

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ANTWAN CLARK

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mr. Antwan Clark.

Antwan Clark was born March 26, 1980 to the proud parents of Sylvester and Jeanette Clark of Lexington, Mississippi. He has two sisters, Kadisha and Abbie.

Antwan is the epitome of the phrase “strength through adversity”. After being left paralyzed after a car accident during his junior year of high school, Antwan persevered. His determination to attain success motivated him to graduate from J.J. McClain High School in 1998 with honors. After graduating with honors from JJMHS, Antwan attended Holmes Community College and majored in Business and Office Technology. To continue pursuing his goals, he then enrolled in Antonelli College where he earned a degree in Computer Technical Support and Networking, maintaining a 3.9 grade-point average. In 2007, the Career College Association invited Antwan to Washington, D.C., where he was awarded for his achievements.

Antwan is currently employed by the Community Students Learning Center (CSLC) in Lexington, MS as an Information Technology Specialist and Website Developer. He also uses his knowledge and technical skills to tutor and teach computer classes at CSLC. Antwan also has a home-based computer repair business called “Top Quality Computer Services” located at 1131 Busy Bee Road, Lexington, MS 39095. His business specializes in issues regarding: computer repair, software applications, computer networking, virus/spyware removal, and website design.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Antwan Clark for his dedication and support to the Holmes County Community.

RECOGNIZING BRANDON NORFOLK

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brandon Norfolk of Leadington, Missouri for earning the rank of Eagle Scout. The Eagle Scout Award is the highest honor attainable in Boy Scouts. Only a small percentage of scouts reach the level of Eagle Scout, which requires years of dedicated effort.

Community service, leadership, and family values are the most important aspects of

scouting, and are essential to becoming an Eagle Scout. Brandon has embodied these principles as an active member of Scout Troop 423, serving the organization by holding numerous responsibilities and positions within the troop. He has been a Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Junior Scout Master, and First Vice Chief of the Order of the Arrow, as well as a member of the Order’s ceremonial team. In addition, he is a veteran camper, having attended a high adventure camp at the Florida Sea Base.

Brandon has also shown himself to be a proud American with great respect for our Armed Forces. For his Eagle Scout project, Brandon constructed a gazebo in the Park Hills Veteran’s Park. The gazebo housed decorative metal signs that were colored differently to represent the emblems of the military branches. He has also volunteered to be a part of many Veterans of Foreign Wars flag retirements. Outside of scouting, Brandon is an active musician, participating in the marching band, concert band, and jazz band. He is also a member of the National Honors Society. After high school, Brandon plans to study criminal justice or conservation in hopes of one day becoming a Missouri Conservation Agent.

For these accomplishments and contributions to his community, it is my great pleasure to congratulate Brandon Norfolk on his achievement of becoming an Eagle Scout and recognize him before the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING LIEUTENANT LISA MALONEY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor Lieutenant Lisa Maloney, with the City of Martinez Police Department. Lieutenant Maloney honorably retired on December 30, 2015, after more than 22 years of service.

Lieutenant Maloney began her career in law enforcement in 1993 with the Fairfax City Police Department in Virginia. The Virginia Police Chiefs recognized Lieutenant Maloney in 1996 with the Lifesaving Award for her heroic actions during an incident while on duty, which put her in harm’s way while attempting to save the life of another individual. After moving to California, Lieutenant Maloney joined the Martinez Police Department in 1998 as an officer. During the course of her career she has served on various assignments including Patrol Officer, Detective, Hostage Negotiator, Defensive Tactics Instructor, Detective Sergeant and Lieutenant.

Additionally, Lieutenant Maloney completed extensive training throughout her career, dem-

onstrating her commitment to law enforcement. She attained certification in 2013 from the Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Institute, an intense 8-month learning program based on experiential learning techniques covering leadership, management, and ethical decision making for law enforcement front-line supervisors. Her dedication to public safety and improving the lives of the men and women of her department speaks volumes about her character and professionalism.

Mr. Speaker, Lieutenant Lisa Maloney has protected her community for over 22 years in her remarkable career in law enforcement, and I wish her the best in retirement. The people of the City of Martinez have benefitted greatly from her public service, and it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DAN SILVA

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Dan L. Silva, whose lifelong commitment to Sutter County has left a lasting impact on the community.

Born in Yuba City, Dan was a 3rd generation farmer and was a well-known figure within the agricultural community. He was an active community leader, who had a deep sense of civic duty. For 8 years, Dan served as Sutter County’s 5th District County Supervisor and was involved with many boards and committees. He dedicated his career to serving others and was committed to protecting the environment through his various leadership roles on flood control, agriculture, and transportation projects.

The boards and committees Dan participated in included the following: Feather River Air Quality, Sacramento Area Council of Governments, Sacramento Area Flood Control, Sierra-Sacramento Valley EMS, Sutter-Butte Flood Control Agency, Yuba City Unified School Government Liaison Committee, Yuba-Sutter Transit Authority, Sutter County Fish and Game Commissioner, Assistant State Chairman for Ducks Unlimited, CA State Reclamation Board, Yuba-Sutter Farm Bureau, Valley Vision, and the Natomas Basin Conservancy.

Dan was known around the community for his welcoming smile and his dedication to helping others. He will be missed by all, and our thoughts are with his family at this time. He is survived by his children, Christopher and Stacey, and four grandchildren, Samantha, Jamie, Dylan, and Mason.

Dan’s commitment to his family and to his work made his life an example for all to emulate. I am honored to pay tribute to such an extraordinary member of our community.

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MR.
KEN OSBORN

HON. DAVID SCHWEIKERT

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement of Mr. Ken Osborn. During his 45 years at the Paradise Valley Country Club, Ken has provided joy and excellent service to the Paradise Valley community as the Valet Parking Supervisor. I am incredibly proud of the work and leadership Ken demonstrated over the past 45 years and I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

HONORING CHAD HILDEBRANDT

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a great Marine and a valuable asset to our civilian workforce. Since 2013, Chad Hildebrandt has been the Rail Operations Supervisor and subject matter expert on rail transportation for the Marine Corps Logistics Base—Barstow.

Not only has Chad overseen the rail, truck, and air shipments of equipment for rotational training units, he has improved efficiency and streamlined logistics for the Marine Corps, saving millions of dollars in transportation costs and directly contributing to increased military readiness. More importantly, he has taken the time to train the next generation of our military logisticians, developing over 500 Marines, soldiers, and civilians to follow his example at logistics bases worldwide.

Today, Chad will be named the 2015 Civilian Marine Logistician of the Year as the top civilian logistician in the nation. Later this year, Chad will also be named the Marine Corps Installations Command's Civilian of the Year, as the Marine Corps top civilian employee. This recognition is well deserved, as the Marines would be unable to do the training that they do without the extraordinary efforts from extraordinary people like Chad Hildebrandt. You make the 8th District proud, Chad. Semper Fi.

RECOGNIZING THE ROTARY CLUB
OF COLONIAL PARK UPON THE
CELEBRATION OF ITS 65TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize the Rotary Club of Colonial Park in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania upon the celebration of its 65th Anniversary. My district has benefited tremendously from the humanitarian service of the club and continued community involvement of its members.

Representing Rotary International's motto, "Service Above Self," the Colonial Park chapter contributes in the community, inspires in

the workplace, and engages throughout the world. Members of the Rotary Club represent the community's professionals, and they continue to promote high ethical standards in all vocations. The men and women of the club are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds—making their initiatives diverse and effective in elevating the community.

Through its fundraising efforts and the generosity of its members, the Rotary Club of Colonial Park contributes over \$17,000 per year to community organizations, such as hospitals, fire companies, senior centers, and youth clubs. The Rotary Club created a foundation to help meet the educational, charitable, and benevolent needs of organizations in their local area, as well as in areas recently affected by disasters. Understanding the important role that education plays in fostering a prosperous future, both the Rotary Club and Foundation have contributed over \$100,000 to scholarships for students attending Harrisburg Area Community College. Members have also served their community through the building and upkeep of Possibility Place Playground, installation of a beautiful clock in the town of St. Thomas to commemorate its 250th anniversary, and support of Shalom House in downtown Harrisburg. Cumulatively, these endeavors highlight the commitment to community building and fulfillment of duty that members of the club selflessly embody.

Mr. Speaker, the Rotary Club of Colonial Park is guided by core principles that resonate with each and every member. Their commitment to the community at large will continue to have profound effects in empowering those in need and enabling positive change. It is my honor to help celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the Rotary Club of Colonial Park, and I wish all members the best in their future proceedings.

HONORING MR. PETER WINDREM

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Peter Windrem, who today retires after 45 years of practicing law in Lake County, California.

Throughout his career, Mr. Windrem mentored young lawyers and dedicated his time to supporting numerous community organizations. I wish him a happy retirement and hope he can spend more time with his wife, Kathleen Lyon Windrem; his children, Jessica and Matthew; and his grandchildren, Carson, Elliot, Ben, and Ellen.

Mr. Windrem graduated from Kelseyville High School and Raymond College at the University of the Pacific in California, before attending law school at the University of Virginia. After completing his law degree, Mr. Windrem served with the Peace Corps in Guatemala, reflecting his lifelong interest in community service.

An active citizen of Lake County, California, Mr. Windrem served as a key advisor to the Lake County Land Trust at the time of its formation in 1999, and continues to provide the group with advice and support to this day. He also participated in the successful campaign to

designate the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a national monument, and spearheaded the efforts to create Konocti County Park and hiking trails in Lake County.

For many years, Mr. Windrem has served on the Sutter Lakeside Hospital board and the board for People Services, Inc., a group that advocates for and provides services for disabled residents of Lake County. He is a founding member of many local organizations, including the Lake County Sierra Club, the Lake County Energy Council, and the Lake County Vintners.

Mr. Speaker, throughout his career, Mr. Windrem has generously offered his time and energy to support his mentees and staff, as well as the needs of Lake County residents. He contributed greatly to the legal community of California with his passion, high standards, and strong dedication to fairness. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

COMMEMORATING THE THIRTY-
SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the thirty-seventh anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act. Congress enacted the TRA as a way to increase trade and investment opportunities with Taiwan while also strengthening regional security efforts. The TRA is the bedrock of our relationship with Taiwan and has served both countries well. Our friendship stretches back decades and remains as important as ever in these challenging times.

Having recently visited, I can attest to how special and close our two countries are. Nationally, Taiwan is our ninth largest trading partner. They are also our seventh largest source of international students; a group that contributed almost a billion dollars to the U.S. economy in 2014 alone. The impact to my home state Oregon is even larger. Taiwan is Oregon's sixth largest export market with over \$1 billion in Oregon products annually. These numbers show how vital Taiwan is to the United States, especially given the importance of the Asia-Pacific region.

As that region of the world continues to grow, it is vital that we maintain our key relationships. The Congressional Taiwan Caucus recognizes the importance of this relationship and the need to continue to build upon the strong ties between our two countries. I am proud to join with over 200 members of the House as a part of that caucus. This bipartisan support is a testament to the strength of our friendship with Taiwan.

These facts help to show the importance of the U.S.-Taiwan friendship. I join with my colleagues to renew our support between the government and people of Taiwan. Let us always remember the strong bond between us and move towards another thirty-seven years of success.

HONORING HOSKINS LEARNING CENTER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Hoskins Learning Center of Batesville, MS.

Mrs. Lillie L. Hoskins, a woman of favor and faith, is a native of Batesville, MS. She has been an educator and Daycare Provider for over 35 years and is currently the owner and operator of the Hoskins Learning Center.

She graduated from South Panola High School in 1973 and later obtained a secretarial degree from Northwest Community College. In 2000, she obtained State credentials as an Early Childhood Education Director.

Mrs. Hoskins was born into a family where she was rooted in her faith in Christ. She is the daughter of the late George and Audrey Leland and the youngest girl of eight (8) children, but even as a young girl she knew, she would someday spend her life working with children.

Mrs. Hoskins is the mother of two children, a daughter-in-law and has two grandchildren. Over the course of forty-two (42) years of marriage, Lawrence and Lillie have traveled and touched the lives of many people.

In 1979, Mrs. Hoskins prayed to God through faith and opened the first daycare, Magnolia Kindergarten, which she owned and operated until 2003. In 2003, she expanded her business to include infants and early toddlers. At this time she also changed the operating name to Hoskins Learning Center, as it is known today.

Mrs. Hoskins has touched the community and the lives of children in the city of Batesville in many ways, by opening her house and heart to train and tutor our children.

As owner and operator of Hoskins Learning Center, her goal has been to serve the children of Batesville and Panola County, preparing them all to be productive and responsible adults in a rapidly changing world. Since 1979, the daycare has had a 96 percent high school graduation rate, including several valedictorians, salutatorians and honor roll students, one of which went on to play football in the NFL.

For all of her outstanding accomplishments, Mrs. Hoskins is recognized as a trailblazer in Early Childhood Education, in the great State of Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Hoskins Learning Center for their commitment and dedication to the community.

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the achievements of an outstanding faith community, the Union Baptist Church, who are celebrating their ministry's 80th Anniversary of successful service to the community of Passaic on Sunday, April 3, 2016.

Eighty years ago the Union Baptist Church was established through the Merger of two parishes in the city of Passaic NJ; the Ebenezer Baptist Church and Greater St. Paul Baptist Church on April 4, 1936. The combined Church membership was approximately 150 parishioners. The Church and its members worshipped Christ for 28 years at its 315 Oak Street and 30 Ann Street location. Due to an increase in membership the Union Baptist Church purchased 221 Myrtle Ave on September 27, 1964 and began to worship there.

The Union Baptist Church is located in a welcoming neighborhood. Current ministries within the church include traditional Sunday morning worship service, Bible study, Sunday school, voluntary work such as feeding the homeless on Saturday afternoons, Camp Union for the youth, and the services provided to the senior citizens. Union Baptist has always focused on spiritual leadership accompanied by a strong sense of commitment to community involvement. I know that their dedication will continue to grow.

In fact, the church has been an integral part of Passaic and the surrounding area for more than three quarters of a century. Its hallowed grounds have witnessed the miracle of newborn baptism, the holy matrimony of marriage as well as the somber rituals of burial. But most importantly, many lives have been changed by the people that have called the Church home since 1936. Indeed, the ministry has been a major part of the Passaic community and continues to serve all.

In this sense, the Union Baptist Church clergy and organizers have worked passionately to build many bridges between different groups within the faith community. At the forefront of this cause has been the church's many leaders throughout its history. The first among several leaders to grace the halls of the church was Reverend O.D. Henry—who served from 1936–1942.

His work undoubtedly laid a strong foundation for the others to follow, such as Reverend T.H. Alexander—who continued his predecessor's work until 1932. Reverend Ronald W. Johnson was the next to answer God's calling, and he devoted himself to the Union Baptist Church until 2010. Indeed, the Union Baptist Church has had many leaders throughout its years. Today, it is led by Reverend Kortney L. Haigler, who has inspired many to follow the path of faith and kindness.

It gives me pride to recognize the excellence of the Union Baptist Church, as well as a deep sense of satisfaction for their service to the residents of Passaic. I am grateful to represent the Church and its congregation within the 9th Congressional District of New Jersey.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating the achievements of faith communities such as the Union Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, and the Union Baptist Church in celebrating their 80th Anniversary and recognizing their leadership, dedication and loyalty to serving the community.

RECOGNIZING TRI COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Tri County Community Action (TCCA) upon the occasion of its 50th Anniversary. The organization's decades of committed service have brought awareness to the issue of poverty and helped lessen its impact in Pennsylvania. Helping families to identify and achieve economic self-sufficiency has enabled TCCA to increase the standards of living for my constituents in Cumberland, Dauphin, and Perry counties.

Founded in 1966 as a private, nonprofit, anti-poverty planning agency, TCCA has transformed into a dynamic organization with the mission of "creating and maximizing the resources necessary for individuals and families to achieve self-sufficiency throughout a multi-county region." Over the course of the last 50 years, TCCA has evolved into a network of programs offering specialized assistance to at-risk youth, low income families, and poverty-stricken neighborhoods. Some of their services include providing credit counseling for families that are struggling financially, arranging self-sufficiency guidance, engaging with youth mentor programs, and leading neighborhood revitalization efforts. The organization strives to help those stricken by poverty and financial instability on an individual and family basis, with personalized action plans for socioeconomic advancement.

The lives of many in my district have been greatly improved by the work of TCCA since its inception 50 years ago. In 2014 alone, TCCA served 12,997 families representing 38,629 individuals across three counties. They have brought to light the root causes of poverty that otherwise may not have been exposed, and subsequently worked to empower members of our community to create better lives for themselves. Through strategic identification, TCCA works to empower existing community programs that can act as vessels for combating poverty and its consequences.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent a district that is home to such an impactful, successful, and benevolent organization. I commend Tri County Community Action for its accomplishments in improving the lives of my constituents, family by family, and I wish them all of the best in their continued efforts. No one chooses to live in poverty, and the pathway out can be painfully difficult, but the good work of organizations like theirs help families grow and see possibility, where before there was only despair.

HONORING MS. GINNY CRAVEN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Ginny Craven, founder of Operation Tango Mike, for her ongoing support for veterans, active duty troops, and her Lake County, California community.

Ms. Craven's family has been in Lake County since the 1800's, and it's these strong Lake County roots that helped to form her impressive commitment to serving her neighbors. Ms. Craven is a retired Senior Deputy Probation Officer for Lake County, and for 14 years, she has served as a volunteer firefighter and Emergency Medical Technician with the Lucerne Fire Department.

Ms. Craven has a long history of ensuring service members, veterans and their families receive the care and services they need. For the past 13 years, she has led Operation Tango Mike, an all-volunteer non-profit organization that has sent over 16,000 care packages to troops serving overseas.

Locally, Ms. Craven serves as an honorary member on the United Veterans Council of Lake County, the Military Funeral Honors Team of Lake County, and the Pearl Harbor Survivors of Lake County. Ms. Craven serves as a liaison for local Gold Star families and Operation Homefront, and provides publicity, fundraising, and social media expertise for multiple veteran organizations. Furthermore, Ms. Craven has put her organizational talents and volunteer connections to work in California to assist her community during and after the Rocky and Valley Fires, coordinating with the U.S. Army to bring an engineer battalion to Lake County for flood prevention operations.

In recognition of her numerous contributions to her community, Ms. Craven was named as the 2007 Lake County Friend of the Veteran, the 2008 Stars of Lake County Woman of the Year, and the Grand Marshal of the Lake County Fair in 2011. For her contributions to the United States Army, Ms. Craven received the U.S. Army Freedom Team Salute in 2010, and for her dedication to community service, she received the Byron Whipple Award from the Lake County Association of Realtors in 2012.

Mr. Speaker, Ginny Craven has dedicated countless hours to improving the welfare of deployed troops, veterans, and her neighbors, and it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

HONORING HARRISON BEFFA

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Harrison Beffa of Troop 586 from St. Louis, Missouri for earning the rank of Eagle Scout. The Eagle Scout Award is the highest honor attainable in Boy Scouts. Only a small percentage of Boy Scouts reach the level of Eagle Scout, which requires years of dedicated effort.

Community service, leadership, and family values are the most important aspects of scouting, and are essential to becoming an Eagle Scout. After overcoming a difficult battle with brain tumor, Harrison grew from this struggle into the exceptional young man he is today. He is a proud American, a helpful, honorable citizen, a strong Christian, and a leader by example.

A native of Hillsboro, MO, Harrison's Eagle Scout project involved building wagons for summer campers at Camp Rainbow, a foundation that provides camping experiences free

of charge to children undergoing cancer treatment as well as to survivors. Throughout his career as a Boy Scout, Harrison has earned 25 merit badges, camped for over 76 nights, completed over 75 hours of community service, was elected into the Order of the Arrow, and served in a number of leadership roles such as Patrol Leader, Scribe, and Order of the Arrow Representative.

It is my great pleasure to congratulate Harrison Beffa on his accomplishment of becoming an Eagle Scout before the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING UPPER KUTZ BARBER
& STYLE COLLEGE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable business, Upper Kutz Barber & Style College.

Upper Kutz Barber & Style College maintains the philosophy that their students come to them for; education, skill development, and career advancement. They believe in equal opportunity for all students, reinforced with training. Placement assistance has helped their students to become enterprising professionals.

The school has an orderly, purposeful, businesslike atmosphere which is free from threat of physical harm. The school climate is not oppressive and is conducive to teaching and learning. The school has an atmosphere of expectation in which the staff believes and demonstrates that all students can attain mastery of the essential barber cultural skills and that they have the capability to help all students attain that mastery.

The mission of Upper Kutz Barber & Style College is to train men and women: (1) To familiarize and instruct students in the proper and most current methods in all phases of barbering; (2) To make a living in the business world; (3) To become good citizens on both local and national levels; (4) To be able to recognize problems and procedures in business and industry from the view-point of both producer and consumer; (5) To assist students in suitable job placement; (6) To provide assistance and counseling to graduates; (7) To develop self-discipline, self-reliance, and self-direction and; (8) To enter the national workforce as productive individuals.

Furthermore, the school has at least 1200 square feet of floor space, composed of two separate areas: The classroom and lecture area and the clinical/lab area, where services are practiced on school patrons. The clinical area is equipped with at least 10 modern built in-stations, 10 mirrors, 10 hydraulic chairs, 3 sinks, 3 dryer chairs, a dispensing area, and a reception area. This salon environment prepares students for professional operation in the career field.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Upper Kutz Barber & Style College for its dedication to serving and giving back to the community.

HONORING DANIEL H. LOPEZ

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the President of New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (NM Tech), Dr. Daniel "Dan" H. Lopez, on his retirement after serving as President for the past 23 years. Dan is a leader in education and a dedicated public servant, whose contributions to our state will last generations.

Throughout his career, Dan made serving our state his priority. Before entering academia, Dan had a long and distinguished career in public policy. He served as the Secretary of Employment and Security from January 1983 to August 1984 where he worked diligently to reduce unemployment in our state. Next, Dan served as the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration until December 1986, where he oversaw all the cabinet agency budgets. From January 1987 through March 1993, he served as the Chief of Staff of the New Mexico State Senate Finance Committee.

In July 1993, Dan became the 16th President of the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology where he has served ever since. As President of a world class institution, he is responsible for overseeing roughly 2,000 students, more than 100 tenured faculty as well as 1,000 employees, and a yearly budget of approximately \$170 million. Dan has worn this responsibility well and has served as President longer than any other President in NM Tech's history.

During his tenure, NM Tech's federal funding for research programs has grown from \$20 million to over \$123 million. Additionally, Dan secured \$200 million for construction projects including the Altamirano Apartments and the Joseph A. Fidel Student Center, which will serve students for generations to come. Dan has also worked hard to recruit minority and female students to NM Tech. Before he became President, the school was only 10 percent Hispanic. Today, the Hispanic population has risen to 26 percent. Furthermore, over the past 20 years, NM Tech has witnessed a 33 percent increase in its female student population.

We need more leaders like Dan at our universities and colleges to educate and empower future leaders. John Steinbeck once said, "I have come to believe that a great teacher is a great artist and that there are as few as there are any other great artists. Teaching might even be the greatest of the arts since the medium is the human mind and spirit." Without a doubt, Dan is such a teacher.

On June 30, 2016, Dan will retire after 23 years at the helm of NM Tech. Mr. Speaker, I wish Dan all the best in retirement and know that he will stay busy working hard to help others as he always has. Dan's dedication to his community and insistence on providing the best possible educational experience for his students is a manifestation of his outstanding character and desire to serve others. His accomplishments have touched thousands and will be felt for generations to come. Congratulations Dan.

RECOGNIZING DR. SEONG-HWAN KIM UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Dr. Seong-Hwan Kim on the occasion of his retirement from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture after 43 years of dedicated service. Dr. Kim's countless contributions to preserving and fortifying the agriculture, landscape, and environment in my district and state have enabled all Pennsylvanians to enjoy a pristine natural landscape and reliable food supply for years to come. His selfless donation of time to students in my district has fostered excitement in education and laid the foundation for the next generation of scientific breakthroughs.

