

Offering the opportunity for Georgia students to delve into computer programming will enhance industries across Georgia, our country, and the globe. Harnessing these skills benefits future generations, and will help build strong twenty-first century economies.

Georgia's Day of Code, during Computer Science Education week, is a great way to place coding in the public eye. We must continue to promote this important vocation, and engage in our communities to advance technology development.

The need for those in the technology field is vast and, in Georgia alone, employers post hundreds of IT-related jobs every day, which shows how promising the future is for professionals entering this field. Georgia's Day of Code encourages educators, parents, and policy makers to promote STEM-focused careers to students across the state. We must continue to advance and innovate in the technology sector, and what better way to do that than to invest in our next generation.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF RAMONA NEILL

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2016

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, Ramona (Johnnie) North Neill of Blackfoot, Idaho passed away at the age of 88 on December 4, 2016 at the Gables of Blackfoot Assisted Living and Memory Center. Mona was born September 6, 1928 and raised in Kirksville, Missouri to Oscar and Zelma Jewell North. She lived there until the age of six when the family moved to Blackfoot, and attended grade school, junior high, followed by graduating from high school in 1946.

In December 1949 she met the love of her life: James (Jimmy) K. Neill who was an Employee of Idaho Power Company and was part of the Mobile Line Crew that was upgrading the Electrical Power Grid in Blackfoot. Their relationship quickly blossomed and they were married on May 26, 1950 in Winnemucca, Nevada. From there, Jim and Mona lived primarily in Boise, Idaho until they moved permanently to Blackfoot, Idaho in the summer of 1956 where she lived at the family home on Riverton Road up to the time that her health forced her to move last year.

Mona enjoyed outdoors trips with her husband and children, attending every scout, school, sports activity of her sons and the grandchildren residing in Blackfoot as well as visiting or following the adventures of her two grandchildren in Washington state.

Mona is survived by her sons: David K. Neill (Marie Carter, deceased), Blackfoot, Kim O. Neill (Christi Ann), Bainbridge Island, Washington, and James Todd Neill (Melody Renee), Scottsdale, Arizona, her four grandchildren: Cassandra Lynnette Neill, San Diego, California, Thomas K. Neill (Laura), Boise, Idaho, James K. Neill (Emily), Washington, D.C. and Andrew Albert Neill, Washington, D.C.

She will be laid to rest at Dry Creek Cemetery in Boise, Idaho where she will be next to her late husband James K. Neill.

MASTER SERGEANT MICHAEL
THOMAS DONOHUE

HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2016

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Master Sergeant Michael Thomas Donohue, in appreciation of his 30 years of meritorious service in the United States Army, Navy, Navy Reserve, and New York Army National Guard.

Throughout his military career, Master Sergeant Donohue has served with honor and distinction in numerous positions, from Aircraft Handler and Tank Mechanic, to Intelligence Analyst and Operations NCOIC, culminating with his service as a Senior Maintenance Supervisor for the 42nd CAB. His unwavering dedication to duty and unparalleled professionalism has consistently earned the respect of subordinates, peers, and superiors alike.

An innovative and relentless troubleshooter, his vast technical knowledge greatly aided in his Brigade's success while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 08–09. His experience, gained from serving in two combat deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, proved invaluable as he mentored junior non-commissioned officers and officers on a wide spectrum of operational and technical topics, increasing their readiness for deployment and ultimately, unit effectiveness. His long and illustrious career has been marked by humility and service, and reflects great credit upon himself, the New York Army National Guard, United States Army, and United States Navy.

MSG Donohue's deployments include Operation El Dorado Canyon (USN, 1986), Operation Ernest Will (USN, 1988), multiple natural disasters (1997–2012), Counter Drug operations (1998–2001), World Trade Center (2001), OIF (2008–2009), and OEF (2012–2013). He provided mentorship and leadership and skillfully groomed the next generation of leaders, which resulted in the Soldier and NCO Warrior of the Year competitions for the Aviation Brigade in 2009, 2010, and 2011 and New York State Soldier of the Year in 2011. His faithfulness through these times was and is a testimony for others to follow, and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize his devotion to our country.

