

means, Mr. Schmidt fought to maintain the Army's ability to look after its troops by providing state of the art equipment and technology.

Mr. Schmidt continued to fight to maintain the Army's research funding levels for another decade, as both a Deputy Director and Director specializing in science and technology at the Department of the Army. He maintained the Army's budget of \$13 billion, which allocated funds to over twenty projects with a total workforce in excess of 14,000 engineering and research staff.

His civilian assignment spanned three decades in the Department of the Army. Mr. Schmidt will best be remembered for his dedication to preserving and increasing funding for suicide prevention, and developing new weapons technologies to aid in keeping our troops safer and better equipped while serving their country.

Mr. Speaker, Dennis Schmidt embodies what it means to be an American patriot. He is an impressive example of going beyond his duty, and he should be honored for it. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Schmidt for his many years of service, and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE TOWN OF
MOORESVILLE, INDIANA

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and salute the Town of Mooresville, Indiana, as the official Home of the Indiana State Flag.

It was one hundred years ago, in celebration of Indiana's Centennial, that Mooresville resident and prominent water color artist Paul Hadley designed the current Indiana flag. It is easy to see why Hadley's design for the banner was selected out of the two hundred that were entered in the Daughters of the American Revolution contest in 1816.

The stately gold torch signifying liberty and enlightenment, surrounded by nineteen gold stars representing each of the states in the union upon Indiana's induction, is stunning on the beautiful field of deep blue.

One year later the Indiana State Legislature adopted Paul Hadley's design as the official state banner. It has remained unchanged since that day.

Mooresville is located in Morgan County in central Indiana.

And on this day, Mr. Speaker, in the year in which we are celebrating Indiana's 200th birthday, I am proud to recognize the town of Mooresville for Paul Hadley's important contribution to Indiana's history.

COMMENDING STUDENTS FOR NATIONAL
JROTC CHAMPIONSHIP
PARTICIPATION

HON. TONY CÁRDENAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, it fills me with great pride to congratulate Yoli D. Ortega

Hernandez, Anne J. Bana, Andrea Cardoza, Luis E. Maya, Marisol Ahumada, and Tamara M. Herrador from James Monroe High School in my district. I want to congratulate them for participating in the National Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Leadership and Academic Bowl (JLAB).

The James Monroe High School team participated at the championship competition here in Washington, D.C., last month. During the two fast-paced preliminary rounds, the Vikings Cadets were tested on their knowledge of current events, leadership values, and leadership skills. More than 1,370 Army JROTC teams competed from around the world, with James Monroe's cadets earning top scores. James Monroe's JROTC team is one of only forty Leadership Bowl teams in the nation to advance to the National Leadership and Academic Bowl.

It is thrilling to see the promising young men and women from our very own San Fernando Valley schools come to the table with such great talent. You should all be proud of yourselves for making it this far; it is a huge accomplishment. Congratulations, Vikings!

RECOGNIZING RIDE4GABE FOR
BRINGING NEEDED AWARENESS
TO DUCHENNE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Representatives ADERHOLT (AL), BLACK (TN), BLACKBURN (TN), BROOKS (AL), CHABOT (OH), COLLINS (NY), FUDGE (OH), GIBBS (OH), GUINTA (NH), HANNA (NY), HIGGINS (NY), JOYCE (OH), KELLY (PA), PALMER (AL), PINGREE (ME), POLIQUIN (ME), REED (NY), RENACCI (OH), ROBY (AL), ROE (TN), ROGERS (AL), SEWELL (AL), STEFANIK (NY), TIBERI (OH), TURNER (OH), WENSTRUP (OH), and YARMUTH (KY), I want to recognize three men who will attempt to pedal their bicycles from Houlton, Maine to Mobile, Alabama between July 29 and August 8, 2016. Ride4Gabe, as it is called, will take the cyclists on a route that is approximately the same distance as the Tour de France in only eleven days. As they pedal 200 miles per day the men will endure substantial physical and mental hardship. The cycling effort alone is worthy of recognition, but these cyclists insist it is their cause that should be known by the American people. Ride4Gabe is really about ending Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.