Dr. Kim has dedicated his life's work to botany and plant pathology, having started as a research assistant in 1965 performing fungicide evaluation at the University of Delaware. Since then, he has gone on to become an adjunct professor at The Pennsylvania State University where he works in the Department of Plant Pathology helping mold the next generation of great scientists. Dr. Kim's profound effects on the plant biology community have not gone without recognition. As a member of the American Phytopathological Society since 1965, he has received the Distinguished Service Award and held numerous advisory and chairmanship positions within the organization.

Beyond his formal positions in academia, Dr. Kim has always understood the value of community engagement. High school, undergraduate, and post-graduate students in Dauphin County have all benefited from his selfless role as a mentor and advisor in various fields of study. He has also served as an interpreter for hospitals, emergency responders, and international professional exchange programs over the years in my district and beyond. Whether volunteering in his local congregation or spending valuable time with his family, Dr. Kim's values and principles permeate all aspects of his life.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Dr. Seong-Hwan Kim for his tireless dedication and scientific excellence with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Dr. Kim's career achievements have helped shaped regulatory plant pathology into a science-based discipline that forged the foundations of nationally and internationally recognized programs. It is with gratitude and appreciation that I recognize Dr. Kim on the occasion of his retirement and wish him all the best in his next endeavor.

HONORING MR. PATRICK GARCIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Patrick Garcia, who has served the citizens of Sonoma County

with distinction in various volunteer efforts since he moved to the county in 1971.

Every December, the town of Sonoma selects an Alcalde, or honorary mayor, for the year. For 2016, the city has chosen Mr. Garcia for his unflinching efforts to improve the lives of those around him, particularly those who are less fortunate. Mr. Garcia has a long list of achievements in the community. In 1972, just a year after moving to Sonoma County, he established a tutoring and mentoring program for the children of migrant farmworkers, which he operated out of an office at Sonoma State University.

Mr. Garcia also championed and helped establish a low-income housing project in Sonoma County in 1979 that was the first of its kind. The project was funded two years later by Burbank Housing, and in 1985 residents moved into 12 new homes. More recently, Mr. Garcia served as the director of the local State Historical Parks Association. He can also be found on occasion at the Basque Bakery, giving away free bread to those less fortunate in the community.

Throughout his life, Mr. Garcia has been known for aiming high and getting it done. These attributes, when paired with Mr. Garcia's passion for charity work, have made him a highly effective force for good in Sonoma County.

Mr. Garcia's charitable spirit, tireless attitude, and love for his community are all traits to be admired. Mr. Speaker, Patrick Garcia has served the Sonoma County community with dedication and compassion for over thirty years, and it is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING JANE GOLDEN

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of outstanding contributions to the arts, Jane Golden, founder and executive director of the City of Philadelphia's Mural Arts Program is this year's recipient of the Pearl S. Buck International 2016 Woman of Influence Award. Established in 1978, the award honors women who, like Pearl Buck, the Nobel and Pulitzer prize-winning author and humanitarian, distinguished themselves in their career, devotion to family and pursuit of humanitarian goals. Inspired by her example and direction, the city's Mural Arts Program created more than 3,800 works of public art through collaborations with community and city agencies, non-profit organizations, schools, the private sector and philanthropies. Known nationally and internationally as an expert on urban transportation through art, Jane Golden is recognized for overseeing award-winning public art projects. She developed innovative and rigorous programs in youth art, education, restorative justice and behavioral health that have made it possible for thousands to experience the power of art. Heartiest congratulations to Jane Golden upon receipt of this prestigious award and for a distinguished career and the creative vision and spirit that made it possible.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the Illinois Association of REALTORS on their 100-year anniversary of steadfast advocacy for the real estate industry and homeowners of Illinois.

The Illinois Association of REALTORS was founded in 1916 under the principle, as declared in their mission statement, "To concern itself in all matters for the betterment and protection of real estate interests." Today, Illinois REALTORS has grown to become one of the largest trade associations in the state of Illinois representing more than 44,000 realtors. The association has significantly shaped the state's real estate industry with grassroots advocacy efforts such as the "RVOICE" program, fighting local mandates, and lobbying state legislative proposals that encourage and protect homeownership.

Their leadership and advocacy throughout Illinois has grown and become a model for other REALTOR associations in the country. Illinois REALTORS is the first to centralize the Local Governmental Affairs Director program under the state association providing professional development and resources to ensure statewide coverage. Among other accomplishments, Illinois REALTORS is credited with advocating for the first real estate license law that went into effect in 1922 and the Association continues to shape the law to best uphold industry professionalism.

The Illinois Association of REALTORS has become an important resource for realtors throughout the state of Illinois and the communities they serve. I extend my sincere congratulations to the Illinois Association of REALTORS for their outstanding accomplishments and contributions to Illinois. I hope the organization continues to grow and prosper for the next 100 years.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE NORMAN MINETA, RECIPIENT OF THE TOMODACHI AWARD

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Norman Mineta—former U.S. Secretary of Commerce and Transportation—for being honored with the prestigious Tomodachi Award from the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Washington in recognition of his lifelong dedication to growing and supporting the Japanese-American community.

The Japanese word "Tomodachi" translates to "friend" in English, therefore it is fitting that the award seeks to recognize individuals or groups who have, through their work, demonstrated a commitment to celebrate Japanese and Japanese-American culture and to strengthen cultural ties between the United States and Japan.

The Honorable Norman Mineta has led a distinguished career in public service and is a fitting recipient of the Tomodachi Award. As a former Mayor of San Jose, California, he is recognized as the first Asian American mayor of a major U.S. city. Mr. Mineta was then elected to the United States House of Representatives, where he served from 1975 to 1995. During his time as a Congressman, he co-founded the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus and was the driving force behind the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which formally apologized to the Japanese American community for the injustices committed during World War II.

In 2000, President Clinton appointed Mr. Mineta as the Secretary of Commerce, where he served until he was nominated by President George W. Bush to serve as the United States Secretary of Transportation. Not only is Mr. Mineta the first Asian American to hold a post in the presidential cabinet, but he is also one of only a few individuals to hold cabinet positions in both Republican and Democratic administrations.

As Secretary of Transportation, Mr. Mineta played a pivotal role during the chaos of the attacks on September 11, 2001. Without precedent, he made the decision to ground all civilian aircraft to ensure the safety of American lives. Following the attacks, Mr. Mineta was a major proponent of the creation of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and he fought against racial profiling and extra screening of Middle Eastern and Muslim passengers.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize The Honorable Norman Mineta for his relentless dedication to public service and to strengthening Japanese American culture. He continues to play an active role in engaging the relationship between Japan and the United States and serves as an inspiration for all working in public service.

CELEBRATING MRS. KAREN HOOVER'S RETIREMENT FROM THE DISTRICT 18 VFW LADIES AUXILIARY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Mrs. Karen Hoover on the occasion of her retirement from the District 18 VFW Ladies Auxiliary after 31 years of selfless service. Karen's countless contributions in my district and state reflect her dignity, honor, and dedication to improving her community and the lives of all Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Karen joined the VFW Ladies Auxiliary in 1985, under the eligibility of her father, who served in the Army during WWII, and subsequently became a life member in 1999. She was elected the Auxiliary President in 1988 and served a total of eight terms. Since 2000, Karen has served as a Senior Vice President, Junior Vice President, Secretary, and in her current role as Treasurer. Auxiliary chairmanship positions she has occupied include Americanism, Membership, Cancer, and Safety. Karen has also acted as the District 18 Chief of Staff, Color Bearer, Extensions Chairman, and Treasurer for the Voice of Democracy program.

Beyond her formal positions in the VFW, Karen has always understood the value of community engagement. She is a member of Saint Paul's Lutheran Church, the American Legion, Women of the Moose, Relay for Life Team, United Way Fundraising, and Valley Lanes Bowling League. Karen is a lifetime member of the National Home for Veterans Children and was a life member of the Scotland School for Veterans' Children until its closure in 2009. Additionally, Karen is a dedicated supporter of the Halifax Cat Rescue Association. Whether volunteering at the food stand during the Shippensburg Community Fair or spending valuable time with her family, Karen embodies the values and principles that are essential to the functioning of a productive community. Her retirement will be accompanied by quality time with her daughter Nicole, who is also an active member of the Auxiliary, her two stepsons, and three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Mrs. Karen Hoover for her tireless dedication and excellence with the Millersburg VFW Ladies Auxiliary. Karen's career achievements have produced profound effects in our community and her example of selfless leadership will continue to inspire the next generation of Veterans' advocates. It is with gratitude and appreciation that I recognize Mrs. Hoover on the occasion of her retirement and wish her all the best in her next endeavor.

HONORING MR. PAUL F. WOXLAND

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Paul F. Woxland, and to recognize the nearly twenty-five years of service that he has given to our region as well as to the federal government in his work with the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Mr. Woxland began his service with the Department of Housing and Urban Development in 1991. Paul would eventually assume the role of Director of the Minneapolis Multifamily Asset Management Division and Satellite Office Coordinator. In this role, Mr. Woxland was tasked with the ultimate responsibility for physical, managerial, and financial condition of every HUD property within the region.

Mr. Woxland has also been instrumental in the development and improvement of housing in Minnesota and in our neighboring state of Wisconsin. In this capacity, he has overseen thousands of housing developments, working diligently to provide all families with access to one of our most basic yet most needed resources, a safe space to call home. To that end, Mr. Woxland has had a direct hand in over one thousand affordable housing projects in Minnesota, and over eight hundred projects in Wisconsin. This staggering number of developments has had an immeasurable impact upon the health of the region, and in partnership has provided permanent housing to over fifteen thousand households.

Mr. Woxland's work with the Interagency Stabilization Group has shown the true level of his commitment to providing housing for very low income residents. Mr. Woxland, through this collaborative organization, has succeeded

in not only preserving but stabilizing affordable housing in Minneapolis for thousands of low-income residents. Some notable developments this partnership has preserved are Ebenezer Tower, Cecil Newman Plaza, and Riverside Plaza, a local landmark that is honored in the National Register of Historic Places.

To his colleagues and staff, he is regarded as the leader of one of the most effective and efficient HUD offices in the nation. Mr. Woxland leaves a legacy at HUD of tireless commitment and of service to our most underprivileged. For that he deserves our gratitude. He also leaves a legacy of touching countless lives and fostering inclusive communities throughout the region.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. JOSEPH SHER

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Joseph Sher, who passed away on March 24, 2016 at the age of 100.

Mr. Sher was born into a family of six children on July 27, 1917 in Krzepice, Poland. During World War II, Mr. Sher was sent to a series of Nazi concentration camps, where he and other Jewish men were put to work building roads. Many members of the crew perished from disease or were shot dead by the guards. Mr. Sher and his two brothers survived the atrocities of Nazi Germany; however they lost their parents and three sisters in the Treblinka death camp. Mr. Sher married Rachel Israelowicz in 1941. Like Mr. Sher, Ms. Israelowicz survived a series of Nazi concentration camps. The two reconnected after the war when her husband found her working in a soup kitchen.

In 1949 Mr. Sher, a tailor by trade, was one of the first survivors of the Holocaust to reach New Orleans. He was part of the resettlement program offered by the United States for residents of Displaced Persons camps. He arrived with his wife and young son by ship at the Port of Embarkation, which happened to be on Poland Avenue in the 9th Ward.

After coming to New Orleans, Mr. Sher worked as a tailor. He worked eleven hours a day, six days a week at Harry Hyman Tailors. His clients included Elvis Presley, Fats Domino, Al Hirt, Chubby Checker and Chris Owens.

Mr. Sher spoke frequently about the Holocaust and his harrowing experiences as a slave laborer. Even though reliving the horror was excruciating, Mr. Sher said he kept doing it to fulfill this admonition from his mother: "You should tell all the world what happened to us so that no one will ever forget."

Mr. Sher's wife preceded him in death. His survivors include two sons, Martin Sher of Plano, Texas and Leopold Sher of New Orleans; and three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Joseph Sher, a beloved husband, father, and son.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREAT LAKES CENTER

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and honor the 50th anniversary of the Great Lakes Center (GLC). For more than half a century, the Great Lakes Center has worked to improve the quality of the environment by providing the best possible science to decision makers concerned with the health and sustainability of our freshwater resources, with a primary focus on the Great Lakes and their watersheds.

The Center was established in 1966 when Howard Sengbush formed the Great Lakes Laboratory. The Great Lakes Center's field station is located on SUNY Buffalo State's waterfront campus along the Black Rock Channel. It is a multidisciplinary research, education, and service institute focused on advancing our knowledge and understanding of the largest body of freshwater on Earth.

The Great Lakes Center is the only institution within the SUNY system with a research field station physically situated along the water. The Center maintains a large fleet of research vessels dedicated to specific types of research and educational functions.

Over the last eight years under the Direction of Sasha Karatayev, the GLC saw sustained activity and productivity: over 80 research papers published, 240 presentations given at various state, national, and international meetings and 35 funded projects totaling over 14 million dollars. This living laboratory dedicated to the investigation of the ecology of the Great Lakes and its tributaries is staffed by research scientists, educators, technicians and professors with the Biology department. The Center provides opportunities to obtain Masters of Arts and Masters of Science degrees in Great Lakes Ecosystem Science.

The Great Lakes ecosystem is complex, dynamic, and fragile. The work conducted at the GLC informs policy makers, educators, community leaders, and environmentalists—and contributes toward effective stewardship and decision-making. As part of the Great Lakes Observing System, the GLC operates the only operating observation buoy in eastern Lake Erie. The GLC continuously works to reverse the damage of decades of abuse neglect of the Great Lakes. The Center continues to explore opportunities to expand its educational programs within the regional community.

In February of this year, I was proud to speak on the House Floor during Great Lakes Day to demonstrate the importance of Congress to continue to fund the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). Since the creation of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative in 2010, nearly \$1.6 billion has been invested in projects to clean up the Great Lakes, the world's largest freshwater system. Locally, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative supports a number of initiatives including the restoration of the Buffalo River.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me this opportunity to once again speak about the Great Lakes with pride in this visionary, vitally important and internationally renowned center whose home base is my alma mater, Buffalo

State College as its Gold Anniversary will be celebrated on April 15, 2016. Congratulations and deepest appreciation to all those who contributed to the past and present of this Center as the preservation, protection and promotion of the Great Lakes is of immeasurable importance to our future.

THANKING LANICE LAWSON FOR HER HUMANITY AND TENACITY

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Ms. Lanice Lawson for the support she has offered to the city of Flint and its residents during the Flint Water Crisis.

With nearly 15 years of experience in the nursing field as an RN, Ms. Lawson knew all too well the devastating effects of lead in the body. Although no longer a resident of Flint herself, she empathized with the struggles of those affected by the water crisis specifically the children. Out of concern for these children, she organized the Bottles for Babies initiative.

Ms. Lawson's original intent was to supply the school children of Flint with clean drinking water. The water in the Flint community schools had been completely shut off and the children were expected to bring their own bottled water to school each day. With the need for clean water being so great across the city, Bottles for Babies was later extended to include consistent home deliveries to the elderly and physically handicapped.

To date over \$65,000 has been raised by the Bottles for Babies GoFundMe fundraiser and over a quarter of a million bottles of water have been delivered to Flint residents. This is the type of direct support the people of Flint need. The type of support the city of Flint is still not receiving from its own State government.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the work done by Ms. Lanice Lawson and thank her for the service she has provided to the city of Flint.

HONORING JOE BORELLI

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Staten Island resident Joe Borelli's dedication and leadership in serving the 51st Council District and the South Shore of Staten Island.

Born in Staten Island, Joe has always been very active in his community. He has been involved in the Staten Island Growth Management Task Force, the West Shore Light Rail Task Force, the Brookfield Landfill Citizens Advisory Committee, and helped spearhead the formation of the South Shore Local Development Corporation. Additionally, Joe was one of the key leaders in the successful fight to eradicate polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from public school buildings. Joe has consistently proven himself to be a leader in the movement to reduce taxes, tolls, and fees in New York City.

As a volunteer, Joe currently serves on the Development Board of St. Joseph by the Sea High School, as well as the Friends of the College of Staten Island, an organization that raises money for scholarships. Additionally, Joe assists dozens of non-profit, veteran's, and community organizations in accessing governmental grants. Joe has also helped raise private money for equipment to support handicapped Children at Mount Loretto, and has worked with the Verdino Foundation to bring a top quality Little League facility to the South Shore.

As an elected official, Joe previously represented his South Shore constituents in the New York State Assembly. He was the ranking minority member of the Assembly Cities Committee, and he also served on the Health, the Housing, the Transportation, the Mental Health, Banks, Education, and Energy Committees. From his time in the State Assembly to his current role as a city councilman, Joe has consistently been a staunch advocate against energy cost increases, as well as the common core curriculum.

Mr. Speaker, Joe Borelli has a remarkable history of dedication to serving the people of Staten Island. I thank him for all of his great work and I am proud to honor this great man who has consistently put others before himself, and continues to be such a positive influence on our communities.

HONORING DR. RUBEN ARMIÑANA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I, along with Representative HUFFMAN, rise to honor Dr. Ruben Armiñana as he prepares to retire after serving as the president of Sonoma State University for over two decades. We wish Dr. Armiñana and his wife, Marne Olson, a happy retirement with time to spend with their children and grandchildren.

Born in Cuba, Dr. Armiñana came to the United States as a child with the American-sponsored Operation Peter Pan, and settled in Texas with his aunt and uncle. He earned his Associates Degree from Hill Junior College in Texas, before going on to complete his B.A. and M.A. at the University of Texas at Austin. After completing his Ph.D. in Political Science at the University of New Orleans, he joined Tulane University's administration. While living in New Orleans, Dr. Armiñana also worked as a news anchor and consultant for a Spanish-language news program. Dr. Armiñana's career in education brought him to California in 1988, and, in 1992, Dr. Armiñana was appointed President of Sonoma State University.

While California State University presidents serve five years on average, Dr. Armiñana has served Sonoma State University for 24 years—an impressive tenure in which he has supported great developments for the university. While serving as President, Dr. Armiñana oversaw the expansion of the school's curriculum and student body, making Sonoma State University one of the most sought-out campuses in the California State University system.

Dr. Armiñana's work also led to many additions to the campus during his tenure. The Environmental Technology Center, completed in

2001, used sustainable materials and building techniques and serves as a model for innovative architecture. To accommodate a growing student body, Sonoma State University doubled the capacity of residential housing, offering students diverse housing options. Through Dr. Armiñana's vision, the University opened the Donald & Maureen Green Music Center and its acoustically-perfect Joan and Sanford I. Weill Hall.

An enthusiastic community servant, Dr. Armiñana shares his educational expertise by serving on the North Bay Leadership Council and the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California, and maintains memberships in the Hispanic Association of College and Universities and the Santa Rosa Chamber Business Education Leaders Committee. Dr. Armiñana has championed Sonoma State University's commitment to diversity with the President's Diversity Council, and established the successful Osher Lifelong Learning Institute to expand services for students over the age of 50.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Armiñana has dedicated over two decades to ensuring the success of Sonoma State University. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING WHITE'S CHAPEL M. B. CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor White's Chapel M. B. Church, Jackson, Mississippi.

The White's Chapel Missionary Baptist Church was organized under the pastorage of Rev. D. J. White, in the home of sister Julia Taylor located at 734 South West Street in the year 1920. The officers were: Bros. Smith, Belt, Jones, Johnson, Outlaw, Jackson, Taylor and Carter. The mothers board was composed of the following members: Sis Julia Taylor, Sis Viola Taylor and Sis Viola Ward. After four years of hard work, by a group of dedicated members, their dream to build a church became a reality. After the resignation of Rev. White, Rev. Grove served until Rev. Caesar was called.

In 1934, Rev. R. W. C. Smith was called to pastor the White's Chapel Church and served for 36 loyal years. The following officers served under Rev. Smith's leadership: Brothers Seaton, Sparkman, Nelson, Sutton, Shear, Dorsey and Williams. Rev. Smith gave his all to pastoring the church.

After the passing of Rev. R. W. Smith in 1970, Rev. James A. Washington, Sr., was called to pastor the church in the year 1971. Under his pastorship and God's divine leadership the church grew bountifully. While he pastored, members of the Deacon and Trustee Board included: Deacon Shears, Dorsey, Williams, Caston, Jennings, Mix and Trustee Robert Morris.

Under the pastorship of Rev. James A. Washington, they were blessed to have moved from 728 South West Street to their present location, where they have been for the past three years.

Rev. Washington resigned in December of 1982. After weeks of prayers the Lord saw fit

to send to them in February of 1983, the Rev. Nathaniel V. Booker, a great Pastor and Leader. Under his leadership present members of the Deacon Board include: Deacon Hillman Shears, Robert Dorsey, Lewis Williams, Tillman Caston, Charlie Jennings, and Ronnie Mix.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing White's Chapel M. B. Church.

RECOGNIZING CLIFFORD AND ERMA CAMPBELL

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Clifford and Erma Campbell of Bucyrus, Missouri on receiving this year's Century Farm Award. Receiving this honor is no easy task, and the Campbells have exemplified hard work, perseverance, and dedication to the community throughout their lives. The farm was originally owned by Clifford's grandparents, Edward and Ethel Campbell. The farm was purchased in 1910 and has been in the family for 106 years.

Qualifying to be a Century Farm is a great feat. The farm must be in the same family for at least 100 consecutive years and the original tract of land has to be more than 40 acres. These farms represent an important part of American heritage, feeding generations upon generations and greatly improving the quality of life of Missourians. Their integrity and determination serve as an example of the great work that farmers do for our country.

I applaud the hard work and achievements of the Campbells and look forward to seeing what they accomplish in the future. It is my pleasure to recognize the Campbell family before the House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING NICKI GROSSMAN ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of a woman whose work has greatly benefited the South Florida community. Nicki E. Grossman served for 21 years as the head of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitors Bureau and, before that, served as a commissioner to both the Broward County and Hollywood Commissions.

During her tenure at the Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Broward County hospitality industry grew to employ more than 168,000 people and in 2015 generated \$14.1 billion in revenue with over 15 million visitors.

Under her leadership, the tourism bureau won accolades for its innovative marketing campaigns and efforts to attract LGBTQ visitors. Nicki personally received awards recognizing her outstanding work in the tourism industry and her commitment to diversity.

In honor of her retirement and years of service to her community, I am pleased to recognize Nicki Grossman and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

HONOR FLIGHT OF NORTHERN COLORADO

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, in honor of America's heroic veterans, the Honor Flight Network conducts a twice annual Honor Flight ceremony to Washington D.C. in order to give our nation's heroes a day to visit and reflect at their war memorials. I am pleased to recognize that an Honor Flight took place on September 13, 2015 to honor the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans of Northern Colorado.

Honor Flight Northern Colorado was founded in 2008 by retired Army Colonel Stan Cass, and recently held its 15th Honor Flight. Honor Flight Northern Colorado shares the Honor Flight Network's philosophy that America felt it was important to honor our veterans with dedicated memorials, and it should be equally important that these courageous veterans experience their memorial in person. We honor the brave men and women who were willing to lay down their lives in service to America, and Honor Flight Northern Colorado is part of that ongoing effort.

Mr. Speaker, those who participated in this flight are as follows:

From World War II: Paul Bechthold, Floyd Cooper, Raymond Ernest, Charles Hoelscher, Joseph Isley, Carl Johnson, Frederick Kaehler, Rex McFadden, Allan Meenen, William Ramsey, Donald Stephens, John Ulvang, Ceylon Weller.

From the Korean War: Robert Ault, Adolfo Benavides, Henry Bjorklund, Edwin Bowker, Albert Cain, Kenneth Creamer, Robert Crouch, Gerald Donnelly, Robert Eckhardt, Gary Eyre, William Ferguson, Elmer Fortin, Glen Geilenkirchen, James Gribben, Kent Grimsley, Walter Harris, Warren Hawkins, Carl Heufel, Eugene Hitchman, Neil Hoffman, Frank Hummel, Harold Jochum, Eldon Johnson, Roy Johnson, Michael Kennedy, Jimmie Kramer, Burman Lorensen, Robert McCauley, Gerald Meis, Robert Plick, Donald Reininger, Earl Reynolds, William Richardson, Royal Ryser, Merle Sapp, Raymond Schmitz, Ralph Sherman, Ned Steel, Vernon Sterkel, Richard Vandewalker, Richard Weinmeister, Donald Wiseman, Paul Zimmerman.

