

IN RECOGNITION OF UNITED
COURT OF THE LONE STAR EM-
PIRE'S DALLAS CHAPTER

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 4, 2017

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the United Court of the Lone Star Empire (UCLSE) in celebration of over 40 years of service to the Dallas LGBTQ community.

The UCLSE is a chapter of the International Court System, one of the largest LGBTQ organizations in the United States. In 1986, the UCLSE hosted its first coronation and has since worked tirelessly to serve those in the Dallas Community affected by HIV/AIDS.

Members of the UCLSE have fiercely served the LGBTQ community by addressing the needs of those suffering from HIV/AIDS. Due to the work of fearless LGBTQ advocacy groups, like the UCLSE, they have made a long lasting impact on the local community. UCLSE serves to ensure that Americans of any sexual orientation are treated fairly, are granted equal access to healthcare, and retain equal protection of their rights under the law.

The generosity of the UCLSE extends not only to those fighting HIV/AIDS in North Texas, but also includes a host of other organizations across the country. UCLSE beneficiaries include the Aids Interfaith Network, Aids Services of Dallas, the Greg Dollgener Memorial Aids Fund, the Sharon St. Cyr Fund, the Legacy Founders Cottage and Counseling Center, and the Resource Nutrition Program.

Over the past 40 years, the UCLSE has raised over \$500,000 for its charity partners in the Dallas area. In addition to its efforts, the UCLSE also supports other local organizations with similar missions and endeavors through collaborative community efforts.

The UCLSE will honor the work of its inspirational members in October 2017 at its XLIII annual coronation in Dallas, Texas.

I honor the United Court of the Lone Star Empire, an institution of the Dallas and Texas LGBTQ community.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBU-
TIONS OF MICHAEL LIEBERMAN

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 4, 2017

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the contributions of an extraordinary individual, Michael Lieberman, who in September celebrated 35 years at the Anti-Defamation League. Over his 35 year tenure with ADL, Michael has made invaluable contributions to the civil rights community on issues such as religious freedom, fighting anti-Semitism and all forms of discrimination, and striking the right balance between security and civil liberties.

As ADL's Washington Counsel, his advocacy for hate crime legislation is particularly noteworthy. Michael worked to secure passage of a comprehensive federal hate crimes law for more than 15 years. His leadership on this issue was instrumental in the passage of the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr.

Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which was signed into law by President Obama in 2009. Michael also chairs the Hate Crime Coalition for the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, the most important civil rights coalition organization in Washington, and is widely recognized as one of our nation's foremost experts on hate crime laws.

As ADL's point person on Federal and state response to bullying and bias-motivated violence, Michael has participated in a number of academic and law enforcement training seminars on the subject—including training at the FBI Academy at Quantico. He has written numerous pieces on the issue, including training manuals and articles for criminal justice and civil rights publications. In 2015 he received the Justice Department's 2015 Meritorious Public Service Award for his leadership work in building coalitions to combat hate violence.

Michael embodies ADL's mission. He works tirelessly to stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment to all. His entire career has focused on making the world a better place for all individuals, regardless of who they are or where they came from. He is a remarkable professional, mentor, and friend. Everyone that has an opportunity to work with Michael is constantly impressed by his drive and passion to make a difference. His work at the League has made an impact on countless lives, and we thank him for his substantial contributions to the community and our nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. C. A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 4, 2017

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, due to my attendance at an event off the Capitol Hill campus, I was unable to make Roll Call vote No. 545. Had I been present, I would have voted aye.

RECOGNIZING TAIWAN NATIONAL
DAY

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 4, 2017

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 106th national day of Taiwan. The United States and Taiwan have enjoyed a fruitful partnership for decades, and I would like to wish the people of Taiwan a very Happy National Day.

Our two countries' partnership has flourished thanks to a mutual commitment to democratic values and constitutional government. Through its many successful elections and commitment to an open election process, Taiwan serves as a strong example of democracy for not only the Asia-Pacific region, but also the world. Yet it is not just our commitment to democratic and constitutional values that ties our two countries together.

In 2016, Taiwan ranked as the United States' 10th largest trading partner and 8th largest export market for U.S. agricultural products. In fact, Taiwan is Minnesota's 5th

largest export market, with over \$450 million in exports sent to our friends in 2016. This is a relationship I am proud to support and urge my colleagues to find areas where our two countries can partner to our mutual benefit.

