

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

**HON. JARED POLIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2017*

Mr. POLIS. 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'd like to share with you the story of Khalid Al-Awadhi, an undergraduate student at CU Boulder from the United Arab Emirates, who is studying electrical and computer engineering.

Khalid is president of CU International, a campus organization that helps international students adjust to campus life. He is well known for his welcoming demeanor and enthusiasm. Khalid is driven by his commitment to make CU Boulder a better learning experience for all international students. The personal connections he has built have truly made a difference for the experience of hundreds of students on campus by building bridges and connecting cultures.

May is a critical month on the college calendar. Many currently-enrolled international students and scholars will choose not to travel home at the end of the academic year, for fear they might not be allowed to return in the fall. In addition, the anti-immigrant rhetoric and uncertainty created by our broken immigration system makes the United States less attractive to the students and scholars who we want to contribute to our campuses and communities.

To ensure our nation's security, economic wellbeing, and academic leadership, we must remain an open and welcoming United States. So, to the international students and scholars who may be unsure about coming to study at institutions like CU Boulder and Colorado State, I say: Your contributions are valued and you are welcome here.

## TRIBUTE TO ROBERT LEE HENDEE

**HON. STEVE STIVERS**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2017*

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of Ohio's 15th Congressional District and the citizens of Wilmington, Ohio to honor the life and memory of Robert Lee Hendee. A pioneer of Southwest Ohio's radio, in his 50 years as a behind-the-scenes support and an on-air personality, Lee became a familiar name and voice in his Wilmington community.

Lee embodied the American Dream. Following his education at the International School of Broadcasting in Dayton, Ohio, he went on to work at WKFI in Wilmington, WSRW in Hillsboro, and WBZI in Xenia, before ultimately fulfilling his dream of owning his own radio station in 2015.

As the owner and founder of the nonprofit WALH in Wilmington, Lee brought the power of radio to his community; he interviewed resi-

dents and celebrities alike, and unified his neighbors by bringing them information and giving them a voice. I always appreciated the opportunity to stop by the station and catch up with him. His devotion to Wilmington was undeniable.

Aside from being the man with the voice, he was an avid sports fan and was fiercely dedicated to creating positive change in the lives of young people. He was the proud owner of Ultimate Impact Wrestling, a longtime boys' baseball and girls' softball coach, and a talented bowler.

Lee touched the lives of countless people with his infectious spirit and memorable voice. He will be fondly remembered by those who loved him, especially his mother, his brother and sister, his wife, his four children and his six grandchildren.

## RECOGNIZING THE RETURN TO EL PASO ROOTS EVENT

**HON. BETO O'ROURKE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2017*

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise and join with my colleague, the Honorable BARBARA LEE, to acknowledge and celebrate the "Return to El Paso Roots" event, which will take place May 26 through 29, 2017 in El Paso, Texas. This historically significant event salutes the African American families, friends, and students who attended the historic Douglass School, the first school for African Americans in El Paso.

Andrew Morelock established the school in 1883 as a refuge and haven for the children of African American El Pasoans barred from attending schools with white children. First named Franklin School, it became Douglass School in tribute to the noted abolitionist and statesman, Frederick Douglass. The school sought to allow children to thrive in a fully supportive community committed to their success and academic achievement. Douglass School provided much more than a quality education; it also provided community and a sense of well being and belonging for its students.

The school desegregated in 1955 following the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision, and the site is now an historical site in El Paso. Douglass students excelled, and the school produced a notable array of successful graduates, including the family of my esteemed colleague, Congresswoman LEE.

During the "Return to El Paso Roots" event, former students, families, friends, and El Paso residents will come together in celebration at the historic McCall Neighborhood Community Center. The late Leona Ford Washington, a retired Douglass schoolteacher, founded the Center in 1983. She dedicated her life to the needs and development of the El Paso African American community. It is pertinent to highlight the history of The McCall Neighborhood Center as it prepares to host many events for "Return to El Paso Roots".

The McCall Neighborhood Center is the former home of Marshall and Olalee McCall. Mr. McCall was the first African American

postal worker in El Paso, and his wife, Mrs. McCall, was a principal at Douglass School. Following Mrs. McCall's tenure as principal from 1937 through 1944, the home served as a daycare center as well as her music studio. The McCall Neighborhood Center is an important foundation in the El Paso community.

