

Nebraska Lied Main Street program and the Certified National Main Street program. Main Street Beatrice provides guidance and resources to downtown businesses, building owners, and others by utilizing the National Main Street Program approach. The organization has grown by leaps and bounds in the last two years. Together with the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Nebraska State Historical Society, Main Street Beatrice has been a leader in advocating for and sharing the message of the importance of utilizing available resources for historic preservation through training, awareness events, and community outreach. Beatrice was recognized by the National Register of Historic Places in 2016.

I am proud to recognize each of these award winners today, and I thank them for their many contributions to Nebraska.

HONORING THE GREGORY J. HARRIS MILITARY COURTESY ROOM AT THE SYRACUSE HANCOCK AIRPORT

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 10th anniversary of the Gregory J. Harris Military Courtesy Room (MCR) at Syracuse Hancock International Airport.

Founded in 2008 by two TSA agents who grew tired of seeing soldiers sleeping on the floor of Syracuse's Hancock Airport, the MCR was developed to provide a place of refuge for soldiers awaiting flights. Since its inception, the MCR has aimed to provide traveling soldiers with a bit of home comfort. Fitted with amenities including a kitchen and lounge chairs for relaxation, the MCR has serviced hundreds of soldiers and has hosted everything from nervous recruits anticipating basic training to marriage proposals.

As our servicemen and women, including the many brave men and women serving our nation at Fort Drum and at the 174th Attack Wing at Hancock Field, travel through Syracuse I believe that they deserve nothing but our utmost respect and gratitude. For this reason, I applaud the MCR organizers and volunteers as they work tirelessly to ensure that the MCR is a home away from home for soldiers in transit.

While serving in Congress, I will continue to do everything in my power to show my appreciation for the men and women serving our country by working to ensure that they receive the treatment and benefits they deserve.

Today, I am proud to honor the Gregory J. Harris Military Courtesy Room for celebrating its 10th anniversary and hope that we will continue to support those who have made significant sacrifices while serving this country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the Chamber on Mon-

day, July 16, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call vote 329 and "yea" on Roll Call vote 330.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 366, and YEA on Roll Call No. 367.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN "JACK" FRANCIS LYNCH

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, this spring the Fifth District of Maryland lost an extraordinary advocate for the men and women of our Armed Services and for America's naval engineering at the Pax River Naval Air Station. John 'Jack' Francis Lynch of St. Ingoes, Maryland, which is in St. Mary's County, passed away on May 18 at the age of eighty-five. Jack spent his career at Pax River, first as an engineer, then as Technical Director, and later as part of the private sector and as an early leader of the Southern Maryland Navy Alliance and the Patuxent Partnership.

When he arrived in Southern Maryland in 1955, Jack began a career that would see him become one of the most influential individuals in the history of Pax River and the region. When he became Technical Director at Pax River in 1979, he realized that the installation was at a disadvantage compared to other major military installations around the country. That was something Jack would not abide. Pax River needed more engineers, so he went to Washington and asked that they be hired. He got what he asked for. Pax River had no on-site offices in Washington, so Jack made the trip to the Pentagon over and over again to lobby military leaders on its behalf. By the time he retired from government service in 1986, Jack had completely transformed the way engineers at Pax River trained and worked.

After leaving government service, Jack joined Mantech International until 1999 and continued to devote himself to Pax River and those who serve there throughout that time and after. In the early 1990's, Jack and I worked closely together and with other state and local leaders to secure funding to build an anechoic chamber at Pax River for the precision simulation of aircraft dynamics, the first of its kind in the world. We also worked together to ensure that Pax River benefitted from consolidation during the 1996 BRAC round, which helped make Southern Maryland the hub for aerospace development and testing it is today and a center for American engineering. Much of these achievements were the result of Jack's efforts to bring stakeholders together into the Southern Maryland Navy Alliance. Later, he led the Patuxent Partnership, which was also instrumental in growing Pax River and its critical role in naval aviation.