The framework for the United States' relationship with Taiwan, the Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances, were crafted almost four decades ago, but our belief in their principles remains resolute. With continued commitment to this important relationship, I would like to again wish the people of Taiwan a Happy National Day.

HONORING THE NEW JERSEY
STATE CONFERENCE OF THE
NAACP

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 4, 2017

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the New Jersey State Conference of the NAACP as it holds its annual convention in the Township of Parsippany, part of New Jersey's 111th Congressional District. I am honored to have Morris County host the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. The New Jersey State Conference of the NAACP is commended for bringing together advocates in one place under the theme: "Relating to the Past, Understanding the Present, Preparing for the future."

The NAACP has more than 500,000 members throughout the world serving as key leaders in civil rights, campaigning for equal opportunity and conducting voter mobilization. New Jersey, the nation's most densely populated state, has 41 branches, 9 college chapters, a prison unit, 15 youth councils, and 2 high school chapters devoting its time, through volunteerism, to close the gaps of inequality in the many social issues challenging us today—health, employment, education, justice, media and the environment. New Jerseyans are working hard to ensure the legacies of the great Civil Rights Leaders before us, live on. Richard T. Smith, New Jersey's NAACP Chapter President, was just named one of New Jersey's "Most Influential African-Americans" in South Jersey Journal. In Richard's words, "we will fight for freedom until all people have realized the equal hand of justice." With esteemed commendation, I thank Mr. Smith for his leadership and wish the New Jersey State NAACP conference a successful convention and year ahead.

By bringing together the state's leaders in education, religion, business, health care, public policy, and social advocacy, the convention fosters the very conversations we need to be having in order to break down racial barriers, move the nation forward and reach equality for Americans once and for all.

DEFERRED ACTION FOR
CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS PROGRAM

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 4, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last month, the President made

the irresponsible decision to rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. DACA gives hundreds of thousands of young individuals the opportunity to come out from the shadows and contribute to our great country without fear of being sent back to a country that they barely know.

Juan Carlos Cerda, a community organizer with the Texas Organizing project and recent graduate of Yale has already seen firsthand how much of an impact this policy change can have. Due to an error in USCIS's system, Juan Carlos's DACA status was temporarily suspended in the fall of 2016. He was forced to take a leave of absence from teaching at an elementary school in the Dallas Independent School District. He was even denied access to volunteer on campus. If this is the havoc that rescinding DACA can have on one individual, imagine how it would impact the 113,000 recipients in North Texas and the 800,000 recipients across the country.

DACA has allowed Erik Burgos, a Store Systems Engineer and graduate of Southern Methodist University, the opportunity to assist local students in achieving their academic ambitions as he currently does in his spare time. Without DACA he would be forced into the shadows and would no longer have a meaningful impact on students' lives.

Because of the President's decision Maria Roman, Cynthia De La Torre Castro, and countless others would be prevented from pursuing the careers that they studied on university campuses across this great country. Bouzidi Najoa would be forced to return to a country where her family faced persecution by their government without her parents or siblings. Simply put, this policy change would not just drastically impact DREAMers, it would impact their friends, families, and communities.

Mr. Speaker, these people are no different than you or I. They go to the same schools with our children, they're involved with their local church groups, and work hard every day to ensure that they too can one day live the American dream. This is why we need to bring the DREAM Act to the floor and pass this important bipartisan piece of legislation. These DREAMers have only known one home. It's time for this Congress to step up to the plate and let these young people know that we want them to always consider America their true home.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
KATHLEEN PEILING CHANG, MD

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 4, 2017

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Kathleen Peiling Chang, MD, a physician, wife, mother, sister, daughter, Ironman triathlete, and tireless school volunteer. Kathleen left this world peacefully on Friday, July 28, 2017 after a six-year battle with breast cancer. She was the center of the universe to her loving husband, Teddy Chen, and their two sons, Matthew, aged 8, and Alex, aged 6. I have had the honor of knowing Kathleen and Teddy and their beautiful family for many years.

Kathleen was born in December 1976 and grew up in Southern California where she and

her sister enjoyed many trips to the beach and Disneyland. She attended the University of California, Berkeley, and after graduating with degrees in neurobiology and psychology, she earned her MD at the University of California, San Diego. Kathleen completed her pediatric residency and infectious diseases fellowship at Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland. She married Teddy during her residency and after completing her fellowship, she practiced at Kaiser Permanente in San Jose.

