

For his excellent work in education, Jim has received numerous awards. These include ACSA's Outstanding Central Office Administrator (2002) and St. Mary's College School of Education Alumnus of the Year (2001).

Jim's commitment to education is truly extraordinary. I want to thank him for his years of dedicated service and to wish him well in his retirement.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PETER WELCH**

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 18, 2015*

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call Vote number 370 on H. Con. Res. 55, I mistakenly recorded my vote as No when I should have voted Yes.

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FORT BEND CHRISTIAN ACADEMY  
SOFTBALL TEAM

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 18, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Fort Bend Christian Academy softball team for their amazing 4-A district winning streak this past season.

After more than 100 games, the Lady Eagles maintained a remarkable winning streak and ended the year tied for first place. They were led on and off the field by an outstanding young player, Claire McKissick, who was selected for the 4A all-state first team as a sophomore. Additionally, the women had a trio of young players selected for the all-state second team including Tessa Cantrell, Emily Ferguson, and Kati Ray Brown. The Lady Eagles further packed the all-district team selections with the achievements of senior Morgan Kornegay, sophomore Kendall Bohny, and senior Madelyn Hill. These prestigious awards are achieved through both athletic and academic vigor and are highly competitive throughout the state of Texas. We are extremely proud of all the women of the Fort Bend Christian Academy softball team and look forward to their future accomplishments.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the entire Lady Eagle softball team on an incredible season.

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RECOGNIZING MR. KYLE  
WEDEKIND

**HON. DANIEL WEBSTER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 18, 2015*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize one of my constituents, Mr. Kyle Wedekind of Winter Garden, Florida, for his acceptance to the People to People World Leadership Forum in Washington, D.C. Mr. Wedekind was selected for his academic excellence, leadership potential and exemplary citizenship.

The mission of People to People Leadership Ambassador Programs is to bridge cultural and political borders through education and exchange. To this end, People to People offers domestic and international educational programs that promote cooperation, cross-cultural understanding and leadership. It is my hope that Mr. Wedekind benefitted greatly from his participation in the World Leadership Forum, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

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THE RAINS IN THE REPUBLIC OF  
GEORGIA

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 18, 2015*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on June 14, heavy rains poured down hammering the ground and streets of Georgia the Republic of Georgia.

The River Vere, a small stream that cuts through the center of the Georgian capital of Tbilisi, was transformed into a raging torrent. It caused flooding of an unprecedented scale.

So far, 13 people have been killed. The flooding allowed animals to escape from the local zoo. Lions, bears, tigers, and jaguars remain on the loose.

Homes, cars and roadways are destroyed. There are over 1 million residents in the capital, and it will take a long time before things get back to normal.

I've been to Georgia—twice. Texans and Georgians are likeminded people; they know the spirit and importance of Independence.

Still occupied by the Russians, Georgia sent troops to fight alongside ours in Afghanistan.

They have been a strong and steadfast U.S. ally in an important and often turbulent part of the world.

Americans must help our friends and allies; the Georgians, as they begin to rebuild their capital city after this historic flooding.

From across the globe we keep the Georgians in our thoughts and prayers.

We know our Georgian friends are resilient and will face this natural disaster with courage. We should stand by them in this effort.

And that's just the way it is.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 18, 2015*

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, on June 15, 2015, due to the weather, I was unavoidably detained while traveling to Washington, D.C. and missed recorded votes number 364 and 365. Had I been present, on rollcall vote number 364, H. Res. 233—"Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Iran should immediately release the three United States citizens that it holds, as well as provide all known information on any United States citizens that have disappeared within its borders," I would have voted "yea"; and on rollcall vote number 365, H.R. 2559—"To designate the 'PFC Milton A. Lee Medal of Honor

Memorial Highway' in the State of Texas," I would have voted "yea."

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IN RECOGNITION OF CATHEDRAL  
INTERNATIONAL "STOP THE FUNERAL WEEKEND"

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 18, 2015*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cathedral International's upcoming "Stop the Funeral Weekend" hosted by Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr. from June 18–21, 2015. The "Stop the Funeral Weekend" aims to highlight the issue of violence in our communities and I would like to join with Bishop Hilliard in bringing attention to this important issue.

Throughout his 32 years as Senior Pastor of Cathedral International, Bishop Hilliard has advocated for the end of violent behavior and injustice through improved community relations and engagement. He has seen the consequences of violence and the persistence of its existence in our communities. The "Stop the Funeral Weekend" will bring together community leaders, families and individuals to encourage open dialogue and the sharing of concerns, objectives and ideas. It will highlight Bishop Hilliard's mission to promote safe environments for our youth to live and grow. I commend Bishop Hilliard's leadership and his ongoing efforts to address the challenges facing our communities today.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in recognizing the importance of addressing the issue of violence in our communities and thanking Bishop Hilliard and Cathedral International for its efforts to bring awareness to this critical issue and creating a better environment for our youth.

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CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF LAREDO BEAUTY COLLEGE, INC.

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 18, 2015*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a noteworthy occasion: the fiftieth anniversary of Laredo Beauty College, Inc. For five decades, this school has served the community by providing thousands of aspiring stylists with the training they need to succeed, as well as providing affordably priced salon services to the general public.

Upon its opening in 1965, Laredo Beauty College was the first cosmetology school in the Laredo area. The vision behind this significant contribution to the community was Peggy Dietrick, commonly known as Ms. Peggy. At the time of its founding, the school only offered courses in cosmetology. It has since expanded to include manicuring and cosmetology instructor courses as well.

Today, Laredo Beauty College has 102 students and 17 staff members. The school is exceptional in the dedication it inspires in both students and staff, with many of the staff having worked for the school for over twenty