

and the Legacy Award from the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

Grace Community Clinic. Grace Community Clinic was opened in October 2013 by Dr. Tong S. Park and other leaders from the Korean Central Presbyterian Church, which I am proud to represent. The clinic provides free medical services to 40–50 people each month. More than 40 volunteers support the Clinic, including five doctors as well as nurses, receptionists, and translators. In addition to primary care consultations, the Clinic offers limited referrals for free dental care to a nearby dentist, and free radiology and lab work through donations from INOVA and Fairfax Radiology. The clinic also makes referrals to specialists who provide low-cost care on an as needed basis.

Ibrahim Choudhary, Ahmadiyya Muslim Youth of Northern Virginia. The motto of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, “love for all, hatred for none”, is a vision that it seeks to fulfill through peaceful dialogue and public service. Mr. Choudhary and the members of his youth group have focused their efforts on correcting misunderstandings and misconceptions about Muslim youth by serving their local communities through various projects, from food drives for the poor to handing out flyers with messages of peace. Local Ahmadiyya Muslim youths have also volunteered regularly with the Capital Area Food Bank to help hand out food to those in need in the DC Metro area.

Mr. Speaker, the efforts of these individuals are noteworthy not only because they are rooted in an appreciation for our region’s cultural and ethnic diversity, but also because they help to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation in our community. I congratulate them on their awards and ask my colleagues to join me in commending them for their service to the Northern Virginia region.

HONORING MS. CAROL GIOVANATTO

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sonoma, California City Manager Carol Giovanatto upon retirement from an impressive career in local government that has spanned 41 years.

A native of Cloverdale, California Ms. Giovanatto graduated from Cloverdale High School and attended classes at Santa Rosa Junior College. In addition to her work with the City of Sonoma, Ms. Giovanatto has brought her strong leadership skills to many committees and boards on which she serves.

During her tenure as City Manager, Carol was instrumental in addressing important city issues and preventing conflicts. Ms. Giovanatto negotiated a contract to preserve the historic Sebastiani Theater, formed a joint powers agreement for the Valley of the Moon Fire Protection District and proposed a sales tax measure to protect continued city services. A dedicated public servant, Ms. Giovanatto strengthened the economic development partnership with the Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce, created a grant funding program for non-profits, completed a new mobile home ordinance and raised the funds needed for the proposed community pool.

Ms. Giovanatto will be recognized long after her retirement for her foresight in identifying 22 measures for greenhouse gas emissions reduction and establishing the City of Sonoma as the first Evergreen City in Sonoma County. Ms. Giovanatto was a founding board member and past President of the Cloverdale Youth and Family Services Partnership, a member of the Leadership of Sonoma Valley Class of 2008, and a board member of the Sonoma Tourism Improvement District.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Giovanatto has dedicated her career to improving the lives of the people of the City of Sonoma. She is known for her unfailing kindness, loyalty and commitment to high ethical standards. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today and extend our best wishes for an enjoyable retirement.

CELEBRATING DAVID FLORES

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and work of David Flores of Georgetown, Texas. After nearly four decades of impeccable work as County Auditor, David is beginning his richly-deserved retirement.

County Auditors play a vital role in maintaining the fiscal integrity in county government and few have taken on this important responsibility with greater professionalism than David. He knows that second-rate work isn’t acceptable. The people of Texas deserve that level of excellence when it comes to managing their precious tax dollars. David doesn’t let them down.

David’s positive impacts on the counties he’s served cannot be overstated. Under his leadership, Williamson County’s bond rating went from “low investment grade” to AAA, the highest rating available. He’s established thoughtful standards for county purchases and has provided superb oversight for \$1 billion in capital projects. Central Texas is better because of his leadership and hard work.

David’s commitment to excellence doesn’t stop when the work day ends. He has been a trustee for the Texas County and District Retirement System and is a past president for the Texas Association of County Auditors. David shouldered the demanding responsibilities as the Chairman of the Investment Committee for the Texas Association of Counties from 2008 to 2012. Over the years, he’s deservedly received numerous awards and commendations as well as the admiration of his peers and colleagues.

Retirement is to be celebrated and enjoyed. It is not the end of a career, but rather the beginning of a new adventure. I heartily salute David Flores’ work and contributions to his community. I’m sure I echo the thoughts of all when I wish him the best in both his retirement and all his future endeavors.

280TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNION FIRE COMPANY

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 280th anniversary of the Union Fire Company. Founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1736, the Union Fire Company was Philadelphia’s first volunteer fire company.

Dr. Franklin established the Union Fire Company as the very first fire suppression unit which universally responded when summoned. This overcame the issues surrounding prior firefighting clubs that existed in Boston, which also paid for fire wards or watchmen as early as 1711. The difference between Franklin’s Union Fire Company and the other clubs in Boston and New York was that Franklin saw the advantage of protecting all the homes and businesses of the community, not just those who had joined the club. Franklin formed the Union Fire company from roughly 30 volunteers from what is today the Old City section of Philadelphia. Their equipment included leather buckets, with strong bags and baskets (for packing and transporting goods), which were to be brought to every fire. All homeowners were required to have these leather fire-fighting buckets in their houses. Recognizing the efficacy of Dr. Franklin’s model, similar volunteer fire companies began to spring up throughout Philadelphia.

In the late 1860’s, Philadelphia city officials spoke of transforming Franklin’s volunteer service into a professional fire department to meet the demands of the ever-growing city. Finally, on December 29, 1870, Philadelphia city council enacted an ordinance to professionalize the fire service into a singular department. The Philadelphia Fire Department, administered by seven Commissioners chosen by the City Council, officially entered into service on March 15, 1871.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this Congress to pause and reflect on the unquestionable courage of all firefighters throughout America, be they volunteer or professional. As we are indebted to the many thousands of America’s firefighters who died in the line of duty, I ask that the list of the 289 Philadelphia firefighters who have given their lives in the line of duty be recorded with the year, rank, and company to which they served:

1994, Acey, Vincent, Firefighter, Rescue 01; 1960, Adgie, William, Lieutenant, Engine 54; 1962, Ahlers, Thomas, Firefighter, Engine 71; 2003, Allen, James, Firefighter, Ladder 16; 1964, Anderson, Albert, J. Fireman, Ladder 9; 1918, Anderson, John, Hoseman, Engine 54; 1975, Andrews, John, Firefighter, Engine 49; 1933, Arnold, Charles, Hoseman, Engine 44; 1921, Atkinson, George, Captain, Engine 36; 1965, Balkie, Alfred, Firefighter, Engine 61; 1954, Bandos, Joseph, Firefighter, Engine 02; 1892, Barnes, William, Hoseman, Engine 12; 1884, Barr, Phillip, Hoseman, Engine 11; 1961, Berg, Rolla, Firefighter, Engine 02; 1908, Berry, William Dick, Foreman, Truck 04; 1910, Bertollet, Harry, Hoseman, Chemical 2; 1910, Bihlmire, William, Ladderman, Truck 01.

1961, Bordier, Raymond, Firefighter, Engine 06; 1905, Boyle, Aloysius, Ladderman, Truck 05; 1975, Brenek, Carroll, Firefighter, Engine 57; 1978, Brightcliffe, John, Firefighter, Ladder 03; 1982, Brown, Stanley,

Firefighter, Engine 09; 1879, Burke, Francis, Ladderman, Truck B; 1960, Bushfield, Joseph, Firefighter, Engine 59; 1969, Caldwell, Charles, Firefighter, Engine 35; 1975, Campana, Ralph, Firefighter, Ladder 19; 1875, Carlin, Francis, Ladderman, Truck A; 1910, Carroll, John, F., Ladderman, Truck 07; 1999, Casiano, Eric, Firefighter, Engine 02; 1933, Cavanaugh, George, Ladderman, Truck 24; 2004, Champion, Tracy, Firefighter, Engine 54; 1899, Chance, William, Hoseman, Engine 32; 1991, Chappell, James A., Firefighter, Engine 11; 1884, Clayton, James, Foreman, Engine 18; 1900, Cocker, Frank B., Hoseman, Engine 14; 1910, Collins, John, Ladderman, Truck 04; 1925, Connison, Walter R., Ladderman, Truck 12.

