

Islam. These issues are important and relevant to the discussion of religion in modernity and underscore the urgency of the need for workable doctrines, policies and intellectual frameworks within which to create opportunities for reconciliation and conflict avoidance.

Again in his address at Westminster Hall, the Pope postulated that advocates of both secular rationality and religious belief "need one another and should not be afraid to enter into a profound and ongoing dialogue, for the good of our civilization."

The harsh reality of the fault line between reason and religion has received greater international attention following the United Kingdom visit. Religious intolerance recently fueled two deadly church bombings in the Middle East. The October 31, 2010 massacre in Baghdad killed more than 50 Syriac Catholics and 23 Coptic Christians were murdered in Alexandria, Egypt on January 1, 2011, all while attending services. These events tragically reaffirm the Pope's UK call for religious freedom.

CONCLUSION

In his five years as pope, Benedict has led a diplomatic mission embracing the positive role of religion in politics, global justice and the peaceful evolution of civilization. Occasionally blunt and sometimes misunderstood, he has not shrunk from the 21st century challenges of secularization and radicalism and has lent his lifetime of theological and philosophical study to help solve these seemingly intractable problems.

In his address for the celebration of the World Day of Peace on January 1, 2011, delivered almost as the attack in Alexandria was taking place, the Pope highlighted the humanizing and civilizing role of religion in the development of civil society. Pope Benedict XVI said, "Freedom and respect are inseparable;" and, moreover, that "religious freedom is the condition for the pursuit of truth." He went on to quote from the Vatican II Declaration on Religious Freedom *Dignitatis Humanae*: "in exercising their rights, individuals and social groups are bound by the moral law to have regard for the rights of others." Once again, in this message broadly addressed to all people, the Pope reaffirmed the critical linkages of religious freedom and human dignity to the pursuit of justice and peace, and to the truth and objective credibility which reason adduces to the profession of faith.

Though a relatively older Pope when he was elected, Pope Benedict XVI has shown vigor and spirit in expressing the diplomacy of the Holy See. The September trip to the United Kingdom urged preservation and enhancement of the role of religion in modern society and government, and continues to call for dialogue and the coexistence of religion and reason in today's world.

RECOGNIZING BREA BEAL, MS. BASKETBALL OF ILLINOIS FOR 2017

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Brea Beal of Rock Island for being named this year's Ms. Basketball of Illinois.

Brea is the first Quad-City basketball player to be awarded the title of Ms. Basketball of Illinois, and I would like to recognize her for her tremendous talent. As a former college bas-

ketball player myself, I understand the time, hard work and dedication that goes into being awarded such a title. Additionally, Brea has consistently been ranked as one of the top basketball players in the state. Last year, she was the only freshman to make the Class 4A Illinois Basketball Coaches Association all-state first team and has showed continued growth in skill and heart. She is ranked as one of the top sophomore prospects in the nation, scoring more than 1,200 points in her young basketball career and only the third sophomore ever to be named Ms. Basketball of Illinois. At this rate, Brea is on pace to break almost every Western Big 6 Conference record by the time she graduates.

Not only does Brea lead on the court as the captain of the basketball team, she's also deeply involved in our community, spending time volunteering when she isn't practicing. Moreover, she is strong academically and maintains a 3.6 grade point average.

It is because of passionate young leaders like Brea that I am especially proud to serve Illinois 17th Congressional District. Again, I'd like to congratulate Brea Beal for making the Quad-Cities proud, and wish her every success in her bright future.

HONORING THE LIFE OF AHMED "KATHY" KATHRADA

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I awakened today to the news of a gentleman from South Africa, who was a man of historic proportion, an anti-apartheid activist and a blessed man, Ahmed Kathrada, known as Kathy, passed away.

I had the privilege to meet this great man on two occasions, once in August 2009 and again in June 2016 while on a Congressional Delegation honoring the 50th Anniversary of Robert F. Kennedy's famous June 6, 1966 "Ripples of Hope" human rights speech. I was totally awed by his life and his peaceful nature.

Kathy Kathrada spent decades in jail with Nelson Mandela, then spent the first years of democracy helping to shape South Africa's government after the fall of apartheid.

Kathy was an Indian gentleman and when he was eight years old his family moved from Schweizer-Reneke two hundred miles away to Johannesburg because there were no schools for Indians. Not only were there no schools for Indians, but when he was sent to prison there were no cells for Indians either.

He became, at a very early age, an activist for social reform and against apartheid, first for Indian rights and then against apartheid and for South African rights. He became a political activist at 12 years old and at 17 years old, he was arrested for the first time after he left school to join the Transvaal Passive Resistance Council.

