

MRS. SUZANNE WRIGHT

**HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2015*

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I recently learned that Suzanne Wright, co-founder of Autism Speaks and a member of the organization's board, has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Suzanne is taking a leave of absence from her work with Autism Speaks to focus on her medical care.

In 2005, Suzanne and Bob Wright co-founded Autism Speaks after their grandson Christian was diagnosed with autism. Over the last ten years, Autism Speaks has become a world leader in educating people about autism spectrum disorder and advocating for individuals with autism.

Since Autism Speaks' founding, Suzanne has led the organization's signature global awareness initiatives. She was instrumental in establishing April 2nd as World Autism Awareness Day by the United Nations, for example, and she launched the global Light It Up Blue campaign and established World Focus on Autism, Autism Speaks' annual meeting of First Ladies from around the globe.

Suzanne has been a tireless advocate for autistic individuals and their families. She is known to countless families for her personal notes and generosity, as well as for her leadership and support of many Autism Speaks Walks around the country. I urge my colleagues to keep Suzanne in their thoughts and prayers and to continue to be motivated by her example.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MIKE POMPEO**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2015*

Mr. POMPEO. Mr. Speaker, on roll call votes nos. 690 through 693, on Friday, December 11, 2015, I was unable to cast my vote in person due to a previously scheduled engagement. Had I been present, I would have voted yes on roll calls 690, 691, and 693. I would have voted no on roll call 692.

## TRIBUTE TO KATIE PATTERSON

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Katie Patterson for being named an Innovation Iowa—Women of Innovation award winner in 2015.

In November, the Technology Association of Iowa honored 10 Iowa women with innovation awards. This is an award that elevates and celebrates today's extraordinary women and recognizes women who are leaders in science, technology, engineering, and math. Katie was recognized as a Rising Star. She is the founder of Happy Medium, a digital media and advertising agency.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent leaders like Katie in the United States Con-

gress and it is with great pride that I congratulate her for utilizing her talents to better both the community of Des Moines and the state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Katie on receiving this esteemed designation, and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

## CLASS 1A—ARCOLA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM STATE CHAMPIONS

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2015*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the Purple Raiders of Arcola Jr. Sr. High School as the IHSA Class 1A high school state champions.

On November 27, 2015 Arcola defeated Stark County by 35–17 winning the Class 1A State Championship. I would like to recognize the effort of this amazing team and congratulate them on their historic season as they celebrate their first state championship title in 27 years.

I would also like to congratulate the Strader family. Brothers Clayton and Connor and their cousin Chase for contributing to six touchdowns and several tackles. Tommy Eddleman, Jim Fishel, Aldo Garcia, Chad Hopkins, Jarod Kiger, and John Lidy make up the coaching staff which supported Athletic Director and Head Coach, Zach Zehr to provide great leadership for these talented football players.

I look forward to the continued success of the Arcola Jr. Sr. High School. I extend my best wishes for another outstanding season next year.

The following are Arcola Purple Raider Varsity Football players: Conner Strader, Clayton Strader, Parker Ingram, Kollin Seaman, Martin Rund, Daniel Mendoza, Victor Gonzalez, Myles Roberts, Blake Lindenmeyer, Seth Still, Chase Strader, Mario Cortez, Sam Crane, Alec Downs, Tony Salinas, Wyatt Fishel, Giovanni Salinas, Brandon Lebeter, Cole Hutton, Rey Garza, Ethan Still, Mason Gentry, Javi Leal, Pablo Rodriguez, Kaleb Byard, Jonny Garza, Dalton Pantier, Gavin Coombe, Luke Spencer, Tito Garcia, Clayton Kuhring, Jack Spencer, Alex Kauffman, Aaron Dudley, Grant McPherson, Jorge Garza, and Jack Nacke.

## OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2015*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,775,084,981,439.86. We've added \$8,140,759,141,496.86 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

TRIBUTE TO CINDY THOMPSON

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Cindy Thompson of Council Bluffs, Iowa, for being honored with the Outstanding Individual Leader Award by the Iowa Tourism Office and the Travel Federation of Iowa.

Cindy has worked for the Pottawattamie County Conservation Board and the communities in southwest Iowa since 1989. She spends her time working on tourism projects throughout the area. The leadership skills she demonstrates has helped the tourism industry to grow and expand in southwest Iowa. Cindy contributes her success to the great people with whom she has had the privilege to work.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Cindy for earning this award. It is because of Iowans like her that I'm proud to represent the people of our great state. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Cindy for this outstanding accomplishment and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

## IN RECOGNITION OF RETIREMENT OF DEBBIE LOCKE-DANIEL

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2015*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Debbie Locke-Daniel and her many years of service to the City of Ypsilanti and Washtenaw County. Mrs. Locke-Daniel served as the President and CEO of the Ypsilanti Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (Visit YPSI) where she used her business acumen to help successfully market the Ypsilanti-Ann Arbor area as a destination for numerous meetings, events and conventions. Known for her relentless work ethic and leadership talents, Mrs. Locke-Daniel has enabled the Ypsilanti area to grow its economy and promote its strengths across Michigan and the nation.

Mrs. Locke-Daniel is a true community leader and has served on numerous boards including a leadership role as Past Chair of the MotorCities National Area Partnership which works to cultivate an appreciation for the rich heritage of Michigan's auto industry. Mrs. Locke-Daniel also served as Vice President of the Board for the Ypsilanti Wheels on Meals, which delivers prepared meals to homebound, disabled, and infirmed residents, and earned the 2012 Ypsilanti Kiwanis Community Service Award for her efforts. In addition, she has been a board member of both the Marnee Divine Foundation (Catholic Social Services in Washtenaw County) and the Michigan Firehouse Museum.

Visit YPSI is more than a tourism agency; it is a vehicle for economic and community development. For many years, this organization has awarded grants to small communities such as Manchester, Dexter, and Superior Township. These grants have been used to create town entry signs, public maps, and