

HONORING HELEN AND TAYLOE
MURPHY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2016

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Helen and Tayloe Murphy of Mount Holly, VA for their many years of dedicated service to conservation, beautification and preservation efforts in Virginia.

Helen has been engaged in preservation and conservation activities for over 50 years. She has served on the boards of the Virginia Historical Society, the Virginia Nature Conservancy, the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, the Department of Historic Resources, the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden and the Rappahannock Community College. In addition to serving on these boards, Helen served as the President of the Menokin Foundation from 2004 to 2010 and the President of The Garden Club of Virginia from 1992 to 1994.

Tayloe has also dedicated his life to public service. After graduating from Hampton—Sydney College, Mr. Murphy attended law school at the University of Virginia and then went on to serve as a commissioned officer in the United States Navy. Continuing his public service career, he was a member of the Virginia House of Delegates from 1982 to 2000, and was later appointed Secretary of Natural Resources during Governor Mark Warner's administration. While a member of the General Assembly and as Secretary of Natural Resources he served on the Chesapeake Bay Commission and was its chairman three times. Tayloe has practiced law since 1960, and he has been a leading voice for environmental interests for decades, playing an instrumental role in the development of key legislation, regulations and policies. He has served on the Board of Trustees of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and Preservation Virginia. He is a former President of the Northern Neck Historical Society and serves on the Board of Directors of Union Bankshares Corporation. Tayloe just finished his term as President of the Menokin Foundation after serving for six years.

Mr. and Mrs. Murphy have shown an unwavering commitment to the conservation of Virginia's natural resources. Their leadership and hard work has not gone unnoticed. The Murphy's active involvement has made their community a better place and I am proud to have them as residents of the First District. I thank both Helen and Tayloe for their leadership of the Menokin Foundation and for working tirelessly to protect our natural resources and environment for future generations.

BROOKE CATLIN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brooke Catlin for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Brooke Catlin is an 11th grader at Faith Christian Academy and received this award

because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Brooke Catlin is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Brooke Catlin for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

THE ZIKA PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS:
THE URGENT NEED FOR THE
PRESIDENT'S EMERGENCY FUND-
ING REQUEST

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on the topic of the Zika Virus threat that is real and something that the Congress should address.

As a senior member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, which has a core mission of emergency preparedness of state and local governments to be equipped to react to emergencies make me acutely aware of the potential for the Zika Virus to be a real challenge for state and local governments in the coming months.

I thank President Obama for his leadership in requesting \$1.9 billion to address the threat of the Zika Virus.

The Administration due to the threat posed by Zika has used funds allocated for Ebola, which will need to be replaced once Zika funding is available.

The region of the world impacted by Ebola is still seeing new victims and the funds allotted for Ebola are therefore still needed.

I like many of my colleagues with districts along the Gulf Coast am well aware of the presence of mosquitoes.

These areas are known to have both types of the Zika Virus vectors: the *Aedes Aegypti* and the *Aedes Albopictus*, which is why I held a meeting in Houston on March 10, 2016 about the evolving health threat.

I convened a meeting with Houston, Harris County and State officials at every level with responsibility for combating the Zika Virus to discuss preparations that would mitigate the spread of the mosquitoes that can carry the virus.

Houston, Texas, like many cities, towns, and parishes along the Gulf Coast, has a tropical climate like parts of Central and South America, as well as the Caribbean. Tropical climates are hospitable to mosquitoes that carry the Zika Virus.

In addition, Houston has a large and very diverse population that travels to many of the Zika Virus impacted zones, located throughout Central and South America and the Caribbean where mosquito transmission of the Zika Virus is the primary means of exposure to the illness.

I have identified shared concerns among state and local agency officials regarding a

need to have a plan to address the Zika Virus in the Houston and Harris County area that would include every aspect of the community.

Part of the Zika Virus response must be to ensure that we are doing all that we can and should be doing to reach every community.

CDC has a disease surveillance unit at Bush Intercontinental Airport.

The participants in the March 10, 2016 meeting I hosted on the Zika Virus provided insight into each of the areas that local governments will have to address.

The participants in the March 10, 2016 meeting I held in Houston included:

Dr. Peter Hotez, Dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine and Professor of Pediatrics and Molecular Virology & Microbiology, Baylor College of Medicine; Dr. Umair Shah, Executive Director for Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services; Dr. Dubboun, Director of the Harris County Public Health Environmental Services Mosquito Control Division; Dr. Gruber, Assistant Commissioner from Regional and Local Health Services for the State of Texas; Dr. Raouf Arafat, Houston Health and Human Services Office of Surveillance and Public Health Preparedness; Stephen Williams, Director of Houston Health Department; Dr. David Persse, Physician Director, Emergency Medical Services, Houston Public Health Authority; and Julie Graves, (Confirmed) MD, MPH, PhD, Regional Medical Director, Health Service Region 6/5S, Texas Department of State Health Services.

The collective wisdom of these experts revealed that we should not let the fear of the Zika Virus control public policy; but that we should get in front of the problem, then we can control the Zika Virus from its source—mosquitoes.

The fight against the Zika Virus will be neighborhood by neighborhood and will rely upon the resources and expertise of local government working closely with State governments with the support of federal government agencies.

The consensus of the experts is that the existence of the Zika Virus are through: health community communication with the public; correct vector control; surveillance; planning; keep yards clean, road ways, and lots free of any breeding environments for mosquitoes; and community engagement in the work that must be done is essential.

