

This began in 1975 when she began recruiting volunteers for a nearly-defunct women’s center. This led to her becoming the executive director of the Voluntary Action Center, which is now known as Volunteer Fairfax and serves as a clearing house matching volunteers with area non-profits.

Following her tenure with Volunteer Fairfax, Ms. Carrera served in a variety of positions and capacities. She became volunteer coordinator for the Fairfax County Juvenile Court where she was responsible for recruiting and supervising programs for court-involved youths. In 1992, Ms. Carrera was asked to launch the Volunteer Interpreter Program to help the Juvenile Court staff better deal with youth and their families who were not proficient in English. This program received two National Association of Counties awards in recognition of its effectiveness and value. In 2002 she became the Language Access Coordinator in the Office of the County Executive and was responsible for policy and procedures on language issues within the county government.

Most recently Ms. Carrera has served as both Volunteer Resource Coordinator and a Partnership Developer for the County’s Office of Public-Private Partnerships. The Office of Public Private Partnerships (OP³) serves as a clearing house and point of contact for public agencies, non-profit organizations, and local businesses. OP³ creates and develops meaningful public private partnerships in county priority areas to leverage new resources and address community issues impacting the quality of life in Fairfax County. In addition to serving in these positions, Ms. Carrera has played a role in numerous special projects including elections outreach and the 2015 World Police and Fire Games. Ms. Carrera was recently honored by the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce as its 2014 Business Citizen of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, Angie Carrera’s accomplishments and the legacy she leaves behind in her community are worthy of our highest praise. Her selfless dedication has contributed greatly to the public good and the outstanding quality of life for residents of Fairfax County. I commend her for her decades of service and ask my colleagues to join me in wishing her well in retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, on April 12, 2016 I was not present to vote on H.R. 1567 (Global Food Security Act). I wish to reflect my intentions had I been present to vote.

Had I been present for roll call No. 139, I would have voted “YEA.”

THE FERGUSON RIOTS: AN IMPORTANT EVENT THAT HAS CHANGED AMERICA, BY PHILLIP NGUYEN

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 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.

Phillip Nguyen attends Dawson High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: The Ferguson Riots: An Important Event That Has Changed America.

The year of 2015 has been a time of immense societal changes in America. The riots in Ferguson, Missouri exemplify one of the many events that have sparked such changes in the United States. From impacting the way society views minority groups to representing the shift in which the citizens of America demonstrate their protests, the Ferguson riots were a horrific event to be remembered throughout our country that has changed the way our society functions.

Beginning with the sudden death of Michael Brown by a police officer, the riots over the dispute of police brutality have become a catalyst for the newfound “black lives matter” movement. This event has sparked an immense change in our country in that the citizens have become much more focused upon the treatment of minorities (especially African Americans) by police officers. In addition, a large amount of citizens of all races have been advocating the idealistic values of non-violence after witnessing the incidents occurring during the riots (looting, fires, and destruction of property). The media has even become extremely centralized over the ongoing disputes between the black and white communities as well as police brutality. Furthermore, the event of the riots in Ferguson has incited a shift in the functionality of the police system, such as requiring on duty officers to have a working camera on their person. Not all changes were positive, however. The riots were indicative of the change in how Americans demonstrate their protests of today in comparison to the past. For example, the riots emerged from the protests pertaining to police brutality towards African Americans quickly turned violent (by the protestors), whereas in the past for American civil rights movements, the protests were centralized over the idealism of peace and non-violence and rarely have the protestors ever turned violent.

The Ferguson riots in Missouri were an event that shook the country as a whole and sparked a plethora of social changes in the American people. Moreover, it not only impacted the way in which people have viewed the African American community lately, but it has changed the way in which the police force functions.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MASTER SERGEANT TARA R. BROWN

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2016

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the life of Air Force Master Sergeant Tara R. Brown. A graduate of Deltona High School in Volusia County, Florida, Master Sergeant Brown gave her life defending our freedom on April 27, 2011. MSgt. Brown was the wife of Army Sgt. Ernest Brown and the daughter of Mr. Jim Jacobs of Deltona, Florida.

On Monday, April 18, 2016, in Central Florida, the street that serves as the entry to her alma mater, Daytona High School, will be named in her honor. This special recognition serves to honor and pay tribute to her service and devotion to the nation. Her family, friends and community will gather as we dedicate the corridor where she attended school in her memory.

Shortly after graduating from Deltona High School, MSgt. Brown enlisted in the Air Force and reported to Basic Military Training School at Lackland Air Force Base. She continued her training at Keesler Air Force Base in Mississippi where she attended technical school and was subsequently assigned to Kadena Air Base, Japan where she began working in information management.

Brown continued her service to our country during several overseas assignments. In November 2006, she was assigned to Headquarters, Air Force Office of Special Investigations and her service later took her to Eskan Village, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with and Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan. In January 2011, she deployed to Kabul, Afghanistan as a communications squadron advisor for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Air Training Command-Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, Master Sgt. Brown selflessly answered her nation’s call to serve, and performed with distinction for over fifteen years. Her impeccable service record further reflects her outstanding character and dedication to her fellow men and women in uniform and to our country. As a testament to her decorated career, MSgt. Brown was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Combat Action Medal, and the NATO Article Five Medal. In her local community, the citizens of Deltona, Florida have renamed the southern portion of the road formerly known as Forrester Edge Drive to MSgt. Tara Jacobs Brown Ave.

In addition to her father and husband, Brown is survived by her mother, Gladys Vereen of New York; brothers Jim Jacobs of Kissimmee, Dominic Jacobs of New York, and Michael Jacobs of Deltona; and sister, Laguanda Jacobs of Maryland.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in remembering and celebrating the decorated service of Master Sergeant Tara R. Brown, and ask that God bless her soul and the souls of all our fallen heroes that have given their lives so we may enjoy the freedoms we all hold dear.