

ever publicly defended or tried to normalize neo-Nazis or White Supremacists.

But the vast majority of American do not share the current President's view and reject the suggestion that there is a moral equivalence between those who advocate racial separation and white supremacy and those, like the Anti-Defamation League and the NAACP, who are unalterably opposed to that evil, racist ideology and are united in this prayer and promise: Never Again.

A TRIBUTE TO DONNA AND RON MARTIN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Donna and Ron Martin of Greenfield, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on October 28, 2017.

Donna and Ron's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but the best.

IN MEMORY OF DOROTHY "DOTTIE" JEANETTE SHEA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Dorothy "Dottie" Jeanette Shea, an active member of our community and a devoted mother and grandmother who passed away at the age of 82.

A native of Hopland, California, Dottie graduated from Analy High School in Sebastopol and attended Santa Rosa Junior College. While working as a legal secretary in Santa Rosa, Dottie met her husband, local attorney John "Jack" Shea, in 1964.

Dottie cared deeply about Sonoma County and spent her life dedicated to community service. She was not only active in local politics, but she also hosted countless gatherings in her home to discuss local issues, charity efforts and community needs. From these diverse gatherings came many of the innovative ideas that helped Santa Rosa grow from a rural, agrarian community into the large city it is today.

Dottie was also an enthusiastic member of the Bodega Bay Fisherman's Festival, which celebrates the start of the Salmon fishing season. And, she enjoyed sharing with her grandchildren and her community all things that Sonoma County had to offer.

Mr. Speaker, Dottie Shea was my friend, a loving mother, a proud native Californian and emblematic of community service. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her and extend our condolences to her family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House Chamber on Tuesday, January 30, 2018, recovering from a medical procedure. Had I been present, I would have voted: No on roll call no. 47, on ordering the previous question to provide for consideration of the Senate amendments to H.R. 695; No on roll call no. 48, on agreeing to the resolution (H. Res. 714) to provide for consideration of the Senate amendments to H.R. 695; No on roll call no. 49, on the motion to concur in the Senate amendments with an amendment to H.R. 695; and Yea on roll call no. 50, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 4292.

HONORING MRS. HELEN SHIPP

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take some time today to honor one of my constituents, Mrs. Helen Shipp, for her dedicated service to the community of Orange County.

Mrs. Shipp passed away at the age of 82 on January 25, 2018, but her life and legacy will continue to vibrantly live on. Mrs. Shipp founded and organized Orange County's first Black History Parade and Cultural Faire in 1980. Mrs. Shipp dreamed of a gathering where the history, accomplishments, and culture of the African-American community would be remembered and celebrated. This quickly became Orange County's premier event for Black History Month, and Mrs. Shipp's dream was realized. Her commitment and diligence in organizing the Black History Parade has inspired many members of the community, within and outside Orange County.

Mrs. Shipp thought of the event as a gathering of old friends, where a community of neighbors and friends could better understand each other. This event also brought together many new friends. Mrs. Shipp's passion led to many prominent figures serving as grand marshals in the parade, and continually attracted crowds from diverse backgrounds. This year, the parade will be entering its 38th anniversary—this longevity is a testament to Mrs. Shipp's selfless dedication to the community.

Mrs. Shipp enjoyed a career of giving, from her parade organizing to her service working for the Head Start program, where she provided early-education for children from low-income families. Her life shows us the capability, within all members of the community, to create something that enriches the lives of their fellow Americans. Mrs. Shipp's legacy will be continued by her children, her neighbors, her friends, and all who are inspired by her life.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I would be honored to recognize and remember Mrs. Helen Shipp for her dedication to connecting and uniting people in the community. I thank her for her generosity and example. I extend my deepest condolences to her children, and the rest of her family. May God bless her soul and her family.

A TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JANET RILEY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Colonel Janet Riley. Colonel Riley retired from military service on January 27, 2018 after over 30 years in the U.S. Army Reserve.

She is retiring from her last duty station at Carlisle Barracks, PA, serving as an instructor for the U.S. Army War College. She has held numerous leadership positions from Supply Officer, Commander of Battalions, Chief of Staff, Brigade Commander and many more. She currently serves as the State Recovery Planner for Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management in Des Moines, Iowa.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Colonel Riley for this outstanding achievement, and for providing leadership so faithfully in our country's military. I am proud to represent her in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Colonel Riley and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for the vote on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 714 (Roll Call No. 47), I would have voted no. Additionally, had I been present for the vote on H. Res. 714, the rule providing for the consideration of the House amendment to Senate amendment to H.R. 695, the Fiscal Year 2018 Department of Defense Appropriations Act (Roll Call No. 48), I would have voted no.

Had I been present for the vote on the motion to concur in the Senate amendment with an Amendment to H.R. 695, the Fiscal Year 2018 Department of Defense Appropriations Act (Roll Call No. 49), I would have voted no. I voted against a nearly identical defense appropriations bill in July—and all the same issues remain.

