

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sally Clark, who was part of the class of 1963 at East High School in Des Moines, Iowa. I never knew her as Sally Clark because I knew her as Sally Davis, my mother.

I am very appreciative that the class of 1963 allowed my mom to be part of a reunion in July of 1993 because my mom never graduated with that class. Sally Clark dropped out of high school in 1962 and eventually finished her degree much later by getting her general equivalency diploma with the help of my sister, who was the reason she dropped out of high school in 1962.

In looking at the program from that reunion in 1993, the fondest memories my mom had of East High School were the friends she left behind. In 1977, she left not only friends behind, but she left family behind and moved our family to Taylorville, Illinois, where I grew up and where she inspired so many.

My mom passed away 17 years ago today. The reason I am here is because of the inspiration she was to me and to so many. I want to tell her what I couldn't tell her on Mother's Day: Your family is doing great. Your granddaughter, who you knew as a 2-year-old, just finished her freshman year of college. The grandsons you never met are doing fine as freshmen in high school. Mom, your whole family is doing well. As a matter of fact, you have a great-granddaughter now that shares your middle name. I am here on the House floor to fight to make sure that we work in a bipartisan way to end the scourge of the cancer that killed you and that has killed so many, young and old. We will never forget this fight and I will never forget that fight because of what you meant to me and to so many. Mom, I love you and I miss you every day. You are the reason that I get this privilege to be a Member of this great institution.

HONORING DR. FRANCES BARTLETT KINNE, PH.D.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life work of Dr. Frances Bartlett Kinne, Ph.D. We in Jacksonville, Florida, will be celebrating 99 years with our friend, Dr. Fran Kinne, on May 22 of this year.

Dr. Kinne is first in Florida in many ways. In 1979, she became the first woman president of a Florida college, Jacksonville University, JU. Prior, in 1961, she became the founding dean of JU's College of Fine Arts, the first woman in Florida to hold such a position. In fact, it was her idea to form the college where she had been a humanities professor for several years.

She was the first woman elected as president of the International Council of Fine Arts, and not only the first woman in Florida's first rotary club,

the Rotary Club of Jacksonville, but she later became the first woman president of that club. She also became the first woman member of a club in Jacksonville called the River Club. Again, the first woman member.

As you can tell, Dr. Fran Kinne was first in many ways and a role model to not only women in Jacksonville, Florida, but all across this great country. To those of us who know her well, she is also first in our hearts. A tireless advocate for education and young people, Fran Kinne always reminded us that life is not about us, life is about others.

She would tell her graduates each year to go out into the world and make the world a better place. One of those graduates, Tim Cost, is now the president of Jacksonville University.

So many of her students have made a difference not only in Florida, but all across this great land. Last year, at the age of 98, she became the Nation's oldest commencement speaker at a major college or university.

The wife of an army colonel, Fran spent years overseas following World War II. She was in Germany, she was in Japan, and she was in China. While her husband worked, so did Fran. She created postwar education programs for children in Japan, and she went to class with young German students who accepted her as the caring American that she was.

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She numbered among her friends Bob Hope, Winston Churchill, Charlton Heston, Billy Graham, and Steve Forbes. Fran Kinne brought Bob Hope and Jack Benny together for their only joint appearance, and that was at Jacksonville University. She is listed in over 25 "Who's Who" and similar publications, and six facilities in Iowa and Florida are named in her honor. Her autobiography is aptly named "Iowa Girl: The President Wears a Skirt."

Never intending to live in Florida, Fran came here with her husband, and, thankfully, for those of us in Jacksonville, she never left. She was born in Iowa. She was educated at Drake University and graduated with a bachelor's and a master's in music education. She remains a member of the Board of Trustees at Drake University and is on the board of the Mayo Clinic in Florida. Since 1994, she has been the chancellor emeritus at Jacksonville University.

