

Star, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 2 M devices and Bronze Hourglass device.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 11th District of Georgia, I extend my deepest thanks to Lt. Colonel Miralles for devoting his life to upholding the Constitution of the United States and to the protection of its citizens. I wish him a happy—and well-deserved—retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 2014 MVLE ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2014 MVLE Annual Award Recipients.

MVLE is a not-for-profit corporation that provides employment opportunities and support services to individuals with disabilities. For 43 years, MVLE has partnered with commercial businesses as well as with government agencies and other not-for-profit organizations to allow the individuals it serves to live in dignity and as independently as possible. In the last year, MVLE assisted more than 600 individuals, and its workforce can be proud that it is making a positive difference in someone's life every day.

Each year, MVLE honors individual participants, as well as business and community partners, who exemplify MVLE's ideals. I am pleased to enter the names of the 2014 award recipients into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The President's Award is presented to individuals who have shown outstanding progress toward gaining independence and self-sufficiency through participation in employment and community services. The 2014 President's Award recipients are Alfred Dews, Celeste Whalen and Rachel O'Donnell.

The Chairman's Award is presented to an outstanding business partner who has shown excellence in hiring practices, creating supportive work environments, and supporting the mission of MVLE. The 2014 Chairman's Award recipient is Embassy Suites Springfield. The hotel has employed Wounded Warriors, hosted Working Warrior Nation's First Annual Career Fair, launched an internship program for military veterans, supported MVLE's annual Golf Classic, and supplied volunteers for other MVLE activities.

MVLE presents four Community Awards in honor of the four components of our community: Government, Employment, Social Responsibility, and Integration.

The Government Champion Award recipient is SourceAmerica in recognition of its support of the AbilityOne program and its work to create jobs throughout government agencies for individuals with disabilities and military veterans.

The Employment Partner Award recipient is Capitol Office Solutions in recognition of its partnership with Digital Stream, MVLE's document scanning business division, which pairs Capitol Office Solutions' software management with Digital Stream's document management

services and creates more employment opportunities for MVLE's Individuals.

Booz Allen Hamilton is the recipient of the Advocacy Champion Award in recognition of a decade-long partnership with MVLE. MVLE also honors Booz Allen's commitment to diversity in its workforce and promoting community integration for individuals with disabilities.

Greenspring Village is being honored with the Social Responsibility Award in recognition of its continued support of MVLE and our local community. Greenspring has been a longtime employment partner with MVLE and also supports MVLE's annual golf tournament and volunteer activities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending MVLE for its success in helping individuals with disabilities achieve independence and in congratulating the 2014 MVLE Annual Award recipients.

RECOGNIZING MRS. MARCIA A. DAVID

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize an outstanding individual, Mrs. Marcia A. David of Novi, Michigan, for her more than 37 years of service with Hormel Foods. She is the first woman in the company's 123-year history to retire from the sales division. She has probably sold more SPAM luncheon meat than any other woman in America during the course of her career.

Marcia started with the company immediately following graduation from The Ohio State University in 1977 and during her 37 and a half years there she has progressed into positions of increased responsibility to her current post as Customer Business Manager.

Marcia started as a trainee in Chicago, and her first sales assignment was in Flint, Michigan. After seven years in the field she transferred to the corporate office in Austin, Minnesota, as an associate product manager. One year later she advanced to product manager—the first woman in company history to hold this position.

After three years in Austin, she returned to field sales in the Michigan district managing the Kroger account. In May 1995 she took over Kmart, advancing to customer team leader while also taking on the additional responsibility of the Target account in 1997. In 2003 Marcia was named the Detroit Grocery Products district manager. Finally, in 2004 she was promoted to the position she holds today, Customer Business Manager of the East Central District where she is responsible for leading a team covering accounts in three states.

Marcia has led several top-to-top meetings with one of the company's largest accounts, Meijer, and achieved a goal of being chosen by them as a joint business planning partner, an honor bestowed on only a handful of Meijer's most important collaborators.

Marcia is a two-time Chairman's Inner Circle award winner. She has been instrumental in increasing Hormel Food's support of and advocacy for the Network of Executive Women. Marcia has been a consistent and energetic mentor for many of the young men and women who have joined Hormel Foods as interns, sales trainees, and account managers.

