

DANCING ANGELS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 8, 2018

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a poem, on behalf of Albert Carey Caswell, to honor a great American family of faith and courage. On March 6, 2012, CW2 Edward "Duane" Cantrell of the United States Army, a team leader of The Green Berets, with four Purple Hearts, and 6 Tours in the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars died in a house fire while trying to save his two lovely daughters Isabella and Natalia. They all perished together. Left behind in the wake of all of this sorrow and heartache was his wife Louise, who has taken the most horrific of circumstances and created a foundation in remembrance of them and to provide scholarships, and other assistance to help passionate and committed young dancers to fulfill their dreams called "Dancing Angels". She is an inspiration to us all.

Rise

Rise up to heaven with tears in your eyes
Little Sisters who've brought such joy in
their little short lives

As before our Lord you now lie
As so gently he wipes away all of those tears
from your eyes

Don't worry your safe now,
in our Lord's arms you now lie
And your Daddy is right by your side
So hush little girls don't you cry
With your most courageous Mother left on
earth in your name to vie

Who for all of you and us must somehow still
try

For she has so many hearts to heal
And so much inspiration for all of us to feel
To so teach us
To so beseech us

To so show this world what is real
And she has so much more to do
Until, one day she comes up to heaven to be
with you

But, its not yet her time
for our world needs to look upon her warm
hue

So dance,
dance for her and your Daddy and our Lord
up in heaven in view

And she will hear you on the wind
And she will feel you in the morning when
she awakes, as next to her all night
you have been

To help her find the strength, all in what a
heart of courage can mend

As up to heaven on this day
Two little beautiful Angels, Isabella and
Natalia have so made their way

As they begin to dance night and day
As they begin their dance,
which makes our Lord smile and pray
And if you listen closely on the wind,
we can hear their little footsteps my friends
And all of these lessons about life by Louise
time and again

To help all hearts of despair somehow to
mend

And that out of the darkness, light too can
come in

Whenever hearts of courage begin
To against all odds to so fend
Heartache and sorrow my friends
Because, out of such pain and such sorrow,
a new tomorrow from faith deep down within
can begin!

So dance, dance Little Angels,
with but smiles on your face from heaven
you send

And let us remember life is so short, let not
the minutes you waste time and again
So hold your families close
And ever remember what so means the most
And from a distance what now seems like the
very worst
May not be this end,
for isn't it up in heaven where we all wish to
transcend

And that's where all these Dancing Angels
on this day can heard
Dance, Dance, Dance Little Angels,
hush little girls don't you cry
Because, one day up in Heaven you will look
into your Mother's beautiful eyes

When, she comes up to be with you and
Daddy and our Lord on high
So Dance, Dance, and wipe all of those tears
from your eyes
Amen.

HONORING LYNN RANEY

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 8, 2018

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lynn Raney, who passed away on December 28th. He was a talented artist, a dedicated state worker, an admired teacher, and a respected member of our Central Illinois community.

Lynn found great joy in serving others. I got to know him during his time working in public service for the State of Illinois. There was never a day Lynn did not have a smile on his face, even in the midst of difficult family health tragedies.

As a boy, Lynn was active in the Boy Scouts, achieving honors such as the Eagle Scout, the Silver Beaver, and the Wood Badge. Later in life he was proud to serve as a volunteer, teaching the values of the Boy Scouts to younger generations.

I have no doubt that Lynn will be remembered well for his talent as an artist. Not only did he teach art to high school students, but he was known for the care and creativity he put into his annual Christmas cards. Just before Christmas, I received one of his cards and I will cherish it even more after his passing.

