

Jaelynn is a tenth-grader at Carnegie Vanguard High School. She earned the award for her diligent work and dedication to spread her "No Texts, No Wrecks" campaign. Jaelynn recruited more than 15 volunteers to accompany her to driving schools in her community to stress the importance of not texting and driving. She also collected more than 400 pledges from young drivers who promised to not text and drive. Jaelynn has been a member of the San Jacinto Council for 13 years and previously earned the Girl Scout Bronze and Silver Awards. What an accomplished young woman.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Jaelynn Walls for receiving the Girl Scouts of the USA Gold Award.

IN HONOR OF BRYAN KECK,
SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING
BEE PARTICIPANT FROM DU-
BUQUE, IOWA

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a constituent from my district, Bryan Keck from Dubuque, Iowa, on his participation in the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Bryan, a seventh grader at Eleanor Roosevelt Middle School in Dubuque, Iowa, won the Telegraph Herald Media Regional Spelling Bee last March to earn a spot in the national bee. Last week, he and his family traveled to National Harbor, Maryland where 285 spellers from across the United States competed during Bee Week 2015 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center.

In the preliminary round, Bryan correctly spelled "omnivorous"—an adjective meaning "of an animal or person feeding on food of both plant and animal origin." He also correctly spelled "rhipiphorid"—a noun that classifies certain types of beetles.

In his free time, Bryan enjoys, giving back to his community through the Boy Scouts, going bowling, playing Minecraft, and reading crime novels. He hopes to one day become a federal prosecutor.

I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations, c-o-n-g-r-a-t-u-l-a-t-i-o-n-s, congratulations to Bryan on his participation in the Scripps National Spelling Bee and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING MATTHEW MURRAY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Matthew Murray for winning Top Male Individual at the 16th Annual Texas State High School Triathlon Championships.

Matthew, a junior at Dawson High School in Pearland, was among almost 250 competitors from around Texas. Each competitor was required to compete in a 500 meter lake swim, 14 mile bike and 3 mile run. Matthew's win speaks to his dedication to the sport and im-

mense athletic ability. This was his second year in a row to win Top Male Individual. He has made his family, coaches and community proud. We wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Matthew for his back-to-back wins of Top Male Individual at this year's Triathlon Championships.

HONORING WHEELING PUBLIC
WORKS DIRECTOR ANTHONY
STAVROS

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career and contributions of Wheeling Public Works Director Anthony Stavros. Mr. Stavros is retiring next month and leaves behind a reputation of strong dedication and commitment to the people of Wheeling, Illinois.

Throughout his career, Mr. Stavros served the Village of Wheeling in various roles and capacities in the Public Works Department. As Director, he oversaw multiple divisions managing parks, infrastructure, and flood and snow operations, all of which are vital to the well-being and safety of the community. A number of his successful projects were recognized by the American Public Works Association including his work on the Cornell Avenue Dam Rehabilitation.

Mr. Stavros leaves a lasting legacy through his integrity, leadership, and commitment to the improvement and maintenance of the Wheeling community. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to express my gratitude to Mr. Anthony Stavros for his forty-five years of exemplary service.

CLEMENTS HIGH SCHOOL MIXED
RELAY TEAM

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Christy Lee, Yaobin Chen, Mia Craven for earning the Top Mixed Relay Award during the 16th Annual Texas State High School Triathlon Championships.

These Clements High School athletes were among almost 250 competitors from Texas competing in this race. Each relay team was required to compete in a 500 meter lake swim, 14 mile bike ride and 3 mile run. This win speaks to the team's dedication to the sport and immense athletic ability. We wish the team luck throughout their academic and athletic careers.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Christy, Yaobin, and Mia for winning the Top Mixed Relay award in this year's Triathlon Championships.

97TH ANNIVERSARY OF
AZERBAIJANI REPUBLIC DAY

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Azerbaijanis around the world, in celebration of Republic Day on May 28. Republic Day commemorates Azerbaijan's declaration of its independence from the Russian Empire in 1918, becoming the first Muslim democratic secular republic in the region. Although only lasting two years, the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan achieved considerable success in state-building and creating educational foundations for future generations. The Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan granted suffrage to women shortly after its creation, ahead of most Western democracies.

Despite all of its successes, the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan was not in a position to weather the occupational forces of the then newly formed Soviet Russia. Consequently, Azerbaijan temporarily lost its independence in 1920 and later was brought into the U.S.S.R. In 1990, Azerbaijan regained its independence from the U.S.S.R., ending 70 years of Soviet rule. On August 30, 1991, Azerbaijan's Parliament adopted the Declaration on the Restoration of Independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and on October 18, 1991, the independence was approved by the adoption of a Constitutional Act.

Since its independence, the Republic of Azerbaijan has been an ally and is among the first nations who offered unconditional support to the United States in the global War on Terrorism, providing its airspace and the use of its airports for Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. Today, Azerbaijan continues to be a strategic partner with the U.S.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking the people of Azerbaijan for their valuable partnership and congratulate Azerbaijanis around the world on the 97th anniversary of Republic Day.

CLEMENTS HIGH SCHOOL ALL-
MALE TRIATHLON RELAY TEAM

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Aaron Pan, Brian Yuen, and Abraham Mckarkin, for earning Top All-Male Relay during the 16th Annual Texas State High School Triathlon Championships.

The Clements High School sophomores were among almost 250 competitors from around Texas competing in this race. Each relay team was required to compete in a 500 meter lake swim, 14 mile bike ride and 3 mile run. Their win recognizes extreme athletic ability as well as a strong dedication to the sport. We wish each of these young men luck throughout their academic and athletic careers.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Aaron, Brian, and Abraham for earning the Top All-Male Relay team at this year's Triathlon Championships.