

is free of Boko Haram. I am pleased I will be joining the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade of the Committee on Foreign Affairs tomorrow as it holds a hearing on Boko Haram. I hope the rest of the Congress will also wake up to Boko Haram's atrocities. The girls are still alive, but are still missing.

Please continue to tweet, tweet, tweet #bringbackourgirls and to tweet, tweet, tweet #joinrepwilson.

Remember to wear something red every Wednesday. It can be shoes, a belt, a flower, a tie, a handkerchief, jewelry—anything. Just wear something red. We cannot forget the violence in Nigeria by Boko Haram.

HONORING PENN STATE DANCE MARATHON

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the annual Penn State Dance Marathon, or "THON," which was held over the past weekend on Pennsylvania State University's main campus in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District.

THON is the largest student-run philanthropy in the world, raising funds and awareness for the battle against pediatric cancer.

Since 1977, THON has raised more than \$127 million for the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital. Each year, people from across Pennsylvania and even the Nation gather at the Bryce Jordan Center for THON, including Penn State students, university alum, and the parents and the children who have been impacted by childhood cancer.

To the organizers of this wonderful event, I want you to know just how proud I am of your efforts. It was just announced that this year's dance marathon raised nearly \$9.8 million.

I continue to be amazed by the good works of this student-run organization, and I wish them the best of luck in their planning for next year.

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CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD

(Mr. LARSON of Connecticut asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the Bipartisan Policy Center for establishing the Congressional Patriot Award and naming SAM JOHNSON and JOHN LEWIS as its first recipients.

On March 15, at the Library of Congress, with David Rubenstein presiding, we will talk about their extraordinary lives and their contributions to this institution; wherein, they will be given a medal in their names which forever-

more will be perpetuated by this body where both a Democrat and a Republican will receive this distinguished award based on the patriotism that they provided to their Nation.

I cannot think of two more exemplary figures in this body than SAM JOHNSON, who was nearly beaten to death in the Vietcong and imprisoned for 7 years, 42 months of solitary confinement, and JOHN LEWIS, who was nearly beaten to death by the Alabama police after crossing the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

Please join us at the Library of Congress. We will be here on the floor every day with my co-chair, TOM COLE, to talk about this great event in their honor.

SUPPORTING GUARDIAN HANDS FOUNDATION'S 3RD ANNUAL WALK AGAINST RARE DISEASES

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to support the Guardian Hands Foundation in its 3rd Annual Walk Against Rare Diseases, taking place this Sunday, February 28th, in Hialeah Gardens.

In the United States, a disease is considered rare if it impacts less than 200,000 people, but there are over 7,000 recognized rare diseases.

So, when taken as a whole, nearly 1 in 10 Americans are living with a rare disease. Nearly 50 percent of those, Mr. Speaker, are children with rare diseases. How tragic.

The Guardian Hands Foundation continues to raise awareness about the unique experiences of South Floridians impacted by rare diseases, and it serves as an important voice of hope and inspiration for families across our area.

So please come and enjoy some wonderful exercise this weekend. Join our community at the 3rd Annual Walk Against Rare Diseases.

REMEMBERING JUSTICE ANTONIN SCALIA

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today is our first opportunity to remember and honor the life and legacy of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, with a further tribute tonight by Congresswoman BARBARA COMSTOCK of Virginia.

I am grateful for Justice Scalia's lifetime of service to our country and his dedication to protecting and defending the Constitution. In the nearly three decades he served on the Supreme Court, he was renowned for his brilliant opinion, sharp wit, and engaging debate with attorneys.

His dedication to a strict interpretation of the Constitution never wavered,

and he was beloved by his colleagues on the Court. He promoted the real constitutional intent, for judges to interpret the law, not legislating undermining democracy.

Nominated by President Ronald Reagan in 1986 and confirmed unanimously by the Senate, Justice Scalia was the Court's voice for opinions that upheld conservative values, such as the District of Columbia v. Heller, defending the right to bear arms by the Second Amendment.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Maureen, their children, and grandchildren.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President, by his actions, never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

GUANTANAMO BAY

(Mr. ROONEY of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in response to President Obama's announcement of his plans to close the Guantanamo Bay detention facility and transfer the detainees to the United States.

We, as a Congress, made our position on the closing of Guantanamo Bay clear when we passed—and the President signed—the defense authorization and appropriations bills for 2016, which explicitly prohibit the President from closing the facility or transferring any of the detainees to the United States.

Additionally, on October 1, I joined 15 of my House colleagues who have served or continue to serve in the military in sending a letter to the Joint Chiefs of Staff requesting that they acknowledge that the execution of any proposal put forth by the President to close GTMO would be in violation of Federal law.

In response to the letter, the Joint Chiefs of Staff confirmed that the "current law prohibits the use of funds to 'transfer, release, or assist in the transfer or release' of detainees from Guantanamo Bay to or within the United States" and that they "will not take any action contrary to those restrictions."

Mr. Speaker, the President's primary function is to enforce the law, not break it. Moving KSM to the United States and availing him to our courts to fulfill personal, political goals is not only irresponsible, but potentially extremely reckless.

AMERICAN HEART MONTH

(Mr. DOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize February as American Heart Month.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States. Every 43 seconds, someone in the United States

dies of a heart attack. Fortunately, research has determined actions we can take to prevent this disease and other heart conditions.