From the Vietnam War: Walter Amack, Ernest Anderson, Bruce Avery, Allen Brink, Wayne Burriss, Gary Cain, James Christopher, Richard Cobb, Harold Colaizzi, Harold Collins, William Deivert, Russell Emmons, Michael Ferrell, Osia Fox, Robert Goodwin, Jerald Gossel, Josef Gruenwald, David Hallahan, Charles Ham, Calvin Hamilton, Jr., Arnold Hart, Leland Haskell, Charles Hixon, Michael Jacomet, Dale Jenkins, Doyle Jenkins, Jimmie Johnston, Patrick Kistler, Edward Lobb, Danny Lynn, Thomas Marlo, Manuel Martinez, John McCarthy, Edward Meikel, Marilyn Miyaima, Royce Modisette, Stephen Mulvihill, Charles Munroe, Rueben Olivas, Jr., Edward Olson, Ralph Otte, Stephen Pangrac, Jerry Park, Linda Plick, Thomas Pusel, Phillip Rangel, William Rhodes, John Robley, Rodney Rodriguez, Christopher Romero, Rueben Sanchez, Kenneth Sheppard, Wayne Shortridge, Walter Silva, Dennis Sindelir, James Spears, Thomas Steinbach, Robert Stolz, David Stout, Raymond Stroot, Floyd Taladay, Dennis Teter,

Larry Uhlenkott, Robert Wheeler, Everett Winkler, William Vick, Merle Wood.

It is my distinct pleasure as the U.S. Representative of the 4th District of Colorado, to recognize the honor, courage, and sacrifice of these heroes, along with all members of America's Armed Forces. I thank them for their dedication and service to this nation.

DELANO STUDENTS MAKING A NATIONAL MARK

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Gretchen Ness, Naomi Thoelke and Liliana Schroedl, all students from Delano, Minnesota who have received national recognition for producing a documentary on water pollution.

These incredible seventh grade students entered their documentary into C-SPAN's national StudentCam competition, which is meant to highlight issues students hope to see the candidates discuss during the Presidential election.

All of the girls are pet owners and thought of this project because they were deeply concerned with how water pollution negatively affects animals and the environment. Among the thousands of documentaries that were submitted, their documentary was one of fifty chosen for a prize—true testimony to a job well done.

I thank Gretchen, Naomi, and Liliana for taking an interest in our country and the environment. Our students are the future of this nation, and these three young girls make me believe that the future of this nation is a bright one.

HONORING JERRY M. JUDIN

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor former Staten Island resident Jerry Judin's endless commitment to legal service in the public interest.

Jerry's career as a public servant began as a Ranger for the National Park Service assigned to Liberty Island and the Statue of Liberty. After a short stint serving the public safety as an Air Traffic Controller, Jerry returned to school, attending night classes at Brooklyn Law School. Following law school, Jerry spent two years working for the Richmond County Family Court, before transferring to the Richmond County Surrogate's Court in 1982.

For the last 34 years, Jerry has been a fixture in the Surrogate's Court, and in April of 2006 he was made the first ever Supervising Court Attorney in the Surrogate's Court. As he approaches retirement, he caps his career having served three Surrogates, the people of Staten Island, and the attorneys of Staten Island for a total of 36 years. He has served his community by lecturing before civic organizations on Staten Island, and the Richmond County Bar Association. He has taught Busi-

ness Law at the College of Staten Island, as well as at Rutgers, while also serving on the Board of Directors of Meals on Wheels of Staten Island.

Mr. Speaker, it is right and proper that we recognize Jerry Judin's dedication to serving his community and the legal profession. I thank him for all of his great work and I am proud to honor this great man who has consistently put others before himself.

HONORING EYESHINE CREATIVE ARTS COMPANY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable minority business, EyeShine Creative Arts Company of Clinton, Mississippi and the great leadership it is under.

EyeShine Creative Arts Company is a locally owned and operated Christian faith-based dance company and ministry that provide quality education and training for multiple dance disciplines. ECAC serves as a conduit to stage productions, TV commercials, dance competitions, and other events that allow dancers to showcase their God-given talents. EyeShine offers workshops, after school programs, Spring and Summer camps, and fitness focus classes—"Fit to Dance", that broaden the creative experiences of dancers while developing levels of competence and confidence. The goal is not only to provide quality dance education, but also to educate, empower, and inspire the minds of students in a Christian environment.

Shawuanna, the founder of EyeShine Creative Arts Company, started her dance journey at the age of 4 years old. By age 6, she was performing with the "Eye of the Tiger" dance company founded and produced by Beverly Branson and her sister, a stage and television actress, Dr. Tonea Stewart. Shawuanna began performing in stage productions by the age of 7. In 1985, she was selected for the Academic and Performing Arts Complex (APAC) program, where she studied ballet, modern, and jazz at Ballet Mississippi. After experiencing traumatic situations as a teenager, Shawuanna turned to dance as a creative outlet and spiritual solace. She decided to focus on becoming a more diversified dance artist, expanding her studies from acrobatic creative dance, to more contemporary dance styles, such as: jazz, hip hop, Middle Eastern, and inspirational.

In 2004, Shawuanna relocated to Atlanta, Georgia and began working within the burgeoning entertainment industry, working with various, well-known R&B and Hip Hop artists throughout the metro Atlanta area. It was in Atlanta where she began to hone her craft as a choreographer and develop essential relationships and knowledge of the dance & entertainment industry. Inspired by FAITH and always the artist and educator at heart, in 2010, Shawuanna founded Eyeshine Creative Arts Company.

Today, in addition to operating EyeShine Creative Arts Company and non-profit organization, EyeShine Inc., Shawuanna, choreographs and ministers with the National

Baptist Convention, Inc. USA dance ministry, ministers to General Missionary Baptist State Convention of Mississippi, instructs dance for Fairview Learning Academy, Agape' Phaze II Academy, Girl Scouts of Greater MS. She also choreographs and ministers for church home, Grace Inspirations, various community events, and conferences locally and throughout the southeastern region.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing EyeShine Creative Arts Company for its dedication to serving our great state of Mississippi and our country.

RECOGNIZING USNS "BRUNSWICK" AND BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA'S INVOLVEMENT DURING WORLD WAR II

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brunswick, Georgia's involvement in the United States' World War II effort and, in turn, the newly commissioned United States Naval Ship (USNS) *Brunswick*.

Soon after the United States' entrance into World War II, German U-Boats began to sink American cargo ships at an unprecedented rate—stalling America's war machine and creating a severe crisis for American ships at sea.

In 1942, to curtail the crisis, Vice Admiral Emory S. "Jerry" Land contacted the J.A. Jones Construction Company of Brunswick, Georgia, with a request to build the fastest cargo ships of the time. Although J.A. Jones was a "building" contractor company with no previous experience in building sea-going vessels, J.A. Jones unbelievably met the challenge.

The company produced 99 ships in 2 years. In December 1944, the U.S. Navy requested 6 ships built that month and J.A. Jones responded by building 7. The J.A. Jones employees even worked through Christmas Day and denied receiving a payment for the extra ship they built.

I rise today to recognize these brave men and women from Brunswick, Georgia, who kept America's war machine running through World War II as well as the USNS *Brunswick*, which was named in honor of the men and women of Brunswick's effort during the war. I wish the sailors of the USNS *Brunswick* the best in living up to the name of their ship.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ART PING LEE FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ASIAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Art Ping Lee on his outstanding contributions to Chinese communities throughout the United States and his leadership in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

Mr. Lee immigrated to the United States from the Guangdong Province of the Republic

of China in 1936. He saw the toll that World War II took on Chinese citizens in the United States who were prevented from being reunited with their families due to U.S. immigration laws and immigrant quota restrictions. As a founding member of the National Chinese Welfare Council in 1957, he campaigned vigorously for the lifting of limitations on immigration quotas. As a result, 40,000 Chinese immigrants were allowed to enter the U.S. every year. Mr. Lee has also worked tirelessly to enhance and strengthen the important relationship between the United States and the Republic of China (Taiwan).

Mr. Lee, who celebrates his 102nd birthday this year, continues to be an active member of the community. He is a Senior Advisor to the Overseas Community Affairs Council of the Republic of China (Taiwan), which is a cultural, educational, economic and informational exchange organization between Taiwan and overseas communities. He is also an Honorary Elder of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of Washington, DC and an Honorary Elder to The Lee Family Association in the United States.

Mr. Lee has been recognized for his work as the recipient of the Kuomintang Cathy Medal and the Hua Kuang Medal, First Class, which is awarded by the government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) to Chinese who have made special contributions in overseas Chinese affairs.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Art Ping Lee on his service to Chinese communities across the United States. His efforts have made a difference to countless people and I am grateful to him for his service to others.

HONORING MR. MIKE VOORHEES

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mr. Mike Voorhees, of Sonoma County, California, who is retiring after forty-one years of work with the Sonoma County Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Voorhees has worked in public service for his entire career. While spending thirteen years on the bench as Judge Pro Tem for the Sonoma County Superior Court, he also served as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the California Reserve Peace Officers Association. He spent the last eleven years working as Chief Financial Officer of the Sonoma County Reserve Deputies Association. Mr. Voorhees attained the rank of reserve captain in the Sonoma County Sheriff's Department in 1993, and has held that position ever since.

Mr. Voorhees has received many commendations for his work throughout his career. He was selected as the California Reserve Peace Officers Association 2004 Reserve Peace Officer of the Year, received the Sonoma County Sheriff's Distinguished Service Award in 2003, and earned an Award of Merit from the Santa Rosa Police Department in 2000. Mr. Voorhees has spent four decades volunteering his time, effort and resources to keeping the people of Sonoma County safe, and his commitment to public service is driven

by his unwavering commitment to doing the right thing, time and time again. The community admires Mr. Voorhees for his integrity and congeniality and for always supporting those in need.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Voorhees has spent forty-one years doing his part to keep Sonoma County safe. The people of Sonoma County have benefitted greatly from his lifelong dedication to public service. For this reason, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

CONGRATULATING ROBERTA LYBYER AND THE LYBYER FAMILY

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Roberta Lybyer and the Lybyer Family of Cabool, Missouri on receiving this year's Century Farm Award. Receiving this honor is no easy task, and the Lybyers have exemplified hard work, perseverance, and dedication to the community throughout their lives. The farm was originally owned by Andrew S.P. Lybyer, the grandfather of Roberta's late husband, Floyd Lybyer. It was purchased 124 years ago on March 7, 1892.

Qualifying to be a Century Farm is a great feat. The farm must be in the same family for at least 100 consecutive years and the original tract of land has to be more than 40 acres. These farms represent an important part of American heritage, feeding generations upon generations and greatly improving the quality of life of Missourians. Their integrity and determination serve as an example of the great work that farmers do for our country.

I applaud the hard work and achievements of the Lybyers and look forward to seeing what they accomplish in the future. It is my pleasure to recognize the Lybyer family before the House of Representatives.

HONORING JOHN K. BOYLE

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Staten Island resident John Boyle's endless commitment as an educator serving the people of New York.

John is a native Staten Islander, and has dedicated his life to helping others. Upon his graduation from St. John's University, he immediately went to work at Elias Bernstein Intermediate School. After six years teaching, he was promoted in 2005 to Assistant Principal at Totten Intermediate School 34 and in 2011, he became the school's Principal. As the head of I.S. 34, John spearheaded a renaissance in the school's approach to educating the youth of the 21st century, which allowed Totten to enter the upper echelon of schools in New York City. A lifelong learner dedicated to his profession and a role model for our youth, John made the time to continue his own studies while serving as Assistant Principal, earn-

ing his first Masters in Secondary Education from the College of Staten Island in 2003 and his second Masters in Educational Administration from Touro College in 2005.

Based upon his demonstrated excellence, John was nominated by his peers to the Council of Supervisors and Administrators Executive Board where he serves as an advisor to the Executive Vice President. In 2013, John was asked by Chancellor Farina to be one of only 18 school leaders from across New York City to be a part of her Learning Partners Pilot Program. Last year, he was designated a Model Principal by the Chancellor for his work as a host principal in the Learning Partners Program. In June of 2015, John was chosen along with seven other New York City principals to expand the work of the Chancellor's Learning Partners Program into the Learning Partners Plus Program for which was named a "Master Principal."

Mr. Speaker, John Boyle's dedication to serving and educating our youth epitomizes the highest qualities we seek in our educators and community role models. I thank him for all of his great work and I am proud to honor this great man who has consistently put others before himself.

RECOGNITION OF AGRILIFE RESEARCH STATION

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100 year anniversary of the Agrilife Research Station in Sonora, Texas.

The Agrilife Research Station, also known as Sub-station 14, was founded in 1916 with the support of local ranchers and the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association. The station's first task was to find the cause of the bighead cattle syndrome, and other diseases harmful to the livestock industry. Their current projects include researching noxious plant control, prescribed fires, and wildlife management.

The contributions of the Agrilife Research Station have been invaluable to farmers, ranchers, and the state of Texas over the course of the past 100 years. There is no question that the station will continue to excel under its present leadership. I am proud to represent such an important pillar of Texas agriculture and to congratulate its dedicated staff and supporters on 100 years of innovation, research, and success.

HONORING WILLIAM N. TUNNELL, JR. ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important contributions of Mr. William "Bill" Tunnell, Jr. Bill Tunnell recently retired after almost 20 years as Executive Director of the USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park in Mobile, Alabama.

Bill Tunnell's impact on Southwest Alabama and our entire state cannot really be put into words. He has succeeded in transforming Battleship Memorial Park into one of Alabama's premier tourist destinations and a top landmark along the entire Gulf Coast. Throughout the process, he has always kept the focus on inspiring patriotism and honoring those who have served our country.

Bill moved to Mobile in 1979, where he worked in the hotel and hospitality industry until 1991. It was that year that he took over as marketing and public relations director for Battleship Memorial Park. In 1997, he was named executive director.

Through busy crowds, hurricanes, and economic downturns, Bill Tunnell's steady leadership helped ensure the USS Alabama and Battleship Memorial Park remains well maintained and open to visitors. Most recently, Bill successfully organized and planned events to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Battleship Memorial Park.

Among his many awards and honors, Bill Tunnell was the first ever inductee of the Alabama Tourism Hall of Fame, winner of the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce Community Leader of the Year award, and recipient of the Alabama Restaurant Association and Alabama Hospitality Association's Tourism Promoter of the Year award. He was named an "Honorary Veteran" in 2011 by the South Alabama Veterans Council, who partnered with Mr. Tunnell on countless projects and events. These are just a handful of his many honors and achievements.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to call Bill Tunnell a friend. He is a truly outstanding individual who has never hesitated to put others above himself. Bill recently said that it is not actually the ship that makes Battleship Memorial Park. Instead, he said it is "the heart and soul of all the people who've attached themselves" to the ship. No one has put more of their "heart and soul" into the ship and the park than Bill Tunnell.

So, on behalf of Alabama's First Congressional District, I want to wish Bill and his wife, Cynthia, all the best in retirement, and I hope Bill gets to spend some quality time working on his golf game. Thank you for your service and dedication to our community, our veterans, and the State of Alabama.

HONORING BEVERLY CLEARY ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, today, treasured children's author Beverly Cleary turns a remarkable 100 years old. Born in McMinnville, Oregon, Beverly Cleary later moved to Northeast Portland. Her neighborhood there, especially Klickitat Street, became the setting for her series featuring Henry Huggins, Ramona Quimby, and countless other characters who continue to hold a special place in the bookshelves and hearts of parents, children, and librarians around the world.

Cleary's books spoke to generations of children from Oregon, across the country, and around the globe. Many of her stories were inspired by her own childhood in Northeast Port-

land, and almost everyone can identify with the imaginative Ramona or the studious Beezus—or a little bit of both. Although Cleary's stories evolved as our nation changed, her stories about a family working hard to make ends meet or facing the challenges of adolescence are timeless in their representation of childhood for so many young people.

Cleary's love for her characters and respect for her young audience are evident in the national traditions she created. I am proud to honor her 100th birthday today, and look forward to watching her legacy continue to grow and flourish as she inspires a new generation of readers.

HONORING BETTY HARTY

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Staten Island resident Betty Harty's contributions to our community and tireless service to great causes.

A native of Staten Island, Betty has been heavily involved in the Boy Scouts organization, which she joined roughly forty-nine years ago. Betty served as Den Mother and a Den leader Coach for Pack Eight, Messiah Lutheran Church for twelve years, before becoming an Advancement Chairperson, a position she held for thirty-nine years. Additionally, Betty served as Pack Eight and Group Eight Commissioner for twenty years, and is now a member of Troop 26—Castleton Hill Messiah Church.

Betty also has been a member of the District Committee. She served as the Cub Roundtable and Cub Adult Treasury. Betty also chaired the Cub Pow Wow Treasury for Staten Island Council. Currently, Betty is on the Advancement Committee for Staten Island Council for Eagle Scouts. She has been on the Staten Island Council Committee for seventeen years.

Betty has been active with parent-teacher associations at P.S. 36, Bernstein Intermediate and Tottenville High. She was a leading volunteer for five years at P.S. 36, a library volunteer, and taught in the after school center. Betty was team mother for the South Shore Little League and the Babe Ruth League. She has also been engaged in teaching Sunday school.

Twenty years ago, Betty became involved with the Have a Heart Foundation, the Staten Island based organization that helps raise financial aid for people to fund therapy treatments not covered by insurance. This wonderful foundation helps mitigate some of the expensive medical costs in New York, and is a member of the Staten Island Children's Campaign.

Mr. Speaker, Betty Harty's dedication to serving our community and positively influencing our youth is the essence of a model humanitarian. I thank her for all of her great work and I am proud to honor this great woman who has consistently touched the lives of people across Staten Island.

HONORING DON AMADOR

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I, along with Representative GARAMENDI and Representative HUFFMAN, rise to recognize and honor Mr. Amador for his great contribution to the designation of the Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument by President Barack Obama on July 10, 2015.

This outstanding accomplishment was made possible by the tireless work of countless advocates like Mr. Amador. Their commitment to engaging friends, colleagues, local residents, businesses, stakeholders across the country, and policymakers in a coordinated effort to achieve permanent protection was critical to the establishment of the Monument.

Now, the Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument may be counted among the hundreds pristine parks across the country that represent America's most treasured public resources. The region's unique geological formations will play host for the world's scientists for years to come. Centuries-old archeological sites will draw curious historians and researchers as they piece together the stories of generations past. And avid bikers, hikers, campers, horsemen, and sportsmen will be able to enjoy this landmark that is now forever open and accessible to outdoor enthusiasts from Northern California and beyond.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument serves as proof of the value of the Antiquities Act and the power of the Executive to protect these lands in the face of inaction by Congress. After extensive input from interested parties and substantial evidence of this region's value, the Obama Administration honored the support of stakeholders, and the gravity of conservation.

The legacy of public lands is one of the most important we can leave for future generations. The Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument is a critical piece of a preservation system that stretches from the Hawaiian Islands to the Maine Coast. It has been a privilege working with Mr. Amador to further our mutual goal of preserving our nation's great open spaces, and we look forward to collaborating in the future.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OREGON AIR NATIONAL GUARD

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th Anniversary of the Oregon Air National Guard.

The Oregon Air National Guard was born on April 18, 1941, when Oregon's own Major G. Robert Dodson sent the celebrated message, "We've got people, we've got a place, and we're ready!" to the National Guard Bureau and was allowed to activate the 123rd Observation Squadron. For the next seventy-five years the Citizen Airmen of the Oregon Air National Guard have been serving Oregon and the Nation with distinction.

During World War II, the 123rd Observation Squadron patrolled the skies of the Pacific Northwest protecting our nation.

Several years later Oregon Air National Guard pilots continued to serve our nation by flying over one thousand combat missions during the Korean War.

As the Cold War took shape, the Citizen Airmen of the Oregon Air National Guard stood up to protect the Pacific Northwest. Since 1958, they have been on air defense alert twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week patrolling the skies from northern California to the Canadian border.

On September 11, 2001, the citizen-airmen of the Oregon Air National Guard were among the first in the air. After ensuring the security of our homeland they again went overseas to provide vital support to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Seventy-five years after their founding the Oregon Air National Guard continues to protect the skies of the Pacific Northwest, support our Nation's mission abroad, and stand ready to provide disaster relief for the great state Oregon and our Nation.

Today the Oregon Air National Guard is made up of 142nd Fighter Wing in Portland, the 173rd Fighter Wing in Klamath Falls, and the Joint Force Headquarters in Salem, Oregon.

Oregonians are proud of the hallowed legacy of our citizen airmen and airwomen. I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Oregon Air National Guard and honoring those who have and continue to serve their country and the great state of Oregon.

HONORING DAMIAN MURRIEL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Damian Murriel.

It sounds strange, but owning and operating a funeral home has been a childhood dream for Mr. Damian Murriel—at least it has been ever since he started working in the business.

Damian Murriel began his first job in a funeral home at the age of 16. Then a sophomore in high school, Damian Murriel performed various custodial services at Cook's Funeral Home. When he graduated from Forest Hill High School in 1994 he left for Gupton-Jones School of Mortuary Science. Two years later after he completed his schooling and became a licensed funeral director and embalmer, he began traveling, doing internships and apprenticeships in other states, including brief stints in Illinois and Indiana. In 2000 he left for a job as funeral director of Gregory B. Levett and Sons Funeral Home in Atlanta, Georgia, where the wake for TLC's Lisa 'Left Eye' Lopes was held.

On April 17, 2003 Damian Murriel's life-long dream to own and operate a funeral home became a reality. "I never lost sight of what I was pursuing." Damian Murriel said. "I want to clean up the area and enhance the community with the funeral home." Murriel said. Murriel's motto is: "Serving Families in Their Time of Need." He is a member of the Mississippi Funeral Directors and Morticians Association.

RETIREMENT OF WALTER G.
WARGACKI

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the outstanding achievements of Walter G. Wargacki—the great Mayor of Wallington, NJ—who celebrated his retirement on April 1, 2016.

Walter Gerald Wargacki, Jr. was born on April 26, 1938, to Walter John Wargacki and Mary Dancsisin Wargacki. His service to the public began as early as 1965 when he joined the Wallington Fire Department, Park Roe Hose Company #3. He eventually was promoted to the rank of Fire Chief in 1986 for his outstanding service in the line of duty.

Yet, his service to the public was not limited to emergency services. In the same year he joined the Wallington Fire Department, he was also elected to the Wallington Board of Education where he eventually served as Board President for three terms. During his tenure, he led the way in evaluating accreditation for the Township's high school system. Furthermore, he planned the renovation and replacement of the century-old Lincoln School. Mr. Wargacki's dedication to this task was no less exemplary than his outstanding service as a fire fighter.

Upon completion of his tenure as Fire Chief and as a member of the Board of Education, Mr. Wargacki served proudly as the Mayor of Wallington for over 24 years. Through his hard work and dedication, he improved the Township of Wallington both aesthetically and communally. For instance, he oversaw the construction of new parks and recreation areas such as Liberty Crossing Park and Centennial Field. Undoubtedly, these and other initiatives helped create the welcoming environment for families that Wallington is known for today.

Furthermore, he designated a newly constructed facility for the Wallington Emergency Squad—a testament to his years of service and dedication to emergency services. Indeed, under his leadership, the Township of Wallington has been in extraordinarily capable hands, and his leave from office will not go unnoticed amongst members of the community.

I have the great honor of representing the residents of Wallington in Congress and it gives me great pride to recognize one of their native sons who has spent his life serving the public. I can say with personal knowledge that Walt is not only a good leader, but also a good friend—the kind who can be counted on both in good times and in bad times.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating the achievements of public servants such as Mayor Walter G. Wargacki of Wallington.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, denizens of Wallington, family and friends, all those whose lives he has touched, and me, in recognizing the work of Mayor Walter G. Wargacki.

