

NATIONAL CENTER FOR FAMILY LITERACY'S TOYOTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARDED TO SHARI BROWN

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

Mr. McHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Shari Brown for receiving the 2012 Toyota Teacher of the Year Award. This award, presented by the National Center for Family Literacy, annually recognizes an educator in a program that has a strong record of increasing meaningful parent engagement and family learning.

Shari is a family literacy coordinator and instructor at Caldwell Community College serving Lenoir and other cities and towns in my congressional district. The program, which serves approximately 50 families each year and has another 30 on the waiting list, has a strong record of success. Children in the program tend to enter school six to eighteen months more advanced than average, and children for whom English is a second language enter kindergarten at the same, if not at a higher level, than their non-ESL peers, requiring no accommodations. Furthermore, adult students have a 94% persistence rate, and numerous ESL students move from the lowest levels of ESL to graduation with a GED and enter college.

Shari will use the \$20,000 grant that comes with the award to create a local community garden project where families will learn to grow, harvest and preserve their own food. Families will also participate in local farmer's markets, preparing nutritious meals utilizing the food they grow, supplemented with surplus commodities. Furthermore, they will study good nutrition and how to combat obesity in their family members. Lastly, families will have the opportunity to learn about culinary and horticultural career choices. Both of these industries have been identified as high-growth employment areas in Caldwell County, North Carolina.

Shari's recognition through this award is to be commended. Ms. Brown works every day to help families become self-sufficient and better able to help their children learn and grow academically in school. Thank you to the National Center for Family Literacy for recognizing one of our great community assets in Caldwell County.

COMMENDATION OF INDIAN VILLAGE TENNIS CLUB

HON. HANSEN CLARKE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Indian Village Tennis Club's 100th anniversary on April 16, 2012. The Indian Village Tennis Club is a rich part of Detroit's history.

The Indian Village Tennis Club has owned its property since 1894, and began using the tennis courts and clubhouse on April 16, 1912. The Indian Village Tennis Club is located in Detroit's historic Indian Village neighborhood,

and is the oldest tennis club in the United States to remain at its original site.

Club members enjoy the clay tennis courts, clubhouse, and perennial garden from May to October. The club has hosted numerous tournaments, lessons with tennis professionals, and social events promoting healthy living and wellness. Club members are active in the community.

It is with honor that I recognize the Indian Village Tennis Club for being a valuable organization in the Metro Detroit community for 100 years.

I am proud to have such a distinguished club in my community and I look forward to its continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE MULTILATERAL BENEFITS OF GLOBAL HEALTH RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, to ensure our nation's competitiveness in the global arena and spur business development and expansion, it is clearly in our nation's interest to ensure robust federal funding for global health research. We are an innovation economy, and the basic research that federal funding makes possible sews the seeds for the later stage and private sector discoveries that attract philanthropic and venture capital dollars. And global health research is a priority for the American people. According to a May 2011 poll commissioned by Research!America, 74% of Georgians say that global health research is important to the economy.

As we consider federal funding for medical research, it is important to keep in mind that investment in global health research brings a rich return to the United States.

Throughout the United States, investment in global health leads to industry. In my home state of Georgia, successful start-ups like Geovax are breaking new ground in global HIV/AIDS research. Funding from the National Institutes of Health helped Geovax get off the ground, and now it is an employer that contributes to Georgia's economy and to improving global health. With global health powerhouses including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, The Task Force for Global Health, The Carter Center, and CARE all based in Georgia, along with the world class scientists within our university system, Georgia is positioned to become a world leader for global health.

In this age of globalization, when intercontinental travel is a daily occurrence for thousands of people worldwide, treating communicable diseases in other countries is a must for preventing their widespread occurrence here in the United States. We have witnessed several times this past decade how easily diseases travel, as evidenced by the quick spread of SARS, avian flu and pandemic H1N1 flu from other countries to the western world. The spread of multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR TB) is also of great concern, as infected individuals can be asymptomatic for years and still transmit the disease. Currently, infectious diseases cost the U.S. \$120

billion a year. By funding global health research programs dedicated to the prevention and eradication of communicable diseases in emerging economies, the United States is investing in its own immediate and long-term health, and saving on health care costs for treatment.

