

Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America, Diabetes Research Institute, Dr. Abe Chames Foundation, Florida International University Alumni Association, Friends for Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, Greater Miami Jewish Federation, Hispanic Unity Charity, Jewish Adoption & Foster Care Options (JAFCO), Lawyers for Literacy, Legal Services of Greater Miami, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Miami Art Museum, Miami Children's Museum, Miracle League of Howard—Palmetto, Howard-Palmetto Baseball & Softball Association, Mt. Sinai Foundation, Museum of Contemporary Art, Samuel Scheck Hillel Community Day School's President's Award for Pro-Bono Work, and Top Responsibility Israel, Business & Education Society (TRIBES).

As an attorney and former judge, who practiced law in South Florida for many years, it is always great to see the success of law firms such as Kluger, Kaplan, Silverman, Katzen & Levine, P.L. The firm's esteemed lawyers continue to be advocates for their clients, taking on many complex cases around the nation.

Madam Speaker, it gives me great pride to honor Kluger, Kaplan, Silverman, Katzen & Levine, P.L. on the occasion of their 10th anniversary. They have had a tremendous impact on our community over the past 10 years, I wish them many more years of continued success.

HONORING ANNA SACCENTE OF ORANGE, CONNECTICUT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 1, 2019

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to rise today to submit to the RECORD a powerful statement by thirteen-year-old Ms. Anna Saccente of Orange, Connecticut. I have had the honor knowing Anna for her entire thirteen years and could not be more proud of the young woman she has become.

Despite recent shootings at schools across the country, Congress has failed to pass meaningful reform to school safety and firearm regulations and has instead spent time debating arming teachers. As part of a school assignment, Anna chose to focus on this important issue—a policy that, as a student, would impact her directly.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House not to forget that at the core of this discussion is the fact that the lives of children like Anna are impacted every day by gun violence. It is with great pride that I include in the RECORD her poignant words.

GUNS IN CLASSROOMS?

(By Ms. Anna Saccente)

Many people in today's world think that putting guns in classrooms would make them a safer and more productive environment. The truth is that it will actually make the classrooms more dangerous and make students more focused on the guns just feet away from them. Many government officials have brought up the idea of arming the staff in the nation's schools. The teachers who agree to get trained and carry a gun would receive a yearly bonus. The money they would be receiving is not worth the dangers it would pose to the students and staff in the schools. Teachers and other school officials should not be armed with guns. Although

some people think arming teachers would be safer, teachers and other school officials should not be armed, because getting the proper training and firearms would be expensive, schools may lose many talented teachers and possibly students due to their beliefs about the guns, and it would also be more dangerous.

One reason why teachers and other staff should not be armed is that it would cost the schools and government a very large amount of money. Where would the funding for such a project come from? An article written by a group of medical professionals states that, "Funding for any program is imperative—quality firearms are expensive and we question how this would be paid for when schools already struggle with funding for basic educational resources" (Rogers 1).

This quote is significant because the schools and government cannot expect the teachers to pay for all the guns and training themselves. The government would need some way to find the money, and so far they have not. There are about 3.6 million teachers in the United States as of 2018. A company in Maryland charges you about one hundred dollars per person for general training. In total it would cost about 360 million dollars. If you were to get them the more vigorous training the price would shoot up to about one thousand dollars per person. The total cost for that would be about 3.6 billion dollars. Then they would have to pay for the guns. If they were to get the teachers the Glock G17, a very popular gun, it would cost about 1.8 billion dollars (Bump 2). To get them all the guns and the advanced training it would cost over 5 billion dollars. Why would the government spend so much money on something that is not necessary and would not help. Clearly putting guns in the classrooms is a very pricey project.

Along with being very dangerous many people do not believe in using guns, including some parents and teachers. If a school decides to make all of the teachers carry guns teachers could quit, and parents could pull their kids out of school. "Teachers have to teach, and that's what they should be doing," said Joel Myrick, a former assistant principal at a high school in Mississippi. "It doesn't matter what a pistolero you are, or think you are. You don't need to be in a school in charge of protecting children." Like Myrick, many other people feel that if they give teachers the guns it will take their minds off of teaching and defeat the whole purpose of school. If this happens the talented teachers will quit and go somewhere that does not allow such deadly weapons. Then, as a result, the schools will start to lose teachers and who will be left to teach?