CONGRATULATING RONALD AND
BARBARA MCCALL

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ronald and Barbara McCall of Mountain Grove, Missouri on receiving this year's Century Farm Award. Receiving this honor is no easy task, and the McCalls have exemplified hard work, perseverance, and dedication to the community throughout their lives. The McCall family originally purchased the farm 101 years ago on February 11, 1915.

Qualifying to be a Century Farm is a great feat. The farm must be in the same family for at least 100 consecutive years and the original tract of land has to be more than 40 acres. These farms represent an important part of American heritage, feeding generations upon generations and greatly improving the quality of life of Missourians. Their integrity and determination serve as a prime example for farmers across the nation.

I applaud the hard work and achievements of the McCalls and look forward to seeing what they accomplish in the future. It is my pleasure to recognize the McCalls before the House of Representatives.

HONORING FRANCIS HARTY

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Staten Island resident Francis Harty for his positive contributions to our community.

Francis was born and raised in Westerleigh, Staten Island. He graduated from Port Richmond High School and went on to work at Procter and Gamble Co. Francis has been married to his high school sweetheart, Betty, for almost sixty-one years, and they have three children together.

When Francis' son wanted to join the Cub Scouts, he also joined the Boy Scouts at the Messiah Lutheran Church. He served twenty-seven years as Scoutmaster and had one hundred Eagle Scouts in Group Eight. Francis retired as Scoutmaster in 2000, but continued to work on all District events, as well as the Council Dinner and the Fall Outing. Francis held several positions on the District Committee and the Staten Island Council. He has had an extensive influence on the programs by being heavily involved in various training programs that lay the foundations for the Boy Scouts organization's programs.

Francis has been awarded many honors to recognize his services. He has received the Award of Merit, the Silver Beaver, the Ten Mile River Award, The Good Scout Award, the Paul Intermediate School Service to Youth Award, and the Staten Island Museum Circle of Friends for Youth Volunteerism in 1994.

Outside of scouting, Francis was the Vice President for the Have a Heart Foundation for twenty-four years. He helps run the annual Golf Outing and the five kilometer race to raise funds for patients with therapy needs

and parents with large medical insurance bills for their children. Due to the foundation's affiliation with the Staten Island Children's Campaign, he also works on their events including Breakfast with Santa. Additionally, Francis managed and coached in the South Shore Little League and the Babe Ruth League.

Mr. Speaker, Francis Harty's dedication to providing a role model for youth and positively impacting his community is remarkable. I thank him for all of his hard work and I am proud to honor this great man who has been such a strong influence on the residents of Staten Island.

HONORING STEVE CASTRO

HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robstown baseball coach Steve Castro, who passed away in October of last year.

Steve Castro was a pillar of the community who taught baseball to hundreds of kids from 1975 to 2010 at Robstown High School. Castro taught more than the game of baseball; he taught his team the meaning of hard work and the meaning of teamwork.

Under Castro's coaching, the Robstown baseball team drew crowds of more than 3,000 people. He brought families and friends together every time there was a game.

In 2014, Castro was entered into the Texas High School Baseball Association Hall of Fame, the fifth Hispanic coach to receive the honor.

This year's Cotton Picker Baseball season will be officially dedicated to the man who brought fans and players together for 35 years.

Steve Castro will be remembered as a legend by the students he taught and the families he brought together every night for a game.

HONORING SARAH HUSBY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I, along with Representative GARAMENDI and Representative HUFFMAN, rise to recognize and honor Ms. Husby for her great contribution to the designation of the Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument by President Barack Obama on July 10, 2015.

This outstanding accomplishment was made possible by the tireless work of countless advocates like Ms. Husby. Their commitment to engaging friends, colleagues, local residents, businesses, stakeholders across the country, and policymakers in a coordinated effort to achieve permanent protection was critical to the establishment of the Monument.

Now, the Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument may be counted among the hundreds pristine parks across the country that represent America's most treasured public resources. The region's unique geological formations will play host for the world's scientists

for years to come. Centuries-old archeological sites will draw curious historians and researchers as they piece together the stories of generations past. And avid bikers, hikers, campers, horsemen, and sportsmen will be able to enjoy this landmark that is now forever open and accessible to outdoor enthusiasts from Northern California and beyond.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument serves as proof of the value of the Antiquities Act and the power of the Executive to protect these lands in the face of inaction by Congress. After extensive input from interested parties and substantial evidence of this region's value, the Obama Administration honored the support of stakeholders, and the gravity of conservation.

The legacy of public lands is one of the most important we can leave for future generations. The Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument is a critical piece of a preservation system that stretches from the Hawaiian Islands to the Maine Coast. It has been a privilege working with Ms. Husby to further our mutual goal of preserving our nation's great open spaces, and we look forward to collaborating in the future.

HONORING MILTON GASTON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable civil servant, Mr. Milton Gaston.

Born in Hollandale, Mississippi, Milton Gaston was nurtured and reared by his parents, the late James and Luella Gaston, in Glen Allen, Mississippi. He is the seventh born of eleven children to his parents. Gaston proudly admits that his parents reared them to be a close-knit family and his siblings and he remain so today.

Milton Gaston was educated in the Glen Allen Public Schools.

Understanding the meaning of family as so taught by his parents, Mr. Gaston met and married Ms. Alice Watts. To their union, six (6) children and ten (10) grandchildren are being shaped for this most extraordinary world.

To support his family, Mr. Gaston began work with the Washington County Sheriff's Department on January 20, 1986 under the leadership of the late Sheriff Harvey Tackett, Sr. In July of that same year, Milton Gaston, Sr., became the only civilian sent to the Jackson Police Academy in Jackson, Mississippi to be certified and deputized under Sheriff Tackett's administration. Because of his work ethics, Greenville Optimist Club named him as Deputy Sheriff of the year in 1989.

On November 3, 2003, Washington County elected Milton Gaston, Sr. as Sheriff of Washington County, Mississippi. At the age of 42, he was the first African American in this county to hold this distinguished position. County Court Chancellor Vernita King-Johnson swore him in on January 5, 2004 to uphold this position to serve and protect the citizens of Washington County, Mississippi. Currently, Sheriff Gaston is in his third term, serving more than twenty-nine (29) years in law enforcement with a plethora of training on the state and federal level. Additionally, he has initiated and over-

seen a Juvenile Justice Intervention/Prevention Program that was developed to rebuild at risk youth between the ages of 12–15. The program was called "Biggest S.U.C.C.E.S.S.," which is an acronym for Students Unanimously Conceiving Confidence & Excellence in Skills and Success. The program was grant funded for one year. Currently, under his leadership, the TRIAD of Washington County was established in 2012. This organization is comprised of senior citizens working with law enforcement to address their safety needs in the community. It is also state funded and has been approved for the current year's funding.

Sheriff Gaston's staff is comprised of approximately 120 people between Washington County Sheriff's Department and Washington County Regional Correctional Facility—all of whom he requires to help make Washington County, Mississippi a safe place for all of its citizens.

As if he is not constantly busy enough, Sheriff Gaston devotes his time and servitude as a member of New Hope First Baptist Church, Vice-President of the Usher Board, a member of the male choir, a member of the 100 Black Men of the Mississippi Delta, a member of the Lake Vista Masonic Lodge Number 46, a member of the Serene Lodge Number 567, a member of the NAACP, and a board member of the Boy's and Girl's Club.

Yet, after committing himself to all of this, his Lord, his family, his career, and his affiliations, he still manages to conceive other ingenious ideas to help citizens in our area. He is indeed, "The Peoples' Sheriff," and he considers it a pleasure to serve the citizens of Washington County, Mississippi by striving to make it a safer place in which to live.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sheriff Milton Gaston for his dedication to serving others and giving back to his community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ROOSTERTAIL AND MORE THAN FIFTY YEARS OF CREATING MEMORIES AND STORIES

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Tom and Diane Schoenith who today are observing fifty years of memories, entertainment and stories at their beloved Roostertail, a well-known institution in Southeast Michigan for gathering people of all walks of life for performances, concerts, celebrations, remembrances, rituals and traditions. Unique, colorful and with a special style carrying this couple through the decades, Tom and Diane have distinctive personas combined with big hearts and caring souls that have made them a memorable part of Detroit's and Michigan's history.

Since its opening in 1958, the Roostertail became a gathering place for people to celebrate important occasions; events of all kinds that created incredible memories as people gathered for concerts, boat races, premieres, charity events, nightclub evenings, weddings, anniversaries, galas, jubilees, birthdays, elections, solemn moments . . . special occasions of all kinds. People from the region and the

country gathered at this beautiful venue located on the Detroit River off of Jefferson Avenue in the City of Detroit. Governors, mayors, local officials, celebrities, business leaders and community members looked forward to the occasions being feted or the evening out. When first founded, it was a happening place, and its path would follow the peaks and valleys that the region itself has experienced over the years.

The Roostertail has witnessed the history of the region and has been the scene of many firsts, including the opening night for the Supremes and Bobby Darin. The venue has also hosted many of the greats over the years such as Tony Bennett, Eric Clapton, The Rolling Stones, and Aretha Franklin. From the beginning, everyone was welcome through their doors, and they gave a helping hand to many who just needed someone to care or believe. In the 60's, when the Motown sound was just beginning, they created Motown Mondays which starred the Temptations, Marvalettes, Stevie Wonder, Diana Ross, Martha Reeves, Marvin Gaye, Smokey Robinson and the Spinners among many others. Tom and Diane helped to break down barriers during the civil rights era, making it clear there was always a place there for those who needed it and providing the platform for those who needed a simple break.

Tom and Diane Schoenith, the owners of the Roostertail, have lived through the ups and downs of Detroit and Southeast Michigan and never doubted, gave up or quit. Whether it was the riots, recession, or bankruptcy, or the rise of Motown, Motor City, and the ebbs and flows of the American middle class, they have witnessed it all. After the Detroit Riots in 1968, people were afraid to come into downtown Detroit. Tom and Diane knew they had to help bring them back and bring their customer base back as well. They organized parties with performers everyone knew and drew people back. The young people came—and others followed.

Beyond the memories and moments of the Roostertail itself, Tom and Diane have also planned and led many events and parties over the years. Many were colorful, vibrant and flashy—unique and one of a kind. Tom and Diane have been the first call for many of the most prominent non-profits and cultural institutions in Metro Detroit, helping the DIA, WTVS, the Children's Hospital of Michigan, the Detroit Symphony Opera, Gleaners, the Salvation Army, and the NAACP. These groups and more owe a thank you to Tom and Diane for their creativity, memory creating events and dedication to our community over the years.

Tom is a member of Detroit's Schoenith family, well known for decades for being successful, interesting and sometimes controversial. His twin Jerry is well known for American boat racing with hydroplanes. Together—they are a part of Michigan's unique history.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Tom and Diane Schoenith and the Roostertail as they celebrate this evening. It is my sincere hope that they will continue to bring smiles for many years to come.

CELEBRATING GENENTECH'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Genentech in South San Francisco—also known as the birthplace of biotechnology. Forty years ago, on April 7, 1976, Herb Boyer and Bob Swanson decided to start the first biotech company, Genentech, and sparked an industry that continues to push the boundaries of science today.

What began as a conversation over a couple of beers at a Union Street watering hole has evolved into an industry that has helped billions of people, and has ushered in new frontiers of research—such as personalized healthcare and cancer immunotherapy—that have fundamentally changed the way certain serious diseases are treated.

During the past six years alone, Genentech has brought to market nine new treatments for patients who needed them. These include the first FDA-approved medicine for people with advanced forms of B-Cell Carcinoma, the most common skin cancer, the first biologic for cystic fibrosis, the first personalized medicine that treats women with HER2+ breast cancer, and the first drug to be approved using FDA's breakthrough therapy designation—a treatment for Chronic Lymphocytic Lymphoma (CLL).

And like all of biotech, Genentech has continued to evolve over the past 4 decades. They have invested in uncharted areas of science, expanded their manufacturing capabilities, grown into a global organization, and partnered with other companies and research institutions to find breakthrough treatments for people with serious diseases who need new and improved options.

Today, Genentech's founders' spirit of taking bold risks and celebrating both successes and failures continues to drive their daily work. This year, the company will celebrate its 40th anniversary with initiatives such as 40 Defining Moments—a storytelling project to reflect on the history of Genentech through articles, pictures, and videos. And in order to recognize the role nearby communities and science education have had in its success, Genentech will also commit \$1 million to STEM-focused non-profits that provide hands-on science education to underserved students in local communities.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the hard work and dedication of Genentech and its employees. Genentech has always been a cutting edge company from research to workplace accommodations to creating one of the first on-site child care centers. I'm proud to represent a company that has so positively contributed to the health and wellness of our society, and to the world. I look forward to seeing what new breakthroughs the next 40 years will bring.

HONORING MADELEINE MORLINO

HON. THOMAS MacARTHUR

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Madeleine Morlino, of the Third Congressional District, on her recent acceptance into all four United States Service Academies, and to commend her for her community service and accomplishments.

Madeleine, who is a resident of Moorestown, has worked diligently to succeed academically while simultaneously engaging with her community. Madeleine maintains a 4.23 weighted grade-point average at Moorestown High School. She is an accomplished violinist, and plays for the Moorestown High School orchestra and for a local church ensemble. Additionally, she was honored with the Good Citizenship Award from the Union League of Philadelphia and volunteers for many different charitable causes and organizations.

Madeleine has a profound level of respect for our armed service men and women, and has become very involved in the veteran community. In the fall, she organized the Veterans Benefits and Job Expo at the Moorestown Community House, where national and local businesses met with veterans about meaningful employment. She also volunteers at the Disabled Veterans Physiotherapy Clinic in Philadelphia. Madeleine has worked extremely hard to follow her goal of serving the military in whatever capacity possible. She will be attending the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado after graduation.

Mr. Speaker, the people of New Jersey's Third Congressional District are tremendously honored to have Madeleine Morlino as a member of their community. Ms. Morlino has shown a desire to serve her nation and to give back to her community, and has worked continuously to do so at the best of her ability. I am honored to recognize her acceptance into all four United States Service Academies and to commend her for her outstanding service to her community and our veterans, before the United State House of Representatives.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,223,197,501,336.14. We've added \$8,596,320,452,423.06 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

KAZAKHSTAN'S COMMITMENT TO ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN CENTRAL ASIA

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, on the eve of Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev's visit to Washington, DC to participate in the Nuclear Security Summit, we see that the basics of water and energy in Central Asia need attention.

In order to obtain electric power for the industrial development, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan for several years have been trying to build hydroelectric dams on their mountain rivers. Uzbekistan sees this as a threat to their agriculture in the Fergana Valley and has made clear its adamant opposition. The only winners, if this conflict results, will be the armed extremist armies that will gather new supporters on every side of the battle.

Nuclear energy is a safe, sustainable, and affordable energy source. Kazakhstan, together with the International Atomic Energy Agency and other outside partners, established the world's first Low-Enriched Uranium (LEU) Fuel Bank. This Fuel Bank, which Kazakhstan has committed to support through facilities and resources as the host nation, provides a secondary market for LEU to guarantee that all nations have an energy source for peaceful civilian nuclear power. Affordable energy remains a prerequisite for modernization of the economies of the countries of Central Asia. More importantly, radical groups will have less impact on the region since the threat of a water crisis is not a major concern.

Kazakhstan is a suitable location for the international energy center. President Nursultan Nazarbayev is a proven leader having the respect of all of Kazakhstan's neighbors. The southernmost region of Kazakhstan is close to Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Additionally, Kazakhstan is not involved in water disputes; therefore, it can guarantee the supply of electricity to all the countries. The absence of conflicts with the neighbors and international authority of Kazakhstan make it an ideal electric energy hub for the region.

Kazakhstan has a great opportunity to take a lead in transforming the whole Central Asian region into a more stable and prosperous place. I applaud President Nazarbayev and the Kazakh people for their continued commitment to civilian nuclear energy and Central Asia's development.

HONORING GENERAL MARC A. CISNEROS

HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor General Marc Anthony Cisneros, who recently received the Daughters of the American Revolution Medal of Honor.

The Daughters of the American Revolution is a volunteer organization whose members donate their time and energy toward pre-

serving American history, funding scholarship programs, and honoring great Americans like General Cisneros who have dedicated their lives in outstanding service to the United States of America.

General Cisneros led an illustrious career in the U.S. military from 1961 until 1996. He is most remembered for his role as a commander of the U.S. Army South in the 1989 Panama invasion, where he led the effort to depose General Manuel Noriega. It was his leadership that minimized casualties while achieving a total victory in the war.

I join the Daughters of the American Revolution in thanking General Cisneros for his service.

HONORING THE MARINE MAMMAL CENTER

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Marine Mammal Center in honor of its 40th anniversary. Located in Sausalito, California, the center seeks to expand knowledge of marine mammals and to inspire conservation efforts in the Bay Area and beyond.

Founded in 1975, the Marine Mammal Center works to advance the lives of ocean mammals and their habitats through rescue operations, rehabilitation, scientific research, and education. They have rescued and treated more than 20,000 animals over the past four decades, providing care across more than 600 miles of California coast. Additionally, their education programs engage approximately 50,000 children and adults each year through field trips, teacher training, and volunteer opportunities.

Along with providing direct care to individual animals, the Marine Mammal Center remains committed to protecting our water environments. Their ongoing awareness campaigns—from encouraging people to eat sustainable seafood to educating on the harmful effects of trash in our oceans—have made a lasting impact, and their scientific research has helped shed light on factors that impact the health of marine mammals, including the harmful effects of climate change.

The Marine Mammal Center has been a force of nature in ocean protection efforts, not just in Marin County and the California Coast but around the world. Their small but mighty staff oversees more than 1,100 volunteers, and their researchers have contributed to hundreds of publications over the years. Mr. Speaker, it is fitting to honor and thank the Marine Mammal Center on their 40th Anniversary for their unyielding commitment to our oceans and the creatures that call it home.

PORTION OF HIGHWAY 18 RENAMED TO HONOR MILITARY VETERANS

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an important ceremony that took

place in my district on Friday, April 8, 2016. A stretch of State Highway 18 located in the San Bernardino mountains was dedicated as the "Rim of the World Veterans Memorial Highway." I want to thank California State Assemblyman Jay Obernolte for authoring Assembly Concurrent Resolution 21, which was the legislation that was passed by the California State Assembly to rename Highway 18.

More importantly, though, I would like to commend the members of American Legion Post 360 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9624 for their tireless efforts to make this dedication come to fruition. Renaming Highway 18 to honor the sacrifices of the men and women who served in our Armed Forces exemplifies the respect that residents in the mountain communities of San Bernardino County have for our veterans.

I look forward to seeing the new signage on my next trip to the mountains. Thank you to everyone who was involved in making this special day possible but, most importantly, thank you to the veterans who've made America the greatest nation on earth.

ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY'S GRAVITATIONAL WAVE DISCOVERY

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, two weeks ago, our understanding of the universe leapt forward when gravitational waves were first detected. I rise today to recognize that achievement and honor six researchers from the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) who were part of one of the most significant scientific discoveries in a century.

While hundreds of scientists worked together to make this discovery, I am especially proud of the researchers from RIT—James Healy, Jacob Lange, Carlos Lousto, Richard O'Shaughnessy, John Whelan, and Yuanhao Zhang. All of these researchers are members of RIT's Center for Computational Relativity and Gravitation, which is led by Manuela Campanelli. Her team was one of the first groups to initially solve Albert Einstein's strong field equations describing black hole mergers. Because of this legacy, it is fitting that the recent discovery helps further confirm Einstein's general theory of relativity.

As the only microbiologist in Congress, I know that every scientist hopes to have their predictions verified by direct observation. I also know that this is relatively rare, so I stand in awe of this RIT team that accurately modeled the merger of two black holes and predicted the gravitational waves that were detected. This monumental achievement marks yet another chapter in Rochester's rich history as a center of scientific innovation and discovery.

Rochester has helped pioneer important research and develop innovative products such as the Kodak Brownie camera, the Norden bombsight, and myriad high-powered lasers. Established in 1829, RIT has not only played a critical role in Rochester's past, it continues to ensure that Rochester remains a global center of excellence. RIT makes invaluable

scientific contributions to the research community, but it is also a cornerstone of the Rochester community and helps provide local businesses with the talent they need to flourish.

Perhaps one of the most exciting aspects of this discovery is that it allows us to pose new questions and push the bounds of our collective knowledge. There's no doubt in my mind that RIT will play an essential role in these forthcoming discoveries, and I am proud that millions of people will continue learning about the world around us thanks to the contributions of researchers like Dr. Campanelli and the other members of her team.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding all of the individuals who helped contribute to this monumental discovery and especially the six researchers from RIT. These Rochesterians have helped fundamentally change our understanding of the world, and I am proud to support their work in Congress.

HONORING CULTIVATING CODERS

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cultivating Coders, a technology startup from Albuquerque which, on March 13, 2016, won "Startup of Year" at Tech.Col's South by Southwest interactive festival in Austin, Texas.

This past November, Charles Ashley III and Charles Sandidge founded Cultivating Coders which takes an eight-week coding boot camp on the road to tribal, rural, inner-city, and otherwise underserved communities. The program provides graduates with knowledge of full stack web development theories and practical experience including web languages PHP, JavaScript, and HTML. Additionally, the company pairs students with small businesses and nonprofits in our community that need assistance with large web application development. This offers local companies access to technology services and creates job opportunities for the students.

Only 5 months old, Cultivating Coders beat out 18 other startups to share the top prize with another startup called MentorMint. But Ashley and Sandidge are just getting started. Sandidge explained their enthusiasm behind attending the competition, "If [Cultivating Coders] can find large scale partners—IBM, Microsoft, those places that see the benefit of what we're doing and where we're doing it, and helping with diversity in tech—that's a win for us at South by Southwest."

Cultivating Coders is increasing the number of minorities in the technology industry and creating new jobs in the process. Mr. Speaker, we need more forward thinking companies like this which serve our communities, promote local businesses, train future leaders in technology, increase diversity, and drive innovation. I look forward to watching Cultivating Coders continue to grow and achieve success. Congratulations Cultivating Coders, keep up the great work.

HONORING LINDA BECK

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, as executive director of the Indian Valley Public Library, Linda Beck's dedication and advocacy has inspired a community and, now, after 28 years she is retiring. It is widely known that libraries can be the heart of the community: Billions of Americans gravitate to public libraries each year to read, borrow books, and study. During Linda Beck's tenure, the role of the Indian Valley Public Library expanded to include services beneficial to the greater community, including Internet access for library-goers who may search for employment, schools and general information at their leisure. As executive director, she, and scores of volunteers, have improved the lives of many citizens and inspired both children and adults to read for enjoyment and learning. And so we salute Linda Beck on this milestone, thank her for the leadership she provided and wish her many active retirement years.

RIVERHEAD FREE LIBRARY

HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute to honor the Riverhead Free Library's 120 years of service to the community.

Whether it is the Library of Congress in Washington, DC, or the community libraries in our home districts, it is important we recognize the tremendous value provided, even in today's technology-driven society. Since the earliest human civilizations, libraries have served as locations where information has been safeguarded and preserved, in the hopes that future generations are able to read and learn about the events of that time period. Today, our libraries' services to local communities are invaluable, providing important information to our constituents, and serving as meeting locations where people gather or relax and unwind. Libraries are also crucial to ensuring younger generations have access to information for school assignments and otherwise expand their knowledge base.

The Riverhead Free Library was organized and founded on April 4, 1896. The word "free" holds special significance, as it meant that all community residents of the time could borrow books without charge. The Library helped to grow and develop the diverse and bountiful community that Riverhead has become today. This service continues into the present, where members of the community go to utilize the wealth of information the library contains, and learn about the great ideas of both past and present. Today, the Library is chartered to serve over 32,000 residents of the Riverhead Central School District, and more than a dozen towns on the East End of Long Island.

