to Havre, Montana, and our nation. Her honest passion had the ability to inspire people to action. The town of Havre knows this better than anyone else. Pam epitomized what it means to be an active participant within the local community. She served on the Havre City Council for nine years, even after being confined to a wheelchair and losing her ability to speak. She was politically active, fighting for the causes close to her heart. From Missoula to Helena, she was constantly in motion no matter what it took. Most importantly, she was a loving and dedicated mother and wife to her children and husband. Pam leaves behind her husband Paul and children Caroline and Dolan. To each of them, you have mine and Lola's sincerest condolences.

Mr. Speaker, although Pam is no longer with us, I call upon this Congress to commemorate her lasting impact. Whether serving her community as part of the Havre City Council or navigating the halls of Congress for causes close to her heart, she made a positive impression at every single turn. She will be sorely missed by us all.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$1,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,520,012,359,884.18. We've added \$8,893,135,310,971.10 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.

#### TRIBUTE TO SHANNON SMITH

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shannon Smith for being honored as Iowa's Adviser of the Year for the Future Business Leaders of America. She is a business instructor at Creston High School in Creston, Iowa.

Future Business Leaders of America helps over 230,000 members prepare for careers in business and related fields. Its mission is to bring business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs. Ms. Smith was nominated by her students and recognized with this award at the 2016 National Leadership Conference.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in commending Shannon Smith for her service as a teacher to students at Creston High School and congratulate her on this award. It is an honor to represent Shannon in Congress, and I wish her nothing but the best in her future endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING THE SUNY PLATTSBURGH UPWARD BOUND 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 50th anniversary of the State University of New York at Plattsburgh's Upward Bound Program. Upward Bound prepares high school students for success in college and professional careers. Since its founding in 1966, nearly 1500 students in the Plattsburgh area have completed the program.

Through Upward Bound, high school students are afforded the opportunity to attend career fairs, shadow jobs, and complete internships. Each year, participants of the SUNY Plattsburgh Upward Bound Program provide over 6,000 hours of community outreach in Plattsburgh. This specific Upward Bound Program gives students the incredibly unique opportunity to take part in leadership experiences such as ocean classroom sailing, Adirondack wilderness trips, and participation in the National Leadership Congress.

SUNY Plattsburgh's Upward Bound is one of the oldest Upward Bound Programs in the country. In the past fifty years, over eighty percent of Upward Bound Alumni across the United States have pursued secondary education immediately after high school graduation and more than fifty percent of those students have been able to complete their post-secondary education.

Upward Bound Plattsburgh offers programming throughout the school year and during the summer as well, encouraging students to participate with their families. During the school year, the program offers college visits and bi-weekly counseling sessions, while in the summer, more than 45 classes are offered daily, covering every subject from math to history, foreign languages and the sciences. In addition to these classes, cultural experiences and leadership opportunities are offered every week.

The SUNY Plattsburgh Upward Bound Program has done a tremendous job of empowering and uplifting high school students since its founding in 1966. I want to wish its teachers, administrators, students, and alumni continued success in the future.

CELEBRATING THE NATIONAL DAY  
OF TAIWAN**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, I would like to take this chance to celebrate the National Day of Taiwan.

Taiwan has and continues to be a staunch ally of the United States, one who shares our common values of freedom, human rights, and civil society. I have personally had the privilege of visiting Taiwan and have seen, first hand, its proud democracy and strong economy.

As a part of their push for global integration, Taiwan has been seeking inclusion into international organizations. My colleagues and I understand the need for Taiwan to be a part of the global conversation and have passed legislation to help Taiwan receive observer status in international organizations such as: the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol).

I am pleased that for the last eight years, the World Health Assembly has continued to include Taiwan. Taiwanese experts have taken this opportunity to share their experiences with their counterparts from other countries around the world and they continue to make contributions to the global health network.

As a key aviation hub in East Asia, I would encourage the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to utilize Taiwan's expertise. Close to fifty eight million people each year enter, leave, or pass through the Taipei Flight Information Region. In addition, Taiwan is connected to over 100 cities around the world with hundreds of air-passenger and air-freight routes. In 2013, Taiwan was invited to attend the triennial ICAO assembly as a guest of the ICAO chair of the Executive Committee. It would be beneficial to Taiwan and the international for Taiwan to be included in ICAO meetings.