The landmark government initiative PEPFAR (U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief), is showing strong returns. Publicly funded researchers have identified and designed a multitude of preventive measures that reduce the risk of HIV transmission. Recent clinical trials demonstrated that combination antiretroviral treatments (developed by U.S. based pharmaceutical companies) can reduce the risk of HIV transmission by up to 96%. Deploying preventive measures in some of the highest risk countries around the world will certainly help reduce the spread of HIV. These measures will also help reduce the spread of HIV in the United States, where approximately 40,000 people per year are diagnosed, costing the U.S. a projected \$12.1 billion in lifetime medical expenses.

Investment in global health research and development today will help produce a healthy, competitive and innovative economy tomorrow. At the same time, such research helps to protect Americans, reduce health care costs and meet our nation's foreign policy goals. And investing in global research is a means of saving lives and preventing disability in impoverished nations—it is an immensely powerful form of humanitarianism that can help millions of people throughout the world now and in the future. As we map out strategies for promoting the U.S. economy, we must not falter in our investment in medical research that surely includes research devoted to combating global illnesses. We must capitalize on opportunities for NIH, CDC, FDA, USAID and DOD to support global health research—for the benefit of Americans and the global community of which we are a part.

RECOGNIZING THE 450TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRENCH HUGUENOT CAPTAIN JEAN RIBAUT'S LANDING IN FLORIDA

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sesquicentennial, or 450th anniversary, of the French expedition commanded by Huguenot Captain Jean Ribault landing in Florida at what is now Jacksonville, my hometown. Seeking the right to worship freely and with the support of the French Crown, Ribault sailed toward the New World and dropped anchor along the North Florida coast. His arrival on April 30, 1562, marked the beginning of French history in Florida.

The next day, May 1, the crew sailed north and came to "a leaping and breking of the water, as a streme falling owt of the lande unto the sea." They had discovered the mouth of a majestic river that Ribault named the River of Maye. We now call that river the St. Johns River, but the Village of Mayport and Naval Station Mayport owe their names to the original River of May.

Greeted by indigenous, Mocama-speaking Timucua Indians, Ribault and his crew entered the river, rowed ashore, and planted a column in honor of their King, Charles IX, claiming the land for France and marking a spot for future settlement. This French landing predates the settling of Jamestown by 45 years and occurred 58 years before the Mayflower arrived in Plymouth.

Two years later on June 22, 1564, a second sailing expedition, under the command of Rene Goulaine de Laudonniere, established the first French colony in the present-day United States of America near the mouth of the river. It was named la Caroline for the French King Charles IX. A fort was built in the colony or land of Charles to protect settlers. While there undoubtedly will be continued debate as to where and who claimed the first celebration of thanksgiving, we do know that the French Huguenots of the la Caroline colony celebrated a day of thanksgiving on June 30, 1564, and shared a meal with the Timucua Indians. Today, this landmark is operated by the United States National Park Service as Fort Caroline National Memorial.

Beginning with this first settlement and continuing until today, France and Florida have built a long-lasting relationship through consular representations, trade, cultural and educational exchanges, and tourism, all of which benefit both the French people and the people of Florida.

Florida has a long, rich maritime history dating back at least 12,000 years, but the documented history of the French coming to this long, flat peninsula is also cause for celebration. Many exciting activities are planned including the rededication of the Ribault Monument at Ft. Caroline National Memorial and the French Navy mooring two goelettes, the Etoile and the Belle Poule, in downtown Jacksonville. Consul General of France in Miami, Gaël de Maisonneuve, and other French and American dignitaries will be on hand for this historic celebration.