I will miss Jack Lynch, not only for his devotion to Southern Maryland and to a strong Navy but also for his optimism and determined spirit. I hope my colleagues in the House will join me in thanking Jack for his service to our country and in expressing my condolences to his wife Patricia Ann "Trixie;" their son Thomas and daughter-in-law Susan; their son Paul and daughter-in-law Kimberly; their son Patrick and daughter-in-law Kathy; and their ten grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. May Jack's memory bring them joy and comfort, as it surely will inspire all of us in Southern Maryland to carry on the work he cherished.

IN CELEBRATION OF MRS. ROBENA GAINES-FLAKES

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations and Happy Birthday wishes to a phenomenal woman of God, dedicated educator, and beloved role model, Mrs. Robena Gaines-Flakes, who will be celebrating her 83rd birthday on Saturday, August 18, 2018. On this day, there will be a celebration at Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church located at 222 Fifth Street in Columbus, Georgia.

Mrs. Robena Gaines-Flakes was born in Phenix City, Alabama in 1935. After graduating from South Girard High School, she went on to study Early Childhood Education at Morris Brown College and Columbus State University.

Mrs. Flakes is a loving mother to her children and was a supportive wife to her late husband, Rev. Dr. J. H. Flakes, Jr., and compassionate first lady to his congregations at Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia and Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Phenix City, Alabama. Together they used their deep and abiding faith in the Lord to make a tremendous impact on their community. Their son, Rev. J. H. Flakes, III now pastors over Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church and previously pastored over Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church.

Mrs. Flakes is also the Founding Director of the Fourth Street Daycare Center (now the Robena Gaines Flakes Daycare which was established in 1993. During her tenure as Director, the center expanded its roster (from 56 children to over 150 children daily), facility, and programs and services (to include an after-school program for elementary school students). It was also the first daycare to receive the "Center of Distinction Award" from the state of Georgia. She served in this capacity for 12 years until she retired as Director in 2005 and went on to serve as a Consultant.

Mrs. Flakes has received several accolades and awards for her work with the youth. These awards include the Rosa Parks Women of Courage Award from the Gamma Tau Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and the Gracious Ladies of Georgia Award.

Mrs. Flakes has accomplished many things in her life but none of these would have been possible without the grace of God and the love and support of her late husband, their children, Reverend J. H. Flakes, III, Merle J.

Flakes, and Sencira Flakes; and four grandchildren.

Proverbs 11:25 says, "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." "Mama Flakes", as she is affectionately known, has given her life to God and dedicated herself to the service of others. On a personal note, when I came to Columbus, Georgia in 1972, she nurtured me as if I was one of her children, and for that I will be forever grateful. I can say without reservation that she is one of the most passionate and warmhearted individuals I have ever met. I am proud to consider Mama Flakes and the Flakes family as friends of longstanding.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife Vivian and me, along with the more than 730,000 constituents of the Second Congressional District of Georgia, in commending and recognizing Mrs. Robena Gaines-Flakes for her selfless service to the youth, the church, and to humankind. We extend our best wishes to her as she, her family, and friends celebrate her 83rd birthday.

PASSING OF MARLENE MCCARTHY

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Marlene McCarthy, founder of the Rhode Island Breast Cancer Coalition, who sadly passed away after a courageous fight against breast cancer.

Throughout her life, Marlene displayed strength and resilience in the face of adversity. Her personal experience battling cancer and reaching for life beyond a diagnosis became the foundation by which she inspired others.

She received many accolades for her work in Rhode Island and across the nation, including the National Breast Cancer Coalition Advocate of the Year Award, the Rhode Island Woman of the Year award, and the Freedom Torch Award.

In addition to her inspiring advocacy, Marlene was beloved by her community for her kindness and integrity. Although she is no longer with us, her legacy lives on.

Marlene will be missed, but she will never be forgotten.

CONGRATULATING TAYLOR SUSAN, NEWLY CROWNED MISS INDIAN WORLD

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, the Miss Indian World pageant was initially held in 1984 open to young Native American women ages 18–24. The purpose of the pageant is to provide young Native American women an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of their tribes and cultures, and serve as a cultural Ambassador of Native Americans. Unlike other pageants, the Miss Indian World pageant is a four-day competition, where contestants are scored based on public speaking, traditional talent, interviews, essay writing, and dance.

