

TRIBUTE TO CARL BURT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Carl Burt of Des Moines, Iowa, as one of Iowa's 2016 Heroes of the Heartland, sponsored by the American Red Cross of Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving greater Iowa honors individuals for their acts of great bravery, dedication and service to the community. The winners are nominated by their peers, highlighting Iowa's most compassionate and caring individuals. These extraordinary people commit actions which demonstrate the potential heroism and kindness which is in all of us. Heroes of the Heartland reflect the values and vision of the American Red Cross, leaving a positive impact on central Iowa.

In announcing the Award, Red Cross officials explained why Mr. Burt is being recognized for his heroism. Last spring, he was having an outdoor dinner with a friend and her mother when the friend noticed her mother slouched back in her chair, barely breathing. Mr. Burt immediately took action and attempted to begin cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) but her jaw was clenched. He told his friend to call 9-1-1 emergency while he continued giving rescue breaths. Mr. Burt started doing chest compressions and after only two compressions, the mother suddenly awakened. Emergency services arrived, checked her vitals and determined that she had had a seizure but would recover. As part of his daily role as a jail service aide for Polk County, Iowa, Mr. Burt is required to be certified in CPR.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Burt is an Iowan who has made central Iowa citizens very proud. He has dedicated his life to quietly doing what is right and not seeking such attention. But it is with great honor that I recognize him today. I ask that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in honoring Mr. Burt for his courage. I thank him for his service and wish him continued success in all his future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING APRIL AS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the importance of April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

As Co-Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, I have always believed that our children are our nation's greatest strength and resource.

National Child Abuse Prevention Month is remembered as a time to reflect and renew our shared dedication and responsibility to protect every child in our country, no matter their social or economic background.

As elected officials, we have an obligation to condemn this violence, work for stronger en-

forcement of the law and provide adequate funding for programs to assist children who may have experienced such abuse.

There is no crime greater than an individual can commit than the crimes of child abuse, in all of its forms.

The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) established the first federal child protection legislation, and was signed into law by President Nixon on January 31, 1974.

This marked the new precedent for the national response to child abuse and neglect.

Then in 1983, President Reagan proclaimed the month of April as National Child Abuse Prevention month.

In 1989, the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect awarded nine grants to assist in developing and implementing community-based prevention strategies, in furtherance of that cause.

In addition, these grants assisted in developing a coordinated multidisciplinary training program for professionals and community leaders to improve public awareness campaigns, and implement crisis intervention programs.

In 1996, under the Clinton Administration's emphasis on collaboration and integration among child and family serving systems, a new grants program called the Community-Based Family Resource and Support (CBFRS), was created.

These grants reflected the belief that public and private child abuse prevention and treatment programs must work together toward common goals.

In 2005, there was a renewed commitment to make child abuse prevention a national priority.

As a result, the Children's Bureau focused on making safe children and healthy families a new priority, a theme that was also adopted by the National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect.

Mr. Speaker, children were not forgotten during the great debate over the Patient Protection Affordability Care Act, which included key provisions that created the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program.

Thus far during my time in Congress, I have continually proposed amendments aimed to assist families and children across the nation.

My amendment to HR 3700, which was passed in this chamber, directed the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and the Secretary of Labor to work together to produce an annual report on inter-agency strategies.

These strategies would strengthen family economic empowerment by linking housing with essential supportive services, such as employment counseling and training, financial growth, childcare, transportation, meals, youth recreational activities and other responsive services.

Once again, I thank my colleagues in the House for their efforts in protecting the children of this nation.

Mr. Speaker, this important month serves to remind each and every one of us, that as Americans we have a solemn responsibility to educate, feed, and protect our children at all costs.

HONORING ALECIA A. DECOUDREAUX

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career of Mrs. Alecia A. DeCoudreaux. Mrs. DeCoudreaux serves as the President of Mills College, my Alma Mater, and will be stepping down to conclude a successful tenure in academia.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Mrs. DeCoudreaux began her academic career as a student of English and Political Science at Wellesley College in 1976. After receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree, Mrs. DeCoudreaux continued her education and received a Doctor of Laws degree from the Indiana University School of Law in 1978.

