

Quitman County School Board since 2006, and has worked untiringly trying to bring about positive changes for the boys and girls of the Quitman County School System. And also since she wanted to share her knowledge of some undocumented history of the early life of Blacks in the Delta, she wrote a book entitled "Drifting Into Falcon."

Mrs. Davis is the mother of three daughters: Pamela, Jamesetta and Wanda, who is deceased. She has five grandchildren: Larry, Brandon, Darnell, Steve and Ashley; and four great grandchildren: Debrisha, Marian, Lauren and Laila.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Lillie V. Davis because she is definitely the epitome of an unsung hero.

ESSAY BY LAUREN GROVER

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight from across the political spectrum that sheds a light on the concerns of our younger constituents. Giving voice to their priorities will hopefully instill a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Lauren Grover attends Clear Springs High School in League City, Texas. The essay topic is: Select an important event that has occurred in the past year and explain how that event has changed/shaped our country.

In this past year there have been numerous significant events that have transpired and while many of them have shaped our country as a whole; I believe that there is one in particular that has changed our country by stating something that for a while has been suppressed. The Supreme Court case Obergefell vs. Hodges or as many people know it, the legalization of same sex marriage. While many people believe that it has caused the people to choose sides, I strongly believe that it has actually allowed people to come together in different ways and has slowly started to allow for more tolerance. Before this case, many people believed that implementing rules such as "don't ask, don't tell" would take care of awkward situations but by allowing the LGBT community to have legal marriage opportunities it will bring a new outlook for a new generation. This takes equality to the next level by allowing anyone and everyone to feel that they have the same rights as everyone else. As the younger generations become older the tolerance of the entire country will be greater. In the beginning the freedom was strictly meant for certain people which allowed for slavery and segregation which was later understood as being wrong to look down upon a person because of their skin color, then it was woman's rights which later turned into woman becoming an important role model and no longer living in a "man's world", and now the right to choose who will be able to love who comes into play and allowing ev-

everyone to have the same opportunities to be who they want to be. Everyone has the right to choose which path they want to travel without the fear that society will not approve of their decision. This country has had many ups and downs in the fight for freedom but the shape is becoming less strict and more accepting. Not only has the country become more tolerant but also open minded. The world is changing and the country is moving along with it. The amount of freedom given is in the hands of the people and it is their choice what happens with it.

PRESCIENT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Prescient for receiving a Business Recognition Award from the Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation.

Prescient offers a fully integrated design engineering and construction solution, including 3D virtual model system, welding robots, and CNC drilling machines allowing for industry-leading levels of material efficiency. Prescient has worked on the Colorado Christian University residence hall and the Hyatt House in Belmar.

The Business Recognition Award is given to companies that show growth in primary employment, sales and/or capital investment in the last year. Prescient is well-deserving of this award for their upcoming relocation and expansion of their manufacturing operations in Arvada which will bring 250 high-paying jobs to the county and \$8.9 million in capital investment to our community. The new facility is owned, and partially occupied by the Sorin Group, which has also decided to relocate their operations and 300-plus employees to Jefferson County.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Prescient for this well-deserved recognition by Jefferson County EDC. Thank you for your contributions to the Jefferson County economy and community.

TRIBUTE TO KOLBY JONES

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Kolby Jones for being named a 2016 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2016 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 640 business leaders and growing.

As the Director of Business Development at Ecosystem Services Exchange and the owner of a new restaurant, Kolby certainly does not find himself with much spare time. He has been tirelessly dedicated to improving water quality within the state of Iowa by promoting better practices that focus on drain tile line management. Kolby is also civically engaged in his community by chairing the Polo on the Green organization that has grown in its charitable donations each of the three years he has served. His work ethic and dedication to civic engagement is a true testament to his character and Iowa values.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Kolby in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Kolby on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2016 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

TWO-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE NIGERIAN GIRLS KIDNAPPING

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, today marks two years since the terrorist group Boko Haram abducted nearly 300 Nigerian school girls from their school in the middle of the night. Most of those girls have not been seen or heard from since.

Boko Haram has abducted, imprisoned, and violated countless women and girls in Nigeria and surrounding countries.

They have displaced more than 2 million people, including 1.4 million children, who have seen their homes destroyed, their families brutally killed, their lives torn apart.

In 2014, Boko Haram was responsible for nearly seven thousand deaths, making it deadlier than any other terrorist group, including ISIS.

But amid all the horrors in the world, the media and the global community have largely remained silent about Boko Haram's brutalities.

As a member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, I continue to advocate for increased attention to Boko Haram, knowing that the atrocities perpetrated by Boko Haram could very well cause further instability throughout the region and have significant implications for U.S. national security.

Earlier this year, I called for a committee hearing to explore the issues around Boko Haram. We have a moral responsibility to work toward the elimination of this terrorist group. Inaction is incompatible with our commitment to human rights.

Those who choose to ignore the ongoing atrocities committed by Boko Haram look at Africa and see instability and strife. Those of us here today look and see these kidnapped girls, and we think about what would happen to our own children if they were taken from us.

It is time for all of us to see these girls not as a burden of another nation, but as a responsibility of our own. It is time for us to help

secure justice on their behalf and their safe return to their families.

