

To celebrate 30 successful years of providing housing and care for individuals with mental illness, Community Hope is hosting its Thirtieth Anniversary Reception on Thursday, April 30th. The reception will be held at the Lowenstein Sandler Reception Center, located at 75 Livingston Avenue in Roseland, New Jersey.

I commend the members of Community Hope, its Board of Trustees and Board of Directors, especially its chief executive officer, J. Michael Armstrong, for their dedication to providing for the welfare of individuals battling mental illness. Community Hope serves as the perfect model for other non-profits seeking to administer these critical services.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Community Hope as it celebrates its 30th Anniversary.

LAUREN HILL—PROFILE IN COURAGE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 14, 2015*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, athlete, student, daughter, friend, fighter and hero—this was Lauren Hill. At just 19 years old, Lauren fought the beast of cancer on the basketball court as the world watched. As everyone scrambled and stressed filling out their March Madness brackets, hoping to have the perfect bracket, Lauren was battling a brain tumor.

Lauren was a freshman basketball player at Mount St. Joseph University in Cincinnati, Ohio. She was a high school student when she was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor. But Lauren wasn't going to let a tumor stop her.

She set off to college to achieve her dream: to play on a college court. And of course, she did it.

The NCAA allowed Mount St. Joseph move up its opening game so that Lauren could play.

Xavier University even offered their arena so more people could come watch her shoot some hoops. Tickets to the game sold out in less than an hour. 10,000 people came to watch Lauren doing what she loves—play basketball. Among the 10,000 was legendary Tennessee Women's Basketball Coach Pat Summitt and some notable WNBA players.

Because the tumor had so aggressively attacked the right side of her body, her dominant side, Lauren shot a left-handed layup just 17 seconds into the game. And by no surprise, she made it. But she was not quite done.

She made the last basket of the game. This time, she shot the layup with her right hand. One can only imagine what it was like in the arena that day. The spectators were able to watch such a strong soul and example be able to live her dream in spite of her illness. Tears and smiles filled the arena.

When she wasn't on the court, Lauren worked to raise awareness and money for cancer research through her nonprofit foundation.

She never let the disease define her, because she was Lauren, a college basketball player, who was just doing what she loved. In

watching her strength, she has given so many hope—hope that even in the midst of a battle for life, there is faith.

As a father of four kids (three of them being girls), and a grandfather of 11 kids (7 of them being girls), I know how special our girls are. Lauren Hill definitely left an impression not only on her team and school community, but the rest of us as well.

Thank you Lauren, for so selflessly sharing your story with the world. Thank you for inspiring and encouraging all of us.

President Kennedy would have referred to Lauren Hill as a "profile in courage."

And that's just the way it is.

PHILLIP PRATER'S ESSAY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 14, 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.

Phillip Prater attends Dawson High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: in your opinion, why is it important to be involved in the political process?

"OBAMACARE" . . . one of the most important changes in the history of healthcare reform. Millions of Americans desperately in need of some form of health insurance are going to benefit mainly because individuals got involved in the political process.

The political process reaches far back to when our founding fathers created this great democracy. They instilled during that time that a democratic society is effective only if individuals are given the opportunity to express their concerns and actively participate in the political process.

Laws in government are made that affect our lives each and every day. Some of these laws are positive, yet some are negative. But we have to live by them. However, apathy is contagious. Our democracy could be a stake if we chose to ignore hearing about and participating in the political process. If you don't participate, then you can't and should not complain about an outcome that greatly affects you. Some individuals believe that government has no bearing on our daily lives. But this is farthest from the truth. Government affects every single aspect of our lives.

For example, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 outlawed discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. It also ended unequal application of voter registration requirements and racial segregation in schools. Many thanks to Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. and countless individuals, who marched thru city streets, participated in freedom rides, and some ultimately paying the ultimate sacrifice so that future generations could live and VOTE in a land of opportunity. It also paved the way for other civil rights legislation such as the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

If you're eligible to vote, then vote!!!!!! This is by far the easiest way to get involved in the political process. But pulling the lever also means understanding the issues that candidates are for or against, so that you can make the right vote.

Another way is to write your representative and present your opposing views or disapproval on a topic that you firmly agree on.

Other ways to get and staying involved in the political process are as follows:

Volunteer to help with voter registration drives

Educate voters by developing voter guides

Volunteer to work on a political campaign

Participate in protest rallies and marches

Attend a debate or a town hall meeting

Getting involved in the political process by every individual is critical if our democracy is to continue as the greatest country in the world!!!!

RIEMANN FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 14, 2015*

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Riemann Family Funeral Homes on the occasion of the opening of their Jackson County location. This facility will continue the legacy of service the Riemann family has provided the citizens of the Mississippi Gulf Coast for nearly a century.

In 1920, Ernest and Ruth Riemann moved from Michigan to South Mississippi and purchased Wilder Funeral Homes. They would be proud of the success and growth of their family business.

Today, with locations all along the Mississippi Gulf Coast this new Jackson County location provides the Riemann family another opportunity to compassionately serve their neighbors, friends, and family during life's most difficult times.

The Riemann family is blessed with a dedicated and professional staff that combined has hundreds of years of experience. Like the Riemann family, they are committed to faithfully serving their community.

Once again, I would like to thank the Riemann Family for their four generations of dedicated service to the citizens of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE 2015 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT "CREATE, GROW, SUSTAIN: LEADING BY EXAMPLE"

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 14, 2015*

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, it is wholly fitting that I rise today, Earth Day, to call attention to a report that attests to all of the wonderful strides our nation's largest companies are taking in the interest of sustainability—strides taken not in response to government mandates, but because they are good for customers, good for employees, good for the bottom line, and good for the communities in which these companies do business.