While at Mills, Mrs. DeCoudreaux furthered inclusion by instituting the first women's college policy for admitting transgender students. This policy has become a model for women's colleges across the nation. She also expanded Mills' global focus and reach by participating in the U.S. Department of State's Women in Public Service Project (WPSP), hosting 25 women delegates from 22 countries in a 10-day conference focusing on women solving the climate crisis.

Mrs. DeCoudreaux led the campus community and collaborated with the school's board of trustees to find solutions to tough economic circumstances. Many educational programs have suffered similar downturns, and Mrs. DeCoudreaux's commitment to higher education succeeded in sustaining Mills College.

In January 2016, Mrs. DeCoudreaux joined 11 other Northern California colleges and universities in signing the Oakland Promise College Pathway Partnership, which offers financial aid and mentoring support to Oakland high school graduates. These graduates learned the skills necessary to continue a path in academics and further their careers.

Her many accolades portray Mrs. DeCoudreaux as a tireless advocate for access to education, including the Award for Education from the Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women; the ABC 7 News Profiles of Excellence Award; the Madam C.J. Walker Pioneer Award; and recognition as a Leadership California Trailblazer. She was selected as one of San Francisco Business Times' Most Influential Women in Business, and she was included in Diverse Issues in Higher Education magazine's 30 Women Making a Difference feature.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, Mrs. Alecia A. DeCoudreaux, I salute you. I thank you for your outstanding leadership in higher education and wish you continued success as you transition to this exciting new chapter of life.

ON THE PASSING OF LAWRENCE D. KOONCE, SR.

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to note the passing of a long-time community advocate, Lawrence D. Koonce, Sr.

Mr. Koonce was born in Donaldville, Georgia and grew up in Newark, New Jersey. He moved to Los Angeles in early adulthood to work with Van Vorse Mattress Company and later became a successful entrepreneur.

He was devoted to his family and to his community. He married the late Barbara Talley and they had three sons. He also had a daughter. He raised his family in the Vermont Knolls neighborhood of South Los Angeles, where he quickly took on positions of leadership. He served as President of the Vermont Knolls—81st Street Block Club many times over the course of nearly five decades.

He worked to build partnerships that would contribute to improving the area, including with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), the city council office, and later with the Community Coalition for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (CoCo).

I came to know him as he took active roles in CoCo programs such as the Greater Resources through Organizing and Work (GROW) Project. Mr. Koonce helped win changes in grocery store health and safety practices, such as selling expired meat and wilted produce in South L.A. stores. He also fought to beautify the area and calm traffic, making it nicer and safer to walk in the neighborhood.

As a result of his efforts he was selected to take part in the Neighborhood Leadership Program of the prestigious Coro Southern California Leadership Center, further enhancing his skills. He was also chosen to sit on the LAPD Community Police Advisory Board and was recognized repeatedly by LAPD for his work to improve safety and solve problems.

Never afraid to put in hard work, Mr. Koonce would not settle for less than he thought his community deserved. He will be deeply missed, and my heart is with his family and friends as they gather to honor his memory.

RECOGNIZING THE GIVE CENTER

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the leadership and volunteer efforts of the GIVE Center on its 20th anniversary. Located in Milledgeville, Georgia, the GIVE Center connects Georgia College & State University students with volunteer opportunities to help make a difference on campus and throughout the local, state, national, and international communities. In two short decades through the GIVE Center, students have completed 650,000 volunteer hours, participated in 140,000 service projects, and contributed \$15,000,000 of service to the community.

With the help of 150 student organizations, 236 community partners, 245 volunteer programs, and countless helping hands, the GIVE Center has established itself as a pillar of humble service. The servant-leadership and community engagement that are displayed by the faculty, staff, students, and volunteers at the GIVE Center are inspirational, and I am honored to have a place of such excellence and achievement in the 10th District of Georgia.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ESSROC CEMENT

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to bring to the House's attention the 150th Anniversary of ESSROC Cement, a company deeply rooted in the foundation of Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley.