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN LAWSON

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Stephen Lawson, Team Leader at the Modesto Vet Center, for his nine years of outstanding service to our nation's heroes and the Modesto community. Stephen has announced that he will be retiring on April 29, 2016.

In 1969, Stephen enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served as a Corpsman. After being honorably discharged in 1973 he found his home in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, in Merced California.

After his service in the military, Stephen's first job was at the Merced College Veterans Office where he found a position working with veterans returning home and was in charge of the Outreach and Peer counseling. In this capacity, Stephen provided outstanding service to many veterans who were in need of his help and guidance.

In 1984, Stephen graduated from Fresno State University with a Master's Degree in Rehabilitation Psychology. He found a passion in helping his fellow veterans and furthered his career by working as a Rehabilitation Counselor at a large counseling firm.

Eventually, Stephen started Lawson Professional Counseling Corp. Under his leadership, the company grew to 50 employees and 10 offices throughout the Central Valley. On November 19, 2007, Stephen began at the Modesto Vet Center and was appointed Team Leader. Stephen always aimed to assure that veterans received the highest standard of care.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Stephen Lawson for his many years of service and outstanding contributions to the veteran community as well as our country.

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR ROBERT SEIDLER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the remarkable Arthur "Art" Robert Seidler who passed away in California on Wednesday, March 30, 2016. Art was a pillar of the community in Corona, California, and he will be deeply missed.

As a child, Art moved from Chicago, Illinois, to Glen Avon in Riverside County, California. After attending Riverside Poly High School, Art enlisted in the Army Air Corps in March of 1942, where he would ultimately fly B25 Medium Range bomber planes. In a highlight of his time in military service, Art was given orders to fly a brand new B25 from San Francisco to Hawaii, where it would be outfitted for combat. Art immediately flew the new plane and buzzed the house of his girlfriend Patricia Smith, who later became his wife and mother to his three children Kurt, Trudy, and Robert.

Following his military service, Art went to college at the University of Southern California where he obtained an undergraduate degree in business and a law degree. After passing the California State Bar, Art worked for the Riverside District Attorney and later joined the Ganahl and Ganahl law firm in Corona. Eventually Art started his own law practice alongside his son, Kurt, where he practiced law for the next thirty-six years. As an active member of the Corona community, Art was a dedicated member of the Corona Elks Club on East Sixth.

The way in which Art lived his life should serve as a reminder that the power of an individual with drive, perseverance and a strong work-ethic can do great things. His dedication to his work, family, and community are a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I was proud to call Art my friend and I will deeply miss him. I extend my condolences to Art's family and friends; although Art may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the world remains and will never be forgotten.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 141, had I been present, I would have voted Yes.

RECOGNIZING RECIPIENTS OF THE IOWA RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION'S FIRST QUARTER 2016 STARS OF HOSPITALITY PROGRAM

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Matthew Rumeliote, Pam Bartholomew, Cindy Papouchis and Donna Meacham with Northwestern Steakhouse, Mason City. These four outstanding individuals are recipients of the Iowa Restaurant Association's First Quarter 2016 Stars of Hospitality Program.

The Iowa Restaurant Association's Stars of Hospitality Program celebrates individuals who have made a career in the restaurant by working at a single establishment and/or for a specific company for more than 20 years. The Program recognizes the importance of these team members to their employer, while also celebrating the professionalism they display daily.

In a meeting in my Washington, D.C. office, I was told about the perseverance and work ethic of the recipients. The stories brought a smile to my face because wherever we go, in-state, out-of-state or abroad, Iowans are well-known for their hard work and pull yourself up by your bootstraps mentality.

I am also grateful to the numerous restaurants across our state and our nation that provide varied opportunities, good-paying jobs and upward mobility for millions of Americans.

The contribution these businesses make to our market and culture should be acknowledged by all and remembered by lawmakers when we craft policy that impacts the restaurant industry. Overly zealous regulation that harms hardworking business also diminishes opportunities for hardworking individuals, those like Matthew, Pam, Cindy and Donna.

Mr. Speaker, I am thankful for these individuals, businesses and the opportunity to recognize American success. In our nation, if you work hard, you can accomplish much. We need to make sure it stays that way.

REED GROUP

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Reed Group for receiving a Business Recognition Award from the Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation.

The Business Recognition Award is given to companies that show growth in primary employment, sales and/or capital investment in the last year. Providing extended leave management services for public and private organizations, the company helps organizations reduce the cost, compliance risk and complexity of employee absence. Its products and services address FMLA, ADA, state and other leave laws, worker's compensation and short-term and long-term disability programs.

Currently, Reed Group employs 530 people nationwide including 442 people at its headquarters in Westminster. The ever-changing business environment means more employers are actively managing employee absence as a way to improve operations and drive better results. Because of this, Reed Group is planning to add an additional 150 employees over the next 3-5 years. During 2015, the company hired 77 employees, which included nurses, IT specialists and customer service representatives. In 2016, due to a major acquisition, the company will add another 200 employees making it the second largest extended-leave management services provider in the nation.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Reed Group for this well-deserved recognition by Jefferson County EDC. Thank you for your contributions to the Jefferson County economy and community.

ESSAY BY MARSHALL FOSTER

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight from across the political spectrum that sheds a light on the concerns of our younger constituents. Giving voice to their priorities will