Finally, had I been present for the vote on H.R. 4292, the Financial Institution Living Will Improvement Act of 2017 (Roll Call No. 50), I would have voted aye.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 45 and Yea on Roll Call No. 46.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE RUSSELL

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, in connection with my official duties, I was not present for votes on January 29, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 45, and Yea on Roll Call No. 46.

A TRIBUTE TO KATHLEEN AND GENE EYBERG

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Kathleen and Gene Eyberg of Atlantic, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on December 10.

Kathleen and Gene's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 70th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 70 years together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued health and happiness.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION AT 1:
FAILING OUR NATION IN DIS-
ASTER RECOVERY**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on the need for prompt and effective disaster recovery for the United States.

I consider it a high priority to maintain the efficacy of our country's disaster recovery procedures, to help ensure the safety of the American people.

In 2017, this nation saw a very anemic response to disaster recovery from this Administration.

Four months ago, Hurricane Maria, a Category 4 hurricane, devastated the island of Puerto Rico, destroying infrastructure and leaving the island without power.

Puerto Rico, which produces more pharmaceuticals by dollar value for the nation than any of the 50 states or any foreign country, has been key to the supply of these intravenous (IV) saline bags and solution routinely used in hospitals and clinics.

Hurricane Maria halted production at Baxter International Inc., a pharmaceutical manufacturing plant that produces 43 percent of IV saline fluids for U.S. hospitals.

This year's flu season has been uncharacteristically aggressive, which makes the shortage of medical supplies caused by Hurricane Maria all the more problematic.

The American Hospital Association has urged the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to take "any and all steps possible" to resolve worsening shortages of small-volume saline solutions—sterile suspensions of drugs and lifesaving nutrients administered intravenously.

The FDA has responded by relaxing regulations on the importation of medical saline solutions from other nations.

Saline solutions are fundamental to patient care in hospitals, as over 200 million IVs are administered annually in the United States.

Critical small-volume saline solutions include: (1) Sodium Chloride 0.9 percent a solution that is used to absorb and transport nutrients, maintain electrolyte balance, and maintain blood pressure, and (2) Dextrose 5 percent, a form of glucose injected into a vein through an IV to treat low blood sugar, insulin shock, and dehydration.

Had it not been for our allies allowing IV saline to be sent to the U.S., we could have been in the midst of a public health crisis.

The lack of response by this Administration to Hurricane Maria is another example of how this Administration is failing the American people.

Another example of the shameful disaster recovery response of this Administration is the handling of the Hurricane Harvey, which devastated the nine-county, 9,444 square mile Texas Gulf Coast.

The effects of Hurricane Harvey have long outlasted the storm itself.

This Administration has not risen to the task of producing an effective recovery plan for the largest housing disaster to strike the U.S. in our nation's history.

Hurricane Harvey damaged at least 203,000 homes, of which 12,700 were irreparably destroyed.

There are 18,000 families who were impacted by Hurricane Harvey still living in hotels and motels six months after the crisis, with no resolution in sight.

A staggering 889,425 people, post Hurricane Harvey, have registered for assistance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The first tranche of emergency funding approved by Congress has yet to be distributed to Texas by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development because the agency has not published in the Federal Register the rules governing how housing funds made available may be allocated between state and local entities.

Each of this President's immediate predecessors has had to navigate our nation through many disasters.

President Bush had September 11th and Hurricane Katrina.

President Obama inherited the near-total collapse of our nation's financial system, but

thanks to his exceptional leadership, the Dow Jones is consistently breaking records, the economy continues to expand, and our American families are more financially stable.

Mr. Speaker, a prerequisite of leadership is the ability to solve problems and make critical decisions.

President Trump lacks the ability to inspire the nation and the fortitude to overcome adversity.

As we consider the President's assessment of the State of the Union, one fact has become abundantly clear: this Administration cannot handle disaster recovery.

This Administration's failure to effectively implement proper disaster recovery has left thousands of Americans with no clear path to reclaiming their lives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend either vote series on January 30, 2018 due to a death in the family.

Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 47; yea on Roll Call No. 48; yea on Roll Call No. 49; and yea on Roll Call No. 50.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL MENTOR
MONTH AT BIG BROTHERS BIG
SISTERS OF NORTHWEST FLOR-
IDA**HON. MATT GAETZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize National Mentor Month and the impact Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida has had on the youth in our community.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida facilitates one-on-one mentorship opportunities to provide short and long-term impact in the life of a child. Providing these relationships gives children a friend, someone to call on in times of trouble, and someone to love on them and show them endless opportunity all while having a good time.

This organization is unique in that the Bigs also benefit from the program as they watch their Little grow, learn, and inspire to achieve. There is no greater privilege than to watch a child grow and develop into the best version of themselves. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida provides the necessary opportunities to allow this development to be achieved through mentor relationships.

I would like to extend my gratitude to all the Bigs who have taken upon themselves to mentor a Little and to exhibit endless opportunity and compassion. I am deeply motivated by these individuals. I would also like to thank the staff and volunteers who work many hours to pair these individuals with the best possible match.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor the outstanding Big Brothers Big Sisters organization