THE THIN BLUE LINE: OFFICER REGINALD GUTIERREZ

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, our men and women in blue are the best we have. They are the thin blue line between good and evil. Each day these men and women head out into the field not knowing what they will face, not knowing if their day will be filled with routine traffic stops, or extreme dangers. Our peace officers face the unknown and stand up for the rest of us.

Reginald "Jake" Gutierrez was one of these men. Gutierrez was responding to a domestic violence call in Tacoma, Washington after a

woman approached animal control officers claiming her husband had locked her out of the house and taken her cell phone. Gutierrez and his partner entered the home. Shots rang out as he proceeded up the stairs to speak with the suspect. Two young children were held hostage inside the house, being used as human shields. His partner returned fire, taking the wife to safety. Gutierrez was shot multiple times, his life taken away by a vicious criminal.

Gutierrez gave his life to protect the young and innocent. As a veteran of the Department since 1999, 45-year-old Gutierrez was a model police officer. Each day he got up, put on the uniform and badge and dedicated himself to his profession and community. He is now the 132nd officer to die in the line of duty this year alone. At least eight of these deaths occurred while responding to reports of domestic disturbance and violence.

Hundreds of individuals came to honor Gutierrez as he made his way from the hospital to the medical examiner's office. The hospital was surrounded by fellow officers standing in support of their fallen brother. The King County Sheriff's Department ordered all Deputies to wear mourning bands in honor of the fallen peace officer.

The needless murder of our officers is absolutely unacceptable. These men and women work tirelessly, day in and day out trying to make a difference. It is time to put an end to the needless murder of our peace officers. Congress must stand up for those who work to protect the rest of us. The men and women behind the badge are some of America's best.

Officer Reginald "Jake" Gutierrez's life may be gone, but his memory serves as a reminder of all those who gave their lives for the thin blue line.

And that's just the way it is.

COMMEMORATING WORLD AIDS DAY 2016

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, World AIDS Day affords us an opportunity to reflect on our progress in the fight against the global AIDS pandemic and to rededicate ourselves to ending the disease once and for all.

We have come a long way since the first World AIDS Day in 1988 by dramatically expanding investments in HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment, and research.

Strong advocacy has paved the way for the Ryan White Act, the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS Initiative, growing investments in NIH research, and an end to the ban on federal funds for syringe exchange.

Beyond our borders, our efforts have extended care to millions in the developing world, through increased resources for PEPFAR and the Global Fund.

Our investments have saved lives—preventing millions of new HIV cases, expanding access to improved treatments, and enabling medical advances that help HIV/AIDS patients live longer and healthier.

Here and across the globe, AIDS deaths are on the decline, and studies are pointing the way to new approaches to limit the spread of the disease, with treatment as prevention.

While our efforts have grown, we still only reach half of all people eligible for HIV treatment; and more must be done.

Working together, we must continue to strengthen—not weaken—our national and international efforts to combat AIDS and other infectious diseases.

We must work to achieve the Obama Administration's goal of an AIDS-free generation.

We must honor the memory of those we have lost and act on our hope, optimism, and determination to end the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

We must continue to work with programs and clinics, like the Harris County Hospital District (HCHD), who are treating and caring for patients with HIV/AIDS.

In 1989, HCHD opened Thomas Street Health Center, the first free-standing facility dedicated to outpatient HIV/AIDS care in the nation. The center has become the cornerstone of all HIV/AIDS care available to Harris County residents.

The Thomas Street Health Center has dedicated their services to about 25 percent of Harris County's HIV/AIDS.

Annually, the health center, along with HCHD, serves 4,463 unique patients for about 37,000 patients' visits.

We will continue to fight a tough fight against HIV and AIDS.

We will continue to strengthen and support centers like Thomas Street Health Center that work diligently with HIV/AIDS patients.

Our focus on HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness will be to ensure all of our friends, relatives and children live healthy and full lives.

There is a pressing need to raise awareness and engage in education within the African American community where HIV infections have been and continue to rise.

The incidence of HIV has decreased for the majority population, while it has grown nearly unchecked among African Americans.

This must change—decisions regarding funding for agencies charged with infectious disease education and minority health must be supported.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2016

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 599.