Her retirement is a milestone within the company, as she will be the first woman to ever retire from the Consumer Products Sales team since the company was founded back in 1891.

I join with her colleagues, friends and family in congratulating Marcia David as she completes her remarkable career with Hormel Foods, and wish her well as she shifts gears to an active and rewarding life after retirement with her husband, Rob.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPACT OF HELIOS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments and the impact of Helios Education Foundation on the success of all students in Arizona and Florida. I also want to congratulate Helios Education Foundation on celebrating 10 years of changing lives and strengthening our communities through education.

Helios Education Foundation was created in 2004 through the sale and conversion of Southwest Student Services Corporation led by a visionary President and CEO, Vince Roig, and Board of Directors. At the time of the sale, Southwest Student Services was the eighth largest holder of federally-insured student loans in the country. The net proceeds of that sale were used to create the Foundation's initial endowment of \$525 million.

Since that time and in perpetuity, the Foundation has and continues to be focused on its ultimate goal of creating opportunities for every individual in Arizona and Florida to succeed in postsecondary education. Helios is investing its knowledge, expertise and resources to advance student academic preparedness and to foster college-going cultures in both states.

It's through a decade of strategic partnerships and investments that Helios has identified Early Grade Success, College and Career Readiness, and Postsecondary Completion as the three most critical reform priorities needed to ensure student success. In Early Grade Success, Helios is working to ensure that all children enter kindergarten prepared to succeed and read at grade level by the end of third grade. In College and Career Readiness, the Foundation strives to ensure that all high school graduates are prepared to enter the workforce or credit-bearing college courses. And, the organization's work in Postsecondary Completion is focused on helping more traditionally underserved students access, persist and attain a high-quality postsecondary certificate or degree.

Helios Education Foundation believes that education is an investment and not an expense and has invested over \$155 million in educational initiatives across the full education continuum. To that end, the Foundation has supported the college-going aspirations of more than 135,000 students, provided more than 8,000 scholarships for postsecondary education and provided professional development and training for more than 16,000 educators. Through these and future investments, Helios is laying the foundation for the ongoing

economic viability of our communities and paving the way for our students to compete and succeed in a global workforce.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Helios Education Foundation for serving our communities, and in particular, I commend its Founder and Chairman, Vince Roig, for his passion and commitment to this work. In addition, I congratulate Helios Education Foundation's Board of Directors and Staff for the tangible and critical impact the Foundation has had over the past 10 years. Most importantly, I am excited about the long-lasting and transformative change Helios Education Foundation will have on our community in perpetuity through education.

HONORING THE EXCEPTIONAL
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AC-
CEPTED INTO THE WAUKEGAN
TO COLLEGE PROGRAM

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to honor Jazmin Bahena, Luz Cruz, Roberto Flores, Vanessa Flores, Maria Gaytan-Martinez, Marely Guadiana, Hansel Lopez, Mirian Lopez, Deshawn Mitchell, Stephanie Pakula, Victor Solano, Mauricio Sosa Cardenas, Fernando Tovar and Magrullio Zuniga for their admittance into the Waukegan to College program.

Launched in 2009, W2C seeks to advance local students' intellectual and emotional development, cultivating a strong commitment to community and a profound belief that they can build a brighter future for themselves, their families and their communities. By establishing high academic expectations and counseling students and their families on the college application process, W2C helps students realize their full potential by making the dream of college a reality.

All first-generation college students, these young people were selected for the W2C program because of their impressive academic achievements as well as their contributions to their communities. As leaders in the classroom, these students demonstrated tremendous resolve in overcoming difficult obstacles as well as dedication to positively contribute to society.

In order to revitalize our communities, we must dedicate ourselves to rebuilding the ladders of opportunity so that all Americans are assured the prospect of personal advancement. This requires providing each and every child, regardless of zip code, access to a high quality, affordable education.

When our nation's talented young people pursue their passions and follow their dreams, they accomplish far more than personal growth. By applying to college and achieving individual success, these young leaders embody and advance an ethos that permeates into all aspects of society. Their efforts inspire hope and promise among their families, friends and neighbors, igniting a social transformation that has the potential to dramatically reshape our local communities and our nation.

