

will aid future research into the treatment of cancer and various illnesses associated with aging.

Dr. Modrich grew up in Raton, a town of less than 7,000 people in northern New Mexico, and graduated from Raton High School in 1964. From a young age, he frequently took on science projects with an inquisitive spirit that made it no surprise to family and friends when he decided to pursue a career as a scientist. After graduating, Dr. Modrich headed east to study biology at MIT, then moved to Stanford for his doctorate in biochemistry. He has spent most of his professional career at Duke University, where he became the James B. Duke Professor of Biochemistry in 1988.

Despite the geographic diversity of his endeavors, Dr. Modrich credits his childhood in Raton as a key inspiration for his career in science. “There was huge biological diversity around me,” he said. “Within five miles, the ecology can change dramatically. It was very thought provoking.” Raton is a special place where deep roots and a strong connection to the land are hallmarks of this community, and these qualities have left a lasting impact on Paul Modrich.

Dr. Modrich’s accomplishments serve as a reminder that New Mexico is home to immense talent. His success stands as a testament to the virtues of hard work, determination, and curiosity, and provide an example that will encourage young people in New Mexico and across the country to follow their dreams and change the world. Dr. Modrich has shown that just because you are from a small town does not mean you can’t go on to do big things. Again, congratulations to Dr. Modrich on his tremendous achievement. The people of Raton and New Mexico are proud of him.

RECOGNITION OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF MONTENEGRO’S INDEPENDENCE

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Montenegro on the tenth anniversary of their independence, which will occur on Saturday, May 21.

Ten years ago this week, voters in Montenegro went to the polls in a referendum which posed the question, “Do you want Montenegro to be an independent state?” When the dust settled in the evening of May 21, 2006, 55.5 percent of voters chose to peacefully dissolve the union with Serbia.

Shortly thereafter, all five members of the United Nations Security Council recognized the newest country in the world. In a region marked by bullets and bombs, this was the beginning of a praiseworthy chapter in regional and trans-Atlantic history.

In addition, I am very pleased that this proud nation is on a path to become the newest member of NATO. Its inclusion in NATO will strengthen regional and trans-Atlantic security, and sends a strong message of strength to friend and foe alike.

Given that countries much larger than Montenegro often dominate our foreign policy, it is easy to overlook the importance of ten years of U.S.-Montenegro relations.

U.S. government assistance to Montenegro has aimed to help the country advance toward Euro-Atlantic integration, increase its ability to fight organized crime and corruption, strengthen its civil society and democratic structures, and provide stability in the fragile Balkans.

Meanwhile, American business leaders likewise play a vital role. For example, the Stratex Group is the largest American investor in Montenegro. The CEO was one of the first Jewish families to flee the scourge of Soviet Communism settling in our great country. Today, his company is working alongside our Embassy and recently just hosted airmen from the Air War College. Only two places in Montenegro fly the American flag: the U.S. Embassy and the Stratex properties.

Beyond strengthening our formal diplomatic alliance, my colleagues here in Congress must endeavor to creatively promote business and cultural diplomacy—in Montenegro and around the world. We must encourage our diplomats to have a greater appreciation for American investments in emerging democracies.

I believe that with a full commitment to rule of law, transparency and an independent judiciary, Montenegro will achieve its stated goal of further attracting American investors and, in the process, strengthen the trans-Atlantic community.

With the focus of Congress, I am confident Montenegrin government leaders will fully commit to prioritizing these critical reforms and educating a new generation about conducting corruption-free business in the 21st century. As Chairman of the Montenegro Caucus, I will continue to support Montenegro, and I will continue to support a stable, secure Europe based on collective self-defense, free trade and economic freedom, the rule of law, and democracy.

PEOPLE LIE—NUMBERS DON’T

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today on this Restoration Tuesday, I rise to bring attention to the continued voter suppression affecting Americans around the country during this election year and the ongoing battle to protect the constitutional right to vote.

It has been said that new restrictive voting laws were made to prevent voter fraud, but there is little evidence showing a significant problem. It has been said that having certain photo IDs are a simple request for those seeking to vote, while thousands of Americans such as the elderly, college students and city-dwellers who use public transportation and others lack such newly required IDs. Much is done in the name of noble reasons, but often the truth lies not in words but in deeds and results. The truth is this—Americans want to vote, but these new suppressive state voting laws are making it especially difficult.

