

the rules and pass, as amended H.R. 1842), and 273 (motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.R. 2288) I did not cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on all of these votes.

**JOSEPH CARDENAS EARNS BOY
SCOUT EAGLE RANK AWARD**

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Joseph Cardenas of Pearland, TX, for earning his Boy Scout Eagle Rank Award.

Eagle Rank is the highest rank among Boy Scouts, requiring them to develop leadership, service and outdoor skills. To earn this distinguished award, Joseph had to achieve the Life Scout rank, earn 21 merit badges, and complete a service project. Joseph's service project was developing a brick memorial for veterans of all branches of the military. Individual and personalized bricks were laid at the VFW Pearland Memorial Post 7109 in Pearland.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Joseph Cardenas for earning his Boy Scout Eagle Rank Award. We are confident he will have continued success in his future endeavors. We are very proud.

**COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF SAN JOAQUIN VAL-
LEY COLLEGE**

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate San Joaquin Valley College (SJVC) on the occasion of their 40th anniversary. SJVC has educated over 25,000 students and started them on the path of successful careers. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor SJVC's dedication and service to the community.

Founded on April 14, 1977, SJVC began with three students studying to become medical assistants. Shirley Perry, founder of SJVC, began as a medical assistant herself, in pursuit of certification. Through diligent studying on her own she became the first person to pass the certification test without schooling. Her impressive success was admired by many other medical assistants, seeking help from Shirley on their exams. This tutoring led to a teaching position at a community college. After three years, Shirley became unsatisfied with the schooling options and was inspired to establish the San Joaquin Valley College.

Robert Perry, Shirley's husband, left his job to handle the business aspects of the college. In 1995, the institution was accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges/Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges. This accreditation allowed for SJVC to offer Associate of Science Degrees.

The college now has 15 campuses located all over California, from Sacramento to San Diego.

San Joaquin Valley College offers 22 programs and will soon open its newest campus in downtown Porterville, CA. The institution has been passed down to Mike and Mark Perry, the sons of Shirley and Robert, and continues to provide education to students across California.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating San Joaquin Valley College's 40th Anniversary, along with the Perry family, for all of their hard work and accomplishments within the past forty years.

**TRIBUTE TO FRANK PECHACEK,
JR.**

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Frank Pechacek, Jr. of Council Bluffs, Iowa. Frank recently retired from the Board of Directors of the Pottawattamie County Community Foundation after nine years of service.

Frank has been instrumental in his role with the Southwest Iowa Education Foundation, an affiliate of the Pottawattamie County Community Foundation. Under his leadership, the Pottawattamie County Community Foundation has seen substantial growth within the community. When Frank is not volunteering his time with the Foundation, he is a successful attorney at the Willson & Pechacek Law Firm.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Frank on his many years of dedicated and devoted service to the Pottawattamie County Community Foundation and Pottawattamie County. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress and I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in congratulating Frank on his many accomplishments and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on Monday, May 22, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 269, H.R. 1862; and YEA on Roll Call No. 270, H.R. 1842.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding missed votes due to family matters.

Had I been present for roll call vote number 269, H.R. 1862, The Global Child Protection Act of 2017, I would have voted Yea. Had I been present for roll call vote number 270, H.R. 1842, The Strengthening Children's Safety Act of 2017, I would have voted Yea.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, May 22, 2017, I missed votes due to unavoidable flight delays. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on roll call votes No. 269 and 270.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRIS COLLINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from votes May 22, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 269, and YEA on Roll Call No. 270.

**IN RECOGNITION OF SAFE
BOATING WEEK**

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, today I stand to recognize Safe Boating Week beginning on May 20th and ending on May 27. I ask my colleagues to join me in drawing attention to this important issue and making water-based recreational activities safer and more enjoyable for all.

I would like to thank the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 3-5 for hosting a Safe Boating and Water Safety Day in Sacramento on May 20. They will be holding demonstrations and presenting safety displays along the river water fronts for all families and residents in attendance. I believe that efforts such as these are crucial to reducing the number of boating-related deaths and injuries that occur each year.

Most boating accidents are preventable and occur because of human error, not because of environmental factors. In 2016, 266 boating accidents resulted in 150 injuries and 36 fatalities in Northern California alone. Many of these fatalities can be attributed to the victim not wearing a life jacket. We must make it explicitly known to the general public that today's life jackets are more affordable, more comfortable, and truly key to avoiding accidental drownings. Together, we must encourage all boaters to practice safe boating, attend safe boating classes, and live by the slogan "Wear It California!"

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in recognizing Safe Boating Week activities in West Sacramento.

IN SUPPORT OF TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support for Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization (WHO).

For nearly a decade, Taiwan has participated as an invited observer at the World Health Assembly, the annual forum for the WHO. This invitation arrived late last year, due to political opposition to democratically-elected President Tsai Ing-wen. This year, no invitation was sent at all. Public health should be a politics-free issue and the WHO, a leading actor in reacting to global health crises, should remain a neutral, independent body which does not only serve the interest of any specific country.

As our world becomes increasingly connected and travel times to places around the globe are decreasing, communicable diseases have spread at an ever increasing pace. With its modern, world-class health system, Taiwan has been a leader in disease prevention, surveillance, quarantine, and treatment. It has been a key ally in the fights against many diseases, including SARS, avian flu, and Zika. Taiwan has shared its expertise and resources with people in South East Asia, and around the world.