I am proud to honor Lynn today. He left a lasting impact on everyone who knew him. He was a good friend, a devoted husband, and a loving father who will be missed by many. My thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

OATH CEREMONY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 8, 2018

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate thirty individuals who took their oaths of citizenship on Friday, January 5, 2018. This memorable occasion was held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United

States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On January 5, 2018, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, took their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Drago Pupac, Branka Pupac, Diep Dinh Do, Asma Aftab, Niranjan Awasthi, Magdalena Anna Skupien, Claudio Eduardo Diaz Ayala, Maria Griselda Rodriguez Diaz, Carmela Velazquez, Florencia Stoll, Susan Pandey Joshi, Mamoon Arif Raza, Jayakumar Chockalingam, Syed Muhammad Aftab, Sergiy Igorovyc Mosendz, Leah Nyokabi Wambui, Heidie Principe Kuskye, Krystyna Zofia Kret, Chiamara Chibueze Ugochukwu Anokwute, Rubinely Calderon, Carlos Cortes, Andrea Gianelli Cunanan, J. Refugio Garcia, Marie Grace Healy, Manuel Herbert Leyva, Ume Ruman Khaja, Maria Marquez, Cristian Alberto Osoria, Amy Hui Ren, and Federico Santamaria.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country "... of the people, by the people, and for the people." They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who became citizens of the United States of America on January 5, 2018. They, too, are American citizens, guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BUILD
AMERICA ACT OF 2018**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 8, 2018

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Build America Act of 2018, legislation that will significantly increase the size and scope of two very successful merit-based infrastructure grant programs without adding a penny to the national debt. Specifically, this legislation would remove the Capital Investment Grant Program (CIG), also known as New Starts/Small Starts, and the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Grant Program (TIGER Grants) from the annual appropriations process, establishing them as mandatory programs with permanent and expanded funding. My bill proposes to increase TIGER funding to \$3 billion

annually, and to increase CIG funding to \$9 billion.

These grants have helped local communities prioritize their own projects; however they have been chronically underfunded in the past. For instance, since 2009, Congress has dedicated nearly \$5.1 billion for eight rounds of TIGER funding, yet the program received \$10.1 billion in applications in FY2015 alone. The process is competitive, and allows the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to reward applicants that exceed eligibility criteria and demonstrate significant non-Federal funding commitments.

By increasing these funding levels and removing the programs from the annual appropriations process, we will take the guesswork and uncertainty out of the programs. This in turn will allow communities around the country to submit funding requests for merit-based awards for projects of national, regional, or metropolitan-area significance. The projects include construction and repair of roads, bridges, and tunnels, the installation of high speed internet, revitalization of drinking water, and the construction and expansion of fixed-guideway public transportation systems, including subways, light rail, commuter rail, and bus rapid transit (BRT).

Mr. Speaker, we have talked about prioritizing a large-scale infrastructure package for years. Congressional Democrats recently unveiled a trillion-dollar plan to make these investments and create tens of thousands of jobs. However, like so many other proposals, it was rejected out of hand by the Majority. Despite controlling the House, the Senate, and the White House, the Majority has not yet offered any plan of their own. All the while, the situation continues to grow worse.

Every four years, the American Society of Civil Engineers' issues a "Report Card" for America's Infrastructure. The report depicts the condition and performance of American infrastructure, assigning letter grades based on the physical condition and needed investments for improvement across 16 major infrastructure categories. The most recent report card was issued last year. Among the national rankings, transit systems were rated a D- and roads were rated a D.

Dams: D.

Drinking water: D.

Inland waterways: D.

Levees: D.

We need to move this process forward. I am therefore proud to offer my own legislation today—not for a massive, all-encompassing infrastructure package—but rather, for a common sense expansion of successful programs based on need and merit. I urge my colleagues to consider it without delay, so that our country can begin making the investments it desperately needs.

CONGRATULATING SUPER-
INTENDENT RANDY KING ON HIS
RETIREMENT FROM THE NA-
TIONAL PARK SERVICE

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 8, 2018

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, as a member who has the honor of representing the heart of

Mount Rainier National Park, the jewel of the 8th Congressional District and Washington State, I rise today to recognize Superintendent Randy King for his outstanding service to our country, the environment, and the National Park Service and to congratulate him on his retirement on January 2, 2018.

Randy was raised in Michigan and attended Michigan State University, where he developed his love of the outdoors through outdoor excursions with family and friends. After college, he began his accomplished 40-year career with the National Park Service, serving in six national parks including Yellowstone, Acadia, the Intermountain Regional Office, and even an assignment in Australia. In 2003, Randy moved to Mount Rainier National Park to serve as the Deputy Superintendent, including a 15-month detail as Acting Superintendent in 2009 through 2010. Since 2011, Randy has served as the Superintendent of the Mount Rainier National Park.