It is my distinct honor to represent the Riverhead Free Library in the First Congressional District of New York, and I am grateful for all of the services it provides to my con-

stituents. 120 years of service to the public is no simple feat. It is only through the hard-work and dedication of its employees, and the tireless hours spent overseeing its maintenance and preservation, that have made the library the great center of learning and knowledge it is today. I would like to thank the employees of the Riverhead Free Library and the community of Riverhead for helping to preserve such a significant and special place in my district.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CIVIL WAR DEFENSES OF WASHINGTON NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, as we commemorate the 155th anniversary of the start of the Civil War today, my colleague Representative DONNA EDWARDS joins me to introduce a bill to recognize and preserve the Civil War Defenses of Washington located in the District of Columbia, Virginia, and Maryland. The defenses of Washington, including forts, unarmed batteries and rifle trenches, created a ring of protection for the nation's capital during the Civil War. This bill would redesignate the 22 Civil War Defenses of Washington currently under National Park Service jurisdiction as a national historical park, and allow other sites associated with the Civil War Defenses of Washington that are owned by a unit of state governments to be affiliated with the national historic park through cooperative agreements. This bill would also require the Secretary of the Interior to facilitate the storied history of the Civil War for both the North and the South, including the history of the defenses of Washington and the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864, being assembled, arrayed and conveyed for the benefit of the public for the knowledge, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.

The Civil War Defenses of Washington were constructed at the beginning of the war, in 1861, as a ring of protection for the nation's capital and for President Abraham Lincoln. By the end of the war, these defenses included 68 forts, 93 unarmed batteries, 807 mounted cannons, 13 miles of rifle trenches, and 32 miles of military roads. The major test of the Civil War Defenses of Washington came with the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864, when Confederate Lieutenant General Jubal Early, directed by General Robert E. Lee, sought to attack the nation's capital from the north, causing Union Forces threatening to attack Richmond, the capital of the Confederacy, to be withdrawn. General Early was delayed by Union Major General Lew Wallace at the Battle of Monocacy on July 9, 1864, and was stopped at the northern edge of Washington at the Battle of Fort Stevens on July 11–12, 1864. The Shenandoah Valley Campaign ended when Union Lieutenant General Philip Sheridan defeated General Early at the Battle of Cedar Creek, Virginia, on October 19, 1864.

Nearly all the individual forts in the Civil Defenses of Washington—on both sides of the Potomac and Anacostia rivers—were involved in stopping General Early's attack, and the Battle of Fort Stevens was the second and

last attempt by the Confederate Army to attack Washington.

Taken together, these battles were pivotal to the outcome of the war and the freedom and democracy that the war represented for this country. It is therefore fitting that we recognize these sites by redesignating them as a national historic park as we commemorate the 155th anniversary of the start of the Civil War. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

HONORING PASTOR LINDA SWEEZER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a driven and ambitious woman, Pastor Linda Sweezer. Pastor Sweezer has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to make a positive difference in doing God's will and spreading his Word.

Linda Sweezer was born the youngest child in a family of ten to Bessie Dillard and the late Alfred Dillard, Jr. in Vicksburg, Mississippi. She was saved at the tender age of ten.

She is a 1978 graduate of Vicksburg High School and attended and graduated from Milsaps College, Jackson, MS in 1982. She worked at Vicksburg Family Development Service for 19 years—fourteen of those years as the Co-Director.

She was called into the Gospel Ministry on February 5, 1995, ordained in 1997 and again in 2006 by Bishop T.D. Jakes of Dallas, Texas at The Potter's House International. She was called to pastor and founded The House of Peace Worship Church in December 2001. It is known as: "The Church Where the Holy Spirit is in Charge." In May 2006, the Holy Spirit led Pastor Sweezer to begin another church in the Rolling Fork area; it is known as The House of Peace Worship Church International/Delta.

Apostle Linda Sweezer is also a playwright and has written, produced and directed fifteen major productions, which were performed in the theater in the surrounding areas of Vicksburg, Rolling Fork and Fayette, Mississippi and Texarkana, TX.

She is the author of a book entitled, "Eating Along the Way!—A Survivor's Guide for People Who Are Serious About Hearing God's Call." In addition, she was the co-owner of a Christian bookstore.

She was affirmed into the Apostolic calling on July 29th 2011. The Affirmation Ceremony was conducted by Apostle Michael O. Exum, Executive Director of The Potter's House International Pastoral Alliance and Apostle Eyvone Smith of His Harvest Ministries, Oxford, Mississippi.

Some other achievements include: appointed Board Member of the United Way of West Central Mississippi (2011–2014); Director of The House of Peace Substance Abuse Prevention Program; appointed for a second term to the Election Commission (2009–2012); appointed to the Election Commission (2005–2009); appointed twice to the City of Vicksburg Civil Service Commission. Pastor Sweezer was honored as a Local Recipient of 100 Black Women; recognized as a Distinguished

African American by St. Mark Freewill Baptist Church; nominated as one of the 50 Leading Business Women of America.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. named a scholarship in Pastor Linda Sweezer's name at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast and she was appointed to the Vicksburg-Warren School District Advisory Council to develop plans for building Mega Schools. She also has received several awards and recognitions. She was selected by the Iyettes of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. as one of the Religious Role Models; Outstanding Young Women of America; Woman of Excellence Award in Art and Literature; Sower of the Lord Award and Peacemaker Award given by the Flying High for Jesus Outreach.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pastor Linda Sweezer for her passion and dedication to spread the word of God and desire to make a difference in the lives of others.

COMMEMORATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF PATTY FUCHS

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Patty Fuchs on her twenty-two years of dedication and service to Goodwill Industries of Central Illinois.

From the very beginning, Patty Fuchs, a native of Peoria, Illinois and the CEO of Goodwill Industries of Central Illinois, strived to support the people around her and ensure success for every facet of the Central Illinois community. A graduate of Peoria High School and Bradley University, where she ultimately earned her master's degree, Patty decided to first give back to the Peoria education system by becoming a teacher at McKinley Grade School. At this point in her life, she discovered her passion for watching people grow to their full potential.

When Patty accepted the CEO position at Goodwill Industries of Central Illinois, she turned a struggling non-profit into a flourishing and successful institution. Under Patty's nearly two decade long tenure, Goodwill Industries of Central Illinois underwent a period of tremendous expansion. Currently, the non-profit oversees eleven stores and provides vocational programs across twenty-one counties. Because of their annual successes, total persons served grew from 100 in 1993 to 1,800 served in 2014. In addition, the organization, today, employees nearly 400 people compared to the mere 65 employed in 1993 when Patty began her role as CEO. These statistics attest to Patty's dedication to the organization and her tireless efforts to successfully expand and develop the non-profit to serve more individuals and families in the community.

Goodwill Industries of Central Illinois as well as the Central Illinois community ultimately benefited under Patty's leadership. I wish her a wonderful retirement surrounded by her family and loved ones. Again, congratulations, Patty, on your successful career and retirement.

TRIBUTE TO WARREN D. "DUSTY" WILLIAMS

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to Riverside County, California, are exceptional. On April 14th, Warren D. "Dusty" Williams will be retiring from the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District after 39 years of dedicated service, including over 13 years as its General Manager-Chief Engineer.

Dusty began his career in June 1977 as a student intern with the District. For the next four decades, he dedicated himself to loyal, conscientious, innovative and outstanding service to residents of the area, culminating with his leadership of the organization. Dusty is recognized as a national leader on flood safety, stormwater capture and environmental regulatory issues. He served as President of the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies, on national committees including the National Committee on Levee Safety, and has testified before several Congressional Committees on such important issues as levee safety and amendments to the federal Clean Water Act.

Dusty has also been a strong local partner with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; guiding ongoing and critical federal projects including the Santa Ana Main Stem Project and the Murrieta Creek Flood Control Environmental Restoration and Recreation Projects through technical, fiscal and administrative hurdles. I believe the reason Dusty was such an effective leader was the depth and range of his technical expertise, effective communication skills, commitment to excellence and loyalty to his community.

In light of all that Dusty has done for our region and the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, it is only fitting to honor him on the occasion of his retirement. Dusty has contributed immensely to the betterment of our community and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and my friend. To conclude, Mr. Speaker I want to thank Dusty for his service to the people of Riverside County—his dedication, insight and passion for flood management will be greatly missed.

HONORING VIVIAN LEE ON THE OCCASION OF HER INDUCTION INTO THE WASHINGTON STATE NURSES HALL OF FAME

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Vivian Lee for her recent induction into the Washington State Nurses Hall of Fame. This a fitting recognition of her years of considerable contributions to the healthcare community.

Mrs. Lee has been an influential leader in Seattle's nursing and healthcare industry for decades by demonstrating her exceptional

commitment to selflessly serving others in need. During her tenure as the Program Management Officer of the federal Title X program, she helped low-income citizens receive family planning assistance, among other healthcare services, at an affordable cost.

Mrs. Lee has also pioneered the way for future African American nurses to be successful in the healthcare field. She holds the distinction of being the first African American to be admitted into the University of Washington's prestigious Bachelors of Science nursing program. She was also the first African American to receive the Washington State School Nurse of the Year Award, serve as a registered nurse at Seattle's VA Hospital, and be hired by the U.S. Public Health Service. Through these notable accomplishments, Mrs. Lee broke historic ground and her example serves as an inspiration to many in our region.

Outside of her impressive record in the healthcare field, Mrs. Lee is actively engaged in important community issues including civil rights, child nutrition, and women's issues. She has shown her passion for women's health by serving as the inaugural leader of the first Federal Regional Office on Women's Health, which has grown to 144 clinics nationwide that focus on women's reproductive health research and national women's health policy. Mrs. Lee has shown her passion for educating and mentoring students by serving on the UW Alumni Board of Trustees, co-founding the UW Multicultural Alumni Partnership, and chairing the UWAA Diversity Committee.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Vivian Lee for her admirable achievements in the healthcare and nursing industries. Through her many accomplishments she has continued to improve the quality of healthcare that many people receive in the greater Seattle area.

EQUAL PAY DAY

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, today is Equal Pay Day, which symbolizes how many additional days since the beginning of this year a woman had to work full-time to earn the same amount a man earned last year. The sad truth is that equal pay for American women remains a goal, not a reality.

It is unacceptable that in the 21st century, women still earn just 79 cents for each dollar a man earns. For women of color, the facts are even worse: African American women earn just 60 cents, and Latinas just 55 cents, for each dollar earned by white, non-Hispanic men.

These pay gaps are appalling, and cannot be justified. Today, mothers are the breadwinners or co-breadwinners in more than half of U.S. households. Like men, their families depend on their salaries to pay for shelter, food, their children's education, and health care.

Women merit and deserve equal pay for equal work. Congress must pass the Paycheck Fairness Act. This will strengthen America's families and our national economy as well. Let us reaffirm the simple truth that when women succeed, America succeeds.

HONORING CAROL KUNZE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I, along with Representative GARAMENDI and Representative HUFFMAN, rise to recognize and honor Ms. Kunze for her great contribution to the designation of the Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument by President Barack Obama on July 10, 2015.

This outstanding accomplishment was made possible by the tireless work of countless advocates like Ms. Kunze. Their commitment to engaging friends, colleagues, local residents, businesses, stakeholders across the country, and policymakers in a coordinated effort to achieve permanent protection was critical to the establishment of the Monument.

Now, the Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument may be counted among the hundreds of pristine parks across the country that represent America's most treasured public resources. The region's unique geological formations will play host for the world's scientists for years to come. Centuries-old archeological sites will draw curious historians and researchers as they piece together the stories of generations past. And avid bikers, hikers, campers, horsemen, and sportsmen will be able to enjoy this landmark that is now forever open and accessible to outdoor enthusiasts from Northern California and beyond.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument serves as proof of the value of the Antiquities Act and the power of the Executive to protect these lands in the face of inaction by Congress. After extensive input from interested parties and substantial evidence of this region's value, the Obama Administration honored the support of stakeholders, and the gravity of conservation.

The legacy of public lands is one of the most important we can leave for future generations. The Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument is a critical piece of a preservation system that stretches from the Hawaiian Islands to the Maine Coast. It has been a privilege working with Ms. Kunze to further our mutual goal of preserving our nation's great open spaces, and we look forward to collaborating in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SIKH COMMUNITY OF CONNECTICUT ON VAISAKHI

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sikh Community of Connecticut, and their dedicated leaders who are working hard to challenge the misconceptions and stereotypes the Sikh community faces in Connecticut, and the nation as a whole. Many American Sikhs face misunderstanding in their schools and workplaces, despite the over 100-year history of the faith in America. I thank the Sikh Community of Connecticut for their work to bring greater understanding of Sikh values to all Americans. In particular, Mr. Swaranjit

Singh Khalsa and the Sikh Sivak Society, who organized an awareness campaign in my district to educate eastern Connecticut residents about Sikhism through public service advertisements seen around town. I was fortunate to meet Mr. Singh in my office recently to discuss the project and the challenges the community is facing.

Sikhism originated in the Punjab region of South Asia, founded on the ideals of devotion to God, service to others, social justice, and equality of all people. Twenty-five million people practice Sikhism all over the world, including 250,000 Sikhs in the United States, making Sikhism the fifth largest religion in the world. Immigration of Sikhs to the United States primarily began in the 1960s, as many came in search of higher education, and stayed to raise families. Indeed, Sikhs have made great contributions to the culture, economy, and society of the United States.

This month, Sikhs all over the world will be celebrating Vaisakhi. This holiday commemorates the founding of the Khalsa, or the collective body of committed Sikhs.

Vaisakhi is a time to acknowledge the values of Sikhism, and the growth of the Sikh community. This year, the Sikh Community of America organized the Freedom March for Sikh Nation on April 9th in Washington, D.C. This event is a time for all Americans to come together to learn about and celebrate Vaisakhi, and bring attention to issues surrounding Sikh identity in the United States.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Sikh community for their many contributions to American culture, Mr. Singh for his efforts to bring understanding about Sikhism to my region, and to wish all a joyous Vaisakhi.

TRIBUTE TO ANNIE BRANDT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Annie Brandt for being named a 2016 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2016 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 640 business leaders and growing.

As the Community Engagement Leader at Thrivent Financial Annie works tirelessly to facilitate generosity across the state of Iowa. She is reminded on a daily basis that the greatest thing a human can do is dedicate themselves to helping and giving to others. Annie exemplifies that professionally and personally. She dedicates her time and talents to a number of organizations in the community including Oakridge Neighborhoods, Des Moines Community Playhouse, Young Women's Resource Center, Habitat for Humanity,

Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center, Kappa Kappa Gamma, and Lead Like a Lady.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Annie in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Annie on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2016 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE SCIENTISTS AND TECHNOLOGISTS—THOMAS TORRES

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Thomas Torres from Houston, TX for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists to represent the state of Texas at the Congress of Future Science and Technology leaders.

Thomas attends J. Frank Dobie High School and is one of 13 high school honor students selected from the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas. These students were selected as Texas delegates at the Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders. This program was designed for high school students to be recognized for their hard work in school, as well as to support their aspirations of working in a science or technology field. The National Academy was founded by Richard Rossi and Dr. Robert Darling; Mr. Rossi currently serves as president. The Congress is being held at the Tsongas Center at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell from June 29th through July 1st. Thomas was selected by a group of educators to be a delegate for the Congress thanks to his dedication to his academic success and goals of pursuing science or technology. We are proud of Thomas and all of his hard work, and know he will make Houston proud.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Thomas for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists. Keep up the great work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KRISTI L. NOEM

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mrs. NOEM. Mr. Speaker, on March 23, 2016 I was absent. I would have voted Nay on the motion to recommit H.R. 2745. I would have voted Aye on passage of H.R. 2745. I would have voted Aye on H. Res. 658 Condemning in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks in Brussels on March 22, 2016, which murdered more than 30 innocent people, and severely wounded many more.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD “TED” LOVETT

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and Representative BENNIE G. THOMPSON, I am honored to recognize Mr. Ted Lovett, Director of Legislative Affairs at the Department of Homeland Security, for his decade of selfless public service. Ted has been an exemplary representative of the Department and an incredible resource for the Members and staff of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Ted is the kind of person who goes the extra mile. The most obvious signs of his commitment are his responsiveness, his depth of knowledge regarding policy and legislative matters, his proactive outreach, and the long hours he works to ensure that Members and staff have all the information they need to do their jobs effectively. It is a matter of course to get a phone call or an email from Ted late in the evening or on the weekend to ensure Members have critical information before an issue breaks in the news.

Ted understands the critical nature of the mission to inform Congress, and it is his engagement and honesty that make a real difference. Whether he's providing technical assistance on a proposed bill, or arranging briefings to assist Congress in its mandate to provide oversight, there is no doubt that Ted's tireless efforts and vigilance have made our nation safer and more secure.

Ted has been the Department's legislative manager for the Southwest Border Initiative, Guantanamo Detention, Visa Waiver Program, Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, REAL-ID, Human Screening Programs, the Merida Initiative, the Global Supply Chain Strategy, and Countering Violent Extremism programs. He also effectively manages DHS participation in Congressional hearings, from Secretary-level to subject-matter experts.

Ted has been critical to providing information and understanding during emerging homeland security events and crises such as the “Underwear Bomber” attack on Northwest flight 253 on Christmas Day 2009, the 2014 Unaccompanied Children surge at the U.S. Southwest Border, and the Ebola outbreak in 2014 and 2015.

Over the past decade, Ted has fostered many enduring and trusted relationships with Congress in furtherance and advocacy of DHS priorities in connection with current legislation, prospective legislation and the implementation of security policy. What has always impressed us is that Ted is the epitome of a non-partisan public servant.

On behalf of Ranking Member THOMPSON and the Committee on Homeland Security, I want to commend and thank Ted for his dedication and commitment to keeping the homeland safe and secure and wish him the very best as the next chapter of his life opens.

HONORING THE PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a very special group of young people. The Paul Laurence Dunbar High School boys' basketball team recently won the Kentucky High School Athletic Association state championship, better known in Kentucky as the “Sweet Sixteen”.

This event is very competitive and involves talented young athletes from across the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Like any successful endeavor, the victory was won by dedication, hours of practice, determination, and teamwork. The young men worked very hard for this accomplishment and they learned many lessons that will benefit them throughout their lives. I want to give special recognition to head coach Scott Chalk and the entire coaching staff and to thank them for the time and dedication they provided these young athletes.

Paul Laurence Dunbar High School is located in Lexington, Kentucky. This is the school's first ever state championship in boys' basketball. In the first three games of the tournament the Bulldogs posted come-from-behind wins. However, in the final game they led wire to wire, winning 61–52. I congratulate the students and their coaches on the state championship and I am proud to honor them before the United States House of Representatives.

ALMA ARRINGTON BROWN

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this communication is forwarded on behalf of the constituents of the Fifth Congressional District of Florida and me as we pay tribute to the life of Alma Arrington Brown:

We are deeply and profoundly saddened by the loss of this great woman, mother, grandmother, loved one, friend, philanthropist, community leader and so much more. She was married to the late Ronald H. Brown who served as the Chairman of the Democratic National Committee and President Clinton's Secretary of Commerce. She passed 20 years to the day of his passing.

To her loving children, the Honorable Michael A. Brown and Tracey Brown James; her son-in-law, Kendall James; and her grandchildren, Morgan and Ryan Brown, and Harmon and Calab James, our thoughts and prayers are with you, and our hearts share your loss. She loved and cared deeply for her family, her God and her politics. I hope in some small way you know just how much I cared for and will miss her too.

She was born in Brooklyn, New York. She was a graduate of Fisk University, and received a master's degree from Manhattanville College. She lived the majority of her adult life in Washington, DC. She launched her career as an educator then worked with numerous organizations including the National Council of Negro Women, National Urban League and Girl Scouts of America. While at the District of Columbia

Office of International Business, she worked with the Chinese government to construct a Chinese archway, which helped energize Chinatown. She was also a radio show host at WKYS-FM. She eventually retired as a business executive with Chevy Chase Bank. During her illustrious career, she was a fierce and formidable force for positive change and equality.

She was active with national and community social, civic and political organizations. She had leadership roles with numerous entities including The Links, Inc.; Jack and Jill; The Girl Friends Inc.; and the Smart Set.

She lived her passion for humanity by her actions. As a human rights champion, she dared us to be more than ordinary, she encouraged and pushed us to be better than we even knew we could be. As a citizen of the world, she made us understand and appreciate our individual differences, and all that we hold in common. As a true believer, she simply made us believe by her example. Her standards were high, yet attainable; her truths were straightforward and without embellishment; her voice was strong with reason and reassurance; her directions were clear, simple and intended for keeping our feet on the right path; and her love was great and powerful and showed brightly in her eyes and heart. We are better for having had her in our midst, and we now ask Our Heavenly Father to hold her gently in his loving embrace for all eternity.

HONORING JOHN YAKLIGIAN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. John Yakligian for being named the 2016 Senior Farmer of the Year by the Madera Chamber of Commerce. John's outstanding contributions to the agriculture industry and the Madera community are truly deserving of this special honor.

In 1955, John and his wife, Lois, moved to Madera County and began their journey of farming together. Over the last 62 years, they have farmed a variety of crops including: almonds, raisins, chickens, cotton, small grains, vegetable feed crops, and beans.

Giving back has always been a priority for John. In addition to serving on numerous California Farm Bureau Federation committees and as the President of the Madera County Farm Bureau, John served for 15 years on the Madera Community Hospital Board. He has been a member of the Madera Rotary Club for 42 years and is a founder and active member of the Grace Community Church. John is also a veteran and served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

In addition to farming, John volunteered for 35 years at a non-profit organization, Far East Broadcasting Company, before becoming employed as the organization's Executive Vice President and CEO. The organization broadcasts to two-thirds of the world's population in over 141 languages to over one hundred countries.

John's family is very important to him. Lois and John have two children, Phillip and Jane, five grandchildren, and seven great grandsons. John and Lois have given back to their community in many ways, and it is fitting and appropriate to honor them for their accomplishments and efforts.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to recognize John as the Senior Farmer of the Year presented by the Madera Chamber of Commerce. John's success is exemplary of the American Dream, and he serves as an inspiration for all of us.

TRIBUTE TO BEN BUENZOW

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ben Buenzow for being named a 2016 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2016 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 640 business leaders and growing.

As an agent/owner at the Ben Buenzow State Farm Agency, Ben works tirelessly to provide top of the line customer service each and every day so that they can live worry free and know that their money is in good hands. Civically, Ben is one of the most dedicated individuals you will find. He is involved in a number of organizations throughout his community including serving as the director at large for the Urbandale Chamber of Commerce, the founding chairperson of the genYP Young Professionals group in Urbandale and co-chair of the Urbandale Police Department National Night Out event. He is driven by his passion for helping others and doing all he can to improve his community.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Ben in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Ben on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2016 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

HONORING THE AMERICAN MUSLIM ALLIANCE OF FLORIDA

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the American Muslim Alliance of Florida. Through its scholarship program, this organization has served the state of Florida by improving graduating high school seniors' access to higher education.

This year, the American Muslim Alliance of Florida is providing 15 students with scholarships totaling \$10,000 to help them further their education. Past recipients have attended some of America's most prestigious universities thanks to these scholarships. I would like to extend my congratulations to this year's scholarship winners, and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

It is my great privilege to recognize the American Muslim Alliance of Florida for the work they have done for these students and South Florida community.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE SCIENTISTS AND TECHNOLOGISTS—SAMUEL YEBOAH

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Samuel Yeboah from Pearland, TX for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists to represent the state of Texas at the Congress of Future Science and Technology leaders.

Samuel attends St. Thomas High School and is one of 13 high school honor students selected from the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas. These students were selected as Texas delegates at the Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders. This program was designed for high school students to be recognized for their hard work in school, as well as to support their aspirations of working in a science or technology field. The National Academy was founded by Richard Rossi and Dr. Robert Darling; Mr. Rossi currently serves as president. The Congress is being held at the Tsongas Center at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell from June 29th through July 1st. Samuel was selected by a group of educators to be a delegate for the Congress thanks to his dedication to his academic success and goals of pursuing science or technology. We are proud of Samuel and all of his hard work, and know he will make Houston proud.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Samuel for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists. Keep up the great work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, due to my participation in the Presidential Delegation to Cuba from March 20 through March 22, I was unable to vote on Roll Call 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, and 135. I would have voted on each had I been present.

