

SAUDI ARABIA

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 20, 2017*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Saudi Arabia is a crucial ally in the fight against terrorism. Many of the same terrorist organizations that threaten the United States also desire to overthrow the Saudi government and break our partnership.

It's a key member of the coalition to fight ISIS, with its pilots flying alongside Americans since day one of the campaign in Syria. Last year, Riyadh adopted strict laws prohibiting fundraising for terrorism, jointly designating support networks for al-Qaeda and the Taliban.

Saudi intelligence has assisted in preventing terrorist plots targeting the U.S. In 2010 Saudi assistance helped foil an attempt by al-Qaeda to conceal bombs on a cargo plane en route to the United States. The Saudis are also battling Iranian-backed rebels in Yemen. These rebels not only threaten the Kingdom but also targeted our own warships and destabilize the Red Sea trade routes.

The current diplomatic standoff between Saudi Arabia and Qatar demonstrates that Riyadh is willing to take a stand against state sponsorship of terrorism in the region. This is all encouraging. However, the Saudis still have much more they need to do at home to counter the sources of extremism in the region.

The battle against terrorism will ultimately have to be fought and won on the battlefield of ideas. Saudi Arabia has simply not done enough to defeat extremist ideology. The Kingdom is playing the role of both arsonist and firefighter when it comes to Islamic extremism.

Nowhere is this more evident than the textbooks Saudi Arabia produces to teach its youth. For far too long Saudi Arabia's education curriculum has inspired the very ideology that is at the root of many terrorist organizations like ISIS and al-Qaeda.

Saudi textbooks are full of anti-Semitism, conspiracy theories, and calls to violence that have incited students both at home and across the world. This poisonous ideology has provided the groundwork for generations of radicalization and extremism.

In fact, ISIS adopted official Saudi textbooks for its schools in 2015 until the terrorist group could publish its own. Moreover, its export of hateful material through Saudi-funded schools abroad has helped spread the toxic ideology to more tolerant and open Muslim communities in countries such as Kosovo and Indonesia.

While the Kingdom has repeatedly pledged to remove extremist content from its curriculum, troubling language remains in many of the most recent editions of Saudi textbooks. In 2006 the Saudis committed to eliminate all passages that promoted hatred towards any religion by 2008.

Yet even today textbooks include content that discourages befriending "infidels," claims the goal of Zionism is world domination, and encourages "fighting" any polytheist or infidel who refuses to submit to the supremacy of Islam. This intolerance is unacceptable and directly contributes to the widespread persecu-

tion of religion minorities that plagues the Middle East.

Another passage in a current Saudi textbook for middle school students states that "the mujahideen who are doing good deeds for the sake of Allah . . . should be given transportation, weapons, food and anything else they may need to continue their jihad." Messages such as this undermine the Saudis own counterterrorism efforts.

By indoctrinating children into the belief that people of other faiths are inferior or are a threat to Islam, Saudi Arabia is ensuring future generations of extremists that will join the ranks of terrorist groups. This is not to ignore that some positive steps have been taken. In recent years the Kingdom has introduced passages that denounce terrorism and encourage dialogue with other faiths.

But these steps only send mixed messages to easily influenced young minds so long as the more extreme messages remain. The State Department and previous administrations have also failed to hold their Saudi counterparts to past pledges.

The State Department has even refused to publish reports that shed light on these troubling textbooks for fear of embarrassing our Saudi partners. While we appreciate Riyadh's contribution to our overall counterterrorism efforts in the region, we must hold them accountable for their role in fueling the very extremism we are trying to combat. It is in both our countries' interest.

In the fight against terrorism, we all need to be on the same page.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING MATTHEW PARR

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 20, 2017*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Parr. Matthew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1393, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Matthew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Matthew has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Matthew has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Matthew researched native plants and then constructed a pollinator station outside of St. Therese North Catholic Church in Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew Parr for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TX-22 STUDENTS RECEIVE THE PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH AWARD

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 20, 2017*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Eric Li, Toby Liu, Charles Wang, Melody Voo, Alexander Miao, Jimmy Liu and Eric Tong, all from TX-22, for receiving the Environmental Protection Agency and the White House Council on Environmental Quality's President's Environmental Youth Award (PEYA).