1900, Cook, John, Hoseman, Engine 21; 2009, Cospelich, Stephen, Lieutenant, Ladder 08; 1913, Costello, Walter, Hoseman, Engine 23; 1907, Cox, John J., Asst. Foreman, Truck 04; 2014, Craig, Joyce, Firefighter, Engine 64; 1898, Craven, Charles, Hoseman, Engine 02; 1955, Crawford, Robert, Firefighter, Engine 26; 1895, Cronin, David, Firefighter, Ladder 16; 1950, Crupp, John J., Lieutenant, Truck 10; 1901, Davis, Frank, Ladderman, Truck 09; 1910, DeHaven, Frank, Hoseman, Engine 47; 1896, Dever, Edward, Hoseman, Engine 20; 1999, Devine, Joseph, Firefighter, Engine 28; 1874, Devitt, George, Hoseman, Engine 03; 1894, Dickel, George, Ladderman, Truck C; 1942, Doman, Francis J., Hoseman, Engine 59; 1954, Donahue, Thomas, Firefighter, Engine 01; 1888, Donnelly, Felix, Hoseman, Engine 08; 1980, Donovan, William, Batt. Aide, Battalion 07; 1920, Dorff, Millford St., Hoseman, Pipe Line 2.

1933, Douglas, Charles, Batt. Chief, Battalion 4; 1918, Doyle, James, Ladderman, Truck 09; 1954, Doyle, James, Firefighter, Engine 29; 1895, Doyle, Michael, Ladderman, Truck 01; 1927, Duane, Thomas A., Lieutenant, Engine 05; 1899, Duffy, Hugh, Hoseman, Engine 32; 1943, Dugan, Joseph, Fireman, Fireboat 2; 1880, Dungan, George, Ladderman, Truck B; 1908, Dunlap, Samuel, Engineer, BC; 1967, Dusenberry, Wlm., Batt. Chief, Battalion 2; 1910, Edelman, Charles, Hoseman, Engine 06; 1909, Ellinger, Alfred, Foreman, Engine 11; 1944, Ennis, James, Ladderman, Truck 14; 1910, Entwistle, Thomas, Asst. Foreman, Engine 21; 1881, Exley, Oliver, Ladderman, Truck E; 1975, Fagan, John R., Batt. Aide, Battalion 03; 1913, Fahey, Joseph A., Hoseman, Engine 32; 1901, Fells, James A., Foreman, Engine 49; 1922, Fisher, Albert, Hoseman, Engine 21; 1975, Fisher, Robert J., Firefighter, Engine 33.

1916, Fitzgerald, Thomas, Hoseman, Engine 03; 1949, Ford, James, Captain, Engine 26; 1891, Forsythe, James, Driver, Engine 11; 1933, France, George, Hoseman, Engine 62; 1916, Fredericks, Frank, Ladderman, Truck 12; 1938, Friedenberger, W., Hoseman, Rescue 01; 1886, Friel, Edward D., Firefighter, Engine 27; 1982, Gallagher, Kenneth, Firefighter, Ladder 21; 1929, Gallop, William, Hoseman, Engine 41; 1955, Garrett, Leonard, Firefighter, Engine 44; 1894, Geissel, George, Hoseman, Engine 21; 1886, Gibson, John, Hoseman, Engine 04; 1922, Gilloway, Thomas J., Ladderman, Truck 02; 2013, Goodwin, Michael, Firefighter, Engine 53; 1934, Gordon, Frederick, Ladderman, Truck 11; 1937, Gormley, John B., Ladderman, Truck 05; 1906, Gray, James B., Ladderman, Truck 09; 1919, Green, John J., Hoseman, Engine 21; 1952, Guenther, Edward, Hoseman, Engine 45; 1952, Hacker, Allen, Firefighter, Ladder 08.

1875, Hanley, James C., Ladderman, Truck D; 1887, Harbauer, George, Ladderman, Truck D; 1894, Hart, Joseph W., Hoseman, Fireboat; 2004, Harvy, Derrick, Lieutenant, Engine 72; 1940, Hassell, Thomas, Firefighter, Boat 2; 1897, Heller, William, Engineer, Engine 01; 1986, Henz, Harry, Firefighter, Engine 33; 1902, Hetzell, Charles, Ladderman, Truck 02;

1900, Hicks, John, Hoseman, Engine 41; 1877, Hill, John, Ladderman, Truck C; 1964, Hiller, Carl, Firefighter, Engine 08; 1915, Hillman, John R. Jr., Ladderman, Truck 07; 1991, Holcombe, David P., Captain, Engine 11; 1954, Holtzman, Charles, Firefighter, Ladder 03; 1872, Humphreys, David, Engineer, BC; 1997, Hynes, James, Firefighter, Engine 63; 1976, Iannacone, Richard, Firefighter, Ladder 34; 1975, Iaquina, Michael, Firefighter, Engine 55; 1919, Innes, Thomas, Hoseman, Engine 13; 1958, Jackson, Joseph, Firefighter, Ladder 22.