Here are some numbers: Seventeen states have introduced new voting procedures to be in place for the November election, more than half of which are being challenged in court. In all, over 30 states across the country have implemented new restrictive laws aimed at blocking the American people from the ballot box. After the Supreme Court decision in the

Shelby case, the state of Alabama closed over 30 DMVs, the most common location to receive a photo ID. Strict voting ID laws in Texas could leave up to 600,000 voters without the proper ID. Also in 2008, Arizona had 400 voting polls. They went down to 200 voting polls in 2012 and now in 2016 they are down to 60.

Across the nation, voting polls have been shut down and voters have been shut out. New photo ID laws have been passed and eligible voters have been passed up. With so many new state laws that have made it harder for voters to get to the polls, we must take a hard look around and ask the question—why don’t we want people to vote? Why make voting for eligible voters harder and not easier? Are these new laws really about preventing voter fraud? The leaders in Congress need to have answers to these questions. Suppression of the right to vote is especially un-democratic and ultimately un-American.

In the midst of this devastating blow to our democratic process, here are some numbers that we can be proud of: Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe recently restored voting rights to about 200,000 individuals with a past felony conviction. On March 10th of this year, Maryland also restored the right to vote for an estimated 40,000 individuals with past felony convictions. It is encouraging to see examples of leaders who believe in our democracy and believe in the Constitutional right to have one’s voice heard through their right to vote.

I don’t have to remind anyone that this is an election year. But when I look around and see the ongoing suppression of the right to vote, I feel obligated to remind us all of what is at stake in this election. Every voice matters, every vote matters. Unfortunately, if eligible voters continue to be hindered by these new suppressive state laws; every voice will not be heard. Every potential vote will not be counted.

Voting rights need to be protected and eligible voters need proponents of the Constitution and the democratic process to fight for them—to fight for their rights. The suppression needs to stop, the oppression needs to stop, and the excuses need to stop. There is too much at stake this election year and Congress needs to stand up and do something about it now.

On this Restoration Tuesday, I give us all the charge to battle against the continued suppression of the American vote and stand strong by our principles of democracy, liberty, and justice for all.

Mr. Speaker, my Republican colleagues should join the 168 members of Congress and support H.R. 2867—the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015. Let’s restore the Voting Rights Act of 1965. It is the right thing to do.

ANGELS OF ADDICTION

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, Angels of Addiction is an organization created by Anne Marie Farley Zanfagna about a year after the death of her youngest daughter, Jacqueline Zanfagna. Jacqueline died of a heroin overdose on October 18, 2014. At the time of

Jackie's death, her parents, Anne and Jim Zanfagna made the decision to be open with her cause of death, in hopes of raising awareness of heroin addiction.

After Jacqueline passed away, Anne Marie, an artist who works with oil paints, found she could not paint. When she finally began to paint again, she painted a vibrant, joyful portrait of Jackie which she worked on over the period of a couple of months. Anne felt that the time spent working on her painting of Jacqueline was time spent with her daughter. Anne brought her painting of Jackie to the heroin addiction support group that she and her husband attend every third Sunday of the month in Plaistow, NH. Everyone at the meeting loved her painting and she offered to paint a portrait for another family who also lost their daughter to a heroin overdose.

Anne Marie Zanfagna's portrait art raises awareness of the danger of heroin addiction. As heroin addiction has reached epidemic proportions in America, many families have lost children or loved ones to the addiction. Ultimately, Anne Marie plans to create a traveling art show of portraits of those who have succumbed to heroin addiction which she hopes to bring to the State House in New Hampshire and then across the nation, to the U.S. Capitol.

Long term goals for Angels of Addictions include raising money for a yearly scholarship in Jacqueline Zanfagna's name for an outstanding student who plans to work in addiction recovery and art therapy. Angels of Addictions also plans to support other local addiction resources including a sober house for heroin addictions.

THE MEDICARE BENEFICIARY ENROLLMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Medicare Beneficiary Enrollment Improvement Act. This bill provides newly-eligible Medicare beneficiaries with clearer, easier-to-understand information in their Welcome to Medicare package. This will help beneficiaries make better informed decisions regarding their options for receiving benefits through the Medicare program.