As Taiwan's National Day approaches, I would like to encourage the ICAO to welcome Taiwan's meaningful participation in its Assembly this month, and I hope that we as a Congress continue to incorporate the Taiwanese into the global network.

IN RECOGNITION OF  
LOVETTSVILLE ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL BEING NAMED ONE OF  
AMERICA'S HEALTHIEST  
SCHOOLS

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge Lovettsville Elementary School on being named one of America's Healthiest Schools. Lovettsville Elementary has shown dedication to getting its students active and promoting a fit and healthy lifestyle.

Lovettsville Elementary was awarded a silver medal by the Alliance for a Healthier Gen-

eration. This honor requires schools to meet stringent guidelines for serving healthier meals, pushing students to become active, offering physical and nutritional education, as well as empowering school leaders to become healthy role models. Students who attend healthy schools perform better academically, and have overall better attendance and attitudes towards school. Each of the students at this Lovettsville Elementary was challenged to live a healthier lifestyle over the course of the school year and the results were remarkable. In addition to the silver medal from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation, Lovettsville Elementary also received an Active Schools National Award from Let's Move.

Coming from a family of educators, I understand how important a strong education is to the future of our nation. It is schools like Lovettsville Elementary that will continue to help shape the United States' role in the evolving global economy, while at the same time producing many of our nation's future leaders. Lovettsville Elementary School has clearly shown that it cares about developing our children and has given them the tools to succeed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Lovettsville Elementary School for this achievement. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR MORRISSEY  
ON HIS RETIREMENT**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mayor Larry Morrissey as he leaves office after 12 years of service to the great people of Rockford, Illinois.

Larry Morrissey began his career after winning an ambitious campaign for mayor in 2005. During his past three terms, he's brought people together to fight for Rockford's future and move our community in a positive direction. Mayor Morrissey's commitment to improving lives all across Rockford can clearly be seen through his many accomplishments.

Through his leadership, Rockford was the first city in the nation to reach a functional zero for veteran homelessness. Mayor Morrissey also realized that a strong infrastructure was necessary for a strong economy, and made necessary investments in Rockford's roads, bridges and water infrastructure. Perhaps most importantly, he was committed to creating a promising future for Rockford's kids—and brought together community organizations to advocate for school improvements and impactful educational programs.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Mayor Morrissey's tireless dedication to the people of Rockford. I wish him the best in his future endeavors and thank him for his invaluable service to our region.

H. RES. 660

**HON. ADAM KINZINGER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution. Eight years ago this summer, Russia violated the sovereignty of our key ally in the Caucasus: the Republic of Georgia.

It seems that nothing has changed with Russian behavior as South Ossetia and Abkhazia are still under Russian occupation as a result of its military aggression. As we are seeing around other areas of Eastern Europe, particularly Ukraine, there is no end to the belligerence of Vladimir Putin.

The development of Georgian democracy has served as a powerful example to the region and has drawn a stark contrast with a revanchist and increasingly authoritarian Russia.

It is critical that the United States continues to stand with its democratic allies in the region in order to thwart further aggression from a ruthless dictator like Putin.

That's why Congress must send this strong message: we will never recognize the occupation of Georgia and we will continue to urge Russia to immediately withdraw from South Ossetia and Abkhazia.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be a cosponsor of this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this important resolution.

RECOGNIZING DEPUTY LARRY  
RAYBURN**HON. RODNEY DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 20, 2016*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Deputy Larry Rayburn, a deputy who has served for more than seven years in the Macoupin County Sheriff's Department. Deputy Rayburn's quick and heroic actions earlier this summer literally saved a life.

Early in the morning of May 27, Deputy Rayburn responded to a call at Otter Lake Campground that a young man was experiencing an asthma attack. The young man was on a camping trip and found himself without an inhaler.

Deputy Rayburn, who had previously served as an emergency medical technician arrived at the scene 10 minutes after receiving the call from the young man's mother. He concluded that the asthma attack had closed off the young man's airway, and used a plastic airway device from his squad car to reopen it.

The deputy's quick actions helped restore the victim's skin color and allowed him to continue breathing until the local paramedics arrived and were able to put him on a ventilator.

The Macoupin County Sheriffs Department recently awarded Deputy Rayburn with their "Lifesaving Award," and I stand here today to honor him for his courageous actions that morning and to thank him for his service.