

Oh, I won't be afraid.
Just as long as you stand,
stand by me!"

America is stronger when its people stand together; all of the people that make up the rich and wondrous tapestry of our country, including the members of our LGBTQ communities.

Mr. Speaker, in honoring the lives lost in the Orlando tragedy, it is important that we say and remember the names of the loved and lost like Shane Evan Tomlinson, who was 33 years old and beloved by all who knew him; an amazing young man who captivated the hearts of so many with his angelic voice and charisma.

And there were so many more:
Stanley Almodovar III, 23 years old,
Amanda Alvear, 25 years old,
Oscar A Aracena-Montero, 26 years old,
Rodolfo Ayala-Ayala, 33 years old,
Antonio Davon Brown, 29 years old,
Darryl Roman Burt II, 29 years old,
Angel L. Candelario-Padro, 28 years old,
Juan Chevez-Martinez, 25 years old,
Luis Daniel Conde, 39 years old,
Cory James Connell, 21 years old,
Tevin Eugene Crosby, 25 years old,
Deonka Deidra Drayton, 32 years old,
Simon Adrian Carrillo Fernandez, 31 years old,
Leroy Valentin Fernandez, 25 years old,
Mercedes Marisol Flores, 26 years old,
Peter O. Gonzalez-Cruz, 22 years old,
Juan Ramon Guerrero, 22 years old,
Paul Terrell Henry, 41 years old,
Frank Hernandez, 27 years old,
Miguel Angel Honorato, 30 years old,
Javier Jorge-Reyes, 40 years old,
Jason Benjamin Josaphat, 19 years old,
Eddie Jamoldroy Justice, 30 years old,
Anthony Luis Laureanodisla, 25 years old,
Christopher Andrew Leinonen, 32 years old,
Alejandro Barrios Martinez, 21 years old,
Brenda Lee Marquez McCool, 49 years old,
Gilberto Ramon Silva Menendez, 25 years old,
Kimberly Morris, 37 years old,
Akyra Monet Murray, 18 years old,
Luis Omar Ocasio-Capo, 20 years old,
Geraldo A. Ortiz-Jimenez, 25 years old,
Eric Ivan Ortiz-Rivera, 36 years old,
Joel Rayon Paniagua, 32 years old,
Jean Carlos Mendez Perez, 35 years old,
Enrique L. Rios, Jr., 25 years old,
Jean C. Nives Rodriguez, 27 years old,
Xavier Emmanuel Serrano Rosado, 35 years old,
Christopher Joseph Sanfeliz, 24 years old,
Ylmary Rodriguez Solivan, 24 years old,
Edward Sotomayor Jr., 34 years old,
Shane Evan Tomlinson, 33 years old,
Martin Benitez Torres, 33 years old,
Jonathan Antonio Camuy Vega, 24 years old,
Juan P. Rivera Velazquez, 37 years old,
Luis S. Vielma, 22 years old,
Franky Jimmy Dejesus Velazquez, 50 years old,
Luis Daniel Wilson-Leon, 37 years old,
Jerald Arthur Wright, 31 years old.

Maya Angelou said: "Love recognizes no barriers. It jumps hurdles, leaps fences, penetrates walls to arrive at its destination full of hope."

And let me add that right now justice requires us to do two things.

First, Congress needs to pass H.R. 3185, the "Equality Act of 2015," to write into the

books of law the same protections for our LGBTQ brothers and sisters that other Americans have long enjoyed.

Second, Congress must pass H.R. 4269, the "Assault Weapons Ban Act of 2015," to restore the ban on assault weapons so that school children, church going and community members can live their lives free of the fear of falling victim to gun violence.

IN HONOR OF THE WOOD FAMILY

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 20, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the loving generosity of a family in my district, Jaoni and Gabriel Wood. Jaoni and Gabriel were recently named Foster Parents of the Year for Loudoun County for their steadfast guardianship of a pair of siblings who needed a home.

Gabriel and Jaoni had two biological children of their own, ages 11 and 9, and raised them in a warm and loving home in Loudoun County, Virginia. They saw at-risk families and children who have been affected by traumatic incidents and took it upon themselves to change their lives for the better. Gabriel and Jaoni created an adoption ministry at the Purcellville Baptist Church in Loudoun County with the goal of teaching the community ways they can serve and help children in need.

The Wood family undertook the challenge of fostering a 7 year old boy and his 4 year old sister. After caring for them for nearly three years, the Jaoni and Gabriel plan on welcoming the two children permanently into their family. While the years have surely been filled with joyous moments, it has not always been easy. Gabriel and Jaoni have spent countless hours helping the newest members of their family feel welcome, while also learning themselves how to handle the emotional and physical needs of the siblings. By opening their home and their hearts, Gabriel and Jaoni have demonstrated the most sincere form of love possible.

