

Huntsucker. Liam is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Liam has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Liam has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Liam has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Liam scraped and spray painted fire hydrants in Liberty, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Liam Andrew Huntsucker for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on March 15, 2016. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: NO on Roll Call Number 118.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RECREATION NOT RED-TAPE ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, along with my colleague in the Senate and fellow Oregonian Senator RON WYDEN, I am pleased to introduce the Recreation Not Red-Tape (RNR) Act. This bill helps to support and promote sustainable outdoor recreation on public lands by removing barriers to access and making recreation more of a priority for federal land managers.

In Oregon and across the country, an increasing number of Americans enjoy recreating outdoors. In fact, at least two thirds of Oregonians participate in outdoor recreation each year. Recently, I joined Senator WYDEN for a portion of his tour of Oregon's Seven Wonders—some of our state's most treasured outdoor recreation destinations—and we heard from dozens of Oregonians about how important open spaces, trails, and recreation areas are to individuals, families, businesses, and communities. From the magnificent Columbia River Gorge to lesser known trails and creeks throughout our forests, canyons, and deserts, having access to these places for hiking, nature-watching, biking, and other activities is good for our souls and for our economy.

Outdoor recreation opportunities on public lands in Oregon and nationwide support healthy communities, create jobs, generate tax revenue, and support a high quality of life. According to the Outdoor Industry Association, Americans spend \$646 billion per year on outdoor recreation gear, vehicles, trips, and more. In Oregon, outdoor recreation generates over \$12 billion in consumer spending, tens of

thousands of jobs, and \$4 billion in wages and salaries. Not only that, but supporting sustainable outdoor recreation on public lands can also help protect important ecological, watershed, and fish and wildlife values that underpin high quality recreation experiences.

While public lands are open to all Americans, unfortunately sometimes it's not as easy as it should be to enjoy the great outdoors. Recreation permitting can involve confusing, complicated, and lengthy processes, and federal land managers need support in maintaining trails to facilitate use. We need to prioritize sustainable outdoor recreation for the important, powerful role that it plays in our economy, in our communities, and in our environment.

This bill helps to promote and support sustainable outdoor recreation on public lands by simplifying recreation special use permitting, facilitating access for our youth, seniors, and veterans, prioritizing maintenance of trails through collaborative partnerships, making environmentally responsible outdoor recreation a priority for land management agencies, and more. These changes will help get more people outside to enjoy our environment, nurturing our important bond with the natural world. The next step will be to complement these efforts by continuing to conserve and protect the special places that provide us with recreation opportunities, so that those opportunities can be available for generations to come.

GOVERNMENT OF KAZAKHSTAN'S COMMITMENT TO NUCLEAR NON- PROLIFERATION

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, the Government of Kazakhstan has been tireless in its commitment to nuclear non-proliferation. The steadfastness their government has shown in this area is a key part of our bilateral relationship and a clear example of Kazakhstan's leadership to the global community. This issue is particularly timely as the President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev will be participating in the upcoming Nuclear Security Summit in Washington, DC on March 31st and April 1st.

President Nazarbayev's efforts to lead Kazakhstan to unilaterally surrender its nuclear stockpile under the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program were historic and helped to create today's non-proliferation framework. More recently, Kazakhstan together with the International Atomic Energy Agency and other outside partners established the world's first Low-Enriched Uranium (LEU) Fuel Bank. This Fuel Bank, which Kazakhstan has committed to support through facilities and resources as the host nation, provides a secondary market for LEU to guarantee that all nations have an energy source for peaceful civilian nuclear power—and as importantly—have no reason to develop nuclear enrichment technologies of their own.

Additionally, Kazakhstan is preparing to host an international exposition in the city of Astana next year titled, Expo 2017. The theme will be "future energy" and include contributions from national governments, non-governmental orga-

nizations and private companies on how mankind can provide the power to support ever increasing levels of human development.

Lastly, this year we celebrate the 25th anniversary of Kazakhstan's independence after the Soviet Union and the start of bilateral relations with the United States. We mark this occasion in celebration of what has been achieved and note the areas where we can seek progress. The U.S. commitment to Kazakhstan and the region will continue to endure and taking steps such as repealing the outdated Jackson-Vanik restrictions will help to maintain the strong relationship. As we mark this occasion I look forward to a bright future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call 124, I would like to be recorded as voting Yea. On Roll Call 118, I would like to be recorded as voting No.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, March 16, I missed a series of Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on Numbers 124, 125, and 126.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT CONNER CHAPPELL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Conner Chappell of Van Meter, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained for more than a century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, Conner cleaned the hiking trails and painted the shelter ceiling at Trindle Park in Van Meter. The work ethic Conner displayed all throughout his Eagle Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Conner

and his family in the United States Congress. I ask that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating him on reaching the rank of Eagle Scout and in wishing him nothing but continued success in his future education and career.