These students truly are Champions of Change. I wish them all the best of luck in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING EMERGING BUSI-
NESS LEADERS UPON RECEIVING
THE AMHERST CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE 2014 YOUNG PROFES-
SIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the founding members of Emerging Business Leaders on receiving the 2014 Young Professional Leadership Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. This award acknowledges a group of young professionals that demonstrate commitment to the Buffalo Niagara Region.

Originally called the Creative Class Consortium, Emerging Business Leaders is a network of over 500 smart and dynamic professionals under the age of 40. Four years ago, Chamber President Colleen DiPirro adopted a non-traditional business model, and reached out to local firms and invited employees under the age of 40 to create a dialogue that encourages their engagement. These members come from different industries, have different ideas, but are all committed to innovation. With the creation of the Emerging Business Leaders, these professionals were given a network to become community stewards.

I stand here today, Mr. Speaker, to recognize the enormous contribution that comes with the foundation of Emerging Business Leaders to the Buffalo Niagara region. This group of young and progressive individuals will keep the Amherst Chamber of Commerce relevant, benefitting the entire region.

RECOGNIZING VICE ADMIRAL WIL-
LIAM D FRENCH ON HIS RETIRE-
MENT FROM THE UNITED
STATES NAVY

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Vice Admiral William D. French on his retirement from the United States Navy after 35 years of Federal service. Vice Admiral French retired as the Commander, Navy Installations Command.

Admiral French earned his commission as an officer in the United States Navy through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Program in 1979. In addition to his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Vanderbilt University, Admiral French holds a Master of Science degree from Naval Postgraduate School in 1986 and a Master of Arts from the Naval War College in 1999.

He served at sea on a number of submarines including as Executive Officer on the USS *Helena* (SSN 725) and commanded the USS *Salt Lake City* (SSN 716). Admiral French also served as Deputy Commander of Submarine Squadron 11; as Chief of the Strategy and Policy Division at U.S. Strategic Command and Commanded Submarine Squadron 3 in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Throughout his distinguished naval career, Admiral French has worked tirelessly to de-

fend his nation and develop strong community relationships wherever he was stationed. Admiral French's commitment to community was readily apparent in his second flag officer assignment serving as commander, Joint Region Marianas and concurrently serving as U.S. Defense Representative to Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia and Republic of Palau. Admiral French was one of the most popular and effective Admirals to have served on Guam.

In particular, he advocated, prepared for and assisted in the military buildup on Guam, and he did it through establishing strong relationships within the community. He also worked closely with then Brigadier General Doug Owens, Commander 36th Wing at Andersen Air Force Base, on implementing the Joint Region concept on Guam. There were many unique and difficult challenges in implementing this requirement from the 2005 round of BRAC but their framework endures to this day.

Moreover, he prioritized direct and open lines of communication with our community at all the Navy regions he served. On Guam, he demonstrated a keen understanding of the Chamorro culture that is an important part of understanding Guam and relating to our local community. Admiral French demonstrated a model of leadership that should be emulated by any military officer. He established ground rules on Guam which are still in place today.

I also commend Vice Admiral French for his leadership as Commander, Naval Installations Command. He provided leadership of the shore-based Navy installations at a time of budget constraints. He has been able to ensure that the sailors and marines are provided with shore facilities that support their mission and their families. Despite the budget challenges he ensured that the Navy continued to invest in improving the housing and facilities that support Marines and sailors.

Despite his tremendous accomplishments, Vice Admiral French and his family suffered an unimaginable tragedy earlier this year. On January 24, 2014 Admiral French's daughter, Teresa was tragically killed. Admiral French and his family stood strong in the face of adversity and were an example for us all to follow. In the days following Teresa's passing there was a tremendous outreach to his family from any community in which Admiral French served or where his family lived. That was a clear demonstration of the strength of his personal bonds and leadership wherever he served his nation.

I have enjoyed working with Admiral French when he was on Guam as well as during his tenure as Commander, Navy Installations Command. On behalf of the people of Guam and a grateful nation, I commend Vice Admiral French for his many years of dedicated service to our country. I wish him the best in his retirement.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
SARDAR GANGA SINGH DHILLON

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I, along with my colleague Mr. Honda, rise today to commemorate the distinguished life of Sardar