The challenges of managing the diverse landscape and needs of this park are endless. It includes 235,625 acres of forests, meadows, and mountains, and a National Historic Landmark District. Every year, Mount Rainier is graced with millions of day-hikers, climbers, and outdoor enthusiasts who enjoy the visitor centers, back-country, and summit of the mountain's 14,410 foot summit. With every visit comes inherent dangers from the wild landscape and it was often up to Randy and his team to plan and engage in rescue and recovery efforts. Randy managed all of these challenges with skill and grace.

During his tenure, Randy worked tirelessly to maintain open, honest relationships with surrounding community leaders, businesses, staff, and visitors. He oversaw upgrades to the permitting process, renovations to historical landmarks, improvements to trail and road access, increased stewardship opportunities within the park, and the opening of a memorial to those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for their service to this country. I had the honor of working closely with Randy when we passed legislation to name the Eatonville Post Office after Ranger Margaret E. Anderson who gave her life protecting visitors in the park. As Co-Chair of the National Parks Caucus, Randy and I have worked together on many projects over the years in an effort to strengthen and protect our parks.

Randy is a proven leader whose warmth, kindness, and charismatic leadership is a credit to the National Park Service and will be missed at Mount Rainier. Mr. Speaker, I again offer my congratulations to Superintendent Randy King, for his service and dedication to the community and visitors of the Mount Rainier National Park.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 8, 2018

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, on December 13, 2017 and December 14, 2017, I was absent from the House and missed rollcall votes 676 through 684.

Had I been present for rollcall 676, on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 658, providing for consideration of H.R. 1638, the

Iranian Leadership Asset Transparency Act, and providing for consideration of H.R. 4324, the Strengthening Oversight of Iran's Access to Finance Act, I would have voted "No."

Had I been present for rollcall 677, on agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 658, Providing for consideration of H.R. 1638, the Iranian Leadership Asset Transparency Act, and providing for consideration of H.R. 4324, the Strengthening Oversight of Iran's Access to Finance Act, I would have voted "No."

Had I been present for rollcall 678, on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 657, providing for consideration of H.R. 2396, the Privacy Notification Technical Clarifications Act; and providing for consideration of H.R. 4015, the Corporate Governance Reform and Transparency Act of 2017, I would have voted "No."

Had I been present for rollcall 679, on agreeing to the resolution on H. Res. 657, providing for consideration of H.R. 2396, the Privacy Notification Technical Clarifications Act; and providing for consideration of H.R. 4015, the Corporate Governance Reform and Transparency Act of 2017, I would have voted "No."

Had I been present for rollcall 680, on passage of H.R. 1638, the Iranian Leadership Asset Transparency Act, I would have voted "No."

Had I been present for rollcall 681, on motion to recommit with instructions for H.R. 2396, the Privacy Notification Technical Clarification Act, I would have voted "Aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 682, on passage of H.R. 2396, the Privacy Notification Technical Clarification Act, I would have voted "No."

Had I been present for rollcall 683, on motion to recommit with instructions for H.R. 4324, the Strengthening Oversight of Iran's Access to Finance Act, I would have voted "Aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 684, on passage of H.R. 4324, the Strengthening Oversight of Iran's Access to Finance Act, I would have voted "No."

TRIBUTE TO BONNIE KIND

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 8, 2018

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Bonnie Kind for over 40 years of civil service. Bonnie began her career with the Social Security Administration as a student trainee. This month she will retire from the Social Security Administration, where she served most recently as the Associate Commissioner for Budget and principal advisor to the Social Security Administration's Chief Financial Officer. Bonnie has provided consistent vigilance and stewardship of SSA's approximately \$1 trillion program budget and \$12 billion administrative budget.

As Budget Officer for the Social Security Administration, Bonnie provides executive leadership and direction to SSA in administering a comprehensive program of budget policy, formulation, presentation, and execution. She is responsible for the financial resources needed to provide for one of our nation's most vital public services—social security payments for more than 60 million people.