1915, James William F., Batt. Chief, Battalion 6; 1886, Johnson, John, Ladderman, Truck B; 1926, Jones, Charles G., Hoseman, Engine 34; 1926, Jones, John C., Captain, Engine 50; 1954, Junod, Bernard, Firefighter, Engine 02; 1910, Kalberer, John, Foreman, Engine 23; 1933, Kasper, Joseph, Hoseman, Engine 55; 1905, Kelly, James, Ladderman, Truck 05; 1919, Kelly, Thomas, Lieutenant, Engine 21; 1961, Kennedy, Robert, Lieutenant, Photo Lab.; 1909, Keyser, Robert C., Foreman, Engine 20; 1888, Killen, Robert, Hoseman, Chemical 2; 1913, King, Frank L., Hoseman, Engine 23; 1877, King, Patrick E., Driver, Engine 22; 1966, Klemmer, Albert, Firefighter, Engine 59; 1895, Klinberger, C., Hoseman, Engine 02.

1954, Kline, Thomas, Deputy Chief, Division 2; 1900, Knouff, Edward, Ladderman, Truck 02; 1894, Konrad, Joseph, Firefighter, Engine 25; 1962, Krewson, Lynford, Batt. Aide, Battalion 11; 1949, Krol, Edward, Hoseman, Engine 06; 1919, LaGrand, Harry, Ladderman, Truck 02; 1939, Lawton, James J., Hoseman, Engine 19; 1933, LeHart, Edward, Hoseman, Engine 43; 1901, Lehman, George, Hoseman, Engine 22; 1938, Limaka, John, Hoseman, Rescue 01; 1974, Long, Walter, Batt. Chief, Battalion 06; 1892, Lowery, Francis M., Ladderman, Truck D; 1973, MacDonald, Warren, Firefighter, Lad. 20 [Eng. 65]; 1898, Magee, James, Hoseman, Engine; 1954, Magrann, John, Batt. Chief, Battalion 3; 1973, Malley, Robert F., Firefighter, Engine 24; 1904, Malloy, William, Hoseman, Engine 45; 1928, Mangarano, Silvio, Hoseman, Engine 49; 1942, Martin, Frank, Hoseman, Engine 12.

1904, Mason, Edwin, Hoseman, Engine 04; 1910, Matchinsky, George, Ladderman, Truck 07; 1969, McAlister, John, Firefighter, Engine 13; 1991, McAllister, Phylliss, Firefighter, Engine 11; 1876, McClintock, Hugh, Engineer, BC; 1911, McClister, Charles, Hoseman, Engine 52; 1928, McConaghy, George, Batt. Chief, Battalion 1; 1910, McConnell, William, Hoseman, Engine 23; 1889, McCuen, James, Hoseman, Engine 04; 1901, McCullen, John, Hoseman, Engine 49; 1997, McElveen, Terry, Lieutenant, Engine 63; 1894, McFarland, James, Hoseman, Engine 04; 1930, McGee, Daniel C., Hoseman, Engine 49; 1915, McGowan, John, Hoseman, Engine 49; 1896, McGranaghan, Hugh, Ladderman, Truck 01; 1975, McIntyre, Hugh, Firefighter, Engine 56; 1965, McIntyre, Joseph, Firefighter, Boat 3; 1963, McKernan, John, Firefighter, Ladder 14; 1976, McSloy, Bernard, Firefighter, Ladder 28; 1918, Merges, Charles C., Lieutenant, Engine 45.