During their time together Kathleen and Teddy embarked on many adventures, including triathlons, scuba diving in underwater caverns, hiking the lava fields of Kilauea, climbing Half Dome, and ice climbing on glaciers in Switzerland.

While pregnant with Alex, at 34 years old, Kathleen was diagnosed with stage I breast cancer. Alex was induced and born a few days early so that Kathleen could begin treatment. After recovering from chemotherapy and surgery, Kathleen went back to work, ran half marathons with Teddy, and focused on being a mother. But the cancer was relentless, and exactly two months after running the Orange County Half Marathon in 2013, she was diagnosed with stage IV cancer, with extensive bone metastases causing pathologic fractures in her spine, and unresectable liver metastases. Kathleen's oncologist didn't expect her to live through the end of the year, and discussed transitioning to hospice care. But Kathleen was strong and full of will to live for her children, and searched for a better alternative. She found hope with the help of Dr. Michelle Melisko, an oncologist at the University of California, San Francisco.

During the next four years, she went back to work despite the advice of her doctors, because that was what she trained to do and she wanted to help her patients. Each time she was forced to go on disability leave, many of her patients waited for her to return. She worked part-time, ostensibly to rest and take it easy on her days off. Instead, she filled those days off with volunteering at her children's school, and continued to be a supermom, somehow juggling motherhood, her medical career, and cancer treatment. Kathleen insisted on living life to the fullest. She did many things likely inadvisable for a stage IV cancer patient with extensive bone metastases and several pathologic fractures including vertebrae, ribs, and hip. She ran or walked several 5Ks, biked, skied, bungee trampolined, rode roller coasters, and other things that made her doctors cringe. She also had the chance to see her children finish second grade and kindergarten, and renew her wedding vows with Teddy as the children looked on.

The cancer, however, was implacable, notwithstanding Kathleen's efforts to live life to the fullest. She faced each heartbreaking setback with incredible strength and courage, all the way to the end. Kathleen is survived by her husband, Teddy Chen, their two sons Matthew and Alex, her sister, Jennifer, and her parents, Kuo-Cheng and Christine. She is also survived by her extended family from Kaiser Permanente and from her residency at Children's Hospital Oakland, who provided love and support during her travails. She is and forever will be greatly missed. Her extraordinary life was cut too short at 40 years old, but the things she did in life will ripple through the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. ALICIA
WOLFE WISECARVER

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 4, 2017

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Mrs. Alicia Wolfe Wisecarver for her service to my office and the people of California's Twenty First Congressional District.

Alicia Wolfe was born on June 28, 1987 to Don and Mary Kay Wolfe in Anaheim, California. The Wolfe Family eventually settled in Clovis, California where she attended and graduated from Clark Middle School and Clovis High School. She has three siblings, her brother Christopher, sister, Laura, and her identical twin, Emily.

After graduating from Clovis High School in 2005, Alicia went on to attend the University of California at Los Angeles where she received two Bachelor of Arts Degrees in both History and Political Science in 2009. Alicia then returned to Fresno to obtain her Masters in History at California State University, Fresno in 2011.

In July 2013, Alicia joined my team as Constituent Services Representative. She quickly proved to be a valuable asset to my Congressional Office and earned the title of Constituent Services Director. During her time in my office, Alicia maintained an impeccable work record and set high standards of organization and customer service. She has an excellent eye for detail and was instrumental in the daily operations of my District Office. In addition to casework, Alicia was responsible for my U.S. Military Service Academy Program, where she helped students throughout California's Central Valley realize their dreams of attending a military service academy.

Alicia's willingness to reach out to the community created great relationships with local veteran organizations and federal agencies. She was respected by her peers and was able to create and foster connections with constituents, business leaders, and public officials, all of which are integral skills of Congressional Staffers.

On May 27, 2017, Alicia married her husband Mr. Lee Wisecarver in Kingsburg, California. Outside of work, the newlyweds enjoy spending time with family, especially their two dogs, Duke and Peter. Peter too, was part of our office family, serving as the unofficial mascot.

Mrs. Wisecarver's time with my office came to a close on September 1, 2017 so she may pursue her new career as a teacher at Buchanan High School in her hometown of Clovis, California. Knowing Mrs. Wisecarver, her character, and her work ethic, I have no doubt that she will achieve many great things in her future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Mrs. Wolfe Wisecarver for her public service to the people of California's Twenty First Congressional District and wishing her well as she embarks on the next chapter of her life.