

HONORING DEKLAN LOUIS
KENNEDY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 19, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Deklan Louis Kennedy. Deklan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 362, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Deklan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Deklan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Deklan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Deklan Louis Kennedy for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE HARRY VAN
ARSDALE JR. CENTER FOR
LABOR STUDIES AT SUNY EM-
PIRE STATE COLLEGE

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 19, 2011

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies at SUNY Empire State College on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.

The New York State legislature created SUNY Empire State College in 1971 in order to provide educational opportunities to adults not adequately served by traditional residential colleges. At the same time, it also established the Center for Labor Studies, which was renamed in 1986 to honor the distinguished labor leader, the long-time business manager of IBEW Local 3 and president of the New York City Central Labor Council, who did so much to support its creation.

The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies at SUNY Empire State College continues to fulfill its namesake's dream of providing wage-earning adults with an opportunity to develop their labor leadership skills and to earn a college degree in a learning environment that celebrates their achievements and recognizes their particular needs. To do so, the Van Arsdale Center provides flexible, worker-friendly educational programs delivered by highly qualified faculty to ensure that its trade union students and other working adults may acquire the analytical and communicative skills that are the hallmark of a college degree.

The center currently serves several important constituencies in the New York City area, including IBEW Local 3 and United Association Local 1 apprentices, as well as paraeducators affiliated with the United Fed-

eration of Teachers. The longest-standing of these partnerships is with the Joint Industry Board of the Electrical Industry in New York City (JIB), and it is one of the center's most successful partnerships. Since 1978 every registered electrical apprentice in IBEW Local 3 has been required to complete, in addition to their related classroom instruction in electrical theory, an academic course of study in which they learn to read and write at the college level and for which they are awarded a college degree; or, if they already have a degree, a 20-credit certificate in "Labor and the Construction Industry." Other programs were added later: the paraeducator program of the UFT in 2006, the college degree program of UA Local 1 in 2008; and others are in development.

The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies has graduated more than 5,000 men and women, many of whom have gone on to hold positions of honor in the New York City labor movement and beyond. Please join me in congratulating this exemplary educational organization on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.

HONORING CONNOR JAMES PACE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 19, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Connor James Pace. Connor is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 362, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Connor has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Connor has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Connor has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Connor James Pace for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 19, 2011

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 601 and 602. Due to previously scheduled district events, I was unable to return to Washington, DC. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor.

TRIBUTE TO MILENDA G. MEDERS

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 19, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and congratulate Madera resi-

dent Milenda G. Meders, or Millie as she is known, upon being named "2011 Senior Farmer of the Year" by the Madera Chamber of Commerce. This award is a tribute to Milenda's professional accomplishments in the farming industry, as well as her dedicated service and leadership in many Central Valley agriculture and farming community organizations.

Milenda was born on August 8, 1935. She and her twin brother, Michael, were raised on a Chowchilla dairy farm founded by her parents, Carl and Gayle Gaumnitz, in the 1920's. Milenda graduated from Chowchilla Union High School in 1953, and went on to attend California State University Fresno, where she graduated in 1957 with a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science with minors in biology and journalism. After earning her degree, Milenda worked in the Sales and Ag Departments at KMJ Radio in Fresno, and later was a writer and producer of Nelson Crow Publications Western Dairy Journal. In 1965, Milenda married her husband, Lieutenant John Q. Meders, a retired U.S. Navy carrier pilot and 2nd generation cattle rancher. Together, she and her husband have farmed field row crops, almonds, and raised cattle.

Over the past 51 years, Milenda's contribution to the farming community reached beyond her professional accomplishments. Milenda served on the board of the Chowchilla Fair for 16 years, and was the Chowchilla Fair Livestock Superintendent for 20 years. She also served as Director of the Madera County Cattleman's Association for 12 years; Director of the Chowchilla Water District; and has volunteered her time and agricultural expertise as a member of the Ag Advisory Committee at Chowchilla High School. Currently, she is the Director and CFO of "Preserve Our Heritage," and a member of the University of California, Davis Agricultural Issues Advisory Board. Her contributions to these organizations and the Madera County farming community have been honored with several prestigious awards. In 2006, Milenda was a recipient of the California Women for Agriculture and California State University Fresno Ag One Foundation "Common Threads Award", an award given to 5 women in Central Valley agriculture for volunteering their time, energy and resources to benefit the community. In 2007, Milenda and her husband John received the Madera County "Cattleman of the Year" award.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending Milenda G. Meders for her hard work and dedicated community service in the Central Valley farming industry, and congratulating her upon receiving the Madera Chamber of Commerce "Senior Farmer of the Year Award."

HONORING ETHAN PATRICK
TURNER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 19, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ethan Patrick Turner. Ethan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 362, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.