The seven students, from Pearland, Katy and Houston, were recognized for starting the organization, We Care Act, which refurbishes electronics and other items and sends them to needy children living in poverty or affected by natural disasters. So far, We Care Act has collected and reused more than 40,000 items and sent them to more than 20 countries. PEYA recognizes outstanding environmental projects by K-12 youth. Students are selected based on their initiative, creativity and applied problem-solving skills that are needed to tackle environmental problems and find solutions.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Eric L., Toby, Charles, Melody, Alexander, Jimmy and Eric T. for receiving this honorable award. We Care Act is a fantastic organization that helps those who truly need it. We're proud of their dedication to helping others.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NEW YORK STATE TROOPER JOEL DAVIS

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 20, 2017*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of New York State Trooper Joel Davis, a Watertown native who was recently killed in the line of duty while serving his community. I extend my condolences to his family, especially his wife, Suzanne, and three children. Joel Davis lived his life in a way that was truly indicative of his North Country values. He was deeply dedicated to his family and completely invested in the well-being of his community members.

After graduating from Indian River High School, Trooper Davis attended Jefferson Community College, and eventually went on to graduate from the Black River/St. Lawrence Valley Police Academy in 2003. He worked as a Jefferson County Sheriff's Deputy for 10 years before his service as a New York State Trooper, where he was known as a "go-to guy," responsible for the Philadelphia, New York satellite station outside of Fort Drum. Additionally, Davis was a certified sniper with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Emergency Response Team and was a field training officer for both the Sheriff and State Police. Davis will be fondly remembered as a fair cop who heard both sides of every situation and was always first-on-scene when an issue arose. He was an honest, polite, friendly, and kind man who wanted to help the community he called home.

Joel Davis had an older brother, Josh, who is a member of the Watertown City Police Department. Josh cites his brother as one of the most important role models in his life, and the reason he chose a career in law enforcement. Though Joel was considered the more serious of the two brothers, he also loved a good joke and to laugh—he loved to dance to music and have fun.

Trooper Davis also loved sports and grew up playing every sport imaginable with his family and friends. In his spare time, he volunteered as a coach and commissioner of a youth baseball league, and has had a lasting impact on the lives of the many young athletes he worked with.

This past Saturday, thousands of officers attended the services for Trooper Joel Davis. We will not forget Trooper Davis and the ultimate sacrifice he made. Our hearts mourn with his family, friends, and the entire law enforcement community.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANTHONY  
COLACCHIO

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 20, 2017*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in sincere recognition of Anthony Colacchio and his commendable dedication in starting a wheelchair curling program at the Cape Cod Curling Club, as well as his dedication to serving wheelchair athletes.

Anthony has always been passionate about volunteering his time, money, and efforts to helping those who are differently-abled. He is a nationally-certified wheelchair trainer, has convinced the Grand National Curling Committee to set aside money to assist wheelchair curlers, accompanied the United States Paralympic Team to the Paralympic Games in Sochi, Russia in 2014, and will be accompanying the team again during the 2018 Games in Pyeong Chang, South Korea. Anthony and his wife, Mary, have also been invaluable in the ongoing expansion to make the Cape Cod Curling Club in Falmouth, Massachusetts handicap accessible.

Anthony's renowned work with the wheelchair curling community has roots much closer to home. After seeing his brother, who was in a wheelchair, sidelined from sport, Anthony saw curling as a golden opportunity to bring together all athletes in a common arena as equals. Anthony's work has come with sacrifice—dedicating so much of his time to the sport, he has missed special occasions with family but they have remained supportive throughout his tireless work.

Anthony's volunteerism does not end at the edge of the ice. He is involved in Neighborhood Falmouth, a local chapter of a national movement that promotes community residence for older Americans. Anthony regularly takes seniors to their doctors' appointments, providing vital transportation so they can access the health services they need. Additionally, he is on the board of directors for USS *Donner* Reunion, an organization that provides information and holds reunions for former shipmates of the USS *Donner*, a dock landing ship that served in the U.S. Navy from 1945 to 1970.