In this celebration, we acknowledge and honor the tremendous contributions of the African American community to the success and development of El Paso, and the work they have done to make our community, the State of Texas, and our country a more just world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join Congresswoman LEE and me in saluting the Douglass School students, families, and friends who will come to El Paso to commemorate and celebrate this remarkable community.

## IN RECOGNITION OF MAE JEMISON FOR HER OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS AS AN ASTRONAUT AND SCIENTIST

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2017*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mae Jemison, a physician, scientist and astronaut whose pioneering career has furthered our understanding of the world around us. Dr. Jemison has achieved excellence across a number of disciplines as a result of her hard work and perseverance.

After receiving a medical degree from Cornell Medical College and completing her medical training, Dr. Jemison served as a Peace Corps Medical Officer, treating Peace Corps volunteers in Liberia and Sierra Leone. She was then accepted into NASA's astronaut program in 1987, providing launch support and assistance until her space mission aboard the Space Shuttle *Endeavor* in September 1992. During her mission, Dr. Jemison conducted scientific experiments on bone cell research and the effects of weightlessness on the human body, which contributed to advancements in our understanding of life sciences. She then resigned in 1993 from NASA, and has since founded several companies, including BioSentient Corp., which develops treatments for chronic pain and stress disorders.

Dr. Jemison has had an extraordinary career and has affected countless lives through her work. In addition to breaking down barriers as the first black woman in space, Dr. Jemison has utilized her medical background and business acumen to develop novel medical treatments for a variety of illnesses. She has also excelled in academia, working as a professor at Dartmouth and Cornell, and is the founder of the Dorothy Jemison Foundation for Excellence, a nonprofit that promotes science education initiatives. Collectively, Dr. Jemison has had an indelible impact on a variety of disciplines through her work, and she continues to inspire new generations of scientists.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring Dr. Mae Jemison for her outstanding career. Dr. Jemison's work with NASA, in medicine and in business has impacted and inspired countless individuals.

HONORING SPC. JACOB D. MARTIR'S SERVICE AND SACRIFICE

### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2017

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, today, as we near Memorial Day, I rise to honor SPC. Jacob D. Martir, for his honorable service to our nation and his ultimate sacrifice during the early days of the Iraq War.

Jacob was a native of eastern Connecticut, growing up in Willimantic and Norwich. A former student of Norwich Free Academy, he enlisted in the United States Army in 2000 at the age of 17. Joining the armed services was his lifelong dream. Nearing completion of his first tour in the Army, he reenlisted for four more years in 2002, despite the added risk of serving after 9/11.

In March of 2004, Jacob deployed to Iraq with Alpha Troop, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. On August 18, 2004, while patrolling in Sadr City, one of Baghdad's most violent neighborhoods throughout the war, Jacob was tragically killed by small arms fire. His sacrifice, coming four months after the tragic "Black Sunday" in which eight soldiers were killed in Sadr City, was part of a years-long effort to clear the area of Iraqi insurgents. He was 21 years old and left behind a loving mother, Lydia Gutierrez, and five siblings. For his courageous service, Jacob was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star, and he was buried with full military honors at Maplewood Cemetery in Norwich.

Jacob's life is a reminder of the greatest American values. His call to serve was instinctive and unrelenting even through a time of great danger. At just twenty-one years old, he marched bravely into one of the most dangerous places in the world to defend and serve his nation and protect his fellow soldiers.

I would ask my colleagues to join me in solemn remembrance of Jacob Martir and his family, and thanking them for Jacob's service to eastern Connecticut and our nation.

### NATIONAL POPPY DAY

### HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2017

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize tomorrow, and each Friday before Memorial Day, as National Poppy Day.

National Poppy Day encourages all Americans to wear a red poppy flower as a symbol to remember the fallen and support the living heroes who have worn our nation's uniform.

Following World War I, the red poppy became an internationally recognized symbol of the blood shed by those who fought for their countries.

Although it originated almost a century ago, the poppy is just as relevant today.

Throughout our history, countless Americans have laid down their lives to protect and defend the country and the people they love.

America's living veterans have served in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf,

Kosovo, Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, and many other conflicts around the world.