According to the Virginia Department of Social Services, as of 2016 there are more than 5,000 children who are in foster care in the Commonwealth of Virginia and over sixty percent of those children live in a non-relative home. The Wood family wants all of these children to succeed in the face of these hardships and it cannot be overstated the incredible impact they make on their lives, both through the personal foster care they provide and through the services they have at the Purcellville Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Jaoni and Gabriel Wood for their service to the children of our community and wishing them all the best as they raise their new family and continue to help those in need.

JERRY SLOAN

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 20, 2016

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Jerry Sloan for receiving the

2016 Chuck Daly Lifetime Achievement Award. Jerry was born and raised outside of McLeansboro, Illinois, where he attended high school and played basketball. He graduated as an all-state player from McLeansboro High School in 1960.

The Baltimore Bullets selected Jerry in the 1965 NBA draft, and later traded him to the Chicago Bulls. He retired as a player in 1976. Jerry then was hired on as an assistant coach by the Bulls, and in 1979 he was promoted to head coach. He would serve that position for three years before moving to Utah as an assistant coach for the Utah Jazz. He stayed in that position for four years and then became the head coach in the 1988–1989 season. Jerry coached the Jazz for twenty-three seasons, with two appearances in the NBA finals.

Sloan's win-loss record of 1,221–803, placed him third all-time in NBA wins at the time he retired in 2011. He coached the Jazz to sixteen consecutive winning seasons and nineteen playoff appearances. His years coaching the Jazz are also the most years a coach has stayed with one team. He is among only nine coaches who have surpassed 1,000 victories and one of two who have won 1,000 with one team.

The Chuck Daly Lifetime Achievement Award honors the memory of Hall of Famer Chuck Daly, given by the NBA to a coach who has spent a lifetime in basketball and has a "standard of integrity, competitive excellence and tireless promotion" of the game. I offer my congratulations to Jerry Sloan on his outstanding achievement, and I wish him the best in retirement.

HONORING LYMAN ORCHARDS AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 275TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 20, 2016

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the community of Middlefield, Connecticut in extending my congratulations to the Lyman family as they mark the 275th Anniversary of Lyman Orchards—a very special milestone for this wonderful community treasure.

The story of Lyman Orchards begins in 1741 when John and Hope Lyman purchased thirty-seven acres of land and started the family farm. Eight generations later, Lyman Orchards remains family-run and is, in fact, the 12th oldest family run business still in operation in the United States.

Over its 275-year history, Lyman Orchards has grown and today encompasses over 1,100 acres of land where it produces over one hundred varieties of fruit and is home to the Apple Barrel where shoppers can purchase produce from the farm as well as products created by that produce like their famous high-top apple pie, cider donuts, and fresh apple cider. Families can enjoy the "pick-your-own" opportunities, a business model that Lyman Orchards was the first to introduce in 1966. From apples and pumpkins in the fall to strawberries, blueberries, and raspberries in the early summer and peaches, nectarines, and pears in the late summer, you can pick your own favorites nearly all year long.

More recently, Lyman Orchards has added attractions like the Corn Maze and Sunflower Maze the proceeds from which are donated to the American Cancer Society and the Connecticut Children's Medical Center respectively. There is the Paint the Pumpkin Pink event that raises money for the Middlesex Comprehensive Breast Center and the Sunshine Kids Road Race that benefits children with cancer. Lyman Orchards is also home to two 18-hole golf courses and a golf training center. Designed by legendary Hall of Fame architect Robert Trent Jones and Hall of Fame golfer Gary Player, these championship golf courses are both ranked among the best in the Northeast.

During my tenure in Congress, I have had many opportunities to visit Lyman Orchards and have always been in awe of their forward-thinking vision, always coupled with their commitment to preserving and celebrating their rich history. Rooted, both literally and figuratively, in the Middlefield community, Lyman Orchards and the Lyman family are not only a part of the fabric of Middlefield, they are a warp thread—a vertical thread that forms the base of the fabric's weave. There is a story that is a reflection of the history not only of Connecticut, but of New England. I am proud to stand today to offer my heartfelt congratulations to John Lyman, III and the entire Lyman family as they mark the 275th Anniversary of Lyman Orchards and extend my very best wishes for continued success.

IN HONOR OF POTOMAC FALLS
GIRLS' LACROSSE TEAM

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 20, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the girls' lacrosse team from Potomac Falls in my District who recently won the 2016 5A Virginia State Championship. They practiced long hours as a team, and this extraordinary achievement shows how far dedication, hard work, and commitment to teamwork can take a group as they played against some of the best competition in the nation.