1953, Meskill, James, Captain, Battalion 4; 1925, Metzger, Charles H., Hoseman, Engine 25; 1925, Minnick, John R., Ladderman, Truck 05; 1940, Monaghan, Charles, Hoseman, Engine 03; 1873, Mooney, Frank, Hoseman, Engine 04; 1912, Moore, James, Ladderman, Truck 01; 1919, Moorehead, Robert, Lieutenant, Engine; 1913, Moritz, Charles, Hoseman, Engine 23; 1954, Mortimer, Louis, Captain, Battalion 9; 1955, Mumbauer, Arthur, Firefighter, Engine 17; 1926, Murdock, Robert, Hoseman, Engine 34; 1960, Murphy, David J., Firefighter, Ladder 24; 1998, Murphy, Stephen, Lieutenant, Ladder 01; 1937, Murray, George J., Hoseman, Engine 20; 1891, Murray, John, Asst. Foreman, Truck F; 1922, Murray, Patrick A., Hoseman, Engine 21; 1933, Mur-

ray, Peter, Hoseman, Engine 54; 1940, Murtha, James, A. Hoseman, Engine 30; 2012, Neary, Robert, Lieutenant, Ladder 10; 1954, News, John, Batt. Chief, Battalion 6.

1942, O'Brien, William, Hoseman, Engine 47; 1874, O'Neill, Charles, Hoseman, Engine 04; 1910, Park, Samuel A., Ladderman, Truck 01; 1975, Parker, Roger, Firefighter, Ladder 27; 1946, Parsons, George R., Ladderman, Truck 08; 1910, Pass, Thomas M., Hoseman, Chemical 2; 1922, Paxson, Edward T., Ladderman, Truck 02; 1894, Peck, John, Foreman, Engine 39; 1903, Pfueger, Albert, Hoseman, Fireboat Stuart; 1971, Pietrak, Constantine, Captain, Engine 35; 1928, Piper, Henry, Batt. Chief, Battalion 9; 1918, Pollick, James, Hoseman, Chemical 1; 1975, Pouliot, James, Lieutenant, Engine 20; 1907, Presco, Stephen, Hoseman, Engine 11; 1879, Raymond, Francis, Hoseman, Engine 07; 1994, Redmond, John J., Firefighter, Ladder 11; 1930, Rein, Paul, Hoseman, Engine 10; 1920, Rishall, Ward A., Driver, Fire Hdqtrs.; 1905, Robinson, William J., Hoseman, Engine 28; 1918, Roller, Samuel G., Hoseman, Chemical 1.

1947, Rothfuss, Jacob, Hoseman, Engine 38; 1970, Rotondo, Vincent, Batt. Chief, Battalion 13; 2004, Rubio, Rey, Firefighter, Engine 28; 1895, Ryder, Joseph F., Hoseman, Engine 18; 1946, Saraullo, Vincent, Hoseman, Engine 46; 1898, Schimmel, Walter, Hoseman, Engine 22; 1939, Schultz, Frank B., Hoseman, Engine 09; 1924, Schulze, George, Hoseman, Engine 55; 1951, Schwartz, Charles, Lieutenant, Ladder 23; 1920, Schwartzkopf, Edw., Batt. Chief, Engine 26; 1955, Senderling, George, Firefighter, Rescue 04; 1963, Senior, Charles, Firefighter, Engine 20; 1895, Sergeant, William, Foreman, Engine 32; 1902, Seveall, William, Hoseman, Engine 10; 1945, Shane, William, Ladderman, Truck 12; 1899, Shea, James, Hoseman, Engine 01; 1932, Sheppard, Curtis C., Hoseman, Boat 3; 1920, Sherman, Ambrose, Hoseman, Engine 53; 1889, Showers, George, Hoseman, Engine 04; 1941, Silbert, Joseph W., Captain, Engine 03.

1937, Slinkard, Oscar, Hoseman, Engine 13; 1977, Smedley, Edward T., Firefighter, Lad. 28 [Eng. 58]; 1909, Smith, Eugene, Hoseman, Engine 41; 1890, Snyder, Charles, Foreman, Engine 16; 1900, Sowney, James, Foreman, Engine 48; 1953, Spencer, William, Captain, Engine 19; 1878, Spisky, Wm., Foreman, Engine 2; 1914, St. Ledger, George, Lieutenant, Engine 25; 1896, Stagar, William, Engineer, District 03; 1961, Steger, William, Lieutenant, Engine 31; 1899, Steinle, George, Hoseman, Engine 32; 1919, Stevenson, Albert, Batt. Chief, Battalion; 1976, Steward, David, Firefighter, Ladder 20; 1951, Stewart, Charles, Lieutenant, Engine 50; 1948, Stewart, Howard A., Batt. Chief, Battalion 11; 1918, Stewart, James D., Captain, Truck 06; 1910, Stewart, Robert, Hoseman, Engine 02; 1965, Stewart, Thomas F., Firefighter, Rescue 12; 1943, Struble, David, Lieutenant, Truck 10; 1907, Sullivan, John J., Hoseman, Engine 11.