Poverty and the conditions that may exist in poor communities can be of greatest risk for the Zika Virus breeding habitats for vector mosquitoes.

Illegal dumping of tires; open ditches, torn screens, or no screens during the long hot days of summer will make for a perfect storm for the spread of the virus.

Mr. Speaker, I will remind my colleagues that eighty percent of those infected will not know they have the Zika Virus.

An uninfected mosquito biting this person can spread the virus when it bites other people.

The rate of spread of the disease by the *Aedes Aegypti* is problematic because the mosquito will bite many people to collect enough blood to lay eggs.

The *Aedes Aegypti* has evolved to rely exclusively on human blood, which means it adapted to fly low—close to the ground; seeks any opportunity to enter homes; can breed in as little as a cap of dirty water; is known to breed in fish aquariums; plant water catch dishes; or tires.

Blood is essential for breeding of the vector mosquitoes for the Zika Virus and the Aedes Aegypti is seeking an opportunity that keeps it near people.

Mr. Speaker, there is no need to be alarmed, but we should be preparing to do what we can to prevent and mitigate the Zika Virus in communities around the nation.

We know that 33 states have one or both of the vector mosquitoes.

It is anticipated that the Americas including the United States can expect 4 million Zika Virus cases in the next four months and to date there are over a million cases in Brazil.

The most serious outcome of the Zika Virus exposure is birth defects that can occur during pregnancy if the mother is exposed to the Zika Virus.

The virus is believed to invade the central nervous system of the developing baby and inhibit brain development, which can result in: still births; microcephaly; the rate for the Zika Virus exposure far exceeds that number.

Microcephaly is brain underdevelopment either at birth or the brain failing to develop properly after birth, which can cause: difficulty walking; difficulty hearing; and difficulty with speech.

There are no tests to detect the virus and there is no vaccine or cure.

If we do not act—the public reaction to Ebola will seem tame compared to how the public might react to the arrival of mosquitoes transmitting the Zika Virus.

I call on my colleagues to pass the President's request for the \$1.9 billion in emergency supplemental appropriations.

If you are not sure whether the Zika Virus is a potential problem in your districts, I challenge you to hold a meeting like the one I held in Houston on March 10, to become informed.

RECOGNIZING THE MEMBERS OF
THE D.C. CONGRESSIONAL ART
COMPETITION COMMITTEE

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2016

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing not only our outstanding high school artists in the District of Columbia who participated in this year's Congressional Art Competition, but also the D.C. Congressional Art Competition Committee which made this year's competition a success.

Since its inception in 1982, the Congressional Art Competition has encouraged the artistic talents of high school students from across the country. This year my office received 135 pieces of artwork from students in grades 8 through 12 from 24 public, charter, and private schools in the District, the largest number of D.C. schools, that have ever participated in this annual art competition.

But the untold story of the Congressional Art Competition is of the volunteers whose time and expertise are responsible for executing the entire competition. Here in the District of Columbia, this year's competition would not have been possible without the dedicated work of our D.C. Congressional Art Competition Committee:

THOMAS ATKINS, OWNER, TERA GALLERY

Mr. Atkins, a former staff member whose many duties included the annual art competition, generously continues to serve as an advisor who assists wherever he is needed.

WILLIAM BROWER, OWNER, JBV PRODUCTION

Mr. Brower provided the valuable services of setting up the venue for the reception, as well as clean up at the end of the evening.

YAIDA FORD, ATTORNEY AT LAW, FORD LAW FIRM

Ms. Ford did a tremendous amount of outreach to secure art supply donations and prizes for all of our student participants, including an iPad for the second place winner.

She also dedicated her own time to volunteer for day-of operations at the D.C. Congressional Art Competition Reception.

TIFFANI GOMEZ, SALES ASSOCIATE, BLICK ART SUPPLIES

Ms. Gomez is one of the most passionate members of the committee. She helped secure art portfolios for student artwork, and helped with day-of operations at the reception.

ERIC KOKUMA, DIRECTOR OF MEMBER SERVICES, MILITARY OPERATIONS RESEARCH SOCIETY; JENNIFER LITRELL, PROGRAM LEAD, CHILDREN'S NATIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM

Mr. Kokuma and Ms. Littrell were in charge of entertainment for the reception, and recruited Ward 1 ANC Commissioner Frank Agbro to perform with his family jazz band.

DONNELL LEWIS, PRESIDENT, ONE CREATIVE SOURCE

Mr. Lewis is the generous and enormously capable longtime chairman of the committee.

CAMILO MANJARRES, CONGRESSIONAL FELLOW,
CONGRESSWOMAN ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

Mr. Manjarres has worked diligently to facilitate committee meetings and logistics for our annual art competition, and expanded the competition's community outreach to increase participation.

PATRICIA MITCHEL, SYSTEMS ANALYST, AMTRAK

Ms. Mitchel has been a very active member of the committee. She has worked tirelessly to secure food and drink donations for our reception, including cupcakes from Georgetown Cupcakes and food from &pizza.

ZOMA WALLACE, CURATOR AND ART BANK COORDINATOR, D.C. COMMISSION ON ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Ms. Wallace took on the responsibility for the day-of logistics, and essentially curated the competition to make sure that all of the student art was strategically placed and easy for participants to review. She also served as a juror, and helped select this year's winners.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing each member of the D.C. Congressional Art Competition Committee for their indispensable work in this year's competition, and I take this opportunity to again thank the student artists for submitting such wonderful work.