Mr. Speaker, the World Health Assembly is an important event with worldwide attendance where global health policy is determined. Taiwan's medical expertise should be well represented. I encourage the administration to continue to help Taiwan's inclusion in the World Health Assembly and work together with their Taiwanese counterparts to strengthen the bilateral cooperation on health.

SIBYL WESTENHAVER NAMED
KATY, TX, SENIOR OF THE YEAR

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sibyl Westenhaver for being named as the 2017 City of Katy Senior of the Year.

Members of the Senior Citizens Center Advisory Board nominated two people to be named Katy's Senior of the Year and Mayor Fabol Hughes choose Sibyl. Sibyl began volunteering in her church's home delivered meals program in 2006. She helped transition the program to Interfaith Ministries' meals on wheels program. She moved to Katy from Oklahoma after losing her husband to be closer to her children and grandchildren. Not wanting to be a "sit-at-home elderly person," Sibyl is known throughout the community and has created an extended family through her fellow volunteers and meal recipients. She's truly an inspiration.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Sibyl for being named the 2017 City of Katy Senior of the Year. She's helped countless people and we thank her for her help.

RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL
EDUCATION PROGRAMS

HON. MARK POCAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of international students, scholars, and the U.S. institutions of higher education they attend who have been unfairly penalized by the administration's efforts to limit travel to our country. I urge my colleagues and the administration to recognize the vital contribution international students, scholars, and their families make when we welcome them to this great country.

International Education programs are incredibly important to the higher education experiences of students across the country. In particular, Title VI and Fulbright-Hays programs enable American undergraduate and graduate students to develop capabilities and proficiencies in languages and areas of the world that greatly benefit national security. At its core, Title VI strengthens the international teaching and curricula of students, introduces students to a wider, diverse world, and fosters their likelihood of pursuing an internationally focused profession. Similarly, the Fulbright-Hays program is an internationally focused program that awards grants to individual U.S. teachers, post-doctoral students, post-doctoral faculty, and U.S. institutions in order to support research and training efforts overseas focused on non-Western languages and areas of studies. The Title VI and the Fulbright-Hays programs form the vital infrastructure of the Federal government's investment in the international service pipeline. The contributions these programs make to diplomacy and international education must be protected and prioritized.

These programs broaden all students' horizons, benefit our country's workforce, and strengthen diplomatic ties. In turn, when we welcome international students to our universities, they strengthen our communities and enrich discourse through diverse perspectives. The Trump Administration's rhetoric surrounding immigrants has been harmful to international students and the academic community. Following the Administration's proposed travel ban, many immigrant students at our universities have experienced tremendous uncertainty about their status. Additionally, schools across the country have seen their applicant rates of international students decline.

At the University of Wisconsin-Madison, international students and scholars apply the lessons they have learned abroad to make a positive impact on our state's economy. The University of Wisconsin Madison is one of the nation's top producers of Fulbright students and scholars, with 21 students accepted into the prestigious program. In Wisconsin's 2nd District, we have welcomed nearly 7,000 international students and their families to our area and are profoundly grateful for the contributions they have made. I am incredibly proud of the students and faculty who continue to lead in the field of international education and strongly encourage my colleagues to support these vital education programs.

CONGRATULATING COLUMBIA
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE SARAH
COMBS WHO WILL ATTEND THE
COLLEGE OF IDAHO ON ATH-
LETIC SCHOLARSHIP

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to an outstanding young student from the State of Idaho. Her name is Sarah Combs. Sarah is a graduate of the Columbia High School Class of 2017. Looking at her scholastic accomplishments and athletic talents, it's easy to predict Sarah is on a fast track to success.

Sarah's parents enrolled her in the Bogus Basin Ski Education Foundation (BBSEF) in Boise at the age of seven. The foundation was established to provide training and competition programs for aspiring young ski racers. She is an avid skier and enjoys participating in BBSEF events.

Sarah's love of sport extends to engaging people of all abilities. She is organizing a weekend event for children with disabilities. While the service project puts her on course to earn the Girls Scouts of the USA highest achievement, the Gold Award, she is most excited about helping the participants learn gymnastics. She kicked off the effort by asking her ski coach, Doug Sato, to serve as her mentor. He was happy to oblige. "Sarah is very curious about the world and is able to make keen observations about her environment. She seeks to make significant changes and overcome any obstacles."

Sarah has been a patient confidante to other skiers on the team. "She is kind to everyone. You can go to her with any question, and she figures it out," says one teammate. "She shows her appreciation when you lend a hand. She is an all-around nice person," adds another.

"I appreciate the friends that I have made in BBSEF," says Sarah, "I thank my parents especially for supporting me so that I could continue to race, and I thank the coaches as well." When the ski season ends you can find Sarah on the track where she runs the 400 meter and the 2-mile race.

Sarah took her academic responsibilities seriously. Ever since Sarah started high school she was the yearly recipient of the All-Academic Southern Idaho Conference. This is quite an accomplishment given her demanding training schedule.

The College of Idaho took notice of Sarah's accomplishments on the slopes when she had the opportunity to train with the College of Idaho Ski Team. While training with the ski team, the college also learned that Sarah ran cross country and track as well. The College of Idaho realized that she is the caliber of a student-athlete desired for enrollment. On National Letter of Intent Signing Day, Sarah signed for all three sports and was offered a scholarship for all three sports.

So Sarah will be a member of the Yotes Women's Alpine Ski Team, the Yotes Women's Cross Country Team, and the Yotes Women's Track and Field Team.

Sarah intends to enroll in the Pre-Physical Therapy program and take advantage of an elective that will prepare her to work with disabled athletes. There is no doubt Sarah will be