Her infectious enthusiasm for life and positive thinking goes on and on. I visited her the other day, and she reminded me: If you laugh 100 times a day, that is the same thing as 20 minutes of physical exercise. She would say: If you keep a positive attitude and if you smile a lot, that will add 10 years to your life. Fran and I have always been good buddies, and she has been a mentor to me just as she has been to thousands of her former students.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of this House to join me in celebrating

the outstanding 99 years and counting of one of Florida's most outstanding citizens: my good buddy, Dr. Frances Bartlett Kinne.

CONGRATULATING DONNA EISENMAN ON HER RETIREMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Donna Eisenman, who recently retired after 40 years in working for American Airlines' Washington desk.

Donna Eisenman began her career as a flight attendant with Trans World Airlines in 1969. A year later, she transitioned to American Airlines for a position as a reservations agent in Philadelphia. In a time before computers, Donna effortlessly sold airline tickets and helped customers with travel arrangements.

In 1972, Donna moved to Washington, D.C., to start the next phase of her career. Donna spent the next 10 years working at the City Ticket Office and at the ticket counter at Reagan National Airport. In 1982, she transitioned to the Schedule Airline Ticket Office, which served DOD customers in northern Virginia.

Donna's efforts were so successful that she was asked to open a different satellite office to assist Fort Belvoir travelers. Later, Donna was asked to reestablish a long-abandoned desk specifically designed to help government travelers. Donna accepted this challenge, and the American Airlines Washington desk was reborn.

For the next 28 years, Donna's unyielding commitment to customer service and her natural sales ability provided government and frequent travelers with the best experience in the industry. On March 25, Donna retired from American Airlines, and she is now spending time with her lovely family and is volunteering for the wildlife rescue causes that she champions.

I thank Donna for her service and dedication.

Congratulations, Donna. I wish you all the best in your much-deserved retirement.

HONORING LOURDES SOVEDIA

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize the outstanding career of Lourdes Sovedia. After 40 years of teaching, Lourdes will be retiring at the end of this school year.

Like me, Lourdes' family fled the oppressive Castro regime when she was just a young girl in order to seek freedom and refuge in this wonderful Nation, the United States. She worked hard at learning the language and the culture, and with inspiration from her mom, she dedicated her life to pursuing a career in education. After working her way through college, Lourdes made her American Dream a reality when she became a full-time teacher at Gesu

Catholic School in downtown Miami. Throughout the years, Lourdes has taught at multiple schools and has earned many awards and deserved recognition.

As a former Florida certified teacher, I recognize Lourdes' dedication, and I thank her for all that she has done for the students in south Florida throughout her impressive career.

Congratulations to Lourdes.

RECOGNIZING JOSHUA WILLIAMS AND JOSHUA'S HEART FOUNDATION'S DECADE OF SERVICE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize teen philanthropist Joshua Williams of south Florida and the foundation that wears his heart on its sleeve—Joshua's Heart Foundation.

In 10 years of service to underserved communities in south Florida, Jamaica, Africa, and India, Joshua's Heart Foundation has activated over 7,000 youths to collect and distribute food and personal items that have helped 600,000 families in need. With the help of his supportive mom, Claudia, Joshua began laying the foundation for Joshua's Heart's success when he was only 4½ years of age.

New JHF chapters are springing up all over the country, and I encourage everyone to check out the amazing work that Joshua's Heart Foundation is doing every day and to get involved in a charity or with a volunteer organization that represents your own vision for the world in which you would like to live.

Congratulations to Joshua's Heart Foundation for a decade of service.

CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the air traffic control at Miami International Airport, which is an area that I am so proud to represent.

This upcoming Thursday, May 19, the Federal Aviation Administration and the Miami-Dade Aviation Department will celebrate this accomplishment and honor the men and women who keep our skies and our airports safe.

Working around the clock, the air traffic controllers direct aircraft and minimize potential troubles in the sky, like the ones that come from severe weather patterns. I am very proud to know so many of these diligent workers—individuals like Mitch Herrick, Jim Marinitti, Bill Kisseadoo, and many others—who, in their professionalism, keep order in the airspace and protect our public.

Mr. Speaker, rerouting aircraft to avoid congestion and minimize delays is not an easy task, especially at one of our Nation's busiest airports; but it is because of the controllers' dedication and commitment that we can feel safe in arriving at our destinations.

