

his term as President on June 20, 2018, serving the 2,800 member physicians with distinguished leadership over the past year. Dr. Rajasekhar also served as the chief of medical staff at Victor Valley Community Hospital and has a solo practice in Apple Valley. He believes that the physician-patient relationship is a key factor in providing quality health care, and he has always worked to promote the betterment of the medical profession.

Dr. Rajasekhar's leadership and commitment are greatly appreciated by his colleagues and the public he served. On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I would like to thank Dr. Damodara Rajasekhar for his years of public service and wish him the happiest of retirements.

RECOGNIZING FRAME FACTORY
OWNER SALVADOR MOYA

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Salvador Moya, owner of the Frame Factory in South Bend, Indiana.

For years, Salvador has been a pillar of the northern Indiana arts community. He has an unparalleled passion for creative expression and for helping Hoosier artists discover, celebrate, and share their talent with the world.

I am grateful for the steadfast support Salvador offers young artists across our state. He has contributed so much to our community, and his continued leadership and philanthropy are true testaments to his compassion. He can always be found helping others and lifting spirits. Throughout his distinguished career, he has made a difference in the lives of countless aspiring artists by giving them opportunities to succeed that they would not otherwise have had.

Since 2003, Salvador's business, the Frame Factory, has delivered high-quality products and services to its customers. Small businesses like this are the backbone of our economy, and entrepreneurs like Salvador exemplify the American Dream. Driven by his enthusiasm for cultural enrichment and sense of community, Salvador's selflessness and hard work do not go unnoticed.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Salvador for his invaluable service to the northern Indiana community and to the State of Indiana.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call No. 218 and "yea" on Roll Call No. 219.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM BURCHETT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, on March 5th, I missed all called votes because my flight from Knoxville, Tennessee, to Washington, D.C., was cancelled and I was unable to arrive until after conclusion of the day's votes.

On Friday, May 17, I was being treated in the Emergency Department at George Washington University Hospital and was unable to vote on H.R. 5. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted against the bill.

HONORING E. RICHARD JONES AND
THE E. RICHARD JONES FAMILY
FOUNDATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Rick Jones and the E. Richard Jones Family Foundation for their contribution to our Napa Valley community, and Community Health Initiative.

Mr. Jones received a Bachelor of Arts from Princeton University and a Master in Business Administration from the Stanford Graduate School of Business. For as long as he has resided in the Napa Valley, Mr. Jones has been deeply involved in and committed to our community. Mr. Jones has worked to better the health and well-being of Napa residents through his foundation, The E. Richard Jones Family Foundation. The Foundation has been critical to the success of Community Health Initiative. The Foundation provided seed funding to Community Health Initiative to become the first non-profit health insurance broker in California that is motivated by the need to assist vulnerable populations and provide access to health care services in the public and private markets. Additionally, The E. Richard Jones Family Foundation was instrumental in registering over 18,000 people for health insurance and providing them with access to care.

Mr. Jones is active in our community in addition to his work with his foundation. He is a current Board Member and former Board President of the Napa Valley Vintners Association, the Board Chair of OLE Health and Raising a Reader, and a Board Member of NapaLearn, St. Helena Hospital, and the St. Helena Hospital Foundation. Through his work on these boards and through Community Health Initiative, Mr. Jones is admirably working to improve the health of the residents of Napa County.

Madam Speaker, Rick Jones is a friend of mine, a kind and generous person and his organization, the E. Richard Jones Family Foundation, is essential to the continual improvement of our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor them both here today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DELAUR

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Ms. DELAUR. Madam Speaker, I had an unavoidable family commitment and so I missed Roll Call vote number 218 regarding the "Intercountry Adoption Information Act (H.R. 1952)." Had I been present, I would have voted "Yes."

I also missed Roll Call vote number 219 regarding the "Denouncing female genital mutilation/cutting as a violation of the human rights of women and girls and urging the international community and the Federal Government to increase efforts to eliminate the harmful practice (H. Res. 106)". Had I been present, I would have voted "Yes."