According to Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy, Duchenne is the most common fatal genetic disorder diagnosed in childhood, affecting approximately 1 in every 3,500 live male births (about 20,000 new cases each year worldwide). Because the Duchenne gene is found on the X-chromosome, it primarily affects boys; however, it occurs across all races and cultures.

Duchenne results in progressive loss of strength and is caused by a mutation in the gene that encodes for dystrophin. Because dystrophin is absent, the muscle cells are easily damaged. The progressive muscle weakness leads to serious medical problems, particularly issues relating to the heart and lungs.

Young men with Duchenne typically live into their late twenties.

Michael Staley, 35, of Birmingham, Alabama, and Wes Bates, 21, of Aurora, Colorado, began Ride4Gabe in 2014 when they rode across Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, Nebraska, South Dakota, Iowa, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama. Payne Griffin, 23, of Washington, D.C. will join Michael and Wes this year. The trio will be supported by a crew of volunteers as they pedal across Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama.

The Ride4Gabe team will meet with Duchenne patients, rare disease-impacted families, elected officials, and other community leaders throughout their journey. They will educate people about Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. They will highlight the challenges associated with Duchenne through the lens of Gabe Griffin and Duchenne patients all along their route. They will discuss how medical research has the Duchenne community on the verge of solving this problem that nobody has survived to date. They will raise awareness about rare disease drug approval policy and how it relates to Duchenne.

On behalf of my colleagues representing the congressional districts along the Ride4Gabe 2016 route, I am pleased to submit this statement to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. The awareness raised through Ride4Gabe will lead to greater public awareness about Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. It is our hope that Gabe Griffin and every other patient who suffers from Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy will soon have access to a treatment, and ultimately a cure.

THE SMALL BUSINESS START-UP
SAVINGS ACCOUNTS ACT OF 2016

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today, I re-introduced H.R. 5783, the Small Business Start-up Savings Accounts Act of 2016. Small businesses are the backbone of our economy and are an essential component of our continued economic recovery. These businesses generate half of our nation's gross domestic product and employ at least half of its workforce. The creation of small businesses allows Americans to produce things right here in America, as well as continue to out innovate and out-build the rest of the world.

Unfortunately, the average entrepreneur spends roughly \$80,000 in first year start-up costs, and these recovering economic times have made it even more difficult for prospective business owners to access vital start-up capital.

As our economy continues to strengthen, it is important that Congress provides incentives and opportunities for entrepreneurs to launch new businesses and provide much needed jobs to our economy. For these reasons, I am re-introducing The Small Business Start-up Savings Accounts Act to assist individuals in starting their own businesses.

This bill expands much needed lending to millions of small businesses and offers tax incentives to help small businesses grow, hire,

and fuel our economy. The bill would allow entrepreneurs to contribute up to \$10,000 per year into a tax-free account, which could be used to purchase equipment, facilities, marketing, training, and accounting. Contributions to the account could accumulate up to \$150,000 and be taken out tax-free.

This is a common sense approach to encourage economic growth, and Congress should spend more of its time on legislation like this that can have a positive impact on average Americans. I urge all of my colleagues to co-sponsor this legislation and I yield back the balance of my time.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, on July 11th and into the late evening of July 12th, I was unavoidably absent from the House. I have indicated the manner in which I would have voted on each of the roll call votes that I was absent.

Roll Call 401: YEA.
 Roll Call 402: YEA.
 Roll Call 403: YEA.
 Roll Call 404: NAY.
 Roll Call 405: NAY.
 Roll Call 406: YEA.
 Roll Call 407: YEA.
 Roll Call 408: YEA.
 Roll Call 409: YEA.
 Roll Call 410: YEA.
 Roll Call 411: NAY.
 Roll Call 412: NAY.
 Roll Call 413: NAY.
 Roll Call 414: NAY.
 Roll Call 415: NAY.
 Roll Call 416: YEA.
 Roll Call 417: NAY.
 Roll Call 418: NAY.
 Roll Call 419: NAY.
 Roll Call 420: NAY.
 Roll Call 421: NAY.
 Roll Call 422: NAY.
 Roll Call 423: NAY.
 Roll Call 424: NAY.
 Roll Call 425: YEA.
 Roll Call 426: YEA.