As a member of the Fitness Caucus here in the House of Representatives, I work to promote an active lifestyle as a preventive measure for many diseases, including heart disease.

High blood pressure often shows no signs or symptoms, which is why having your blood pressure checked regularly is very important. It is easy to get your blood pressure checked.

You can get it screened at your doctor's office and drugstores. You could even check it yourself at home using a home blood pressure monitor.

The CDC and their Million Hearts effort is aiming to prevent 1 million heart attacks and strokes in the United States by 2017. To do that, they are encouraging Americans to make control their goal. If you know you have high blood pressure, ask your doctor what your blood pressure should be and set a goal. Together we can raise awareness and save lives.

PHILLIP RIGGS RECEIVES MUSIC EDUCATOR AWARD

(Mr. WALKER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand today to recognize my constituent, Phillip Riggs, who was the recipient of the third annual Music Educator Award presented by the GRAMMY Foundation.

The Music Educator Award was established to recognize current educators who have made a significant contribution to the field of music education. Phillip was selected out of 4,500 nominations submitted from all 50 States.

Phillip is a native of Mount Airy, North Carolina, and is currently the music instructor at the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics in Durham, North Carolina.

Phillip was exposed to music in other traditional ways as well. His father was a leader of the church choir during childhood.

Phillip is also the recipient of the Exceptional Contribution in Outreach Award presented annually by the University of North Carolina Board of Governors.

Thank you, Mr. Riggs, for representing North Carolina honorably, for your tremendous career in music education, and for inspiring musicians across our State and our Nation.

GUANTANAMO BAY

(Mr. YODER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the safety and security of every single American, and I

stand in opposition to the President's plan to close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Let me be clear. Bringing the world's most dangerous terrorists to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, or anywhere in the United States is a request that Congress cannot and shall not honor.

The President, however, continues to try to move forward on this in spite of vocal American opposition and bipartisan legislation that this Congress has passed and that this President has signed into law which prohibits bringing these known terrorists onto American soil and closing the facility in Cuba.

Mr. Speaker, nothing changes today. We will not put our national security at risk. We will not unilaterally disarm ourselves in the war on terror, voluntarily giving up intelligence-gathering capabilities and putting our communities in the cross-hairs of terrorists.

What we simply ask is that the President, as Commander in Chief, execute the law and follow the Constitution. That's why, as a Congress, we must stand up and do everything in our power to stop the administration's transfer of these terrorists to American soil and to stop the President from closing the Guantanamo Bay facility.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SUPREME COURT JUSTICE ANTONIN SCALIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POLQUIN). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. COMSTOCK) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, before I begin, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, this Special Order is meant to honor the life and three decades of service of Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court Antonin Scalia.

Justice Scalia was a person of great joy, great intellect, great wit, and great faith. Our Nation suffered a tremendous loss on February 13 with the passing of Justice Antonin Scalia.

My husband Chip and I, my parents, and our children are deeply saddened by the passing of our friend, our neighbor, and, of course, a legal legend. He was a courageous advocate for the rule of law and the Constitution.

Justice Scalia and his wife, Maureen, raised an incredible family of 9 children and 36 grandchildren, and we have been so privileged to know and love them.

Justice Scalia was both a larger-than-life Justice, who leaves a profound legacy in the law, as well as a down-to-earth husband, father, grandfather, and absolutely delightful friend who loved his Lord and God, his wife and family, the law, the opera, his country, hunting, and a good laugh.

We have all heard the stories of his friendship across the ideological spectrum, none more famous than his friendship with Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Justice Scalia explained: "If you can't disagree ardently with your colleagues about some issues of law and yet personally still be friends, get another job, for Pete's sake."

Justice Ginsburg explained: "As annoyed as you might be about his zinging dissent, he's so utterly charming, so amusing, so sometimes outrageous, you can't help but say 'I'm glad that he's my friend or he's my colleague.'"

Justice Scalia was a shining example of fidelity, as he was ever-faithful to his oath to the law, to his family, and to his God.

He was celebrated by so many in the legal community. He was a revered mentor to the dozens and dozens of clerks who lined the steps of the Supreme Court last Friday in his honor. And every one of them, no doubt, had a story that had profound legal discussions in it but also ended with a good laugh.

He simply will be irreplaceable and leaves a legacy that will be consequential, discussed, and debated for the ages.

On the personal front, his life was also a great and consequential life. Justice Scalia married his wife of over 55 years, Maureen, in 1960. They were set up on a blind date. He told one author that Maureen was "the product of the best decision I ever made."

His nine children—nine, how appropriate for a Supreme Court Justice—were split five and four, five boys, four girls. They became lawyers, a priest, a poet, an Army major, and parents themselves of those wonderful 36 grandchildren.

Justice Scalia proudly gave the lion's share of the credit for raising this large brood to the resourceful, talented, and very smart love of his life, Maureen, who, as her son Paul said in the homily, matched him at every step. Justice Scalia said about his children "and there's not a dullard in the bunch."

His son, Father Paul Scalia, was the celebrant for his father's beautiful funeral mass with the assistance of dozens of priests at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception this past Saturday.

Father Paul began his moving homily saying: "We are gathered here because of one man, a man known personally to many of us, known only by reputation to many more; a man loved by many, scorned by others; a man known for great controversy and for great compassion. That man, of course, is Jesus of Nazareth."