2012, Sweeney, Daniel Firefighter, Ladder 10; 1926, Sykes, John J., Hoseman, Engine 50; 2004, Taylor, John, Captain, Engine 28; 1893, Taylor, Joseph, Hoseman, Engine 14; 1941, Thumm, William, Hoseman, Engine 58; 1912, Titus, Walter, Hoseman, Engine 19; 1913, Tobin, Michael J., Captain, Engine 24; 1909, Toner, Joseph, Hoseman, Engine 18; 1954, Tygh, James F., Firefighter, Engine 29; 1904, Vaughan, Thomas, Hoseman, Engine 28; 1949, Vegenberg, Frank, Hoseman, Engine 45; 1942, Vernon, John, Hoseman, Engine 62; 1954, Vivian, Joseph, Firefighter, Ladder 03; 1961, Walsh, Walter T., Firefighter, Engine 02; 1969, Wannop, Thomas, Firefighter, Eng. 73 [Lad. 13]; 1976, Welsh, Aloysius, Firefighter, Ladder 20; 1973, Welsh, John, Firefighter, Ladder 05; 1955, Wendt, Charles, Captain, Engine 55; 1912, Wentz, George, Hoseman, Engine 06; 1965, Weres, John F., Firefighter, Ladder 07.

1919, Wiest, George S., Jr., Ladderman, Truck 02; 1975, Wiley, Joseph R., Firefighter, Ladder 27; 1920, Wilfrin, Harry, Hoseman, Engine 43; 1949, Wilkinson, Ray, Batt. Chief, Battalion 4; 1884, Williams, Henry, Hoseman, Engine 27; 1907, Wilson, Charles E., Foreman, Engine 11; 1945, Wilson, Howard, Hoseman, Engine 01; 1954, Wilson, Thomas, Firefighter, Engine 29; 1918, Wirth, Harry, Lieutenant, Engine 41; 1910, Wittig, Gustave, Foreman, Engine 15; 1942, Wolf, Frank W., Hoseman, Engine 33; 1872, Wolf, George W., Ladderman, Truck A; 1944, Woodruff, Francis, Hoseman, Engine 30; 1880, Woolston, William, Hoseman, Engine 23; 1991, Yale, Stephen D., Firefighter, Ladder 29; 1951, Young, Frank J., Batt. Chief, Battalion 2; 1919, Zorr, Charles, Hoseman, Pipe Line 2.

HONORING RONDO PLAZA

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize residents of the historic Rondo neighborhood of Saint Paul, Minnesota as the community comes together to seek hope and healing. Earlier this fall, it was an honor to join community leaders to break ground on a Rondo Commemorative Plaza as a first step toward reconciliation for this neighborhood that was torn apart during the construction of the National Interstate Highway System in the 1960s. Like so many predominately black urban neighborhoods around the nation, cultural, social, and political trauma stemming from this civic wound still scars our community today.

Old Rondo was Saint Paul's largest and most prominent African American community centered around a once thriving street called Rondo Avenue. From the 1900 to the early 1960's African Americans migrated from the south to seek good jobs and Saint Paul's rich and vibrant quality of life. Generations created and invested in businesses, schools, civic organizations and families.

When plans were made for a National Interstate Highway System, people of color, those of limited means or political representation were not at the table. Designs for Interstate 94 landed squarely on Rondo. Over the cries and protest of its residents, bulldozers were brought in, and Rondo Avenue and the homes and businesses nearby were razed. This tight-knit community was devastated. During the decades since the freeway was built, longtime residents have worked hard to rebuild a community lost. Thanks to them today the spirit of Rondo's neighbors still burns bright.