The Potomac Falls girls' lacrosse team has made Virginia's 10th Congressional District proud and they have represented us well. Winning a state championship attests to their impressive athletic ability, unselfish mentality, and determination to succeed. I commend them for their tireless dedication to both their school and their teammates, without neither of which this could have been possible. It takes a delicate combination of superior skill and many hours of practice to win a state title. The Potomac Falls girls' lacrosse team has certainly earned this honor and the lessons learned over the years will valuably serve them as they continue on in their lives.

In the 5A state title game, the Potomac Falls girls' lacrosse team beat George Marshall by double digits to claim the title that eluded them last year. Their victory was never in question as they quickly scored five goals in the opening minutes to pull ahead to a lead that grew to 12 by the game's end.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the Potomac Falls girls' lacrosse team for their achievement and rep-

resenting Virginia's 10th Congressional District with such distinction. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING JUNETEENTH
2016

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 20, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, on June 19, 1865, General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston, Texas and announced the freedom of the last American slaves; belatedly freeing 250,000 slaves in Texas nearly two and a half years after Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.

Juneteenth was first celebrated in the Texas state capital in 1867 under the direction of the Freedmen's Bureau.

Today, Juneteenth remains the oldest known celebration of slavery's demise. It commemorates freedom while acknowledging the sacrifices and contributions made by courageous African Americans towards making our great nation the more conscious and accepting country that it has become.

This year, I introduced H. Res. 787, a resolution commemorating Juneteenth Independence Day, which is co-sponsored by 57 of my colleagues.

In introducing this Resolution, I acknowledge Texas State Representative Al Edwards and all Houstonians who honor Juneteenth as well or all who celebrate this freedom day.

Because it was only after that day in 1865 when General Granger rode into Galveston, Texas, on the heels of the most devastating conflict in our country's history, in the aftermath of a civil war that pitted brother against brother, neighbor against neighbor and threatened to tear the fabric of our union apart forever that America truly became the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Not until 1980, a year after my friend, State Representative Al Edwards, introduced a bill in the Texas Legislature did Juneteenth become a Texas state holiday.

Civil rights pioneer Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "Freedom is never free," and African American labor leader A. Phillip Randolph often said "Freedom is never given. It is won."

We should all recognize the power and the ironic truth of those statements and we should pause to remember the enormous price paid by all Americans in our country's quest to realize its promise.

Juneteenth honors the end of the 400 years of suffering African Americans endured under slavery and celebrates the legacy of perseverance that has become the hallmark of the African American experience in the struggle for equality.

Throughout the 1980's and 90's Juneteenth has continued to enjoy a growing and healthy interest from communities and organizations throughout the country.

Institutions such as the Smithsonian, the Henry Ford Museum and others have begun sponsoring Juneteenth-centered activities.

In recent years, a number of National Juneteenth Organizations have arisen to take their place alongside older organizations—all with the mission to promote and cultivate knowledge and appreciation of African American history and culture.

Juneteenth today, celebrates African American freedom while encouraging self-development and respect for all cultures.

As it takes on a more national and even global perspective, the events of 1865 in Texas are not forgotten, for all of the roots tie back to this fertile soil from which a national day of pride is growing.

The future of Juneteenth looks bright as the number of cities and states come on board and form local committees and organizations to coordinate the activities.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY
OF BOY SCOUT TROOP 24

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 20, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th Anniversary of Boy Scout Troop 24.

This 75th Anniversary of Troop 24 is a true milestone for one of the largest Boy Scout troops in the Lenape District of the Washington Crossing Council. Congratulations to the Scouts, past and present, and the leaders who have encouraged and guided young men from the troop's inception in 1941. The nickname "Pioneers" was chosen in the earliest days, an appropriate choice knowing the troop pursues many outdoor camping and high adventure experiences. Scouting produces leaders and trailblazers, much like the early pioneers and modern pioneers who are blazing new trails in space, science and more. The troop first organized in Morrisville, Bucks County, in 1929 and became the official Troop 24 in 1941, sponsored by Doylestown Presbyterian Church. Troop 24 can be proud of its history and the dedication of all its young men, including 154 who achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Best wishes for many more years of great adventure and outstanding leadership.

IN HONOR OF THE PARK VIEW
BOYS' SOCCER TEAM

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 20, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the boys' soccer team from Park View High School in my District who recently won the 2016 4A Virginia State Championship. They practiced long hours as a team, and this extraordinary achievement shows how far dedication, hard work, and commitment to teamwork can take a group as they played against some of the best competition in the nation.

The Park View boys' soccer team has made Virginia's 10th Congressional District proud and they have represented us well. Winning a state championship attests to their impressive athletic ability, unselfish mentality, and determination to succeed. I commend them for their tireless dedication to both their school and their teammates, without neither of which this could have been possible. It takes a delicate combination of superior skill and many hours of practice to win a state title. The Park View