Roll Call 130: "Aye"
Roll Call 131: "No"
Roll Call 132: "No"
Roll Call 133: "Aye"
Roll Call 134: "Aye"
Roll Call 135: "Aye"

HONORING THE COASTAL BEND
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR
THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Coastal Bend Council of Governments for their 50th anniversary. The group exists to serve 11 counties and 32 cities in South Texas with a host of services, including water quality management and waste management, and coordinates region-wide projects for its member towns and cities.

In an age of too much government, it is great to recognize such a creative and efficient collaboration between local governments and private entities. This terrific volunteer association not only serves, but protects the people of South Texas with 9–1–1 emergency services, criminal justice services, and Homeland Security programs.

For 50 years, the Coastal Bend Council of Governments has provided the Coastal Bend region with cost-efficient services through its unique partnership of the public and private sector. I honor their collaborative service to the South Texas community.

HONORING ARROWHEAD UNITED
WAY

HON. PETE AGUILAR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Arrowhead United Way as it celebrates its 125th anniversary. Arrowhead United Way was founded on April 17, 1891 in San Bernardino, California. Today it serves communities throughout California's 31st Congressional District, helping thousands of families access health, education and financial resources in the areas of our region most in need.

Arrowhead United Way's ability to partner with schools, government agencies, local businesses, faith leaders and other groups allows residents throughout the Inland Empire region to access critical everyday services. Arrowhead United Way's advocacy in our communities has advanced the common good and made the Inland Empire a better place to live.

I congratulate Arrowhead United Way on its 125th anniversary and commend the staff, both past and present, who have made and will continue to make a profound difference in the lives of so many families throughout our community.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF
CAPTAIN KEITH "JUDGE" HOSKINS,
COMMANDING OFFICER OF
NAVAL AIR STATION PENSACOLA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Captain Keith "Judge" Hoskins,

Commanding Officer of Naval Air Station Pensacola, on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Navy. For more than 27 years, Captain Hoskins has served our Nation with honor and distinction as a combat pilot during Operations Decisive Edge, Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom, as a member of the Navy's elite flight demonstration squadron the Blue Angels, as an action officer and executive officer in various high-level functions, as third battalion officer at the United States Naval Academy, and most recently as Commanding Officer of NAS Pensacola.

A native of Parkville, Missouri, Judge was born into a military family, learning the importance of selfless service at a young age from his father, who served in the United States Army. After graduating with a degree in electrical engineering technology from Missouri Western State University, Judge completed Aviation Officer Candidate School in September 1989, and in February 1992, he was designated a Naval Aviator. Early in his career, Judge participated in vital national security missions, when, as a member of the "Sidewinders" of VFA-86, he completed a deployment onboard the USS *America*, flying combat missions in support of Operations Decisive Edge and Southern Watch.

Like millions of Americans across the country, Judge was inspired as a child by the Blue Angels, but unlike most of us, he didn't just dream about becoming a Blue Angel—he actually did it. After returning stateside and serving a year as an instructor pilot for the "Gladiators" of VFA-106, Judge joined one of the Navy's most visible squadrons—the Blue Angels. During his three seasons as member of the Blues, Judge served as the narrator, opposing solo, and lead solo pilot, and, in addition, he also served as the Blue Angels' operations officer in his final season.

Upon his return to the fleet, Judge was assigned to the "Fist of the Fleet," serving as the operations and maintenance officer of VFA-25. Like so many of our Nation's brave Naval Aviators, the place where Judge truly shined was on the battlefield, and during his time at the "Fist of the Fleet," Judge flew combat missions in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Southern Watch, and Iraqi Freedom. Through these combat missions and deployments, Judge demonstrated time and again the type of brave and selfless service that exemplifies our Nation's servicemembers.

Throughout his career, Judge has also shown tremendous leadership outside the cockpit, helping fight the Global War on Terror in multiple capacities. During a tour at U.S. STRATCOM, Judge served as an action officer and executive officer in the Plans and Policy Directorate, where he wrote, assessed, and disseminated policy at the highest level as STRATCOM was in the midst of restructuring to fight the Global War on Terror. Judge's excellence and leadership at STRATCOM were recognized by his selection as the aide de camp to the STRATCOM Commander.

After his time at STRATCOM, Judge once again returned to combat posture, leading a command tour with "The Valions" of VFA-15, as they served a combat deployment onboard the USS *Theodore Roosevelt* in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Following the completion of his command tour, Judge helped to mold the next generation of Naval Officers, serving as the third battalion officer at

the United States Naval Academy, and as the national director of the NROTC program at the Naval Service Training Command.

In 2013, Judge was named the 56th Commanding Officer of NAS Pensacola. As the Cradle of Naval Aviation, Pensacola and the entire Northwest Florida community are immensely proud of our area's tradition of military service and support for those who wear the uniform. NAS Pensacola is also the proud home of the Blue Angels, and Judge became the first former Blue Angel to command NAS Pensacola.

During his long and distinguished career, Judge has logged more than 3,400 flight hours, 570 arrested landings, and he has been awarded numerous decorations including: the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Air Medal (three awards with combat "V"), Navy Commendation Medal (three awards with combat "V"), Navy Achievement Medal (two awards), and many unit commendations and awards.

Captain Keith "Judge" Hoskins embodies the selfless commitment to service, sacrifice, and exceptional skill of our Nation's servicemembers. Throughout his career, he has contributed greatly to keeping our Nation safe and protecting the freedom and liberty of all Americans, and he has also inspired countless others to pursue a career of service through his leadership and example.

On behalf of the United States Congress and the people of Florida's First Congressional District, my wife Vicki and I thank Judge for his service and leadership, we congratulate him on his retirement, and we wish him all the best for continued success in his post-Naval endeavors. Bravo Zulu.

COMMEMORATING THE INDUCTING
OF CAPT. JOHN EDGAR TIPTON
INTO THE ROTC HALL OF FAME

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the inducting of Capt. John Edgar Tipton into the ROTC Hall of Fame. John grew up in Granite City, Illinois and graduated from Granite City High School in 1989. After graduation he enlisted in the military to serve in Operation Desert Storm. John then went to SIUE and graduated as a Distinguished Military Graduate from the Army ROTC Program in 1995. He had earned many commendations including: a Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Valorous Unit Award. And so it is most certainly fitting that such a heroic and distinguished man should be enshrined here on this historic day, the 100th anniversary of the ROTC.

On May 2, 2004 Capt. Tipton was killed when a piece of shrapnel from an explosion came through the window of his office and struck him. We will forever be indebted to him and to his family for their sacrifice. It is important, however, that we, in remembering his courageous service as a soldier, do not forget his service as a wonderful son, a devoted husband, a loving father, and a beloved friend.

I have had the privilege of knowing both his wife Susie and his in-laws for some time now.

In times like these I am reminded of the comforting words of John 11:25 “Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live.’”

HONORING SHELLEY MARTIN FOR
HER SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE
OF CALIFORNIA’S 36TH CONGRES-
SIONAL DISTRICT

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, today it is my honor to congratulate and recognize Ms. Shelley Martin: a generous and selfless individual who worked as an integral part of my team for over three years.

Shelley is a long time resident of my congressional district. She grew up in the Hemet Valley and graduated from Hemet High School. She then attended The Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute in Los Angeles, and later returned back to her hometown to serve her community.

For over three years, Shelley was the gold standard for constituent services in my office. She dedicated many hours and energy to constituents, finding solutions in the most difficult cases involving social Security, Medicare, and Veterans.

While working for the People of California’s 36th Congressional District, Shelley paid special care and attention to veterans in our communities. Shelley spent countless hours advocating on behalf of veterans who served our country honorably. She treated each constituent who sought help from my office with the patience, care, and respect due to them. Shelley’s selfless dedication to serving those in need in my congressional district is commendable and a model for public service.

Shelley remains passionate about serving the community she calls home. In her time with my office, Shelley successfully managed all community engagement in the communities of San Jacinto and Hemet. She is diligent and thorough, and goes above and beyond the call of duty to serve our communities, working hard to ensure that my constituents have the resources that they need.

Her selfless dedication and hard work will be greatly missed. However, her love of public service will not be forgotten. Shelley has transformed the lives of countless individuals and families in my district, and for that I am truly grateful.

I thank Shelly for her dedication and service to the constituents of the 36th district. I wish her well in her future endeavors and look forward to seeing her future accomplishments.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE
SCIENTISTS AND TECH-
NOLOGISTS—TEJES SRIVASTAVA

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Tejes Srivastava from Sugar

Land, TX for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists to represent the state of Texas at the Congress of Future Science and Technology leaders.

Tejes attends William B. Travis High School and is one of 13 high school honor students selected from the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas. These students were selected as Texas delegates at the Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders. This program was designed for high school students to be recognized for their hard work in school, as well as to support their aspirations of working in a science or technology field. The National Academy was founded by Richard Rossi and Dr. Robert Darling; Mr. Rossi currently serves as president. The Congress is being held at the Tsongas Center at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell from June 29th through July 1st. Tejes was selected by a group of educators to be a delegate for the Congress thanks to his dedication to his academic success and goals of pursuing science or technology. We are proud of Tejes and all of his hard work, and know he will make Sugar Land proud.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Tejes for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists. Keep up the great work.

HONORING YOLANDA JONES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Yolanda Jones, who is a director, counselor and educator.

Yolanda Jones grew up in Greenwood, Mississippi, and after graduating from Greenwood High School she enrolled in Grambling State University.

Although she recalls her time at Grambling fondly, it was her first experience living away from home and she oscillated between being focused on schoolwork and being distracted by the more social aspects of college life. Eventually, she left Grambling before finishing her degree, working a number of odd jobs, both in Greenwood and Jackson, before deciding to re-enroll in JSU in 1999 under a program called Academic Second Chance, which is a program that allowed students, who failed to return and complete their bachelor’s degree, to be under a strict retention plan.

The next year Jones, who is fluent in sign language, received her B.A. degree in Disabilities Studies and Hearing-Impaired Education graduating summa cum laude. She also earned a master’s degree in rehabilitation counseling from Jackson State University in 2002. She began her career as a counselor in 2002 at MVSU and currently serves as the Director of the Comprehensive Counseling Center, a position she’s held since 2007. Jones also has received a master’s degree in criminal justice from Mississippi Valley State University.

Additionally, Dr. Jones has also been afforded the opportunity to study abroad. In the summer of 2012, she studied in Beijing, China, at the University of Trinidad and the University of West Indies.

Dr. Jones also served as: co-chair of the Financial Aid Appeals Committee, for students that are not meeting satisfactory academic progress; chair of the MVSU Behavioral Intervention Team; Advisory Board Member of the Boys and Girls Club, Inc. (MVSU Unit); and also a statutory member of the Mississippi Blues Commission, where she was appointed in 2013.

Dr. Jones has presented at several state and national conferences, which included: the United States Conference on AIDS (USCA) 2010 in Miami, Florida; the White House Initiative Policy Planning meeting in 2010, where she was selected to serve as the Historically Black Colleges and Universities’ representative; and most recently, at the 2015 National Association of Student Affairs Professionals conference (NASAP) in Huntsville, Alabama.

In Dr. Jones’ dissertation, “An Examination of Academic Variables that Explain Persistence to Graduation for Students who take Remedial Courses in Higher Education”, she examined academic variables between two groups of students (students that were required to take remedial courses and students that were not required to take any remedial courses) at public four year institutions to determine if there was a significant difference in their persistence to graduation. Utilizing a quantitative design, she examined the success of the students taking remedial courses as measured by graduation and the number of years it took them to meet their graduation requirements.

She is a scholar/practitioner who continues her research in this area as well as in the areas of retention, student persistence and student success among college students in hope of providing practical application that will assist in increasing the gap in college attendance and graduation rates of all students that enroll in institutions of higher learning. Jones hopes to use her doctorate in order to expand her influence in higher education administration, developing strategies that increase student retention and promote student success.

“Strategic planning is crucial!” she emphasized. There has always been a plethora of issues in higher education; however, it is pivotal that higher education institutions began making extraordinary efforts to meet students where they are, with special emphasis on the “under-prepared” students, in which schools are admitting in alarming numbers every year.”

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Yolanda Jones, a Director, Counselor and Educator, for her dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.

TRIBUTE TO COLLIN R. BARNES

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Collin R. Barnes for being named a 2016 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the

Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2016 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 640 business leaders and growing.

Collin is an interior designer and corporate focus market leader and stockholder at RDG Planning and Design. She is passionate about providing high quality, safe, and functional work environments for her clients. Collin is also an avid proponent of wellness and strives to promote it in her everyday life. Her dedication to wellness comes through in her work at RDG Planning and design as she finds new innovative ways to make client work spaces safe and healthy.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Collin in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Collin on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2016 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, March 17, I missed a series of Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on Number 127, 128, and 129.

COMMENDING CHIEF ROBERT GUSTAFSON

HON. MIMI WALTERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California. Mr. Speaker, in 1975, Robert Gustafson began his career in law enforcement when he joined the Glendale Police Department. Four years later, he joined the City of Orange Police Department, where he faithfully served our community for decades. His leadership has been critical to the public safety and the betterment of Orange.

Throughout his 41 year law enforcement career, he alleviated some of the most difficult issues facing our community. He oversaw the implementation of the Youth Services Board and the SHIELD program, which provides referrals to families and children in need of additional social assistance.

Furthermore, Chief Gustafson has been instrumental in the City of Orange's efforts to reduce gang violence, helping to establish Orange's Gang Reduction and Intervention Partnership. Additionally, he has been a tireless

advocate for those suffering from mental illness, and was awarded Orange Police Department's John Q. Wilson Award for Community Policing for these efforts in 2015.

Chief Gustafson also made the Five Pillars for Success the Department's standard. A selfless leader, he has always put others first and never failed to put the police department and the residents of Orange before himself. He exemplifies selfless public service, and he is a stalwart in our community. We are grateful for his leadership in Orange over the last 37 years.

I thank Chief Gustafson for his tremendous service to the City of Orange and wish him the best in the next chapter of his life.

HONORING JAKE WESTERBERG

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jake Westerberg for his hard work and dedication to the people of Colorado's Fourth District. He served as an intern in my Washington, DC office for the Spring 2016 session of Congress.

This young man's work has been exemplary and I know he has a bright future ahead. He served as a tour guide, interacted with constituents, and learned a great deal about our nation's legislative process. I was glad to be able to offer him this educational opportunity and look forward to seeing him build his career in public service.

Jake plans to continue pursuing his degree at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs at the conclusion of his internship. As he returns to the great state of Colorado, I wish him the best in his future endeavors. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Jake Westerberg for his service this Spring.

IN TRIBUTE TO DR. LESTER THUROW, TRAILBLAZING ECONOMIST AND FORMER DEAN OF THE MIT SLOAN SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Lester Thurow, the iconoclastic economist and former dean of MIT's Sloan School of Management, who passed away on March 25, 2016.

Lester Thurow was born on May 7, 1938 in Livingston, Montana.

Lester Thurow's father was a Methodist minister and his mother was a teacher.

Lester Thurow worked in the local copper mines for four summers as a young man, but as an excellent student soon found himself on a fast academic track.

Lester Thurow's journey began when he received his bachelor's degree in political economy from Williams College in 1960.

Following his graduation from Williams College, Lester Thurow was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship, where he studied philosophy, pol-

itics and economics at Balliol College of Oxford University in London.

Lester Thurow graduated with first class honors from Oxford University in 1962.

In 1964, Lester Thurow earned his doctorate in economics from Harvard University.

Lester Thurow joined the faculty of MIT's Sloan School of Management in 1968 and was appointed dean in 1987, a position he held until 1993.

In 1964, Lester Thurow served on the staff of the Council of Economic Advisors during the administration of President Lyndon Johnson, and served as an economic advisor to Governor Jimmy Carter during the 1976 presidential campaign.

In 1986, Lester Thurow joined with five other leading economic policy experts to found the Economic Policy Institute, the mission of which was to find solutions to address the growing problems of rising income inequality in the United States.

Lester Thurow was a longtime advocate of a political and economic system of the Japanese and European type, in which governmental involvement in the direction of the economy is far more extensive than is the case in the United States—a model that has come to be known as "Third Way" philosophy.

He supported policies that would help society and corporations make long-term investments in research in order to spur growth.

Lester Thurow authored several economics books targeted to a general readability in the 1990s, including:

1. "Head to Head: The Coming Economic Battle Among Japan, Europe, and America" (1992), which surveyed the post-Cold War economic landscape and suggested that investment and education would be keys to renewing developed economies;

2. "The Future of Capitalism: How Today's Economic Forces Shape Tomorrow's World" (1996); and

3. "Building Wealth: The New Rules for Individuals, Companies, and Nations in a Knowledge-Based Economy."

Lester Thurow's ability to explain the most complex economic issues created a path for anyone who was willing to listen and learn no matter their social or economic background.

Lester Thurow summarized the impact that economists have on society when he stated that, "Economists, can for example, always retreat to unobservable variables to explain unwelcome facts."

Lester Thurow knew that the advice economists give is not always what is the most popular thing to say, but what leaders and students need to hear.

On March 25, 2016, Lester Thurow passed away at his home in Westport, Massachusetts, surrounded by his family.

Lester Thurow is survived by his wife of 18 years, the former Anna Soldinger, of Westport and Tel Aviv; two sons, Torben Thurow and Ethan Thurow, both of Boston; two stepchildren, Yaron Karasik and Yael Shinar, both of Tel Aviv; a brother; and seven grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to observe a moment of silence for this trailblazing economist and educator whose pioneering work made a significant contribution to our understanding of micro and macroeconomics.

A TRIBUTE TO JOSH BRABY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Josh Braby for being named a 2016 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Since 2000, *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2016 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 640 business leaders and growing.

Josh works as a Partner/Project Manager at Neumann Bros. Inc. where he works tirelessly to challenge his team by asking them to stick with the core values of the company but still finding new, innovative ways to improve their overall success. He is driven daily to make the thoughts of his clients a reality through hard work and dedication to his craft. Josh's passion for construction also translates into his civic duties where he is passionate about teaching young people the values of a skilled trade that lasts a lifetime. That passion has led him to create a program for high school students that educates them about construction through hands-on projects.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Josh in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Josh on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2016 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE
SCIENTISTS AND TECH-
NOLOGISTS—ALLIX KEAN

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Allix Kean from Katy, TX for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists to represent the state of Texas at the Congress of Future Science and Technology leaders.

Allix attends Harmony Science Academy of West Houston and is one of 13 high school honor students selected from the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas. These students were selected as Texas delegates at the Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders. This program was designed for high school students to be recognized for their hard work in school, as well as to support

their aspirations of working in a science or technology field. The National Academy was founded by Richard Rossi and Dr. Robert Darling; Mr. Rossi currently serves as president. The Congress is being held at the Tsongas Center at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell from June 29th through July 1st. Allix was selected by a group of educators to be a delegate for the Congress thanks to her dedication to her academic success and goals of pursuing science or technology. We are proud of Allix and all of her hard work, and know she will make Katy proud.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Allix for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists. Keep up the great work.

CONGRATULATING THE RIBAULT
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKET-
BALL TEAM

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I, Congresswoman CORRINE BROWN, the representative of Florida's 5th congressional district, wholeheartedly congratulate the Ribault High School Trojan girls basketball team in defeating Riverdale Baptist at Madison Square Garden to bring home to Jacksonville the Dick's Sporting Goods High School National Championship trophy. I also would like to extend my congratulations to the coaches, the staff, and the administration and all of the friends of Ribault High School on this tremendous honor.

Beyond a doubt, the Ribault High School girls' basketball team is a powerhouse in the state of Florida, and across the nation. Given that the team has won ten previous state titles and has been ranked as high as ninth in the country, they are a force to be reckoned with! Remarkably, the Lady Trojans made it through the regular season with just one loss. This did not deter them; however, as they Roared back to win the Florida state championship, and follow that up with a national championship victory in New York.

This is now the 4th time a Florida girls team has won this event in the eight years it has been held! Ribault, 30-1 this season, led by their star players RENNIA DAVIS and NOLA CARTER, along with Day'Neshia Banks, played a press defense which suffocated their opponents throughout the tournament. Indeed, Ribault Coach Shelia Pennick did an outstanding job in maintaining the team's extraordinary discipline and level of fitness throughout the season. Certainly, playing full court defense with that kind of intensity is exhausting, yet her players rarely exhibited any expression of slowing down.

With each succeeding championship, the Lady Trojans basketball team climbs the list of schools with the most state titles in Florida high school athletics, now tied for seventh place with 11 state titles, the most of any girls' basketball team in the state, and a remarkable achievement for a public high school given the presence of so many private schools on the multi-championships list. Beyond a doubt, this outstanding achievement is tremendously ex-

citing for the entire Jacksonville community and I am proud to say once again that on behalf of the constituents of Florida's 5th congressional district, I hereby honor the Ribault Trojans basketball team for their 11th state championship and this year's national title game in New York City's Madison Square Garden—Go Lady Trojans.

LOUISIANA NATIVE BECOMES THE
ARMY'S FIRST FEMALE INFAN-
TRY RECRUIT

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Tammy Grace Barnett of Robeline, Louisiana, for being the first female recruit to enlist with the United States Army infantry.

I am tremendously proud of Tammy, a Louisiana native who has stepped forward and answered the call to serve our nation. Prior to enlisting with the Army, Tammy has been serving her community in Louisiana as a law enforcement officer. On April 7, she gave up her Louisiana law enforcement badge and courageously took the Oath of Enlistment to become the first female recruit to enlist in the United States Army infantry division. Ms. Barnett truly reflects the spirit of Louisiana by living a life of service. We are forever indebted to these brave men and women. To commemorate this fact, I submit an article, written by Troy Washington of KSLA News.

LOUISIANA WOMAN MAKES U.S. ARMY HISTORY
(By Troy Washington)

ROBELINE, LA.—A Robeline native is making armed forces history as the first woman to enlist in the infantry in the United States Army.

Women in combat has been a topic of controversy for years, but now progress is being made.

Tammy Barnett was a police officer but traded in her badge to make history.

She's looking forward to seeing action on the front lines and making gains for women in the military.

Thursday, Barnett proudly raised her hand to take the Oath of Enlistment.

Dressed in tennis shoes, jeans and a t-shirt, 25-year-old Tammy Barnett stepped into the history books.

Barnett has been meeting with a recruiter since November and this week, at the military processing unit in Shreveport, she took a leap that's never been made before, she joined the infantry in the U.S. Army.

"They told me that I would be the first female in history to go infantry in the military," said Barnett.

Recently, the Defense Department lifted gender-based restrictions on military service. The historic change cleared the way for women like Barnett who want to serve on the front lines.

On April 4, the processing center received word that women would be allowed to sign up for combat jobs. Now, Barnett is hoping that others will follow her lead.

"I hope that I give them the courage, because I'm a small female, if I can do it, they can do it too, this could give them the courage to step out of their comfort zone," explained Barnett.

Barnett isn't fond of the limelight, but she has no problem stepping forward when it comes to service.

"I was going to go military police, but infantry is similar, and they are more on the front lines, like law enforcement here and I said that's what I want to do," said Barnett.

With her mind made up, Barnett isn't looking back, only forward to a future full of possibilities and breaking barriers for women in the military.

Barnett will head to Fort Benning, Georgia to start training. In the meantime, she says she's going to celebrate her history-making moment by going fishing this weekend.

HONORING EDWINA LYONS

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Edwina Lyons from Scottsville, Kentucky.

It can often be difficult to find employees who truly exemplify service, loyalty, integrity and commitment but Edwina has showcased all of these and more during her thirty-four years of service at Dollar General.

Edwina joined Dollar General on May 20th, 1982. She began in the Rework department at the Scottsville Distribution Center and grew her career and her influence through her hard work and dedication to excellence, eventually becoming the Senior Manager of Merchandise Support for the company. The length of Edwina's tenure has only been matched by the depth of her commitment to the Dollar General family.

What is truly inspirational about Edwina is the positive impact she has had on the employees at Dollar General and her community. When she departs in April, her passion for doing the right thing and her deeply rooted values will be missed.

I congratulate Edwina on an exceptional career and wish her well on her next chapter. Undoubtedly, she will continue to be of service to others.