The decisions that newly-eligible beneficiaries make have consequences that can last a lifetime. For example, individuals who opt out of Part B coverage during their initial enrollment period must pay a lifetime premium penalty of 10 percent for each 12-month period in which they were not enrolled. By reforming the Welcome to Medicare package, this bill makes a small but important improvement that will provide beneficiaries with the information they need to fully understand their options.

IN HONOR OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAIPEI CHINESE CULTURE SUMMER CAMP

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Taipei Chinese Culture Summer Camp on its 20th anniversary.

The Taipei Chinese Culture Summer Camp, held in Phoenix, has been recognized for its outstanding performance time and time again. It was designated as an official Arizona Centennial Event, it has been recognized here in Congress, and it is a recipient of the Phoenix Mayor's Partnership Award.

Phoenix, Arizona and Taipei, Taiwan have enjoyed a Sister Cities Relationship for 37 years. The industrious people of Taipei share many things in common with Arizonans, including a strong work ethic, a peaceful nature, a love of nature and beauty, and amazing architecture.

The camp will take place June 13–17, 2016 and is open to students from all schools. This camp will promote Taiwanese and Chinese Culture, Folk Arts and Sports. In addition, it will educate our youth regarding the importance of cultural awareness and show the many similarities between our two cultures. The camp will also let children learn leadership and teamwork skills while also teaching an understanding of international issues and friendship among our nations. Perhaps most importantly for the children, it will be fun.

We recognize these achievements and encourage them to grow in the future. Again, it is my pleasure to congratulate the Taipei Chinese Summer Camp on its 20th anniversary.

HONORING JOSEPH ROBERT LEE SIGRIST

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joseph Robert Lee Sigrist. Joe is a man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship through his service in the United States Navy during the Second World War.

Joe enlisted in the Navy in 1943 where he performed vital maintenance on naval ships throughout California, Japan, and the Pacific until he completed his service in 1946. After the war, Joe continued his important work by attending the Colorado School of Mines. He worked as a machinist and tool and die maker before moving to St. Joseph, Missouri to work at Goetz Brewery. However, it could be said that one of his most notable accomplishments is his over 50 year marriage to his wife Phyllis.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding Joseph Sigrist for his service to our country—a service that preserved the freedom of his fellow citizens and the future of the United States of America.

COURTNEY GRIFFIN'S STORY

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, Courtney Griffin was an energetic child who always did well in her classes. Once she reached high school, her parents were amazed at her maturity and work ethic when she got her first job. In order to continue working her job, Courtney's parents allowed her to get a car to drive to and from work. Courtney's job required her to work late hours and she began hanging around the wrong people. She started coming home later and later, her grades fell and pills started going missing in their house. The older she got, the more times money and pills would go missing. Courtney was eventually accepted into the University of Hawaii, but her parents made her stay an extra year at home to prove she would not continue her behavior in college. Courtney began working for her father, handling all inventory duties for his business. She gradually saved up enough money to buy another car and got a boyfriend. But then Courtney's story took a turn for the worst and she began abusing heroin. She began disappearing for long periods of time and began stealing money from her father's company. Her parents tried to find her treatment, but all of the options were too expensive and their insurance company would not cover the bills. So they took Courtney to emergency rooms, hoping to get her admitted and treated. At every hospital she was released within an hour without any form of treatment. The local authorities told them that the only way to get Courtney help was to kick her out and cut her insurance so she could receive homeless benefits. Once her parents cut her off, Courtney moved in with her boyfriend's grandparents. Eventually, her boyfriend was arrested for violating parole and she was all on her own in a strange home with people she did not know. One night, she bought and used a dose of fentanyl that was 80 times stronger than she thought. That night, she drifted away and never woke up. In one day, Courtney's parents lost their child to an addiction that went untreated. Courtney's boyfriend overdosed in the same house, in the same room, in the same bed just a short while later.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH AND DALE WICHMAN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Elizabeth and Dale Wichman of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married on April 5, 1956, at Fort Lewis, Washington.

Elizabeth and Dale's lifelong commitment to each other and to their children, Michael, Susan, Sandra, and Julie, and their grandchildren and great-grandchildren truly embodies Iowa values. It is because of Iowans like you that I'm proud to represent our great state.