HONORING MS. MONICA
ROSENTHAL

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Monica Rosenthal, whom I have named Woman of the Year in Lake County, California. In her two decades living in Middletown, California, Ms. Rosenthal has dedicated countless hours to community service, even while running a successful business.

Born in Hawaii and raised in towns across the country, Ms. Rosenthal settled in California after meeting her husband Dave. Together, Monica and Dave manage their 40 acre vineyard in Lake County. Beyond her business experience, Ms. Rosenthal invests her time and resources to improve the lives of her neighbors.

No stranger to organizing her neighbors in support of a cause, Ms. Rosenthal has served on two Save the Lake campaigns and assisted her community with recovery efforts after the Valley Fire devastated the southern portion of Lake County. Ms. Rosenthal drew on her experience as a small business owner and a community servant to plan a successful Economic Outlook and Forecast event in December 2015, which brought together government, business, education, and healthcare leaders to stimulate the economic recovery process.

Ms. Rosenthal has supported a wide range of both local environmental and social programs. She represented District 1 on the Lake County Planning Commission from 2007 to 2009, and, for the past five years, has represented District 1 on the Lake County Farm Bureau, lending her practical expertise to County leadership. Additionally, she supports foster youth and senior programs such as Redwood Children's Services and the Middletown Senior Center.

Mr. Speaker, Monica Rosenthal is a key part of the Lake County community and we thank her for her dedication to community service and her active participation in social programs. For this reason, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

CONGRATULATING COLUMBUS
NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Columbus North High School on its 2016 IHSA state championship in girls' gymnastics.

The Bull Dogs faced off against two-time defending champion Valparaiso High School on March 12th at Ball State University's Worthen Arena. During their tenth straight appearance at the state meet, the team made their mark by breaking the state record for total points and beating the runner-up Valparaiso Vikings 114.850 to 113.250. In fact, three of Columbus North's female gymnasts placed in the top five performances in Saturday's meet and Senior Katrina May was notably awarded the Mildred M. Ball Mental Attitude Award.

I am proud of these young women for not only their remarkable win, but also for the Hoosier sportsmanship that they displayed throughout their undefeated season. I want to commend Coaches Sandy Freshour and Bob Arthur as well as all of the assistant coaches who led these young women through this historic victory.

Congrats, Bull Dogs, on a perfect season.

HONORING JACOB MATTHEW
PEARSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Matthew Pearson. Jacob is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jacob has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jacob constructed a brick patio under an existing bench and pavilion in the playground at First Presbyterian Church of Liberty, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob Matthew Pearson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE
POOR VS. THE FEDERAL GOV-
ERNMENT

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I speak today in defense of the Little Sisters of the Poor in their stand for religious liberty in America. Next week, the Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in the case between the Little Sisters of the Poor and the federal government. The Little Sisters' ministry is to care for the elderly poor all over the world. The Little Sisters here

in the United States run a nonprofit to take care of America's elderly poor. They are now fighting the federal government in order to be able to preserve their ministry.

The federal government's argument is this: The Little Sisters of the Poor must violate the tenets of their Catholic faith and authorize their third-party health care administrators to provide contraception, sterilization, and abortifacients to recipients of their health insurance. Never mind that the government has granted complete exemptions of this mandate to massive, secular companies such as Exxon and Pepsi. The government would rather force the Little Sisters of the Poor to reject their sincere and righteous religious beliefs than grant them a full exemption like larger, secular companies have received. The government would rather force the Little Sisters out into the streets when they can't pay the oppressive fines if they don't comply with this unjust mandate. It's morally disgusting, and it's insulting to any lover of freedom.

I urge my colleagues to pray with me that the Supreme Court upholds religious freedom in America and sides with the Little Sisters of the Poor.

CONGRATULATING GARY
GRINNELL

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Gary Grinnell on his recent appointment to the Board of Directors at the National Association of Federal Credit Unions.

Mr. Grinnell currently serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of Corning Credit Union, located in my hometown of Corning, New York. Prior to this appointment, he served as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Grinnell has nearly 25 years of experience in the financial services industry and has held numerous positions involving internal audit, consumer and real estate lending operations, risk management, and member services.

Mr. Grinnell serves on NAFCU's Legislative Committee and has testified before Congress on behalf of the Association. He has a deep understanding of legislative and regulatory issues facing credit unions across the country. I am confident that his expertise and years of experience will benefit the NAFCU Board and local credit unions for years to come.

Mr. Grinnell has lived in the Corning community for 18 years, where he and his wife Melissa have raised their three children. Mr. Grinnell's commitment to our community is evident by his leadership on the Southern Tier Economic Growth Board of Directors and the Chemung County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Gary Grinnell and wishing him the best of luck in his new role on the NAFCU Board of Directors.