After the University of Texas decided to allow firearms on campus multiple professors resigned (Rogers 1). This will only keep happening. Because many people do not like guns, if they permit them in the classrooms, then teachers may quit and parents could pull their kids out of school.

Many people argue that it would be a better, safer option to put guns in teachers hands, but in reality it is more dangerous. Putting guns in the classrooms brings up enormous risk to the life and mental well-being of the students and teachers in them. After the recent school shootings many kids have gotten anxious or nervous that this would happen to their school. Putting the guns in their classrooms will make them more nervous. Improper storage of the guns could lead to student access or someone else stealing it (Rogers 1). If the teacher goes to leave the room for a minute and the gun is left unattended, a student could gain access to the gun. This could lead to someone getting seriously injured. Imagine if this was a first grade classroom. Six and seven year

olds do not really know what a gun is, let alone how to use one. They could pick it up, thinking it was a toy, and that would not end well. In an article written by Michael Hansen, a Brown University Chair and Director, states that, "Professional police officers hit their intended targets less than 20% of the time in training situations. Armed teachers will have an even lower accuracy rate, and where will all of those stray bullets go?" (Hansen 1). If a professional police officer is having trouble hitting a target than the teachers are certainly not going to be able to hit the target in a very stressful situation. If they shoot a bullet at their intended target and miss, and there was someone behind the target, what would happen to that bullet? Because of the dangers associated with putting guns in classrooms, they clearly should not be in there in the first place.

Imagine a world where you would not have to worry about sending your child to a school that is not safe. The students could attend their schools without the fear of guns on the top of their minds. Instead of protecting them, the teachers would only have to worry about teaching the students. For the safety of the students and staff, it would not be a good option to arm the staff in your children's schools. Many people believe it would be safer, but in reality proper training and quality firearms would cost a lot of money, money that would be better spent elsewhere. Many people who oppose them may leave the schools, and it would cause more harm to the people in the schools. So go and do something about it. Go and help make the schools a safer place for everyone in them by contacting your elected officials and opposing any effort to arm teachers.

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SAINT WAKE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 1, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Saint Wake for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Saint Wake is a student at Moore Middle School and received this award because his

determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Saint Wake is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Saint Wake for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE NAPA VALLEY COLLEGE PUENTE PROGRAM

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 1, 2019

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Napa Valley College Puente Program on the 15th anniversary of its implementation.

Since its launch in 2004, the Puente Program has served underrepresented community college students in the Napa Valley. The curriculum-focused program was designed to assist Napa Valley College students that are statistically more likely to not finish college. The Puente Program helps students acquire the necessary skills for success in both their academic and professional careers. Students are paired with a Counselor, English Instructor, and Mentor to help them prepare to transfer to a four-year college or university. The program accepts all students, but the majority of students link their background to Mexico and other countries in Central and South America. The Puente Program tailors its services and class materials to connect students to their Mexican-American and Latino identities.

The Puente Program also spurred the creation of the student-led Puente Club. The Puente Club has been instrumental in collaborating with the community on initiatives, including the first ever Dreamer's Conference. The Napa Valley Community Foundation awarded the program three grants to help further its impactful work. Many of the students of the Puente Program have already positively impacted our community. Two students became Napa County Student Leaders of the Year, one is a dedicated social worker, some have become Puente leaders, and even more have returned to serve our community in myriad ways.

The Napa Valley College Puente Program is a member of the Northern California Statewide Puente Project. It is governed by a statewide Memorandum of Understanding and the college funds personnel and events. The Napa Valley College Puente Program would not be the successful and collaborative project it is today without its founders, Cathy Gills, Mary Salceda, and Christina Rivera.

Madam Speaker, the Napa Valley Puente Program is an important institution in our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor the program on its 15th anniversary.

IN MEMORY OF RAYMOND CAUGHMAN

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 1, 2019

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, the people of Lexington and South Carolina are mourning the loss of one of its great citizens, Mr. Raymond Caughman.

He was "Mr. Lexington" leading the small town of Lexington in banking and civic service to be the center of one of America's most dynamic counties. He and his wife, Lib, are beloved in the community. The following obituary for Caughman-Harman Funeral Home clearly indicates his achievements.