Kathy came into prominence in July 1963, when he was arrested with other anti-apartheid activists in Rivonia. That October, he was indicted on charges of trying to overthrow the government, start a guerrilla war, and open the door to invasion by foreign powers. On April 1964, he was sentenced to life in prison, at hard labor, along with Nelson Mandela,

Walter Sisulu, Denis Golberg, Govan Mbeki, Raymond Mhlaba, Elias Motsoaledi, and Andrew Mlangeni. The Rivonia trial became a signature moment in the struggle against apartheid. Mr. Kathrada spent 26 years and 3 months behind bars, 18 of them on Robben Island, the apartheid regime's most notorious prison.

When he was in prison, he was sent to work in a limestone quarry for more than a decade. At one point, Mr. Kathrada, Mr. Mandela, and Mr. Sisulu were put on a meager ration of rice gruel as punishment for supposedly not working hard enough. Because Kathy was a mixed-race convict, he was given long trousers while black convicts had to wear shorts without socks and even rations were distributed by race. Mr. Kathrada refused to accept his privileges unless they were also extended to his black comrades. He and other African National Congress (ANC) leaders helped Nelson Mandela draft his memoirs in prison and smuggle them out. While in prison, Mr. Kathrada obtained four university degrees, two in history and two in African politics.

When he was released from prison, he wasn't bitter, he practiced only peace and was committed to resolving race relations in South Africa. He was elected Parliament as a member of the ANC in the first all-inclusive democratic South African elections in 1994 and was appointed to be a political advisor to President Nelson Mandela in the newly created post of Parliamentary Counsellor. He left parliamentary politics in 1999.

After his release, Kathy preached forgiveness. He befriended the people who had been his guards and who had subjected him. He actually moved back to Robben Island in 1999—this time to a private house, where he lived for nearly five years as the president of the Robben Island Museum where he led tours of the museums. On my second trip to South Africa, where I met him for the second time, it was remarkable to see the prison guards hand the key to the prison to the former prisoner.

Kathy remained dedicated to the ANC for the rest of his life and he was never afraid to speak his mind. He was a member of his neighborhood branch and attended national functions of the ANC. Last April, he called on President Zuma to resign, after South Africa's highest court found that the president violated his oath of office by refusing to pay back public money spent on renovations to his rural home. He was never afraid to criticize corruption and promote the values of love and peace. He lamented that South Africa remained so geographically divided and economically disparate. He always worked for a non-sexist, non-racial, democratic South Africa.

He received four honorary degrees in his life including from the University of Kentucky, Michigan State, and the University of Missouri. He is rightly revered in South Africa and around the world. Kathy was a great human being and a humanitarian individual who served the Indian people, the South African nation, and humanity in a superb fashion. Kathy is survived by his longtime partner Barbara Hogan, a former political prisoners and government minister. His was a life well-lived. I was fortunate to have met him, and I am sorry for his loss.

CONGRATULATING THE SILSBEE
BULLDOGS FOR THEIR STATE
CHAMPIONSHIP VICTORY

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Silsbee Bulldogs for winning the Class 4-A State Basketball Championship on March 11, 2017 at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas. There is no doubt it takes an incredible amount of persistence, hard work, passion and skill to accomplish this feat. These young men have shown all of these qualities and I applaud each and every one of them. I would like to personally recognize each one of them and their coaches.

Players: Bruce Newton, Calvin Tyler, Michael McCain, Braelon Bush, Jordyn Adams, Trajan Harris, Willie Jones, Adonis Thomas, Jadon Bass, Landyn Tyler, Chris Martin, Chris Thomas, Decoby Jones, Kalon Barnes and Devon McCain; Superintendent: Richard Bain; Principal: Paul Trevino; Athletic Director: Randy Smith; Assistant Athletic Director: Kim Albers; Head Coach: Joe Sigler; Assistant Coaches: Ira Brooks and James Collins; Manager: Jerome Boykins; Athletic Trainer: John Williamson; Student Trainer: Brittany Stephens.

I wish each one of them continued success on and off the basketball court. Go Bulldogs.

H.R. 479, THE NORTH KOREA
STATE SPONSOR OF TERRORISM
DESIGNATION ACT OF 2017

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, North Korea spent 20 years on the State Sponsor of Terrorism list for acts of international terrorism and its dangerous proliferation activities. But in 2008, North Korea was taken off the state sponsors of terrorism list in exchange for its commitment to dismantle its nuclear program.

Nine years later, we've lived up to our end of the bargain while North Korea has carried out four nuclear tests. Not only that—but little Kim has escalated his support for international terrorism.

