

including serving as President of the Boy Scouts of America Redwood Empire Council, the Luther Burbank Center for the Performing Arts, and the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Condron is also the Chair-elect of United Way of the Wine Country.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Condron has made tremendous, long-lasting contributions to Sonoma State University and to improving opportunities for students in our community. He is a true friend of Sonoma State University and a good friend of mine. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today and extend our best wishes for an enjoyable retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROGER WILLIAMS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call 591 on final passage of H.R. 5047, the Protecting Veterans' Educational Choice Act of 2016, I would have voted Aye, which is consistent with my position on this legislation.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the First Church of God in Merced County. Their practice in faith and education has provided love and charity to the people of Merced County and the San Joaquin Valley for the last century. The future is looking even brighter for this outstanding center of community faith in the years to come.

The roots of the First Church of God found humble beginnings in 1916, when the Bowen and Houser families moved from Lodi, California to Atwater to begin their fellowship. Their first church services were held in their own homes until they found the opportunity to rent the old Winton Community Hall for larger gatherings, with nothing more than dirt floors and handmade backless benches. By 1924, the church was able to raise their first building with a \$350 credit and payments of \$25 a month. That very building would now fit in the lobby of the First Church of God's current place of worship, which was built in 1961. The First Church of God's Christian Preschool was born in 1964 and has grown into one of the largest places of faith based childcare and in the Atwater-Merced area.

The services provided by the First Church of God and Christian Preschool are as commendable as they are diverse. Sunday school, bible studies, troubled youth outreach, marriage counseling, finance and debt management, and shared missionary services in 87 countries are only a few of the programs offered by the Church and Preschool.

The coming years will prove to be a fruitful time for this place of worship and education. Their undertaking of a \$1.2 million project to

furnish a new learning center, which will potentially double the enrollment of children in their facility over the next two years of operation. While it will certainly be challenging, their fellowship has said, "faith is tested and demonstrated in the midst of challenges God places in front of us. If we had everything we needed to start and/or finish, it wouldn't be faith—it would be fact."

Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the First Church of God for their remarkable service to the people of Merced County over the last 100 years. Their history illustrates the uncompromising will that individuals with big dreams can exercise when brought together with enough faith in God and community.

MARY BERG

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud Mary Berg for being recognized by the West Chamber as a 2016 Celebrate Women Honoree. Celebrate Women Honorees are known for their perseverance, accomplishments, generosity, and dedication to their passions and their community.

For more than 21 years, Mary Berg has served the Jefferson County community in many different capacities. She is currently the Deputy Director of Jefferson County Department of Human Services. She is passionate about ensuring the safety and well-being of children and their families. Her actions at the local, state and national levels have promoted the expansion of child welfare training programs and systems of care as well as legislation impacting children and families.

Mary received her Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and is also a graduate of the Leadership Jefferson County class of 2008. She has co-authored publications on teamwork and has presented at multiple state and national conferences. Her tireless efforts to enable Jefferson County to serve more vulnerable children and families have improved the community greatly.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Mary Berg for this well-deserved recognition by the West Chamber.

TRIBUTE TO JOEL HANRAHAN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Iowa native Joel Hanrahan upon his retirement from Major League Baseball (MLB) after a successful seven-year career, playing for 3 different MLB franchises.

Ever since the second grade, when his teachers or classmates would ask what he wanted to be when he grew up, Joel knew he wanted to be a baseball player. He became known to Iowans as a star pitcher for the Norwalk High School Warriors, later pitching for the University of Nebraska before being drafted by the Los Angeles Dodgers in 2000. After

honing his skills in the minor leagues, he made his MLB debut with the Washington Nationals on July 28, 2007. He earned his first win as a pitcher a week later against the St. Louis Cardinals. Despite his love of the game, Joel ultimately had to make the difficult decision to retire in 2016. During his career, he compiled a 22–18 record with a 3.85 earned-run average and 100 saves. He also earned a coveted position in the 2011 and 2012 Major League Baseball All-Star games.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Joel for his years of dedication to a game he loves. I am certain that the drive that led him to become an MLB All-Star pitcher will lead to success no matter where his path takes him next. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating him and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE COURAGE AND BRAVERY OF THE FALLEN OFFICER COLLIN ROSE IN THE LINE OF DUTY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and accomplishments of Officer Collin Rose of the Wayne State University's Police Department, who was tragically lost in the line of duty. The Wayne State University Police serve a significant portion of the City of Detroit in addition to the university, and Officer Rose performed his duties with distinction. The community will miss his courage and bravery.

Officer Rose established a reputation as a kind and caring individual dedicated to solving issues in his community. Rose was born and raised in Pittsburgh, where he excelled as a standout football player in high school. After graduating from Ferris State University in 2010, he began his career in law enforcement as an intern for the Springfield Police Department in southwest Michigan. He then was hired as a cadet in the New Baltimore Police Department, after which he became a police officer at the Village of Richland Police Department. Rose then took a position with the Wayne State University Police, where he had an outstanding record of service and was known for his selflessness and dedication in protecting the city of Detroit and its citizens. Rose also served the community through his involvement with various charitable causes, including the Police Unity Tour, which raises awareness of officers who have died in the line of duty.

Officer Rose's death at a young age is a heartbreaking tragedy. Officer Rose embodied the principles of service and duty, and having such a promising young man's life cut short is a tremendous loss for the law enforcement community and the city of Detroit. His sacrifice shows the extraordinary risks that our nation's police face on a daily basis, and my heart goes out to his family during this difficult period. Officer Rose is a true hero, and it is my hope that his family and the community find strength and come together to honor such an amazing life in the aftermath of his passing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the extraordinary life and