DENOUNCING FEMALE GENITAL
MUTILATION/CUTTING AS VIO-
LATING HUMAN RIGHTS OF
WOMEN AND GIRLS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 106 denouncing female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) and urging the international community and the Federal Government to increase efforts to eliminate this harmful practice.

Female genital mutilation is a clear human rights violation and must be ended immediately.

In many parts of the world, female genital mutilation is still performed by a religious leader, town elder, or a medical professional with limited training using crude instruments which can include broken glass, kitchen knives, and razor blades, however, antiseptics and anesthesia are rarely used.

Leaving these young women, many of which are between the ages of 4 and 13, susceptible to elevated risk of HIV transmission, hemorrhaging, chronic pelvic inflammation, septicemia, and delayed menarche.

In about 15 percent of cases, infibulation, the most severe form of FGM/C, involves the removal of the labia and the suturing together of the vulva.

This practice may place the victim's life at risk and victims of infibulation must be cut open to have intercourse and may be repeatedly opened and closed at the husband's will to ensure fidelity.

The practice of FGM/C abroad has persisted due to strong sociocultural influences which ensure that it is secretly done and underreported.

And despite many international efforts, anti-FGM/C legislation has not ended the practice in many countries.

FGM/C is still embraced by practitioners of all the major faiths—Christianity, Islam and traditional worship on the continents of Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

In the past, the U.S., largely through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the World Health Organization

have made several recommendations designated to end the practice of FGM/C.

However, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, an estimated 513,000 women and girls in the United States were at risk of, or had been subjected to, female genital mutilation, the United States must be a beacon against this type of immoral practice.

That is why I, along with former Representative Joe Crowley, introduced the Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Act, supported by international human rights group Equality Now, that required the federal government to undertake a national study to provide data on and insight into the prevalence of FGM/C in the U.S. and establish a multi-agency strategy to bring the practice to an end.

Following the introduction of the Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation Act, I partnered with 58 other members of Congress to pen a bipartisan letter to the State, Health & Human Services, and Education agencies, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the White House Office of Management and Budget, calling for a cross-agency plan to further fight FGM/C.

This letter included requests for resources to help law enforcement, health workers, and educators detect the practice here the United States, plus a hotline for girls who may be in danger of mutilation.

Given the abhorrent nature of this practice, states should have in place laws that require healthcare professionals, school employees, and other professionals who work with children to report any suspected practice of female genital mutilation to the appropriate law enforcement entity.

FGM/C is currently a crime in 26 States, including Michigan and Texas; it is also a Federal crime.

Around the world, at least five girls are mutilated, cut, every hour, and an estimated 100 million girls and 140 million women worldwide are living with the consequences of FGM/C.

Even though, FGM/C has been banned in the United States, since 1996, people continue to engage in this abusive practice.

It is with great concern that I stand before you today, still fighting to eradicate the practice of FGM/C globally.

Even more concerning is recently, The Justice Department stopped defending a federal prohibition on female genital mutilation making it difficult to combat this practice here at home.

This recalcitrant act coincides with an emerging view inside the Justice Department that it is up to the Trump administration, not members of Congress, to decide whether a law has merit and should be enforced.

The World Health Organization has asserted that FGM/C has no health benefits for women and girls, and can have long-term negative impacts on the physical, psychological, sexual, reproductive health, and to their general well-being.

We cannot be indifferent to this human rights violation that puts so many lives at risk, here in the United States, and around the world.

H. Res. 106 makes clear that this practice is rooted in gender inequality, gender-based violence, and discrimination.

It affirms our dedication to protecting women and girls globally and will help us accelerate eradication and improve access to care for survivors of this practice.

Because this intolerable practice has no medical benefits, it has no place in our society, and those who commit these horrendous crimes should be held accountable for their actions.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this clearly bipartisan resolution.

