CELEBRATING THE WORTHY BOYS AND GIRLS CAMP

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the honorable work of the Worthy Boys and Girls Camp in Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Since 1950, the Worthy Boys and Girls Camp has provided a week-long opportunity for York County youth to experience the outdoors each summer. It is the only free overnight camp in the area, planned and organized entirely by the Rock Hill Police Department. Through a variety of sports activities and trainings, children build upon their strengths to improve individual self-esteem, develop new interpersonal skills, and gain a greater appreciation for their surrounding community.

Aside from providing a safe and supportive environment, camp staff instill in young boys and girls a sense of consistent teamwork, commitment, and sharing. Nearly 200 children are exposed to new ideas, places, and friendships every summer that will teach them lessons they'll carry forward through life.

The Worthy Boys and Girls Camp is a shining example of the sense of community felt across Rock Hill.

Locals enjoy supporting the camp through their donations and various volunteer efforts. Week-long sessions are staffed by police officers, department staff members, and volunteers of all ages who dedicate long hours and resources to ensuring the camp's continued success. Many police officers who attended the program as students, like Rock Hill Police Chief Chris Watts, now serve as camp counselors.

The lifechanging work of the Worthy Boys and Girls Camp has created positive relationships between local law enforcement officers and youth for decades. The camp plays an integral role in developing Rock Hill's youngest talent into promising leaders. I congratulate the Worthy Boys and Girls Camp on a successful 72 years, and I look forward to watching them serve our community's children in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Nurses Week, a celebration to acknowledge our nurses for their unwavering courage, hard work and dedication. Our frontline heroes have been at the forefront of this global pandemic, and their sacrifice is well-deserving of recognition.

For many healthcare workers, this past year has been the toughest challenge of their career. Despite these unprecedent obstacles, they have continued to show bravery and selflessness by risking their own health to provide patients with the utmost care.

Along with the fear of the unknown and the rigorous work schedule, our frontline line workers have made huge personal sacrifices as well. Despite living with the fear of contracting COVID–19 themselves or potentially bringing the virus home to their loved ones; these healthcare workers still manage to do their jobs and protect our communities.

In celebration of National Nurses Week, I encourage everyone to take the time to thank our nurses for choosing selflessness over self-preservation and rising to the challenge of COVID–19. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I ask that you rise with me to celebrate National Nurses Week.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID ELLIOT

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor David Elliot from Taos, New Mexico. On Wednesday, April 28, 2021, President Biden delivered his first address to a Joint Session of Congress, 100 days into his first term.

When President Biden took the oath of office, he pledged that help was on the way. Thanks to our work together to enact the American Rescue Plan, help is finally here.

The hardworking people in New Mexico and all across the country have also shown us what true community looks like. David is one of those community heroes.

In a typical year, I would invite him to join me in the House Chamber for the Joint Address. COVID–19 safety protocols mean this year's in-person attendance will be limited and we will be watching from our beautiful New Mexico. But I did not want to miss this important opportunity to honor David.

David's commitment to serving others is inspiring. His work to bring people and organizations together to establish the Enchanted Circle of Community Organizations Active in Disaster is the embodiment of community. The Enchanted Circle COAD helped others in Taos, Colfax, Santa Fe counties and beyond. They have donated millions of dollars directly and in kind to their neighbors. During the initial phases of the COVID–19 response, David also served as the Deputy Director of the NM State Emergency Operations Center. His passion for emergency management has also led him to serve his community as a volunteer firefighter, volunteer Fire Chief, and as Emergency Management Coordinator for Taos and Santa Fe County.

David pointed out to me that he was honored to view this address as my guest on behalf of the countless New Mexicans, businesses, non-profits, and organizations who donated their time, effort, and money to help New Mexico recover during this extremely difficult time.

I'm proud to invite him as my virtual guest to the Presidential Address. He truly represents the best that New Mexico has to offer, and I thank him for his selflessness and life-saving work.

IN RECOGNITION OF VICKIE THOMAS

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions of award-winning journalist Vickie Thomas, a proud daughter of Michigan's 13th Congressional District.

Ms. Thomas was raised in Highland, Park Michigan and first became interested in journalism as a student at Detroit Henry Ford High School. She went on to graduate with honors, earning her degree in broadcast journalism from Wayne State University. Ms. Thomas is best known in southeast Michigan as the voice of WWJ NewsRadio, where she reported on local news and events.

Ms. Thomas' work has garnered local and national accolades. She has earned awards from the Detroit Press Foundation, the Michigan Association of Broadcasters, the Associated Press, and the National Association of Black Journalists. Ms. Thomas is a recipient of the national ''Gabriel Award'' from UNDA–USA for the WWJ Black History Month Series ''The African-American Church: The Heart and Soul of Metro Detroit's Black Community.'' She is a member of the National Association of Black Journalists.

Please join me in paying tribute to Vickie Thomas's numerous achievements and hard work in bringing news and stories of local interest to the people of southeast Michigan.

RECOGNIZING CINCO DE MAYO

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the holiday of Cinco de Mayo commemorating the victory of the Mexican Army 1862 over France at the Battle of Puebla during the Franco-Mexican War.

The fifth day of May, or Cinco de Mayo, is a special day because it represents the importance of freedom, liberty and determination for the people of Mexico and for Mexican-Americans.

It was on that day, May 5, 1862, that untrained, outnumbered, and outgunned Mexican forces—determined to protect their land—successfully defended the town of Puebla against the French.

The quest for an independent Mexico started on September 16, 1810, when the people of Mexico, following the will to become a free nation, refused to submit to Spanish rule.

The struggle went on for 10 years.

Finally, in 1821, the first independent Mexican government was established.

But being an independent nation was not easy.

Over the years, Mexico received economic support from several nations, France and England among them.

Later on, even Spain supported the new country.

Thus, Mexico became heavily indebted to foreign powers.