On April 28, 2018 in a sold-out crowd with over 3,600 Native American Pow-Wow dancers, Taylor Susan was crowned the 35th Miss Indian World.

Ms. Susan is from the White Mountain Apache and Walker River Paiute tribes and is no stranger to Native American pageants. She served as Miss Indian Arizona in 2015, and Miss Native American University of Arizona in 2014. Shortly after she was crowned Miss Indian World, Ms. Susan received her bachelor's degree in political science with minors in chemistry and theater from the University of Arizona. Go Wildcat.

I would like to congratulate Taylor Susan for being crowned the 35th Miss Indian World and wish her the best of luck as she travels around the world to represent Native Americans.

RECOGNIZING BUCKS COUNTY WOMEN'S ADVOCACY GROUP

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, today, I was proud to welcome the youth of the Bucks County Women's Advocacy Coalition, a group of students dedicated to securing and safeguarding the rights of women and children. As teenagers, they are uniquely positioned, as their futures are shaped by laws passed today. They recognize that change comes only through collaboration and working across the aisle, and rightfully expect their elected officials to be problem solvers.

One issue these teenagers are passionate about—and one which I am proud to stand with them—is sound, bipartisan gun violence prevention. By advocating for sensible legislation that protects our schools, homes, and workplaces in Bucks County from senseless tragedies, these young citizens are truly serving their community in a meaningful way.

I am proud to work alongside Leah Porter, Kyra Kendrick, Sophia Rubin, and Clarissa Rubin to fight for a fairer, safer, and more inclusive nation and world.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ANNUAL DOWNRIVER SENIOR OLYMPIC

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Downriver Senior Olympics for three decades of providing seniors the opportunity to compete in a variety of events. This event brings our community together for recreation and fun each summer.

During these decades, the Downriver Senior Olympics has hosted different athletic competitions where seniors can face off against their peers. More than 500 senior athletes will compete in the 2018 event and participate in the Unity Awards banquet at the end of the week. The Olympic athletes are divided into five divisions depending on their age. Sports include golf, horseshoes, bowling, bean bag toss, bocce ball, shuffleboard and many more.

The Downriver Senior Olympics is a testament to the toughness of Michigan's seniors. It is not a common sight to see hundreds of septuagenarians fiercely trying to win a game of frisbee or hockey. These activities help bring people from all walks of life together and foster friendships and community among seniors from our local community. We are grateful for the work that the volunteers do to make this event happen and look forward to its continuation in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Downriver Senior Olympics for giving our seniors the chance to experience the thrill of competition while engaging with the community in a healthy and positive atmosphere. Our seniors deserve to be treated with dignity and respect, and one of the ways to do that should be to actively include them in our communities with events like the Down River Senior Olympics.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICATION AUTOMATED QUOTATION SYSTEM ACT

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2018

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Medication Automated Quotation System or MEDAQ Act to offer what I believe would alleviate our Nation's prescription drug pricing crisis. This bill calls for a study on the effect of creating a system similar to today's NASDAQ, but for prescription drugs instead of stock.

Patients are having to choose between food and medicine. Pharmacists are being forced to provide prescriptions at a loss, and they can't speak up without risk of being cut out of their communities' insurance networks and forced out of business.

Every time anyone tries to determine the root causes of high drug prices, fingers are pointed and no one accepts any responsibility.

I have been vocal in the past about my concerns with the unethical and secretive practices of pharmacy benefits managers, or PBMs, who hide behind gag clauses and retroactive fees and rebates. The Nation is becoming more familiar with those practices and PBMs are starting to squirm.

But as with any massive problem like our drug pricing crisis, there is no one, single culprit. Thus, we need to be able to truly see what is going on.

During my 30 years in Congress, I have always asked, "What's the cost?" I always want to see the numbers behind ideas and legislation. This bill calls for just that: what are the real numbers behind our medication prices?

I envision the MEDAQ as a system that would help manufacturers and wholesalers and pharmacists and others involved in the drug industry see in real time what the average price of drugs is as they are negotiating with each other.

At this time, the medication market is like a farmers market where all the vendors will not to tell their customers what they will really be paying for the produce. Imagine if a customer buys a basket of peaches and is told they'll get half of their money back in the mail in a few weeks.