

with Mr. Nemo's contributions, Committee Democrats successfully advanced a number of legislative proposals that were incorporated into H.R. 3572, the "DHS Headquarters Reform and Improvement Act."

Finally, I would like to acknowledge that, during his time with the Committee, Mr. Nemo provided consistent and positive contributions to the work of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency and helped advance the priorities of the Ranking Member, Representative BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN (D-NJ).

I appreciate his service to the Committee, the Congress, and the Nation and wish him every success, as he returns to the GAO.

TRIBUTE TO MARIE AND RANDY FOSTER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Marie and Randy Foster of Oakland, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on May 7, 2016.

Marie and Randy's lifelong commitment to each other and their children, Ted, Ron, Randy, Sammarra, Elliott, and Christy, and their 18 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, truly embodies Iowa values. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

CONGRATULATING THE PHOENIX POLICE DEPARTMENT'S ARIZONA INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE UPON RECEIVING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S SPECIAL COMMENDATION

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, on this National Missing Children's Day, we come together to honor the victims of kidnapping and child abuse, and recognize the extraordinary efforts of law enforcement to prevent and uncover these tragic crimes.

Today, we are proud to announce that the Arizona Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force in the Phoenix Police Department is the 2016 recipient of the Attorney General's Special Commendation.

The Department of Justice awards the Attorney General's Special Commendation each year to an Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force that makes an exceptional contribution to the coordinated national effort against online child exploitation.

Phoenix Police task force members earned this honor by successfully pursuing and arrest-

ing a criminal who was sexually abusing two young boys in her care. They put a stop to the nightmare of abuse for these two children and, by gathering forensic evidence at the scene, discovered leads on an international ring of crime and exploitation. Their work to date has led to more than 25 arrests across the United States and Europe.

It is my privilege to congratulate these brave Arizonans for their work to protect children and keep our communities safe. Their diligence in the face of terrible circumstances sets an example for everyone in public service.

National Missing Children's Day reminds us each year that we have more work to do to protect children from kidnapping and abuse. I will continue to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to ensure public servants like the Arizona Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force have the tools they need to break the cycle of child exploitation.

TRIBUTE TO LOIS AND VERL PAULLIN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Lois and Verl Paullin on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary.

Verl and Lois were married in May, 1946 and make their home in Guthrie Center, Iowa. Their lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. As the years pass, may their love continue to grow even stronger and may they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many more years to come.

I commend this lovely couple on their 70 years of life together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

WHY WE NEED TO LOWER PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following article, written by Heather Block. I encourage all of my colleagues to read this short and powerful piece, which provides us with yet another personal testimony highlighting the need to lower the price of prescription drugs and support the Medicare Part B Demonstration Project proposed by CMS. In this article, Ms. Block describes "what it is like to have stage 4 cancer, and to fear bankruptcy as much as cancer due to our health system and the lack of drug pricing regulation". Sadly, her story is not unique. Across this country, millions of people who are already facing devastating health issues suddenly find themselves in dire financial straits due to the cost of prescription drugs. Let us not forsake the wellbeing of the many for the

financial gain of the very few. I ask you to join me in taking the side of people like Heather by supporting CMS's proposal.

PHARMA CAN BUY TIME. I CAN'T.

HEATHER BLOCK MAY 23, 2016

I testified before the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Health last week. It was a big deal for me. As I told my brother, I want my niece to know that we can speak to the powers that be—even individuals like me, without any group or organization to back me up. I want her to know that our voices can still be heard in America.

I testified about what it is like to have stage 4 cancer, and to fear bankruptcy as much as cancer due to our health system and the lack of drug pricing regulation. I also said that I support a Medicare proposal to evaluate ways to lower drug costs. It would reduce financial incentives that could encourage doctors to use more expensive drugs, while trying several different approaches that would improve quality of care and potentially cut drug costs for taxpayers and patients.

I felt like most of the Representatives had already made up their minds. Probably not due to the actual proposal, but to the pressures placed by groups that would lose money if the so-called Medicare Part B Demo is launched. I joked before I testified that I might ask, "Could anyone that doesn't receive any money from the pharmaceutical industry, raise their hands," and that I would probably be the only one with a hand raised in the room.

Turns out my joke wasn't that far off-base. Imagine my surprise when Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-Ill.) pointed out that two of the five witnesses had several pages of identical testimony—identical down to the highlights. What that says to me is that the pharmaceutical industry lobbyists are so confident of their power that they can be sloppy.

I do not have that luxury. I have limited time; no one knows how much with stage 4 cancer and certainly limited means. My friends jokingly call me "Dona Quixote." But I feel urgency around the issue, and I do appreciate Representative Peter Welch for pointing out this urgency.

I know I cannot be alone. Other patients are slowly being bled dry by the cost of our life saving drugs.

While the Medicare Part B Demo will not solve the problem of high prescription drug spending, it's at least a thoughtful step in the right direction. I hope to keep pushing and reminding everyone of the urgency of this issue. Americans recognize that the cost of drugs is not sustainable but no one knows what to do. And so far, no one knows how to overcome the money and power being mobilized by the drug companies to keep their profits high, even as patients go bankrupt.

While the Medicare Part B demo may not be perfect, it's at least a step in the right direction when everyone else seems to be more interested in standing still.

Let's proceed.
Heather Block served as a witness for the Energy and Commerce's Health committee hearing on the proposed Medicare Part B Payment Demonstration Project on May 17, 2016.

TRIBUTE TO RYAN NEWBERRY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Ryan Newberry of

Council Bluffs, Iowa, for being the first recipient of the Employee of the Year award sponsored by the Council Bluffs Community School District in conjunction with the Council Bluffs Area Chamber of Commerce. Ryan is a student at Thomas Jefferson High School in Council Bluffs and is employed by Menard's, Inc.

