

"Tim" Rodenberg on a distinguished career serving the residents of Clermont County and southern Ohio.

With over 25 years of law enforcement experience, including leadership as the sheriff and assistant prosecuting attorney, Tim's involvement and acumen has been invaluable in helping make Clermont County a safe place to live and work.

A great American committed to service, Tim served on active duty as an officer with the U.S. Marines, during which he was appointed to the Commanding General's Honor List for outstanding academic and leadership performance.

Originally elected sheriff in 1997, Tim has effectively guided the Clermont County Sheriff's office into the 21st Century. He has been involved in everything from the Senior Visitation Program, a program that pairs deputies with senior citizens in the community, to the Summer Junior Police Academy, an introduction into police and emergency service work for middle and high school students. Tim has worked tirelessly to improve Clermont County over the years, devoted to the big picture and listening to the people he serves without expectation.

Tim also serves as a state certified police and corrections academy instructor and has taught criminal justice and legal courses at four Greater Cincinnati colleges and universities.

As he prepares to retire, I commend him for his hard work and leadership to make southern Ohio a better place. Our community is lucky to have someone so committed to service.

Thank you Tim, and God bless you.

RECOGNIZING THE VFW POST 7327 AMERICANISM AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7327 in Springfield, Virginia and the winners of its annual Americanism Awards. As combat veterans, members of this post understand the importance of patriotism and public service, and they have continued their legacy of service right here in our community.

Through programs like Adopt-a-Unit, clothing drives, America's Promise—Alliance for Youth, the March of Dimes, volunteering with local Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts troops, and many others, nearly two million VFW members worldwide continue to contribute to their fellow veterans as well others in our community.

Each year VFW Post 7327 recognizes the winners of the Patriot's Pen, in which students from grades 6–8 are encouraged to examine our nation's history as well as their own experiences in modern American society. The VFW also recognizes the winners of the Voice of Democracy contest. Established in 1947, the Voice of Democracy provides students from grades 9–12 the opportunity to voice their opinions on democratic ideas and principles through spoken essays.

VFW Post 7327 also recognizes Teachers of the Year, members of the local police and fire departments, and local businesses who have supported the military and veterans.

On behalf of the 11th District of Virginia, I commend the members and auxiliary of VFW Post 7327 for their ongoing service to our country and community, and I congratulate the following honorees on their awards:

PATRIOT'S PEN

1st Place—Melanie M. Jimenez.

2nd Place—Ella S. Harrison.

3rd Place—Grace F. Lemley.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

1st Place—Abigail E. Mills.

2nd Place—Cynthia L. Johns.

3rd Place—Diana L. Haemer.

TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Elementary—Donna Ruggles.

Middle School—Beauregard Patrick Fay.

PUBLIC SAFETY AWARDS

Master Police Officer James "JT" Frey.

Emergency Medical Technician Susan Yu.

Advanced Life Support Medical Technician Victor Popovich.

COMMUNITY AMERICANISM AWARDS

Kenneth Morrisette, Jr., Interstate International.

Matt Rose, The Forge Brew Works.

Bruce Donato, K&A First Aid and Safety.

John Blake, K&A First Aid and Safety.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking VFW Post 7327 for its continued efforts on behalf of our community and in congratulating the honorees of the 2016 Americanism Awards.

TRIBUTE TO CAYDEN CODEL

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 and congratulate Cayden Codel, a senior at Valley High School in West Des Moines, Iowa, for earning a perfect score on his American College Testing (ACT) examination.

Cayden is one of only 2,235 students out of 2.1 million 2017 high school test-takers who earned this very rare honor. He was one of five students in his Valley High School class to earn the top composite score of 36, a milestone that had never before been reached in the school's history. Cayden was able to accomplish this impressive feat while still remaining active in a number of extracurricular activities, including: Knowledge Bowl, Mock Trial, Moody's Mega Math Challenge Team, swim team, National Honor Society's student tutoring committee, Valley High School show choir, Iowa Opus Honor Choir, Iowa All-State Orchestra, summer junior counselor at the Science Center of Iowa and the Plymouth Congregational Church Youth Choir.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Cayden for his hard-work, dedication, and commitment to excellence 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 SUPPORT OF STRONGER TIES WITH TAIWAN

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. BARTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend President-Elect Trump on his phone call with the President of Taiwan last week.

Taiwan has long been a friend of America, a beacon of democracy in a complicated region. A phone call is not complicated.

I was fortunate enough to travel to Taiwan earlier this year and meet President Tsai. She is a balanced and judicious leader who is well aware of her nation's realities and promotes peace and prosperity with her neighbors. I would be honored if I could return the courtesy and extend some Texas hospitality to the President during her trip to South America in January and pledge to work with the new Administration to re-establish official diplomatic relations in Taiwan.

Our nation's reality is that Taiwan is our friend and we should nurture and value that relationship. Over \$67 billion dollars in trade flows between our countries and 148 sister cities connect us at a local level. A phone call doesn't change that.

RECOGNIZING LIZY PRICE AS AN OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lizy Price for her tireless work as Director of Constituent Services.

During her time as a staffer in my office, Lizy managed our staff, casework, and the processing of over 3,000 constituent requests for assistance. Her commitment to improving the lives of constituents in my district resulted in the release of over a million dollars in benefit payments.

Lizy's dedication led to many families in our district securing much-needed answers and resolutions as they waited to be reunited with their loved ones. Whether they were parents adopting children from a foreign country or constituents with spouses, parents, or siblings hoping to immigrate to the United States, they were all aided through Lizy's tireless efforts.

Her work on behalf of veterans was also invaluable to many who felt they were being ignored in their hour of need. Veterans seeking immediate appointments at VA Medical Centers, veterans whose claims were among the many in the VA backlog, and veterans seeking aid and attendance benefits, were all grateful to not only have received help in obtaining answers, but grateful for her showing them the respect and attention they rightfully deserve for their service to our country.

Lizy's parents, Jorge and Martha, immigrated to New York City from Honduras. Together they raised four daughters, Lizy, Peggy, Esther and Patricia in The Bronx. Lizy attended the Academy of Mount St. Ursula, the oldest continuously operating Catholic college preparatory high school in New York State. She has been a resident of Central