BROADBAND IS CRUCIAL FOR MINNESOTA AND THE COUNTRY

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Blandin Foundation for their dedication to strengthening rural communities in Minnesota. One such way they are making a difference is through various programs, including their outstanding program which aims to increase access to high-speed broadband internet. I am happy to support the Minnesota Broadband Coalition's vision: "Everyone in Minnesota will be able to use convenient, affordable world-class broadband networks that enable us to survive and thrive in our communities and across the globe."

Like the Blandin Foundation, I too believe that increasing and expanding broadband in Minnesota is of the utmost importance. Back in February, I had the opportunity to voice my support for broadband expansion at the Minnesota Broadband Conference.

Over the past several decades we have seen the rise of internet and technology due to

its ability to improve people's lives. As a result of internet access, more businesses are emerging, new jobs are being created, and more educational opportunities abound.

However, many rural communities in Minnesota do not have consistent access to broadband, preventing their communities from thriving and keeping them at a competitive disadvantage. I commend the Blandin Foundation for their efforts to ensure that all communities have the opportunity to prosper and grow.

HONORING WAVERLY WOODSON DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, as young soldier in the Korean War, I was honored to follow in the footsteps of many Blacks in the military who exhibited extraordinary heroism and patriotism abroad despite facing discrimination and challenges at home. I would not be where I am today if it were not for my service in the Army. During our annual celebration of Black History Month, I would like to honor an unsung hero from West Philadelphia named Waverly "Woody" Woodson, Jr., who served as a young medic of World War II.

This summer will mark the 72nd anniversary of the historic D-Day invasion of World War II. Nearly three-quarters of a century later the event is still revered by all Americans as an example of our military's strength and bravery. However, the life-risking efforts of thousands of Black veterans from the war have gone unnoticed.

The 320th Barrage Balloon Battalion, a unit of all-Black soldiers, landed in France ahead of the main invasion force. The battalion's job was to deploy and man an aerial barrage of massive helium-filled balloons to protect the American forces from enemy bomber airplanes. The balloons forced enemy pilots to fly their planes at higher altitudes to avoid becoming entangled and made it harder to effectively aim their bombs.

Among the 320th was Waverly Woodson, who enlisted in the Army on Dec. 15, 1942, during his second year of his pre-medical studies. He did not wait to be called by the draft; rather he decided to sacrifice his career, comfort and life for his country and the world. Woodson's enlistment placed him in the Anti-Artillery Officer Candidate School but he was told upon completion of his training that there was no spot open for him. Instead, he was sent for medic training with the 320th Barrage Balloon Battalion. He was one of five medics aboard a Landing Craft Tank that left England on June 5, 1944, for a ninety-mile journey towards Omaha Beach.

Waverly's voyage on June 6, 1944, was commenced by a violent charge towards the shore. Along with his unit, Waverly valiantly stormed Omaha Beach in the midst of mines, mortar shells and heavy ammunition, with eyes fixed upon the mission of freedom that lay ahead. As a medic, Army Corporal Waverly Woodson Jr. risked his life to save the crippled and bleeding out American warriors clinging to their last thread of consciousness. He patched and resuscitated dozens if not hundreds of soldiers while he himself was

wounded by the shrapnel ripping away at his legs. Woodson's determined efforts directly influenced the result of this battle.

Though he was segregated into a racially organized regiment, he saved the lives of numerous soldiers regardless of their skin color. Woody would later say, on that day "they didn't care what my skin color was" and obviously he did not care either. He was bonded to his men by the camaraderie that only war can provoke and a steadfast allegiance to defending the greatest country in the world. His dedication broke down racial divides that day, and this is history that truly deserves recognition.

Woodson was previously nominated for the Medal of Honor, but he never received it. Instead, he was given the Bronze Star, the fourth-highest military honor. There exists no record of what happened to his nomination for the Medal of Honor. Not one of the thousands of Black soldiers who served in World War II received a Medal of Honor in the immediate wake of the war. Something is detrimentally wrong with that.

However, we can always remedy the mistakes of our past. In 1995, I was honored to bring Waverly Woodson and a group of African-American World War II veterans to the floor of the House Chamber and recognize these unsung heroes for their forgotten service. As a veteran myself, I was moved to see that their sacrifice was no longer overlooked but there is more work that we must do.

Black History Month must continue to play a pivotal role in helping all of us remember, preserve, and honor the accomplishments and contributions of the Black leaders of America. The annual celebration serves as a poignant reminder of how much Black history has been lost, forgotten, or in some cases, deliberately erased from the record. The nation's commemoration of Black history is not for the Black community alone, but for our collective and cohesive recognition of American history as a whole.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE SCIENTISTS AND TECHNOLOGISTS—ELIZABETH ORTIZ

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Elizabeth Ortiz from Katy, TX for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists to represent the state of Texas at the Congress of Future Science and Technology leaders.

Elizabeth attends Cinco Ranch High School and is one of 13 high school honor students selected from the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas. These students were selected as Texas delegates at the Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders. This program was designed for high school students to be recognized for their hard work in school, as well as to support their aspirations of working in a science or technology field. The National Academy was founded by Richard Rossi and Dr. Robert Darling; Mr. Rossi currently serves as president. The Congress is being held at the Tsongas Center at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell from

June 29th through July 1st. Elizabeth was selected by a group of educators to be a delegate for the Congress thanks to her dedication to her academic success and goals of pursuing science or technology. We are proud of Elizabeth and all of her hard work, and know she will make Katy proud.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Elizabeth for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists. Keep up the great work.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE IMMIGRANTS' ASSISTANCE CENTER

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Immigrants' Assistance Center (IAC) in New Bedford, Massachusetts on their 45th anniversary, and to thank the Center for its continued service to the community.

Since its establishment in 1971 by members of the local Portuguese community, the IAC has helped immigrants throughout southeastern Massachusetts adjust to their new lives. The IAC is committed to empowering immigrants by providing them with the opportunity to successfully transition into new routines in the United States, while also preserving and maintaining the heritage of their home countries. Through their tireless work, the dedicated staff at the IAC has helped countless individuals overcome the language, economic, and cultural barriers that many immigrants and non-English speakers face upon arriving in their new communities.

Throughout its history, the IAC has also encouraged immigrants to pursue active roles in our communities. By connecting immigrants with civic advocacy groups, religious and charitable organizations, and other community service opportunities, the IAC has inspired numerous immigrants to become passionately involved in helping those who need it most.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the Immigrants' Assistance Center as it celebrates its 45th anniversary. The support provided by the IAC has greatly improved the quality of life for many residents of southeastern Massachusetts. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing the Immigrants' Assistance Center well in its continued endeavors and I look forward to hearing more about its accomplishments in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO KATIE ALBRECHT-SNELL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Katie Albrecht-Snell for being named a 2016 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Since 2000, *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the

Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2016 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 640 business leaders and growing.

Katie serves as the manager of corporate citizenship at Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. Through her work, she is able to lend a helping hand to those in need and show others the gratification in doing so. Katie's caring and giving spirit is not only part of her professional life. She is a dedicated volunteer in the community and from a young age has always shown a passion for helping others. This year, Katie also became a mother and always finds time to be with her husband and newborn.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Katie in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Katie on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2016 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

TRIBUTE TO JIM BECK

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Jim Beck, a resident and community leader from Bakersfield, California, on his retirement as the General Manager of the Kern County Water Agency. Over the past three decades with the Kern County Water Agency, Jim has been instrumental in the fight to ensure our community receives the water we need.

Jim received both his Bachelor's Degree and Master's Degree from the University of Pittsburgh. He joined the Kern County Water Agency nearly 32 years ago, moving from an agency chemist to Manager of Improvement District No. 4 to Assistant General Manager. In January 2005, Jim became the General Manager, undertaking an extremely important role for Kern County in California's extremely challenging world of water.

The Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) is the second-largest participant in the California State Water Project (SWP), with an annual allotment of about 1 million acre-feet of water that is delivered to 19 public water agencies through KCWA and provided to serve domestic and irrigation water supplies to families, farms, and businesses located in Kern County. As General Manager, Jim has fought hard to ensure that Kern County gets the water we deserve—the water that we contract and pay for.

The position of General Manager of KCWA is not for the faint of heart. Jim has led the agency through the most recent and currently ongoing catastrophic drought in California—

the worst on record. Federal and state laws and regulations have exacerbated drought conditions resulting in significant water supply reductions from the SWP and to Kern County. Notwithstanding Jim's soft-spoken and quiet demeanor, when it comes to water advocacy, Jim has been a vociferous and unwavering ally in efforts to reform these laws and regulations to help ensure our communities get the water they need.

At my request, Jim travelled to Washington, D.C., to testify before the House Committee on Natural Resources on the importance of legislation to reform the laws and regulations that are making it impossible for the Kern County Water Agency to get its full water allocation off the SWP. And, with Jim's and his staff's expertise, legislation was drafted that united all the differing factions in California's complex water system (north and south, east and west, Federal and state) that passed the House in multiple Congresses.

Recognizing the challenges on the SWP, Jim did not stand idly by as surface water supplies became more unreliable. As General Manager, he oversaw significant capital projects at the Kern County Water Agency, including water purification and conveyance infrastructure, to ensure the water that Kern County does receive either from the SWP or Mother Nature is not lost. In addition, as General Manager, Jim oversees one of the largest groundwater banks in California, which has been invaluable as the drought continues.

Jim has been at the forefront of the fight for Kern County farmers and families. Drive up and down the Central Valley and you will see signs that say "Food Grows Where Water Flows." The water that Jim and KCWA have gotten for Kern County, part of California's "Salad Bowl," ensures that our community, state, and nation have access to healthy fresh fruits, vegetables and nuts and that the southern Central Valley continues to thrive.

Jim exemplifies how one can serve their community with quiet fortitude and dedication over the years. Jim and I have been in the trenches together on California water, and I have enjoyed working with him and his no-nonsense style as we fought to protect Kern County water. After many years in public service, I know that Jim looks forward to spending more time with his wife, Diane, and two sons, Chandler and Braden. Jim will be missed in the world of Kern County and California water, but I salute his lifetime of service and on behalf of our county and state, I wish him the best as he begins this new chapter of his life.

RECOGNIZING THE 37TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 37th Anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act and to recognize the long-standing U.S.-Taiwan relations. For the past 37 years, the Taiwan Relations Act has served as the cornerstone of the friendship between the United States and Taiwan that has been a mutually beneficial economic, cultural, and strategic relationship.

The United States and Taiwan share many of the same values, including democracy, freedom of speech and rule of law. The relations between our two countries have grown to include areas of trade, national security, and people-to-people exchanges. Taiwan has also joined the United States in providing essential humanitarian aid and promoting peace throughout the world.

As a member of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, I am continuously supportive of efforts to strengthen the friendship between our two countries.

In commemorating the 37th Anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, I commend the work that has been done between our two countries to further democracy, and I look forward to strengthening our relationship with Taiwan in the future.

IN MEMORY OF BILL WEST

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, April 10, 2016, a Celebration of Life was conducted for William Otis West, Sr., at Holland Avenue Baptist Church of West Columbia, South Carolina, with services warmly conducted by Pastor Dow Welsh, Pastor Charles Wilson, and Dr. Bill Davidson. Musical selections were performed by Carroll Crawford, Bobby Bland, Bob Michalski, Emily Lipscombe, and Stacey Arnold.

I was grateful to provide a remembrance along with Lexington County Chronicle Editor Jerry Bellune.

A thoughtful obituary was published March 31, 2016, in the Lexington County Chronicle:

WEST COLUMBIA.—William O. “Bill” West passed away peacefully on Friday, March 25, 2016, at the age of 76. He was born in 1939, a son of Elizabeth and Edward West in Spartanburg, S.C.

Bill was a well-known face and voice in television and radio in South Carolina but his heart was always in newspaper journalism. Despite severe health problems, Bill continued to serve South Carolina journalism through a long career as editor of The Dispatch-News in Lexington and recently as columnist and senior editor at the Lexington County Chronicle.

His passion for print led him to serve the South Carolina Press Association as editor of the SCPA Bulletin. Bill was honored to be named State Journalist of the Year in 2009.

He was also honored for his coverage of the community by a local activist group that calls itself the Cayce Mafia, and with the Order of the Palmetto Patriot by Lt. Gov. Andre Bauer and long-time political activist Mickey Lindler.

After being named S.C. Press Association Journalist of the Year, Bill’s comment was, “I wasn’t called to the pulpit, but to the press. And the past 50 years I have been very blessed by people, my writing and my God.”

Bill is survived by his wife Anne Foster West; four children and their spouses, Suzanne Davidson and Joe, Fred West and Michelle, Joe West and Elizabeth, and Billy West; six grandchildren, Bryce Davidson, Alex Davidson, Connor Davidson, Foster West, Grace Anne West and Joseph West, and a brother, Eddie West.

Services will be at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 10, 2016, at Holland Avenue Baptist Church, 12th

Street in Cayce. The Rev. Dow Welsh, The Rev. Charles Wilson and Dr. Bill Davidson will officiate. The family will receive friends immediately after the service.

Donations in his memory may be made to the Flower Ministry at Holland Avenue Baptist Church.

My remembrance remarks for the Holland Avenue Baptist Church service are presented:

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Family and friends of Bill and Anne West,
I am humbled and grateful that Bill has requested I participate in this celebration of life, especially in the company of Jerry Bellune and his wife MacLeod Bellune, who love this community and the West family.

Holland Avenue Baptist has extraordinary members. This year in January I attended the celebration of life of Johnnie Neese, a lady who made a positive difference, as a founder of a new political party in the 1960s, which is now the majority party of our community and state. She and her husband Harry were courageous.

It is clear that Bill West, a gentleman, has made a positive difference. I share his passion for print media as I was editor of my high school, college and law school newspapers, but unlike Bill, he was a superstar, being editor of the The Dispatch-News, then on to edit the South Carolina Press Association Bulletin, becoming the S.C. Press Association Journalist of the Year in 2009, before enthusiastically being a columnist and senior editor of the Lexington County Chronicle.

I saw firsthand of his professionalism, not as a journalist, but as an elected official who he professionally grilled. His thoughtful questions were very perceptive and he was evenhanded, asking the same questions, in the same tone, to friend or foe. He fulfilled his duty to inform the public with a community newspaper. I will always cherish his evenhandedness and even though he knew I admired him, his inquiries were solid and not fluff. He respected the readers by providing the truth for them to determine their views.

When he called, I always dropped everything to return the call because I knew he had a strict deadline. I also hoped it would give me a chance to speak with Anne. They are a great team raising four wonderful children and six talented grandchildren who mean so much to Roxanne and myself.

I am grateful to Bill for giving me the opportunity to be here today with a dedicated wife, family and friends. I know the Lord has welcomed Bill. “Well done, Good and Faithful Servant.” God Bless the West Family.

FOURTH DISTRICT OF COLORADO
DELEGATES TO THE CONGRESS
FOR FUTURE MEDICAL LEADERS

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize nine high school students from the fourth district of Colorado, who were selected to represent the state of Colorado as delegates at the Congress for Future Medical Leaders. The students are Tolani Adeleye of Erie High School, Danae Beauprez of Yuma High School, Cody Benson of Chaparral High School, Paola Cabrales of Lamar High School, Kali Dodd of Douglas County High School, Katie Emberley of Silver Creek High School, Ashley Joplin of Legend High School, Andrea Russell of Laurel Springs High School, and Michelle Scoggins of Windsor High School.

The Congress of Future Medical Leaders is an honors program that recognizes exceptional high school students who are pursuing careers as a physician or in medical research.

These students are the future leaders of the medical field and our country. Through their studies, they have embodied the meaning of hard work and perseverance to achieve their goals, and will better the health of future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to recognize these nine students for their hard work and service to their community. I wish them luck in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO LIZ ADELMAN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Liz Adelman for being named a 2016 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2016 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 640 business leaders and growing.

Liz is the founder and CEO of Adelman Public Relations, one of the premier public relations firms in Central Iowa. She has also been tirelessly dedicated to her community and it’s evident through her involvement in several area non-profits, including co-founding Art Week Des Moines, and fundraising for Central Iowa Shelter and Services, Heroes for Homeless, and Cheers for Children. Through all of her community involvement and dedication to growing her business Liz still finds time to be with her husband and three boys, Michael, Ben, and Sammy.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Liz in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Liz on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2016 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR
ALL BY JESSICA HUANG

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in

the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight from across the political spectrum that sheds a light on the concerns of our younger constituents. Giving voice to their priorities will hopefully instill a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Jessica Huang attends Dawson High School in Sugar Land, Texas. The essay topic is: With Liberty and Justice for all.

“You will never be a part of Congress.” To this day, this statement by a past mentor is one of the main motivators that pushes me to strive towards my vocational goal of working in the government, and working my way up to become a state representative or senator someday. To any rational person, one could see that the numbers are against me—only about a fifth of Congress is women, and 11 members are Asian. Thus, being an Asian female, the overwhelming tide of numbers is clearly not in favor of my aspirations. Nevertheless, these numbers and my fifth grade teacher, who did not believe I had a chance simply due to my ethnicity and background, did not phase me. Through passion, empathy, and commitment, I strongly believe that I will one day be able to sit on Capitol Hill, in spite of my race, my gender, or others who believe I do not have a chance to make it as an Asian female politician.

I have always been interested in how government functions; it amazes me how much influence one person or representative can have over millions of people. I realize how necessary government is, and we need a government not only to protect us, but to represent us, to make life fair and equal for all. Yet, I have always found something quite contradictory in the above statement that, if a democratic government such as ours was meant to ‘represent’ its people, why are our representatives mostly Anglo-Saxon? Mostly male? Mostly of the upper class? It seems as if only a small portion of the American population even has a say or a position; yet Americans believe they are all ‘free’ and ‘equal.’ That may be true on paper, but when observing whole group or crowds of people, skepticism can set in.

This is what makes the political process so challenging in my opinion—the lack of representation in Congress of minority groups can make many feel oppressed, and students like me feel like we don’t have a chance to achieve our dreams and goals. Regardless, I hope to be a part of the change—to become a Congresswoman and be an example to younger minority Americans who aspire to be government officials, too. After all, if we wish to be world leaders in the international community, we must first figure out internal politics to truly give “liberty and justice for all.”

RECOGNIZING MIKE HAYWARD
AND HIS YEARS OF SERVICE
AND DEDICATION TO THE PEOPLE OF
WALLOWA COUNTY, OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend Mike Hayward for his many years of dedicated public service in Wallowa County. Mike has retired after serving 19 years on the Wallowa County Board of Commissioners, serving 15 of those years as Chairman, and I would like to pay tribute to his leadership for the people of Wallowa County and northeastern Oregon.

Born and raised in Pullman, Washington, Mike developed an early affinity for the outdoors, taking jobs in agriculture in his youth before going on to earn a degree in forestry from Washington State University. While at Washington State, he earned a summer internship that stationed him at Wallowa Lake State Park in Joseph, Oregon. After graduation, he was hired on full time at the park, which is where he eventually met his future wife, Beverly.

Mike’s work with Oregon State Parks took him around the state, but in 1980, he and Bev felt the pull to return to Wallowa County and be closer to their family. Shortly thereafter, Mike took his management skills into the private sector when he and Bev bought Eagle Cap Chalets at the base of the Wallowa Mountains, which they managed for 8 years.

Surrounded by federally managed public forest and range lands, timber and livestock production has long been the base of Wallowa County’s economy. Mike’s knowledge of forestry and agriculture as well as several years of community leadership roles, including a seat on the Joseph City Council and time spent directing the local Chamber of Commerce, led several of his close friends to suggest he run for County Commissioner in 1997.

Since then, Mike has constantly kept a sharp eye out for opportunities to represent and defend the County’s interests as a leader of a number of organizations including the Grand Ronde Model Watershed Council, Northeast Oregon Housing Authority, Association of Oregon Counties, Wallowa-Union Railroad, and several regional forestry collaboratives and resource advisory committees.

When 57 percent of your county is controlled and often mismanaged by the federal government, working to grow the economy and opportunities for the local communities can be an understandably frustrating process at times. Yet, Mike’s knowledgeable, hard-working and even-keeled approach led him to become recognized as a leader on public lands and other natural resource issues affecting counties across eastern Oregon.

Over the years, I got to know Mike well and came to rely on this counsel as well. Whether it is travel management plans on the Wallowa-Whitman, or the on-going Blue Mountain Forest Plan Revision process, I appreciated Mike’s useful input and insight as we worked together to find creative solutions to the challenges facing Wallowa County and their neighbors in northeast Oregon.

As Mike takes on his new role as General Manager for the Wallowa County Grain Growers, his retirement from elected office doesn’t mean Wallowa County will be losing his leadership or knowledge. Dedicated to his community, I know Mike will find a number of ways to continue serving and giving back. For the last six years, Mike and Bev have donated and served a community wide Thanksgiving Dinner in Enterprise. Such acts of generosity are a perfect example of the dedication Mike has shown over the years to the fellow members of his community.

Above all, Mike is dedicated to his family. He and Bev returned to the county over 36 years ago to be closer to family, and I know that he is now looking forward to having a little more time to spend with his wife and grandchild.

Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, please join me in recognizing and thanking my good friend, Mike Hayward, for his many years of leadership in Wallowa County. I wish Mike all the best in his new pursuits.

VOTER SUPPRESSION CONTINUES,
SO WE MUST CONTINUE THE
FIGHT

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today on this Restoration Tuesday, I rise to acknowledge the continued voter suppression around the country during this election year and the ongoing battle to protect the constitutional right to vote.

While the House was in recess, the state of Wisconsin seemed to digress in a decline of democracy through its restrictive voting laws hindering the most essential right on which this great democracy was founded; the right to vote. The newly implemented voter ID laws of Wisconsin have been compared to the poll taxing of the Jim Crow era and created a significant hardship disproportionately affecting some of the state’s most vulnerable groups seeking identification to vote.

After the Supreme Court struck down Section 4 pre-clearance requirements in 2013, several states, including Alabama, took that ruling as a license to trample on the Constitution and violate the voting rights of vulnerable communities and constituents across the nation. This election year has been especially revealing of the great danger involved in silencing the American voice and hindering their Constitutional right to vote. Enough is enough, and this continued voter suppression must stop now.

As devastating as it has been to see this ongoing suppression of the American vote, we can find strength and hope in our country’s strong stance for democracy and equality when we look to the recent Supreme Court Ruling on the Texas “one person, one vote” case. The Supreme Court’s refusal to change the way state and municipal districts are drawn and upholding representation based on total population truly affirmed our nation’s brand as a democratic society. The Justices of the Supreme Court delivered a strong singular statement that being ineligible to vote doesn’t make one invisible.

Fundamental to our democracy is that all men and women are vested with certain inalienable rights and voting is essential to those founding principles. Permanent residents have rights, the disabled should be protected, immigrants and the incarcerated should be included. The Supreme Court decision makes it clear that all people matter and all people should be counted.

We must remember that we are always more powerful united than divided and we all must continue to support equal representation and full protection of voting rights for all Americans. On this Restoration Tuesday, I give us all the charge to battle against the continued suppression of the American vote and stand strong by our principles of democracy, liberty and justice for all.

CONGRATULATING THE SEA ISLANDS SOCIETY

HON. MARK SANFORD

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today based on the simple notion of service to others, and accordingly I would like to say a few words regarding the Islands Society. A nonprofit headquartered on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, the Society's mission is to encourage islanders around the world to participate in the international community. For that mission, the Society has been recognized as one of the up-and-coming organizations by the United Nations Foundation. They also named its president and founder, Michael Edward "Eddie" Walsh, as a person to watch who wants to change the world.

Our region's group—The Sea Islands Society—is the only nonprofit on Hilton Head Island to be recognized as a top-rated nonprofit by GreatNonprofits. For this, I wanted to congratulate them on the achievement.

I think it is encouraging to see an organization reaching out at a local level and actively encouraging them to become leaders in the field of foreign policy.

HONORING MR. MATT PERRY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Matt Perry, who will retire on April 2, 2016 after 28 years serving the citizens of Lake County, California in county administration. I wish him a happy retirement and hope he can spend more time with his wife, Julie, and his sons and daughter-in-law Chandler, Caleb, and Ashley.