LEXINGTON.—Funeral services for Raymond Sox Caughman, Sr., 92, will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 31, 2019, at St. David Lutheran Church with interment to follow in the church cemetery. The family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 30, 2019, at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. David Lutheran Church, 132 St. David's Church Road, West Columbia, SC 29170. Mr. Caughman was born January 10, 1927 in Lexington, SC, and passed away on Thursday, March 28, 2019. He was a son of the late Willie Morgan and Mary Catherine Sox Caughman. Mr. Caughman was educated in the Lexington Public Schools, graduating in 1944. He attended the American Institute of Banking from 1954 to 1957 and earned an Honorary Doctorate from Newberry College. He served in the US Army from July 20, 1945 through December 31, 1946, serving with occupational forces in China in 1946. Mr. Caughman's employment included The Bank of Lexington, of The Lexington State Bank (President and CEO) and he retired from BB&T Bank and was Coroner of Lexington County. He was President of both the SC Bankers Association and Independent Bankers of SC. His many involvements included the Lexington Chamber of Commerce, Lexington Rotary Club, Lutheran Men, SC Lutheran Synod (Treasurer), Lexington School District One Board of Trustees and Educational Foundation, Woodmen of the World (National Director), 6-51 Club, Lexington County Planning Commission, Central Midlands Planning Commission, Walking Horse Association, Lexington Medical Center Foundation Board, and he was honored by Lexington Extended Care when a wing of one of the buildings was named "Caughman Way". Mr. Caughman is survived by his wife of 67 years, Ann Elizabeth "Lib" Hook; children, Ann Elizabeth Caughman Alexander (Gene), Amanda Catherine "Mandy" Caughman Derrick (John), Raymond S. "Ray" Caughman, Jr. (Ron); grandson, John Caughman Alexander (Katie); granddaughters, Beth Ann Alexander Bremer (Mike), Anna Catherine Derrick Panning (Jonathan), Sarah Elizabeth Derrick; great-grandchildren, Anderson Alexander, Caughman Alexander, Allie Bremer and Jacob Panning and twin brother, Hampton Sox Caughman, Sr. He was predeceased by his siblings, Evelyn C. Segelken, Zela C. Boozer, Henry Etta C. Frye, Henry Morgan Caughman, Sue C. Shull, Elford Caughman, Virginia C. Shull and Kenneth Caughman. Caughman-Harman Funeral Home, Lexington Chapel, is assisting the family with arrangements.

HONORING THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATIONAL GUARD

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 1, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing another outstanding achievement by the District of Columbia National Guard. On February 1, 2019 Burkina Faso became the 76th nation to join the State Partnership Program—a Department of Defense joint security cooperation program administered by the National Guard. The program is executed by the individual states, territories and the District of Columbia. I am proud to inform this body that the D.C. National Guard and the Burkina Faso Armed Forces will now be establishing a military-to-military relationship focused on security cooperation.

The State Partnership Program provides an equally beneficial relationship between armed forces of partnering U.S. National Guard states, territories, the District of Columbia and foreign nations. It is administered by the National Guard Bureau and guided by State Department foreign policy goals. These partnerships support Combatant Command campaign objectives, strengthen alliances, provide cost-effective subject matter expert engagements and enhance defense security.

The District of Columbia National Guard's partnership with Burkina Faso will be in addition to the current partnership between the D.C. National Guard and Jamaica. Since 1999, the District of Columbia National Guard has had a successful and productive partnership with Jamaica. In 2018, the D.C. National Guard and the Jamaica Defense Forces conducted 17 key subject matter expert engagements including work on drug-trafficking, military police response and domestic security, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief response, and preparation for medical and dental personnel, among other activities.

The Burkina Faso state partnership would not have happened without the leadership of Major General William J. Walker, the Commanding General of the D.C. National Guard, Brigadier General Aaron R. Dean II, the Adjutant General D.C. National Guard, Justin Som, Burkina Faso's Secretary General of the Minister of Defense, Andrew R. Young, the U.S. Ambassador to Burkina Faso Brigadier General Moses Miningou, the Chief of General Staff for the National Armed Forces of Burkina Faso, and Brigadier General Steven deMilliano, U.S. Air Force, Deputy Director for Strategy, Engagement and Programs Directorate at United States Africa Command. Many others contributed as well from the D.C. National Guard, Department of Defense, National Guard Bureau and State Department.

As the D.C. National Guard embarks on this new mission, I look forward to supporting them every step of the way. I trust through their dedication and sacrifices, they will help strengthen shared national security goals while fostering a partnership of peace, prosperity, and freedom for the people of Burkina Faso and the region.