OVERTIME PAY FOR SECRET SERVICE AGENTS ACT OF 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 30, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6302, "The Overtime Pay For Secret Service Agents Act".

This important legislation will provide an increase in premium pay for United States Secret Service agents performing protective services.

H.R. 6302 will raise the cap on overtime compensation for U.S. Secret Service agents tasked with the responsibility for protecting the president, vice president and major presidential and vice presidential candidates during campaigns.

Under current law, an executive branch employee's premium pay, including overtime combined with basic pay cannot exceed the maximum rate of basic pay for a GS-15 or Level V executive schedule, whichever is greater.

The maximum rate for a GS-15 employee in the Washington, D.C., area is set at \$160,300 in 2016, while the pay rate for Level V is set at \$150,200 adjusted for the current cost of living.

H.R. 6302 will increase the pay rate cap by nearly \$35,000.

The H.R. 6302 will also apply to agents responsible for protecting candidates' spouses, former presidents, their spouses and children, high profile foreign visitors, as well as other government officials.

More than 1,000 agents have exceeded the overtime pay limit this year and can greatly benefit from the prospective adjustments.

Some by as much as \$60,000, according to the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association.

For these reasons I support H.R. 6302.

IN HONOR OF BEAUREGARD WINNING AHSAA CLASS 5A HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TITLE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2016

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Beauregard High School for winning their first ever Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) Class 5A football state title.

The Hornets sealed their victory by beating Wenonah 33-13 on December 1st at Jordan-Hare Stadium in Auburn.

Not only was this Beauregard's first state title, but also Lee County's first ever state champion!

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the students and faculty of Beauregard High School, Coach Braun, the players and all the Hornets fans on this exciting achievement. Go Hornets!

HONORING THE LIFE OF KATHLEEN O'DAY

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 5, 2016

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Kathleen O'Day.

Kathleen passed away on November 28, leaving three brothers, nieces, nephews, cousins and many dear friends. She resided in Arlington, Virginia, but was born and raised in my hometown of Worcester, Massachusetts. Her loved ones gathered in Worcester today to honor her life and pay tribute to a truly remarkable woman.

Kathleen had a distinguished legal career. After graduating from Assumption College and Boston College School of Law with honors, Kathleen began working in the legal division of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in 1978. She served in the Board's legal division for decades and became a well-known expert in international banking and trade negotiations.

Those who knew her best will miss her warmth, wit, and generosity. Scott Alvarez, the Fed's General Counsel, remarked, "Kathleen was a dedicated employee, serving nearly 40 years in the Board's Legal Division. She was a kind, brilliant, generous, witty, and wonderfully warm friend to all of us, and we will all miss her tremendously."

Mr. Speaker, Kathleen touched the lives of so many around her, and had a profound impact on all of us through her work with the Federal Reserve.

I deeply admire Kathleen's life-long commitment to public service, and extend my deepest sympathies to the family and friends she leaves behind. We will all miss her.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Kathleen O'Day, and recognizing the important contributions she has made to our country.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 34, TSUNAMI WARNING, EDUCATION, AND RESEARCH ACT OF 2015, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6392, SYSTEMIC RISK DESIGNATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 30, 2016

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 34, the 21st Century Cures Act. It is vital that we ensure that the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have the resources they need to continue to advance biomedical and mental health research, and improve access to innovative treatments for some of the most debilitating illnesses.

The additional \$4.8 billion authorized for the NIH to improve biomedical research and treatment innovations is commendable, particularly the \$1.8 billion for the Vice President's Cancer Moonshot, in line with the President's budget request, that will advance critical life-saving research. I fully support the Cancer Moonshot's mission to speed up the advancement of other treatments that will help individuals and families who are fighting diseases or disorders. As a Cancer survivor, I know all too well the value of these investments and how many lives can be saved as a result.

Additionally, the allocation of \$1 billion to step up federal efforts combating the growing opioid and heroin epidemic is a positive step towards better treatment of addicted individuals. Every day, families across California and the nation are torn apart by a loved one or neighbor abusing opioids. Hopefully our Republican colleagues consider this the first of many steps to advance meaningful policies designed to erode the strong grip these drugs have on so many Americans.