MADELINE CASTILLO EARNS THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Madeline Castillo of San Jacinto Girl Scout Troop Number 61401 on earning the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest achievement a Cadette can earn. Madeline, a senior at Clear Creek High School in League City, achieved this honor through her accomplishments in leadership, advocacy, and dedication to improving her community.

Madeline completed her Girl Scout Gold Award project, #WeCare4Patients which strives to help hospital patients feel more comfortable. Madeline has paired with Health Oc-

cupations Students of America clubs and other organizations in the area to encourage people to donate toys, blankets, games, and other items for local medical facilities.

On behalf of all of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I'm pleased to recognize Madeline's Girl Scout accomplishment and her contributions to help make our community a better place to live. We are all proud of Madeline Castillo and wish her the best of luck at Stephen F. Austin University in the fall.

RECOGNIZING RODOLFO PINON

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an outstanding leader in my district, Mr. Rodolfo Pinon of Blythe, California.

Mr. Speaker, Rodolfo is a remarkable leader, husband, and father. He has a deep passion for serving others and giving voice to the voiceless.

From his early years as a student at Palo Verde Valley High School and then at California State University at San Bernardino, Rodolfo served as an example of selfless service to the underserved.

That drive and passion to serve his community has been steadfast throughout his career.

As the executive director of Casa De San Bernardino he was a source of strength and an anchor of hope to those seeking to overcome addiction.

For five years, his dedication there helped countless individuals in their darkest hours.

Recently, Rodolfo has served as the Director of Community Engagement for the Pueblo Unido Community Development Corporation.

He serves as a driving force behind their mission to support underrepresented rural communities.

As director, has delivered over and over again on the goals of developing affordable housing, community infrastructure, community centers, and community parks to disadvantaged rural communities.

This work has solved pressing problems for the residents of the Eastern Coachella Valley, from installing water filters to 25 mobile home parks in the Eastern Coachella Valley where far too many communities face the health threat of arsenic in the unfiltered water, to paving the 38 mobile home parks in the community, helping families in these rural areas have a higher quality of life and improving outcomes for those seeking affordable housing, to building the San Jose and Bea Main Community Center open to all in the community and helping young people expand their horizons with a brand new computer center.

But his dedication has also inspired countless budding community leaders around him and he has mentored many emerging young leaders.

Recently, Rodolfo's life of service was chronicled in the book *Y Sugrimos Adelante*.

This book serves as a lasting tribute to his mission and as a constant reminder of his counsel that we must always remain selfless in our work serving our communities.

His words have deeply inspired me, and I keep them in mind each day in my work as a public servant.

Rodolfo was recently diagnosed with advanced liver cancer.

His family and loved ones are going through a terrible pain.

As a community, we encourage Rodolfo and his family to find strength and comfort in the fact that we appreciate and honor you.

The best way to honor Rodolfo to ensure that his mission and noble acts of service are spread beyond the Coachella valley, that his words are not forgotten.

We should all take to heart his service, a man who has given everything to his community and asks for nothing in return, except that those around him are able to live a healthy life with dignity.

We should all honor him and enter his life's work into our nation's record.

So today, I would like to take a moment to recognize all that Mr. Pinon has given to his community that will live on for future generations.

In honor of his life's work of service, let us keep Rodolfo in our thoughts as journeys through this most difficult path of his life. Let us not forget all this man has given to our community and how much we can learn from his actions.

In his honor, let us strive to better our communities, and our nation.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GEORGIA AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the success of the Georgia Agribusiness Council as the organization celebrates their 50th anniversary this year.

The Georgia Agribusiness Council was originally incorporated on January 17, 1966.

The council was formed "To Advance the Business of Agriculture through Economic Development, Environmental Stewardship and Education to Enhance the Quality of Life for All Georgians."

Through the years, the Georgia Agribusiness Council has had immense success in giving the Georgia agriculture industry a forum to share views, develop understanding, and work on issues of common concern.

The council's membership has recently exceeded 1000 businesses from every sector of agriculture and it has done an incredible job representing Georgia's 74 billion dollar industry.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today to congratulate the Georgia Agribusiness Council on their 50 year anniversary and I thank them for their tremendous service to our state and the agriculture industry.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBEN GALLEG0

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. GALLEG0. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and was not present for one roll