It is my honor to bring this historic commemoration to the attention of the United States Congress and to invite Members to join in the celebration.

ANGELICA PRADO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Angelica Prado for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Angelica Prado is a 12th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Angelica Prado 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 Angelica Prado for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedi-

cation and character in all her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, due to being unavoidably detained I was unable to cast the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall vote 132—I would have voted “yes,” rollcall vote 134—I would have voted “no,” rollcall vote 135—I would have voted “no,” rollcall vote 136—I would have voted “no,” rollcall vote 137—I would have voted “no,” rollcall vote 138—I would have voted “yes.”

WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. XXX, expressing support for “Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans’ Day 2012.”

We do not have to walk far from the doors of this building to be reminded of the bravery that so many of our young men and women have shown in defense of this country over the last 236 years. Statues, monuments, and other symbols of American freedom color our horizon and tell the stories of the veterans who served, sacrificed, and gave so much for the country they loved.

As a nation, we honor those who defend us with memorials, holidays, and parades. But, as a people, we have not always fulfilled our duty to properly recognize those fellow citizens who put themselves in harm’s way to keep us safe and protect our freedoms.

Unfortunately, we failed in this duty to our Vietnam veterans. They came home to a time of civil unrest and social turmoil—a time when opposition to the war too easily turned into opposition against those young men and women who served in that war.

Too many service members returned from the brutality of war, not recognized for their courage, their honor, and their sacrifice.

The harsh greeting that met too many veterans in addition to the life changing trials of war, made an already difficult transition to civilian life even harder.

The communities that could have supported those who were reeling from the trauma of loss were not always available. When these veterans needed someone to lend an ear, or a helping hand, too many found a cold shoulder.

By encouraging Americans to observe “Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day,” my resolution seeks to provide these heroes the welcome home that they always deserved, but too many never received.

“Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day” is the culmination of years of effort on the part of my constituent Jose Ramos, himself a Vietnam veteran.

As an Army Combat Medic in Vietnam, Jose Ramos was victim to the indifferent and often hostile public reaction when he returned home. It was his personal experiences, and those of his fellow GIs, that motivated him to work toward establishing a national day of recognition. His work inspired many, including me, to help give Vietnam veterans their long overdue “welcome home.”

While today’s resolution may seem like a small gesture—and when compared to what our soldiers and their families sacrificed, it certainly is—it will serve to remind us of their service to our country.

Although there may be differing opinions on foreign policies and the popularity of certain military actions may vary, all American voices should rise in unison when it comes time to thank those who risk everything for the defense of the American people.

I urge my colleagues, on both sides of the aisle, to join in honoring Vietnam veterans by participating in Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day events in their communities next year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARTIN HEINRICH

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, on the evening of March 26, 2012, I unfortunately missed rollcall votes 127, 128, and 129.

If I had been present, I would have voted in favor of rollcall vote 127, Representative STIVER’s (OH–15) bill, H.R. 2779.

If I had been present, I would have voted in favor of rollcall vote 128, Representative GRIMM’s (NY–13) H.R. 2682.

If I had been present, I would have voted in favor of rollcall vote 129, approval of the journal.

CANDIDATE VS. PRESIDENT ON OBAMACARE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, according to a recent CBS News article, when the President in 2008 was on the campaign trail, he blasted his primary opponent, Hillary Clinton, for supporting an individual mandate. Less than two years later, however, when the President lobbied the liberal-controlled Congress to pass the government healthcare takeover bill, he told legislators the individual mandate “was an essential part” of the takeover.

Almost every poll conducted across this country reveals the same result: an overwhelming number of Americans believe the individual mandate found in ObamaCare is unconstitutional and a chipping away of individual liberty. The Gadsden Flag of South Carolina is correct: Don’t Tread on Me.

The United States government should not require all of its citizens to buy insurance or push any other mandates that will limit freedoms. It is past the time for our nation to support legislation for real healthcare reform as