

legislation have been included in continuing resolutions and appropriations bills since 2006.

The STOP Act strengthened our response to the challenge of underage drinking. Seventeen federal agencies now worked through an interagency committee to better coordinate activities to further reduce underage drinking. A number of valuable studies and recommendations have been shared with government officials and civic-minded citizens throughout the nation. I commend our colleagues for their work.

To the men and women in agencies responsible for administering STOP Act research and grants, I ask you to persevere. Your work has saved many lives, and with sustained effort at the federal, state, and community level, we can further reduce underage drinking and its terrible consequences for our families and communities.

To the Commissioners and staff of the Federal Trade Commission, I commend the We Don't Serve Teens initiative and encourage you to sustain it in the future. I would also like to express appreciation for a company in the district I represent, Constellation Brands Beer Division, which promotes the We Don't Serve Teens message in the media and at alcohol beverage retail outlets throughout the greater Chicago area.

Underage drinking is a problem we can all work together to solve. I urge my colleagues and all Americans to utilize the tools prepared by the FTC and other agencies and help further reduce underage drinking and its consequences for our younger citizens.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CARIDAD CORTES

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize Caridad Cortes. Caridad was born and raised in the Bronx, New York. She relocated to Kissimmee, Florida with her children in 1994, while her husband continued to work in New York until he retired in 1997. She has worked in the healthcare industry for most of her career as a Case Manager.

In 2006, when her children were grown, Caridad was ready to continue her education. She returned to Walden University where she graduated with her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and a Minor in Human Resources in 2009. Caridad is a freelance writer for online media and is an avid photographer in her spare time. She is always exploring her creative side.

Since she first moved to Kissimmee, Caridad has seen immense changes in her community. Caridad seeks to spark change by getting involved in local social causes. She is the Recording Secretary of the Democrats of Osceola and a member of the Osceola Chapter of the Democratic Hispanic Caucus.

Caridad is married to John Cortes, Democratic Candidate Elect for the Florida House of Representatives, District 43. John and Caridad have been married for 33 years and have two children and one grandchild. Caridad is always there for her family, and there is no task too large or small for her to take on.

I am happy to honor Caridad Cortes, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for her contributions to the Central Florida community.

RECOGNIZING THE YODER FAMILY AS THE 2014 ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA, FARM FAMILY AND AGRICULTURAL INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize the Yoder Family from Century, Florida, for being selected as the 2014 Escambia County, Florida, Farm Family and Agricultural Innovator of the Year.

The Yoder family farm, a 100-acre farm located in northern Escambia County, Florida, is a family affair. Run by Brent, and his wife Janice, the Yoders' four children—Blake, Brian, Allison, and Bryce—also play an integral role in the Yoder family's success. Having grown up on farms themselves, both Brent and Janice understand the importance of agriculture and the vital role that a strong family plays in operating a successful farm.

On their farm, the Yoder family runs a small grass-fed Grade A dairy farm with an on-site processing facility for pasteurization and a processing and bottling facility. The Yoder family started in 2009 with just one cow, Daisy, and the original intent was simply to produce the highest quality milk for their growing family; however, as soon as the Yoder family began to share their product with the local community, they saw that there was a great demand for their golden-yellow wholesome product.

Today, the Yoder family has 15 Jersey cows, chosen due to their high butterfat content, and, by grass feeding and grazing their cows, the Yoder family products offer consumers a healthy balance Omega fatty acids, conjugated linoleic acids, and low levels of saturated fats. Brent delivers the Yoder family milk on a dairy route one day a week, and the Yoder family milk is also delivered to eight local storefronts. The Yoders are also very welcoming and happy to open their farm to the local community to demonstrate the importance of agriculture, and many of their customers drive to the northern part of Escambia County to see the farm and dairy and purchase milk directly from the Yoders. The Yoders also work closely with Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Extension, and their farm served as a stop on the 2012 Escambia County Farm tour, where Brent led visitors on a tour of their farm, while Janice provided guests with home baked cookies and ice cold Yoder family milk.

In addition to their dairy farming activities, the Yoders also have a local partnership with Janice's father, a local row crop producer who also raises hogs, to grow non-GMO grains that is then delivered to local farms to be used for their mixes. The Yoder family personify the innovation and ingenuity of our Nation's agricultural industry, through their first-rate dairy operation, and their innovate mixes. The Yoders are always looking to improve their operations, and currently, Brent is utilizing a peanut base to create a soy-free poultry mix.

Outside of their farming operations, both Brent and Janice are also highly dedicated to their local community and their church. Brent works closely with the Lower Alabama 4-H Club, where he helps teach young people from Northwest Florida and Southern Alabama about the importance of agriculture. In addition, both Brent and Janice serve their local church in leadership capacities and raise their four children in a faith-filled environment. In addition, Brent also helps spread inspiring and family-oriented reading material through his service as Chairman of the Gulf States division of Choice Books.

Mr. Speaker, our great Nation was built by farmers and their families. The Escambia County Outstanding Farm Family of the Year Award is a reflection of the Yoders' tireless work and their dedication to family, faith and farming. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my congratulations to the Yoder family for being outstanding in their field. My wife Vicki and I extend our best wishes for their continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BRIDGE TO A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to support the continued development of clean energy in the United States. The impacts of a changing climate are far-reaching, representing a threat not only to our ecosystems but to our national security as well. To help avoid the worst effects of carbon pollution, consumers must have a dependable supply of energy that is clean and renewable. That much of this energy—and many of the devices used to produce it—is American-made means that our country retains the innovation, export opportunities, and manufacturing jobs that are so important to a twenty-first century economy.

The Bridge to a Clean Energy Future Act of 2014 would extend critical clean energy incentives to provide market certainty and to strengthen investment in that sector. For example, this extends the Production Tax Credit for wind energy through 2016, offering parity with the Investment Tax Credit enjoyed by solar energy investments, while also granting the solar industry access to credits at the start of a project's construction, as in the wind industry. The bill also provides a range of other important incentives, such as the Advanced Energy Project credit, which aids U.S. manufacturers across the clean energy industry.

This bill supports thousands of jobs in clean energy industries, advances U.S. manufacturing, and supports our transition to clean, renewable energy. Most renewable energy investments are spent on materials and workmanship to build and maintain the facilities, rather than on costly energy imports. Renewable energy investments are usually spent within the United States, frequently in the same state, and often in the same town. Meanwhile, renewable energy technologies developed and built in the United States are being sold overseas, providing a boost to the U.S. trade deficit.

It is in the national interest to cut pollution while growing our economy. Tax credits for