

AIREONNA JENSEN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Aireonna Jensen for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Aireonna Jensen is an 8th grader at North Arvada Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Aireonna Jensen 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 Aireonna Jensen for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JIM McCLELLAND FOR HIS 41 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF CENTRAL INDIANA

**HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career and accomplishments of Jim McClelland. For more than four decades, Jim served as President and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District and central Indiana are forever grateful for Jim's community leadership.

Jim has spent most of his professional life with Goodwill. After receiving his Bachelor of Industrial Engineering degree from Georgia Tech and his MBA from the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University, he served in the military for three years. He then began his career with Goodwill and has been with the company ever since. He started with the company in 1970 in Texas and moved to Indianapolis in 1973 to work with then-President and CEO Alan McNeil. Alan, a role model to Jim, tragically passed away less than a year after Jim moved to Indiana. Jim was named his successor and has been building and developing the organization ever since. Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana has only had three CEOs since its founding in 1930 and Jim has been at the helm since 1974.

Goodwill of Central Indiana has blossomed under Jim's leadership. He clearly has a true passion for Goodwill's mission and is an outstanding leader and social entrepreneur. When he first joined the Indianapolis team, the nonprofit had 558 employees, eight retail stores, and \$3 million in revenue. Today, the company has more than 3,100 employees, 55 retail stores, 10 commercial sites, 10 charter high schools, and \$310 million in revenue. All profits from the retail side go back into improv-

ing the community. With these profits, Jim launched many social services aimed at reducing the long-term effects of poverty.

He also worked tirelessly to expand job opportunities for unemployed Hoosiers and led philanthropic efforts in education and health. Two of his most notable accomplishments are the creation of the Excel Center, a program offering education to adults wanting to earn their high school diploma, and bringing the Nurse-Family Partnership to Indianapolis, a nonprofit that helps first-time, low-income mothers.

Jim is undoubtedly a savvy businessman and wise investor, but his commitment to humanitarianism is what shines through the most. He always puts others first, combining his talents to improve the future of others. His commitment to helping others extends far beyond his position with Goodwill of Central Indiana. He is involved with Goodwill Industries nationally and internationally, has served on the boards of numerous not-for-profit organizations, and been honored with awards in the nonprofit arena. Just to name a few of his accomplishments, he helped start a new Goodwill organization in South Korea, sits on the board of the Indiana Public Charter Schools Association, and was named Nonprofit Executive of the Year by The Nonprofit Times in 2000.

On behalf of the grateful constituents of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District, I congratulate Jim on the occasion of his retirement. His entrepreneurial and humanitarian spirit has left an everlasting impact on the Indianapolis community and beyond. I wish the very best to Jim, his wife, Jane, and their two children as he enjoys a well-deserved retirement.

**HONORING ROHIT RAINA****HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Rohit Raina attends Dawson High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: select an important event that has occurred in the past 15 years and explain how that event has changed our country.

**A NEW NATION IS BORN**

The time had come, Election Day in 2008. Republicans and Democrats were standing in anxious positions, waiting to see who would emerge victorious; Barack Obama, or John McCain. The Democrats were obviously rooting for Barack Obama, whereas the Republicans were cheering on for John McCain. However, only one could stand victorious. After a long collection of votes, the new president was declared; Barack Hussein Obama, the first African American President of the United States of America.

November 4, 2008 will be a day to remember in our American history. That day was when all tides had turned, and a movement was born. Barack Obama, a three time senate member for Illinois, became the first African American man to ever become president in the history of the United States of America. The turnout of this election was a complete change in the perspective of the American people; where people were used to "White supremacy" and social inequality. After the election, peoples' mindsets changed about socialism and the attitude toward racism in the workplace. I had read a book by Joseph E. Stiglitz, *The Price of Inequality*, which this book references how after Obama was elected, the whole nation changed. In the workplace, people were more respectful to the African American race, there wasn't as much racial discrimination as there previously was. In the book I had read, office employers would be somewhat racist; to a point where a Caucasian man with a critical record had a higher chance of getting a job they tried out for than an African American man without a criminal record. Socially, people were more understanding of the African American race, because they now knew with Obama as president, the African American people were seen to have potential and were not judged any longer.

Barack Obama has honestly been one of our greatest presidents in the American nation.

Understandably, presidents such as FDR and Lincoln fought through tough times, but Obama was not any less of those two great men. By signing the economic stimulus and fighting through an economic recession, Barack Obama has led the Land of the Free out of grave trouble and into the path of success. President Obama had led us out of two wars in the Middle East, lowered gas prices, and helped the American nation by producing an amazing healthcare system called ObamaCare. By his second term, he had created a better nation, besides the 18 trillion dollar deficit the United States is currently under. With better gun control (because of the Sandy Hook shooting), the assassination of the Taliban terrorist leader Osama Bin Laden, and the search for better relations with Cuba, Obama has clearly led this nation to the path of power.

Barack Obama's election and reelection was one of the most effective changing thing in American history. For the past 15 years, America was getting better and thriving, but with Barack Obama, our nation has re-emerged as a much more powerful superpower. Who knows where we will be in 5 more years, but with Barack Obama's leadership and his effect on the future presidency line, we will be in great shape.

**IN HONOR OF DR. JERRY MCGEE'S CAREER****HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Jerry McGee for his faithful service as President of Wingate University in the 8th Congressional District of North Carolina.

When Dr. McGee became President of then Wingate College in 1992, he brought visionary leadership that transformed this educational institution from college to university status. During Dr. McGee's presidency, Wingate's enrollment increased more than 125 percent. Under his leadership, Wingate went from a