Anthony and Mary host an annual banquet in July known as the International Bonspiel. This year marks the 48th year of the banquet, and attendees will include veterans of the wheelchair curling community from South Korea, Slovakia, Canada, and the United States. Anthony's selfless commitment to both wheelchair athletes and the sport of curling has touched innumerable lives in the United States and around the world. For these efforts he is being recognized this year at the Bonspiel dinner.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Anthony Colacchio for his dedication to the sport of curling and creating an equal playing field for people of all abilities. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking him for his work and wishing him all the best as he continues his important efforts.

HONORING NATHAN PAUL RAWSON

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 20, 2017*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nathan Paul Rawson. Nathan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 692, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nathan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Nathan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Nathan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nathan Paul Rawson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING DR. WILEY J.  
DOBBS

**HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 20, 2017*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Wiley J. Dobbs for 33 years of distinguished service educating Idahoans on the occasion of his retirement from his current position as Superintendent of Twin Falls School District.

Dr. Dobbs' career as an educator is marked by a stalwart commitment to students across Idaho, particularly in Twin Falls. After serving as a high school teacher in Montpelier, Idaho, Dr. Dobbs returned to his hometown of Twin Falls to serve as an educator in both junior high schools and high schools, as well as a stint at the University of Idaho as an education instructor. After years in the classroom, Dr. Dobbs transitioned to the Twin Falls School District as Director of Operations in 2000. By 2003, he had accepted the position that would carry him to retirement: Superintendent of Twin Falls School District.

Throughout his career, Dr. Dobbs has demonstrated a superior dedication to the lives of the students and families he serves. In fact, Dr. Dobbs spent much of his career creating opportunities for students outside the classroom by volunteering as an advisor to the Congressional Award program. With his help, the city of Twin Falls has garnered national recognition for the quality and quantity of students who earn their Congressional Award for an outstanding commitment to setting and achieving their goals.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely thank Dr. Dobbs for his service and commitment to education in Idaho. On behalf of a grateful state, I wish him well in the next chapter of his life.

HONORING THE ALLIED CLEAN  
FUELS PLAZA

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 20, 2017*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Allied Clean Fuels Plaza upon the occasion of their Grand Opening Celebration. This fuel service center is the first business in Northern California to specialize in offering clean fuel options for all types of vehicles.

In addition to the traditional three grades of unleaded and diesel gasoline offered by most service stations throughout the country, the Plaza offers a broad range of fuels and energies which address the ecological issues of the twenty-first century. These fuels include E-85 ethanol, diesel exhaust fluid (DEF), renewable hydrocarbon diesel, Propane Autogas and six fast-fill compressed natural gas (CNG) dispensers. The Plaza also features the option to recharge electric cars with a state of the art Tesla Supercharger Station. The Supercharger is capable of charging, eight Tesla vehicles simultaneously in just 20 minutes.

The Allied Clean Fuels Plaza is addressing the serious issue of climate change by making cleaner sources of energy available to our community. The station is already equipped to offer Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and Hydrogen to meet the demands of our community as these fuels become more popular. The Plaza represents the first of the types of businesses we will need to protect the vitality of our environment for future generations.

While the Plaza is looking toward the future, they are firmly rooted in the history and values of our community. They are affiliated with Allied Propane Service, which has been operating in Northern California for 50 years. Their emphasis on clean fuel reflects the desires of members of our community to be responsible consumers. Their full service Circle K convenience store sells sandwiches, soups and regional cheeses from local vendors, and they offer premium wines from Napa and Sonoma, the best wine in the world.

Mr. Speaker, the Allied Clean Fuels Plaza is an innovative, responsible and impressive new service station in my community. Stan Teaderman is the driving force behind the Plaza and is an important member of our community who works hard to benefit the environment and support many charitable causes. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor them here today and wish them the best of success.