Mr. Perry completed a master's degree in Public Administration and a bachelor's degree in History at Brigham Young University in Utah, before moving to California to begin his career with Lake County in 1988 as an Administrative Analyst. Through his exemplary skills and dedication to his work, he quickly earned more responsibility and higher positions, and

became a County Administrative Officer in 2012.

Lake County relied on Mr. Perry's fiscal and management expertise to navigate some of the county's most challenging periods, including the Great Recession and the Valley Fire in 2015. Mr. Perry's ability to manage everything from detailed budgeting tasks to the oversight of complex county projects demonstrates not only his value to Lake County, but also his passion for exemplary public service.

Mr. Speaker, throughout his career, Mr. Perry generously offered his time and knowledge to serve the people of Lake County and ensured prudent fiscal management for the county. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today and extend our best wishes to him in retirement.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE BARRATT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mike Barratt for being named a 2016 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2016 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 640 business leaders and growing.

Mike serves as vice president and financial consultant at Charles Schwab where he has been helping his clients manage their wealth and reach their financial goals. He focuses on changing the lives of individuals through financial freedom and firmly believes that once you change one life, you can change many. Not only is Mike successful professionally but he is deeply involved in the community. He serves as a board member at the Food Bank of Iowa and works tirelessly to eradicate food insecurity in his community.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Mike in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Mike on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2016 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

ESSAY BY GRANT DENTRY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight from across the political spectrum that sheds a light on the concerns of our younger constituents. Giving voice to their priorities will hopefully instill a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Grant Dentry attends Pearland High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: Select an important event that has occurred in the past year and explain how that event has changed/shaped our country.

For 54 years, the United States and Cuba have been hostile towards each other. The hostility stemmed from close diplomatic relations formed between Cuba and the USSR against the United States during the Cold War era. However, as of December 17, 2014 Barack Obama and Cuba's current leader Raul Castro agreed to normalize the relations between each other and lift restrictions placed on travel, trade and diplomatic embassies.

Reuniting the alliance of the United States and Cuba is now called "The Cuban Thaw". This is a significant event because it ends the last of the conflict and tensions from the Cold War which ended in 1991. This event should help both countries because we will soon be able to trade freely with each other which helps boost both economies. Also, the House of Senate removed Cuba from the United States State Sponsor of Terrorism list and the United States returned five Cuban prisoners after they returned two of our prisoners. Both governments have allowed visitation between the two countries and are positioned to lift the ban on financial transactions between banks. Cruise lines have also been approved by both governments as well as commercial flights between the countries which is expected to bolster tourism. U.S. telecommunications companies are now allowed in Cuba which will help their infrastructure, although many Cubans may not be able to afford cell phones yet. Reuniting with Cuba may also help to soften and eliminate their communist ways of government. Because of these two countries cooperating with each other again, it builds a better reputation for the U.S. and helps expand our global networking and economic power. Many American business owners can now expand their markets to include Cuba which is a short distance from the Florida coast. The United States is now open to Cubans who want to expand their business into the U.S. which will greatly help Cuba and create new jobs in both countries.

Due to this new alliance, both countries can become stronger and benefit from each other through mutual trade, travel and business. It is a major boost to the U.S. economy because we can import and export with Cuba at a low cost due to the close proximity. The improved business activity and restored diplomatic relations with a close neighbor is good for the United States and the world.

HONORING MRS. LATONYA
WILLIAMS-BRADLEY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable entrepreneur, Mrs. LaTonya Williams-Bradley.

Strands of long, black locks fell effortlessly onto the floor as a pair of young eyes looked on eagerly—carefully observing the technique of the hands behind the shears that snipped away to create a new, edgy look.

Mrs. Williams-Bradley of Cleveland watched intently as her mother cut, washed and curled mane after mane, building a strong clientele at her Rosedale salon.

She remembers while sitting and observing her mother at her salon as a child, that she desired to follow in her mother's footsteps and become a hair stylist.

But, what she didn't know was that she would also become an agent, to help others do the same, as owner and CEO of Goshen School of Cosmetology in Cleveland, Mississippi.

As a single parent Mrs. Williams-Bradley received her cosmetology education at Coahoma Community College in Clarksdale, Mississippi, where she graduated in 2006.

After passing the state licensure to become a licensed cosmetologist, Mrs. Williams-Bradley returned to Coahoma Community College to further her cosmetology career to become a cosmetology instructor and completed that course of study in 2009. She was immediately offered the opportunity to become a cosmetology instructor at Coahoma Community College.

After working at Coahoma Community College she worked at Blue Cliff College in Gulfport, Mississippi as a cosmetology instructor.

During her tenure as an instructor she decided that it was time to pursue her dream of owning her salon and began researching entrepreneurship practices and opportunities, eventually, deciding it was time to pursue her dream of one day opening her own salon. In 2011, she opened Goshen Salon and Boutique in Cleveland, Mississippi. She chose the biblical name Goshen because it is a land of plenty, comfort and growth in Egypt. On July 29, 2013 she opened Goshen School of Cosmetology with a core curriculum and institution designed to promote growth, increase and comfort.

Now, what was once the dream of a little girl has become a reality. Mrs. Williams-Bradley has enjoyed substantial success in the exciting field of cosmetology. Where over the last nine-years she owned and managed two successful hair salons while teaching at two colleges, inspired numerous students to strive for excellence and to achieve their maximum potential.

The motto she shares with others is "Whatever is your passion and your heart's desire—pursue it and be the best at it and believe that there is nothing too hard for God."

Mrs. Williams-Bradley is married to Tony Bradley and has four children: Teara, Tamaryea, Zira and Lauren. She is the daughter of Freddie and Barbara Graham and has two (2) siblings: Erica Jackson and Beauty Braham.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an amazing entrepreneur.

HONORING ROGER LINDSEY

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Roger Lindsey for his time and service to Cabool, Missouri. Roger has been an active member of the community and has shown great integrity and perseverance throughout his banking career.

Roger started as a Cabool State Bank custodian in 1962 while he was still attending Cabool High School. He later became a teller, then a cashier and treasurer. In 1998 he became President of the bank, holding that position until retirement. His story exemplifies the American dream, and he was shown that hard work and determination reap great rewards.

Roger also holds various titles within the community. He is the Past President of the Cabool Chamber of Commerce, Past President of the Cabool Alumni Association, and Past President of the Twin Cities Industrial Corporation. He is the Treasurer of the Gentry Residential Treatment Center Community Liaison Council, a member of the Cabool Athletic Booster Club, a member of the Cabool Votec advisory board, and a former coach for youth baseball leagues.

His involvement and contributions to the Cabool community serve as a great example for all Missourians. For his outstanding career and community achievements, it is my pleasure to recognize Roger Lindsey before the United States House of Representatives.

ENRIQUE ARCILLA WINS MOJAVE
WATER AGENCY ESSAY CONTEST

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Apple Valley, California resident Enrique Arcilla for earning first place in a student essay competition for the Mojave Water Agency. For winning the competition, Enrique will receive a \$5,000 scholarship.

The theme of the competition was "Predicting Our Future by Our Own Design," with a goal of increasing discussion about ensuring water reliability in the High Desert. Enrique's winning essay was titled "The Path to Sustainability."

On April 13, 2016, Enrique will present his essay at the 2016 High Desert Water Summit. Other finalists, who will receive \$1,000 scholarships, were Raeven Jones of Apple Valley, Nolan Serumaga of Victorville, Emilia Cloutman of Hesperia, and Geng-Wei Lee of Barstow.

Again, congratulations to Enrique and all the finalists on this impressive achievement and for their interest in water conservation. Water usage is a particularly important issue for my district and California as a whole. Keep up the great work.

6TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
SMOLENSK DISASTER

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I join in acknowledging the sixth anniversary of the Smolensk Disaster, a tragedy that claimed the lives of Polish President Lech Kaczynski, his wife, Maria, and 94 others aboard a government aircraft on April 10, 2010. Among the victims were high-ranking generals and government officials, clergy, anti-communist leaders and the family members of victims enroute to a ceremony for the 1940 Katyn Forest Massacre. Also on the plane was one American citizen on an official mission for the City of Chicago. The crash at Smolensk North Military Airfield in western Russia is central to the event sponsored by the Commemoration Committee for the Smolensk Disaster and held at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. On Sunday, April 17, 2016 prayers will be offered for the souls of the 96 crash victims and honor those who served their country.

TRIBUTE TO SARA BONNEY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sara Bonney for being named a 2016 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2016 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 640 business leaders and growing.

Sara works as the director of marketing and communications at the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines. She works tirelessly to promote the story that the Community Foundation has to tell, making the city of Des Moines a better place. Sara has also dedicated her time and talents to her community outside of her professional life. She has served on the Blank Children's Hospital Festival of Trees and Lights Gala Committee, Greater Des Moines Partnership Communications Advisory Council, Polk County Housing Trust Fund Marketing Committee, and Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs Celebrate Iowa Gala Committee. She was taught at a young age that you get more when you give.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Sara in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great State of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the

United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Sara on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2016 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

ESSAY BY INGRID WU

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight from across the political spectrum that sheds a light on the concerns of our younger constituents. Giving voice to their priorities will hopefully instill a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Ingrid Wu attends Clements High School in Sugar Land, Texas. The essay topic is: What makes the political process in Congress so challenging?

One of the most challenging aspects of Congress is developing efficient communication. In our current political bill making process, as bills are passed along, discussed, voted, and decided on like a game of telephone. It may lose momentum and the vigor of one bill at the beginning of its life cycle wanes as time passes and it gets reviewed and revised over and over. Of course, when it comes to dealing with the laws of the country, everything should be reviewed with scrutiny; however, maintaining the life behind a bill is also important and a hard job of Congress.

Additionally, Congress is also met with difficulties regarding opposing opinions. In our current era, politics is something that is increasingly gaining popularity. We see it on TV talk shows, highway billboards, school posters, and even on daily consumer products. With America's two major parties—Republicans and Democrats—having such a profound influence on the opinions of society and, thus, politics, much is hindered. For example, just recently, Congress was met with the challenge of repealing the Affordable Care Act and, through this, the clash of ideals and beliefs caused the process to be in a standstill. Visibly, the repeated efforts of Congress went to vain. In recent years, the number of bills passed has been continuously decreasing. Compromising both sides of the political spectrum and creating a bill to encompass the beliefs of both sides is a necessary and difficult responsibility of Congress. One reason why such a situation is happening may be partially due to either the processes and weight of Congressional action but also the unwillingness of both branches and the party backing the majority of both the cede in some areas and the lack of constraints, especially time constraints.

Finally, another challenge of Congress is to understand the people's wants and needs, for understanding these subjects is a way to foresee which ways politics should lean and what exactly needs to be done. Through many different facets, even the Congress-

sional Youth Advisory Council, Congress has taken initiatives to seek the opinions and analyze the lives of individuals on a small scale. Through similar programs of community outreach and developing the next generation, Congress has made great effort to reign in this challenge.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ILLINOIS REPRESENTATIVE DAVID LEITCH

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor Illinois State Representative David Leitch for his tireless contributions and dedication to public service in the State of Illinois.

Representative David Leitch, State Representative of the 73rd House District of Illinois and a resident of the 18th Congressional District, has dedicated nearly three decades serving his constituents in the Illinois General Assembly. His top-notch commitment to providing timely and effective constituent service to citizens has remained steadfast since he was sworn into office 27 years ago.

Representative Leitch has built a statewide reputation, establishing himself as a leader in matters pertaining to our health care system and especially mental health care in Illinois.

A primary focus of his work has been advocacy for establishing a strong community-based mental health system in our state. He convened providers beginning 15 years ago to form the Central Illinois Coalition for Mental Health Recovery. Among its accomplishments are a Mental Health Court, a psychiatric residency at the University of Illinois-College of Medicine in Peoria, and a Crisis Center designed to divert at-risk individuals to treatment rather than emergency rooms or jail. Most recently, he passed legislation enabling college students to allow their family to be notified in the event they are struggling with depression or suicidal thoughts and legislation which improves the inclusion of mental health services for older adults into primary care health settings. His outstanding advocacy on mental health and substance abuse issues has not gone unrecognized with accolades from the Heartland Health Services, a federally designated community health organization in Central Illinois, commending his life's work in the improvement of public health policy and his receipt of the statewide President's Award from the Community Behavioral Healthcare Association.

Outside of his advocacy on issues regarding mental health recovery, Rep. Leitch is credited with passing the first state law in the nation requiring insurance coverage for mammograms, he passed the first state law in the nation allowing for the collection of cord blood stem cells, he secured funding for the expansion of the Illinois Central College campus in East Peoria and arranged the acquisition of the ICC North campus in Peoria after the closure of Zeller Mental Health Center. Illinois Central College named the David R. Leitch Career Center in honor of his dedication to the community college. Nationally, he has received the Dr. Nathan Davis Award as State Legislator of the Year in the U.S. by the American Medical Association as well as over 75 other legislator of the year (or equivalent) awards.

Representative Leitch's steadfast work to improve the lives of citizens throughout our great state embodies the manner in which progress can be made for the greater good and citizens of Illinois. Rep. Leitch epitomizes the standard for which current—and future—public servants should strive to emulate to help improve lives within our communities.

It is with great honor that I have had the ability to call Representative Leitch not only a colleague but also a friend for many years. I want to congratulate him on his tireless advocacy for the mental health community and his dedicated service to the State of Illinois.

HONORING MIA WILLIAMS 2016 WASHINGTON STATE MIDDLE LEVEL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mia Williams, the principal of Aki Kurose Middle School, who has been recognized as the winner of the prestigious 2016 Washington State Middle Level Principal of the Year Award.

The Washington State Middle Level Principal of the Year Award, given by the Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP), recognizes middle school principals who have an extraordinary impact on their students' academic success and who make great contributions to their profession. Ms. Williams stood out among a field of other highly eligible candidates.

Ms. Williams has been the principal at Aki Kurose Middle School in Rainier Beach since 2008. Since that time, she has worked tirelessly to ensure the success of her students by listening to their needs and adjusting policy and procedures based on their recommendations. Under Ms. Williams' leadership, test scores have consistently improved across the board for Aki Kurose students and continue to improve due to her persistence and continued dedication to her students. Since her arrival at Aki Kurose, the student population has grown from 420 students to 700 students. At the same time, Ms. Williams has overseen a 50 percent reduction in student absenteeism and has made progress on closing the opportunity gap. She has carefully cultivated an environment where students feel supported and capable of reaching their full potential.

Ms. Williams was a teacher in the Seattle School District before completing the Danforth Educational Leadership Program at the University of Washington to pursue her dream of serving as a principal. Her skills were recently recognized by the Johns Hopkins University's Everyone Graduates Center, who invited Ms. Williams to the White House to participate in a panel where she shared her knowledge about effective strategies to reduce chronic absenteeism.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize principal Mia Williams for earning the Washington State Middle Level Principal of the Year Award. She is an inspiration to all.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL
COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the National Collegiate Honors Council on their 50th anniversary. The National Collegiate Honors Council serves over 325,000 honors scholars at over 800 colleges and universities, including Broward College in my district. Created in 1982, Broward College's Robert Elmore Honors Institute supports over 1,200 honor students annually.

Sixteen students from the college have been awarded the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship, the second highest total in the Nation. Many of these scholarship recipients have gone on to be successful thinkers, working for companies such as Facebook.

In the words of founding director Dr. Mary Jo Henderson, "The essential worth of our honors programs is not resulting scholarship or award but the experience itself". I commend Broward College and the National Collegiate Honors Council for creating an experience that cultivates the leaders of tomorrow.

ESSAY BY EMILY JUE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight from across the political spectrum that sheds a light on the concerns of our younger constituents. Giving voice to their priorities will hopefully instill a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Emily Jue attends Clear Springs High School in League City, Texas. The essay topic is: Select an important event that has occurred in the past year and explain how that event has changed/shaped our country.

An important event that occurred this past year was the legalization of same-sex marriage throughout the country. Thousands of Americans gathered in Washington D.C. to hear the ruling of the Supreme Court on same-sex marriage. On June 26, 2015 the Supreme Court declared through a vote of 5-4 that all Americans would be able to marry nationwide, no matter their gender or sexual orientation. This ruling made the United States the twenty-first country to legalize same-sex marriage and specifically affected thirteen states that had a ban on same-sex marriage. This momentous event brought a new civil right to the United States and a victory to gay rights advocates.

The legalization of same-sex marriage has changed our country by offering the privi-

lege of marriage to couples that are not the traditional "male and female" couples. Marriage offers a promise of love and commitment within couples and through the legalization of same-sex marriage, couples of the same-sex are able to give the same commitment and love that traditional male and female couples are able to give. The legalization of same-sex marriage in the United States also represents acceptance and equality to those in the LGBTQ community by offering these people the same civil rights as other citizens in the country have. By giving this fundamental freedom to couples of the same-sex, the United States is able to offer equality to all couples regardless of gender or sexual orientation.

The legalization of same-sex marriage has also changed our country by normalizing and bringing acceptance to those of the LGBTQ community. By allowing people in the LGBTQ community to marry, the United States fosters a sense of acceptance to these people who are sometimes treated with disrespect and contempt. Through accepting same-sex marriage, the United States accepts those in the LGBTQ community which is a step towards the equality for all people and has had momentous impacts on the United States. By legalizing same-sex marriage, the United States moves one step closer to equality for all people, regardless of gender or orientation, and offers a beacon of hope to those in the LGBTQ community and a means for acceptance.

TRIBUTE TO SOPHIA S. AHMAD

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sophia S. Ahmad for being named a 2016 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2016 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 640 business leaders and growing.

Sophia is the vice president of public relations at the Greater Des Moines Partnership and works tirelessly to develop and promote the overall image of Central Iowa. Her work proves that Central Iowa is a perfect place to build a business, career, and a family. Sophia is among the most dedicated leaders in the community. She has volunteered her time to the Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute's Curriculum Committee, Winefest Des Moines' Grand Cru, Couture for a Cause, and a number of other local volunteer organizations. Not only does Sophia dedicate herself to her work and her community, in her spare time she likes to play piano, because she's a professionally trained classical pianist.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Sophia in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents

to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Sophia on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2016 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

FOURTH DISTRICT OF COLORADO
DELEGATES AT THE CONGRESS
OF FUTURE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LEADERS

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize nine high school students from the fourth district of Colorado, who have been chosen to represent the state of Colorado as delegates at the Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders. The students are Christine Evans of Lyons Middle-Senior High School, Benjamin Gryboski of Dayspring Christian Academy, Brandon Lelievre of Windsor High School, Alessandra Linero of Chaparral High School, Crystal Pike of Valley High School, Courtney Ross of Yuma High School, Hannah Spain of Douglas County High School, Sara Stavaski of Rock Canyon High School, and Hanna Storey of Douglas County High School.

The Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders is an honors program that recognizes exceptional high school students who are pursuing careers as engineers, scientists, or technologists.

These students are the future leaders of the STEM fields and our country. Through their studies, they have embodied the meaning of hard work and perseverance to achieve their goals, and will advance science and technology for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to recognize these nine students for their hard work and service to their community. I wish them luck in their future endeavors.

HONORING CARR'S STEAKHOUSE

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Carr's Steakhouse in Mayfield, Kentucky, on receiving the National Restaurant Association's "Restaurant Neighbor Award." This award was established to honor restaurants in the field of outstanding community service and involvement. Carr's Steakhouse is among four national winners to receive this award during a gala dinner tonight here in Washington, D.C.

Though the Carr family has had extensive ties to the community through their BBQ business in town for more than 60 years, Carr's Steakhouse is only six years old but already has an impressive record of giving back. The restaurant hosts an All-Kids-In event that raises funds to assist children enrolling in youth sports and activities, regardless of a

family's ability to pay. They also donate excess food to local homeless shelters; provide meals for the area's high school football teams; partner with community and school groups to host fundraisers as well as the community's Empty Bowls Project to support local food pantries.

Carr's Steakhouse sees community involvement as a win-win for the restaurant as well as the community. This was exhibited recently when General Manager, Daniel Carr, hosted a fundraiser for Princess Theaters of Mayfield. Saddled with outdated amenities and technology, the theater was struggling to stay afloat and in desperate need of upgrades. Carr decided he wanted to do more than raise money—he wanted to send a strong message to the theater's owner that the community was behind them. The response was overwhelming when Carr provided a free meal for a donation to the movie theater. In just a few hours, the 200-seat restaurant raised more than \$5,000 to be used for stadium seating and digital projectors.

This is just one of several examples of Carr's Steakhouse going above and beyond to help their community. Businesses such as Carr's Steakhouse make me proud to represent the First Congressional District of Kentucky and I am pleased they are receiving the recognition they deserve for their ongoing commitment to the community.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF BEN SLADE FROM THE ST.
SIMONS LAND TRUST

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Ben Slade and all of his accomplishments as Executive Director of the St. Simons Land Trust.

Over the last 11 years, the St. Simons Land Trust has worked to preserve land on St. Simons Island, Georgia, which is home to 12,000 residents, a multitude of marshes, creeks, rivers, and fish, as well as the endangered North Atlantic Right Whale. The Land Trust works with willing property owners to preserve the beautiful land of this region and its significance to Georgia's natural habitat.

Mr. Slade has worked with the St. Simons Land Trust since its inception, leading the company from a small group to an organization that now includes 1,250 member households and 776 acres of land. During his time with the organization, Mr. Slade's numerous accomplishments have been critical to the environmental success of the island. One of his most important accomplishments was his leadership in the purchase of the 604 acre Cannon's Point area on St. Simons—the last intact maritime forest on the island.

Over Mr. Slade's career, he has continuously worked to aid the St. Simons community including his time as the Chairman and CEO

of the First Federal Savings Bank of Brunswick, the founding Chair of Habitat for Humanity of Glynn County, and President of the Chamber of Commerce.

Later this year, Mr. Slade will retire as the Executive Director of the St. Simons Land Trust. I rise today to recognize his effort and accomplishments in bettering the island of St. Simons and wish him the best with his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO ZACHARY BALES-
HENRY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Zachary Bales-Henry for being named a 2016 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2016 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 640 business leaders and growing.

Zachary serves as a real estate broker at RE/MAX Precision, a firm he started with his business partner, and works tirelessly to provide outstanding customer service to his clients throughout the home buying process. Zachary's resume outside of his professional life is just as impressive. He has started his own foundation that is dedicated to providing scholarships for students with learning disabilities. Zachary was also recently elected to the Windsor Heights City Council, where he continues his dedication to community involvement and improving the lives of others.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Zachary in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Zachary on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2016 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

CUBA-U.S. RELATIONS BY EMILY
GUENTHER

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight from across the political spectrum that sheds a light on the concerns of our younger constituents. Giving voice to their priorities will hopefully instill a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Emily Guenther attends Dawson High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is Cuba-U.S. Relations.

The United States and Cuba severed relations in 1961 because of speculation that the Cuban government could not be trusted. At that time, Fidel Castro established trade ties with the Soviet Union amid rumors that the U.S. was using the embassy for spies, which caused tension between the two. And for more than 50 years the conflict between the two countries has continued.

But in July of 2015, Cuba and The United States re-established relations and opened embassies in Havana and Washington D.C. This event has triggered much debate; with many Americans believing that this is an opportunity to regain trust with Cuba and open new areas of growth. This has been a hot topic in Washington because of the different views and opinions from both sides.

Many favor renewed relations as positive step, especially for the people along the coast with many immigrants settling in places such as Florida. They also argue that with mutual cooperation on issues such as exploration for oil, and increased trade and tourism, this can be a large boost of economy that will be crucial in the building of ties with Cuba.

Others have reacted more negatively and strongly oppose mending relations until numerous issues are addressed. Some find that Fidel Castro not being punished for his dictatorship and the lack of human rights is unfair for the citizens of Cuba.

After the new relations were addressed some things were changed quickly such as travel to and from Cuba becoming a lot easier, and few minor business deals being established. But as some relations have been established, most things remain the same; the embargo of trade with Cuba by the U.S. is still in place, which only Congress can change. And Cuba remains a communist government without free elections and still has questionable human rights issues that must be addressed. There continues to be much debate with little change since both embassies were established, and it will be difficult to undo relationships that have been hardened for many years.