The Employee of the Year award is given through a new program initiative, GROW CB, which stands for Graduation is Required in Our Workforce in Council Bluffs. Superintendent of Schools for Council Bluffs Martha Bruckner said, "This is representative of some good work we're doing together. The goal of this initiative is to raise the awareness of the importance of regular school attendance, earning good grades, and earning a high diploma." The GROW CB program was created as a school-business partnership while helping businesses to invest in the future of area youth and the Council Bluffs community.

I applaud and congratulate Ryan Newberry for earning this award. He is a shining example of the future of our youth. I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Ryan Newberry for his accomplishments in school and with his employment. I wish him continued success in all his future endeavors.

JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it happened right under the entire community's nose. Eight year old Jen Spry was raped and tortured on a daily basis.

She was not kidnapped by a stranger in a dark alley. She was trafficked just a few doors down from her mother's house.

It was not just Jen who was trafficked. Her younger sister, a male cousin, and a whole group of kids from her hometown of Norris-town Pennsylvania were victims as well.

No one ever went looking for the children, simply because they never went missing. From 3–6 p.m. every day she was forced to have sex with strangers, because, as she describes it, it was her job.

The children were coerced into participating and threatened into keeping it a secret. The trafficking finally ended when she was about 10 when the neighbor suddenly moved away.

Jen went to great lengths to hide the abuse from her single mother, who never found out about the tragedies that Jen experienced. In fact, Jen did not speak out about what happened until after her mother passed away.

Stories like Jen's drove us to write JVTA. As did stories like Tina Frundt's, who joins us today.

She is a huge part of the solution with her organization Courtney's House and her membership on the U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking created by JVTA as well as the persistence of many of the groups present today.

The United States views itself as a leader in the fight against human trafficking. Even going as far as to grade other countries on their efforts to combat trafficking in persons.

Yet, before the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act (JVTA) became law, I heard about common issues from survivors and anti-trafficking organizations on the national, state, and local levels, as well as law enforcement and local leaders. Some of the common concerns included:

The federal government barely funds efforts to combat trafficking in the United States. Trafficking victims are often arrested and treated as criminals, but buyers are often not.

Many Americans including those that interact with trafficking victims—law enforcement, educators, medical professionals, and others—do not know about human trafficking or understand how to identify victims. Hearing this message loud and clear, a bipartisan, bicameral group of Members of Congress set out to write a bill using the survivor experience to guide us and learning from programs around the country that are working to fight trafficking and serve victims.

CAROLYN MALONEY, a Democrat from New York and I lead the effort on JVTA in the House. Congresswoman MALONEY and I hardly speak the same language.

Being from New York she thinks I talk funny and as a Texan I can hardly understand her either the effort was led by another unusual pair in the Senate.

A Texas Republican, Senator JOHN CORNYN and an Oregon Democrat, Senator RON WYDEN. 11 anti-trafficking bills passed through the House, including those led by some of the wonderful women here today.

The bills were combined in the Senate, came back to the House, passed overwhelmingly and were signed into law. The law addresses the common problems we heard from the field. We created a Domestic Trafficking Victims Fund that makes those who harm vulnerable people pay for the damage they have caused.

A \$5,000 special assessment is collected from those convicted of human trafficking and other related charges, and goes into a Fund to provide resources to victims and those fighting trafficking.

A fundamental goal of JVTA is for victims of human trafficking to be treated as victims and not criminals. This is addressed in a number of provisions in the law, including a newly created community-based block grant.

We also focus on the demand—buyers, those that exploit women and children. While many call these people "johns," I call them child molesters.

John is a name from the Bible, a good guy, not someone who pays money to abuse a fellow person.

JVTA clarifies that those who buy sex from trafficking victims are human traffickers, can and should be punished under federal law, and are subject to the same penalties as sellers.

JVTA has done a lot to change the mindset of people in this country. But we need the law to be fully implemented by all the agencies charged with executing the law including DOJ, HHS, and DHS.

In order to truly be the leader in the fight against modern day slavery. We anxiously await the response to our letter. A society will be judged by how it treats the most vulnerable.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO BABE AND FRANK MAINS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Babe and Frank Mains on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Frank and Babe were married on May 18, 1956 and make their home in Guthrie Center, Iowa. Their lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. As the years pass, may their love continue to grow even stronger and may they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many more years to come.

I commend this lovely couple on their 60 years of life together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I missed several votes on Wednesday, May 18, and Thursday, May 19.

On Wednesday, May 18, had I been present, I would have voted No on the Nadler Amendment (Roll Call 204); Aye on the Poe of Texas Amendment (Roll Call 205); Yea on final passage of H.R. 5243, the Zika Response Control Act, 2016 (Roll Call 207); Aye on the Buck Amendment (Roll Call 208); Aye on the Fleming Amendment (Roll Call 209); No on the Lee Amendment (Roll Call 210); No on the Polis Amendment (Roll Call 211); and Aye on final passage of H.R. 4909, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Roll Call 216).

On Thursday, May 19, had I been present, I would have voted No on the Blumenauer Amendment (Roll Call 221); Aye on the Fleming Amendment (Roll Call 222); No on the Sean Patrick Maloney of New York Amendment (Roll Call 226); and Yea on final passage of H.R. 4974, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017 (Roll Call 228).

TRIBUTE TO MARY AND PAT DOUD

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mary and Pat Doud on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Pat and Mary Doud were married in May 19, 1956 and make their home in Stuart, Iowa. Their lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. As the years pass, may their love continue to