In 2009 alone, three North Korean arms shipments bound for terrorist groups were interdicted. North Korean experts have advised both Hezbollah and Hamas in the construction of their terrorist tunnel networks.

North Korea has directly menaced the U.S. using new-age digital terrorism, launching cyber-attacks against U.S. government agencies and Sony Pictures.

Last month Kim Jon-un's half-brother was brutally assassinated in Malaysia by suspected North Korean operatives using the chemical weapon VX nerve agent.

North Korea's actions have only grown more flagrant since being removed from the terrorism list. Kim's actions threaten our infrastructure, our economy, and ultimately our national security.

That's why I introduced H.R. 479 The North Korea State Sponsor of Terrorism Designation

Act. My bill requires the Secretary of State to determine whether or not North Korea meets the criteria for a State Sponsor of Terrorism. It also expresses the sense of Congress that North Korea likely meets the criteria for designation as an SST. North Korea is a State Sponsor of terrorism.

And that's just the way it is.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CON-
GRESS THAT THE SUPREME
COURT MISINTERPRETED THE
FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE CON-
STITUTION IN THE CASE OF
BUCKLEY V. VALEO RESOLUTION

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Expressing the Sense of Congress that the Supreme Court Misinterpreted the First Amendment to the Constitution in the Case of Buckley v. Valeo" Resolution, an important bill to promote and preserve free speech.

The landmark Supreme Court case Buckley v. Valeo was decided over forty years ago. Justice Byron White called the decision "a mortal danger against which effective preventive and curative steps must be taken."

In the wake of a Presidential election where spending approached \$5 billion, we see the influence of wealthy donors. They are granted an inordinate amount of influence over the politicians they elect. True to form, it appears to have endowed donors with an unusually high number of Cabinet positions in the Trump Administration. Nearly 38 percent of President Trump's high-level government posts were given to campaign donors.

Congress must end the current practice of allowing elections to be bought by the highest bidder. If money equals free speech, then lack of money equals lack of free speech.

We must ensure that our campaigns are reflective of the people's voices, not those of Wall Street and corporations. Buckley v. Valeo took this inviolate First Amendment right away from the people. In order to secure free speech as a right of "we the people," this misinterpretation must be readdressed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 186, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

TRIBUTE TO THE EDITOR OF MID-
LAND DAILY NEWS AT THE
HEARST CORPORATION JOHN H.
"JACK" TELFER II

HON. JOHN R. MOOLENAAR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jack Telfer, the Editor of the Midland Daily News, upon his retirement.

Jack was born and raised in Port Huron where he attended St. Clair County Community College and earned his Associates degree. He went on to attend Central Michigan University and graduated with a Bachelors in Journalism in 1978. After finishing school, Jack began his career in journalism as a court and police beat reporter for the Daily Tribune.

Jack went on to become the Editor of the Huron Daily Tribune in 1983. His leadership was exceptional and he earned the Hearst Eagle Award, which is the company's highest award for excellence. In 1991, he moved to Midland to become the Editor of the Midland Daily News, another Hearst Publication. In his 25 years at the Midland Daily News, he has been a cornerstone of the paper's success and helped lead it to the 2016 Michigan Press Association Newspaper of the Year award.

Outside of work, Jack's wife Jeanne, daughter Renee and son John Telfer III along with their spouses and his grandchildren have been the biggest part of his life. Jack looks forward to spending more time with them and further imparting his legacy of faith and love of hockey.

Jack has been especially helpful in giving back to Michigan's Fourth District. He has had strong involvement with the United Way of Midland, volunteering and serving on the board. His strategic thinking has helped the organization and our community.

On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Michigan, I am honored today to recognize Jack Telfer for his lifetime of work in media and for his commitment to the Midland Community.

TO CONGRATULATE AND HONOR
ANGELINA M. PENNISI STEINER
FOR HER LITERARY ACHIEVE-
MENTS

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate and honor Angelina M. Pennisi Steiner for her literary achievements. At the age of thirteen, her poem "The Rusty Clock" was selected to be included in the award-winning Children's Album of Poetry Archives. After submitting another poem, "A Nightly Wish," Mrs. Steiner became the only person in her school to be included twice. In 2014, her first book, "Chasing Dreams" was published. Now, her second book, "Beautiful Words Coming My Way" is being published and archived in the Library of Congress.

Mrs. Steiner joined the Plant City Senior Center several years ago, where she shared her talents in weekly poetry readings. She became a member of the Florida Writer's Association, has been a guest at Winter Haven's