In 1866, David O. Saylor, a resident of Allentown, purchased 30 acres of property in Coplay, PA. He, along with Esias Rehrg and Adam Woolever, chartered the Coplay Cement Company. Saylor, an innovator, developed a process that allowed Portland type cement to be made in the United States. Saylor patented the process, and by 1900, Coplay Cement was providing over 70 percent of the Portland Cement used in America.

Coplay Cement provided the material that became the building blocks of the massive infrastructure expansion and city-building that occurred in post-Civil War America.

Paris-based Ciments Francais ultimately acquired Coplay Cement in 1976.

The 1990s were a time of great activity for the company. It adopted the ESSROC name in 1990. In 1992, Italcementi became ESSROC's parent company.

Now, 150 years later, ESSROC has operations across four continents. In North America, the Nazareth-based company has the ability to produce over 6.5 million metric tons of cement annually. To this day, Saylor Cement remains one of their main product lines.

ESSROC has demonstrated itself as an impressive business, based not only on its corporate metrics, but more importantly on its commitment to the greater Lehigh Valley. ESSROC is a valued manufacturer in our community, a provider of good jobs with good wages, and a respected corporate citizen.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to offer my congratulations to the men and women who work at ESSROC both in the Lehigh Valley area and across the United States. May they enjoy continued prosperity.

TRIBUTE TO MSGT JAMES ROBERT HAYWORTH

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate MSgt James Robert Hayworth of Bondurant, Iowa, for his retirement on March 29, 2016 after nearly 30 years in the United States Air Force and Iowa Air National Guard, 132nd Wing, Des Moines.

MSgt Hayworth entered the United States Air Force in May 1986, receiving his basic military training at Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas, beginning his extensive, successful career within the United States military. His service gave him the opportunity to travel across our great nation and around the world. After completing basic military training, MSgt Hayworth was assigned to the 55th Services Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base in Bellevue,

NE. From there he came to Iowa, serving in the 132nd Combat Support Squadron at the Iowa Air National Guard Base in Des Moines. His first overseas deployment was during Operation Provide Comfort, where he was stationed at the Air Base Wing of Incirlik Air Base, Adana, Turkey. MSgt Hayworth returned to the United States where he served in various roles until his next deployment overseas in 2009, supporting the 432nd Maintenance Group and our military efforts from the Joint Base Balad in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He later returned to Iowa, completing his career with the Iowa Air National Guard.

Mr. Speaker, MSgt Hayworth's unyielding commitment to his country is a true testament to his patriotism. I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress. We will never be able to thank him enough for the sacrifices he has made in order to keep our country safe. I ask that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in thanking him for his service, congratulating him on his retirement and wishing him nothing but continued success and happiness.

COMMEMORATING THE PASSAGE OF THE HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION RECONCILIATION ACT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the passage of the empowering "Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act."

Over the past three decades, the average tuition at a public, four-year college institution has more than tripled, while the typical family's income has become plateaued.

This great struggle pitting the interests of the banks and financial institutions against those of vulnerable students finally came to an end on March 30, 2010, when President Barack Obama signed this legislation into law.

This law reinvested savings back into education by upgrading community colleges facilities, increasing Pell Grants, and making it easier for responsible students to pay off their loans.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Serving Institutions in this nation were resultantly able to receive a needed benefit.

For new borrowers after 2014, student loans are eligible to be forgiven after 20 years to those making timely payments, down from the previous 25 year requirement.

This law also has helped parents invest in their children's education by simplifying the federal education loan borrowing process.

Specifically, in my home city of Houston, Texas, this legislation has helped many of the 9,700 students currently attending the prestigious HBCU, Texas Southern University, alongside the 42,704 students attending the University of Houston.

During my time serving our country, I have fought to make higher education accessible to all who strive to achieve it.

That is why I am proud to have stood with 220 of my colleagues in voting "yea" in support of this legislation.