Congratulations to my friends—all of the air traffic controllers at Miami International Airport.

PORTER RANCH GAS LEAK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from

California (Mr. SHERMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to report to this Congress on the Porter Ranch gas leak, the largest methane leak in the history of our country.

It began last October 23, and it lasted for, roughly, 5 months. The amount of natural gas that escaped is measured in billions of cubic feet. Some 8,000 families were evacuated for months. Our family, because we live just about as close as anyone to the leaking well, chose not to evacuate but, rather, to rely on filtration systems and the fact that we spend much of our time in Washington.

So how should Congress respond?

We must say never again—not again in Porter Ranch, not again anywhere in this country—but it could happen again because this natural gas storage facility was the fifth largest in the country. That means there are four other areas that could have an even larger natural gas leak. There are no Federal regulations for the safe storage of natural gas, and State regulations are so minimal that they are incredibly minimal even in famously green California.

Currently, PHMSA, an agency of the Department of Transportation, acknowledges that it has the authority to write Federal regulations. They have decided to do so, and my hope is that they will have them this fall. This arises, in large part, because I had a chance to discuss this with the President of the United States back in January in front of about 80 or 100 of our colleagues, and he made a commitment that his administration would work to make sure this never happens again. Not only is PHMSA working on the regulations, but the OMB has assured me that they will act promptly on approving those regulations once they are finalized.

We in Congress are working on legislation that is designed to prod PHMSA into acting quickly, but it is important that we not pass legislation that actually narrows the existing statutory power or gives sentences in statutory provisions that could be used by the oil and gas industry to invalidate tough regulations.

That is why it is critical, for example, that any statute we pass, as the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's product provides, states explicitly that we are not preempting higher, tougher State regulations and that the action taken in Congress will not make people less safe than their States would have them be.

Two issues confront SoCalGas, which is the utility that is responsible for this leak.

The first is that they are going to try to get consumers to pay for the cost of their negligence, using the phrase that they should pass through to consumers the "reasonable cost" of dealing with this disaster; so the consumers around Los Angeles should pay for the cost of providing relocation assistance to 8,000

families, many of whom have been out of their homes for 5 months and longer; the "reasonable costs" of plugging the leak should be passed through to consumers. The reasonable costs of repairing unreasonable negligence is never an ordinary and necessary expense to be passed through to consumers.

This leak resulted from SoCalGas' negligence. There was a subsurface safety valve on the well in question that was installed in the 1950s, that was removed by SoCalGas in the 1970s, and was never replaced. This well they used to inject and remove natural gas, not through the piping that was intended or the tubing that was intended for that purpose, but through the casing that was never intended for that purpose; and the pressure, which is the amount of gas crammed into the field, seems to be inconsistent with the age of the wells—some going back 60-years plus—that were being used to inject and withdraw the natural gas. The costs of this event must not be passed through to the consumers of Los Angeles.

Second, realizing they may have to bear the costs themselves, SoCalGas has decided to shortchange the residents who have evacuated. They have decided they don't want to pay for the required cleaning protocol that is necessary to make homes safe. That is in their release of just a couple of days ago. That is outrageous. The cleaning is necessary to make the homes safe. LA County Public Health says so, and SoCalGas should pay that cost, too.

CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MOONEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, each spring, a nationwide high school visual arts competition is sponsored by the Congressional Institute and Members of the U.S. House of Representatives. Since the art competition was created in 1982, over 650,000 entries have been submitted.

The Congressional Art Competition is an opportunity to recognize and encourage the artistic talent of our Nation's bright and talented youth. The winner of this prestigious award in each congressional district will have his or her artwork hung on display for 1 year in the Cannon Tunnel of the U.S. Capitol.

I rise today to recognize the artistic ability of a young woman from the Second Congressional District in West Virginia—Kayla Barbazette from Capital High School in Charleston. Ms. Barbazette is the winner of the 2016 Second Congressional District of West Virginia's Congressional Art Competition.

Congratulations, Kayla.

Her entry, "Human Water Basin," was chosen from dozens of outstanding entries this year.