Put aside partisanship and protect our women and girls from this painful and archaic practice.

CONGRATULATING GAYE DUNN FOR WINNING MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR AWARD GIVEN BY THE ILLINOIS SCHOOL COUNSELORS ASSOCIATION

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gaye Dunn for winning the Middle/Junior High School Counselor of the Year Award given by the Illinois School Counselors Association. Ms. Dunn will be retiring after 42 years in the education system and has been a school counselor in the East Moline School District for more than 25 years.

Ms. Dunn got her start at the University of Illinois and University of Kansas before going on to earn a master's degree in School Counseling from Eastern Illinois University. During the course of her career, Ms. Dunn has earned a reputation among her peers as a team player who will do anything to improve her community. Ms. Dunn dedicated herself to being a positive resource for the students of Glenview Middle School and someone they can turn to. The "Builders Club" was established by Ms. Dunn to fundraise and provide gifts to other students and families in the area. Additionally, she initiated GBAY, which operates in a similar concept to EBAY, where students donate and then bid for holiday presents for community members. Annual Career Fairs are also a tradition jumpstarted by Ms. Dunn and have even included visits by students to local nursing homes. Ms. Dunn is an asset to the East Moline community and her students, and I thank her for all of her tremendous work.

It is because of dedicated leaders like Ms. Dunn that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Gaye Dunn for winning the Counselor of the Year Award.

RECOGNIZING MEGAN BRESLIN

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Megan Breslin in honor of her presentation of the Golden Apple Award. Out of 150,000 high schoolers, this distinction is given to 26 students across the state of Illinois who not only exhibit an exceptional work ethic within the classroom, but in athletics as well.

As a senior at Pinckneyville High School, Megan has shown her excellence on the bas-

ketball court and golf links while maintaining a perfect 4.0 Grade Point Average. This balance of academics and athletics is a difficult task, and I can't think of a more fitting individual to be merited this tremendous award.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Megan Breslin and commend her for her hard work in and out of the classroom.

IN MEMORY OF DEBBY HAY SPRADLEY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Congressman COLIN ALLRED, to recognize and pay tribute to the life and legacy of Debby Hay Spradley, who passed away on Sunday, May 19, 2019.

A native Texan, Debby graduated from Southern Methodist University and spent the entirety of her professional career in the Dallas area, first as President of the Hay Agency, Inc., and then as the Director of Development and External Affairs at the Hockaday School. She was respected in the Dallas community for her wisdom as a mentor, her generosity as a volunteer, and her leadership as an administrator.

She began her work with the school in the early 1980s as a parent volunteer before eventually joining the administrative team. During her tenure, Debby served as both a Member and the Chair of the Board of Trustees; was a Member of the Leadership Team for the Hockaday Tomorrow Capital Campaign and the Campaign Executive Committee for the Centennial Campaign; Co-Chaired the 2004 HP A Benefit; Chaired the Annual Fund Campaign; and was rightfully named an Honorary Alum in 2000. We admire and honor Debby's selfless dedication to the Hockaday School.

Debby is survived by her husband Webb; daughter Jessica Werner Epperson and her husband Doug Epperson; daughter Rachel Hay Spradley and her fiancé Jonathan Ben-Horin; and three wonderful granddaughters Kathryn, Virginia, and Margaret.

I ask my colleagues to join us in remembering Debby and her contributions to her family, her community, and the Hockaday School. The Dallas community is better off because of her. We will miss her dearly.

KNOXVILLE NEWS SENTINEL EDITORIAL URGING TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY'S CEO TO FIX COAL ASH PROBLEM

HON. TIM BURCHETT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I would like to include in the RECORD an editorial submitted to the Knoxville News Sentinel addressing the Tennessee Valley Authority's new CEO, Jeff Lyash, urging him to fix the current coal ash problem. I am also including a resolution introduced by Tennessee State Senator