Immutable leaders like Marvin "Roger" Anderson, Floyd Smaller, Nathaniel Khaliq, Debbie Montgomery and countless others have brought tireless dedication and commitment to restoring the Rondo spirit and community. They've begun successful local festivals like Rondo Days and the Selby Avenue Jazz Festival which bring community together in new ways to celebrate and chart a new future.

While, nothing can be done to undo the injustice that was done to the Rondo community more than four decades ago, that doesn't mean nothing should be done to help our residents remember our history so that we don't repeat it again. Anderson and other Rondo leaders are planning the Rondo Commemora-

tive Plaza as a tangible place to acknowledge and confront the dark chapter in Saint Paul's relationship with its African American community. It will be a place to remember the vibrant Rondo neighborhood, and continue moving forward into the 21st century—with all voices at the table.

This plaza will be a beautiful community gathering spot to learn about Rondo through written and oral presentations, music and art. It will serve as a social gathering place for all generations, for visitors to appreciate and remember the history of Rondo and the strength of residents that lives on.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the strong will and unassailable pride of the Rondo community as they build the Rondo Commemorative Plaza. We look forward to the grand opening of this special place and the big step in healing and reconciliation of the past.

TRIBUTE TO ARJUN GANGA

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Arjun Ganga, a senior at Valley High School in West Des Moines, Iowa, for earning a perfect score on his American College Testing (ACT) examination.

Arjun is one of only 2,235 students out of 2.1 million 2017 high school test-takers who earned this very rare honor. He was one of five students in his Valley High School class to earn the top composite score of 36, a milestone that had never before been reached in the school's history. He was able to accomplish this impressive feat while still remaining active in a number of extracurricular activities, including: co-founding and co-directing the Des Moines Student-to-Student STEM Speaker Series, Science Bowl, tennis team, the Principal's Advisory Council, National Honor Society, student government, National Council on Youth Leadership, and the Silver Cord Volunteer Program.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Arjun for his hard-work, dedication, and commitment to excellence. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating him and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

21ST CENTURY CURES ACT

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the 21st Century Cures Act. The bill is not perfect, but it makes important progress on key health and addiction treatments that will help people in Maryland and across the country.

Maryland's drug poisoning death rate is higher than the national average, with both urban and rural areas facing the scourge of opioid addiction and death. This bill will provide \$1 billion in funding to states for new pro-

grams to combat the opioid and heroin epidemic. It also takes critical steps to improve our nation's mental health system by reauthorizing several grant programs aimed at crisis response, behavioral health integration in pediatric primary care, and diversion from the criminal justice system to community-based services.

Additionally, the 21st Century Cures Act aims to improve the discovery, development, and delivery of medical treatments. It creates incentives for new scientists to begin their career in research, requires more input from patients, and modernizes clinical trials—all of which will help advance treatments for rare diseases such as childhood cancer.

The bill allocates over \$6 billion in new investments to implement vital health priorities such as the President's Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative that will help us to better understand the human brain and could lead to cures to diseases such as Alzheimer's. Additionally, the funding will go towards the President's Precision Medicine and the Vice President's Cancer Moonshot Initiatives by dedicating \$4.8 billion to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The inclusion of \$500 million for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will help make its approval process more efficient and accelerate treatments to patients. Maryland is proud to be home to so many federal agencies that are leading the fight to improve the health of all Americans, and I will keep fighting to provide the resources they need in this effort.

Furthermore, the package includes legislation I authored—Advancing Research for Neurological Diseases Act. It will create a neurological disease surveillance program at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), which would provide a foundation for evaluating and understanding factors of neurological diseases like Multiple Sclerosis and Parkinson's.

While the bill includes important bipartisan provisions, I am concerned that this bill includes far less funding than what was included in the Cures package considered by the House last year. Additionally, Congressional Republicans refused to allow for the funding in this bill to be mandatory. Instead, Congress will have to vote annually to make the funding available as part of the appropriations process—the American people must hold us accountable to deliver on this promise. Finally, I still have concerns with some provisions that might impact patient safety, but I understand that FDA worked with Congress on the provisions that relate to their agency to provide feedback—much of which was incorporated. I look forward to continuing to work with the FDA through implementation to safeguard patients.

As a country, we must work together to combat drug addiction and prioritize medical research. The Cures Act moves this effort forward, but we are far from finished.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROGER WILLIAMS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call 600 on final passage of S. 294, the National