They fought for us and many bare scars that will stay with them for life.

As Americans, we have an obligation to remember the service and sacrifice of these brave men and women and their families, who have helped build the country we love today.

By recognizing National Poppy Day, we stand with these brave men and women and with the families of all those who did not make it home.

While we all agree with the sentiment, the symbolism behind the poppy is better known around the world than it is here in the United States.

It is worn in England and Canada, on Remembrance Day, also known as Armistice Day and Poppy Day, to commemorate members of the armed forces who have died in the line of duty.

This year the United States commemorates the 100th anniversary of its entrance into World War I.

The American Legion, our largest wartime veterans organization which has a track record of promoting National Poppy Day, is approaching its 100th anniversary.

There is no more appropriate time for us, as a nation, to recognize this historic symbol of service.

As the proud author of H. Res. 309, a resolution recognizing National Poppy Day, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in promoting this visible recognition of those who have served our nation in uniform.

### IN HONOR OF THE DEEP EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

### HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I, along with Representative BRIAN BABIN and Representative LOUIE GOHMERT, recognize the 50th anniversary of the Deep East Texas Council of Governments and Economic Development District, better known as "DETCOG."

In November of 1966, over fifty community officials and leaders, concerned with the economic growth and development of East Texas and the quality of life of its residents, gathered together to lay the groundwork for the Deep East Texas Economic Development District.

The Honorable Charles Wilson, a Member of the Texas Senate and later a Member of the United States House of Representatives, was unanimously elected Chair, and later President, of the new organization.

The Deep East Texas Economic Development District continued its meetings throughout 1967. It employed its first Executive Director in August and opened its first office in September. In 1968, the District even became a Regional Planning Commission under the laws of the State of Texas, and in 1972, it adopted the new name of Deep East Texas Council of Governments and Economic Development District.

DETCOG has facilitated the development of effective responses to such issues as community and economic development, affordable

housing, aging and disability services, public safety and emergency response, disaster recovery, information and referral services, volunteerism, transportation and the environment that have had a profound and positive impact on the Deep East Texas Region.

Over the past half-century, DETCOG's activities have improved the quality of life for all residents in the 12-county region known as Deep East Texas, including the counties of Angelina, Houston, Jasper, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity and Tyler.

Representative BABIN, Representative GOHMERT, and I are proud to congratulate the Deep East Texas Council of Governments and Economic Development District on its 50th Anniversary and its legacy of outstanding service to the governments and citizens of the Deep East Texas region.

### IN HONOR OF ROY REESE'S 80TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2017

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to recognize a fine Hoosier and my friend, Roy Reese, on the occasion of his 80th birthday, which he will celebrate on Tuesday, June 13, 2017. Mr. Reese has been a pillar of his community in Wheatfield, Indiana, for nearly half a century, and having known him for many years, I can attest to his steadfast dedication to improving the quality of life for his fellow citizens. I congratulate Roy as he celebrates this momentous occasion with his many family members and friends.

Roy Reese was born in Stevenson, Alabama, on June 13, 1937. A proud American and true patriot, Roy joined the United States Air Force in 1954 and eventually became the crew chief for large cargo helicopters before returning to civilian life in 1958. Upon his return, Roy began his career with Operating Engineers Local 150 and has been a proud union member with the organization for more than fifty-four years. In addition, Mr. Reese has also utilized his vast agricultural knowledge which has helped him to become a successful farmer.

Roy has also proven himself to be a devoted public servant, as well as an esteemed member of his church. A lifelong Democrat, Mr. Reese served on the Gilliam Township Advisory Board for twenty-four years. A proud veteran as well as a man of great faith, he is also a lay speaker at Tefft United Methodist Church and has also served as chaplain for American Legion Post 228 in Francesville, Indiana. In addition, Roy has been a member of Masonic Lodge No. 642, located in Wheatfield, for more than fifty years.

I would be remiss if I did not share one specific example of the type of person Roy Reese is. While he is well-known in his community and in his church for his selfless service, Roy truly epitomizes what it means to be a good neighbor, regardless of the season. In fact, Roy has always taken it upon himself to clear snow from his neighbors' driveways during the cold winter months, a service illustrative of his generous spirit.