

118th annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Society. Since 1976, the Distinguished Citizen of the Commonwealth Award has been bestowed upon an individual whose actions have stood out in benefiting the Commonwealth. Mr. Solano is renowned across Pennsylvania for dedicating a lifetime of service to his country, state, and community.

A veteran of World War II, Mr. Solano was with the Eighth U.S. Air Force Heavy Bombardment Group from 1943 to 1946. Mr. Solano completed twenty-three combat missions aboard a B-17 named "Hangover." His valor earned him the Group Presidential Citation, the Air Force Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, and the European Combat Theatre Medal with two Bronze Stars.

Following his military service, Mr. Solano advised nine governors of Pennsylvania. He offered counsel to William Scranton, Raymond P. Shafer, Milton Shapp, Dick Thornburg, Robert P. Casey, Tom Ridge, Mark Schweiker, Ed Rendell, and Tom Corbett, as well as Pennsylvania State Senate Majority Leader Dominick Pileggi. Mr. Solano earned a reputation for working behind the scenes to find bipartisan solutions and funding for projects. In addition to advising Pennsylvania's chief executives, Mr. Solano served as Deputy Secretary for Parks and Forests at the Department of Environmental Resources and as the Acting Secretary of the then newly created Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

After forty years of service to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Mr. Solano retired in 2002. Today, he resides in Hughestown with his wife Marie. They are the parents of six daughters and have eleven grandchildren.

It is an honor to recognize Patrick J. Solano for receiving the Distinguished Citizen of the Commonwealth Award. I am deeply grateful for his outstanding service to Pennsylvania.

TRINITY SETS THE PACE AT QUICK DRAW ART CONTEST

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Trinity Pace for winning first place in the 2016 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Quick Draw Art Contest.

Trinity is in eighth grade at St. Laurence Catholic School in Sugar Land, Texas. This talented student won both first place in the Quick Draw Art Contest and was also titled "Junior High Champion," where she earned a cash reward, scholarship to the Glassell Junior Art School, and finally a Junior High Gold Ribbon of Excellence. Out of 600 students who applied for the contest, only 26 were selected to move forward. The Houston Rodeo Art Programs have produced 50 years of talented students and phenomenal art. We are so proud of Trinity, and look forward to seeing the fantastic art she will create in her bright future.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Trinity for her success at the Quick Draw Art Contest at the Houston Rodeo. We can't wait to see what she does next.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF ANDREW HAMMOND ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Andrew Hammond of Van Wert, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Andrew's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2020. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Andrew brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2020. While attending Van Wert High School in Van Wert, Ohio, Andrew was a member of the National Honor Society, a Renaissance Program—Gold Card Recipient, a member of the Spanish Club, and a choir district participant.

Throughout high school, Andrew was a member of his school's wrestling and football teams, earning various awards. He was also active with Fellowship of Christian Athletes. I am confident that Andrew will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Andrew Hammond on the offer of his appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Andrew will excel during his career at the Air Force Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

CONGRATULATING MEGAN Huddle ON RECEIVING THE BRIGHTON ASSEMBLY OF GOD'S GOLD MEDAL

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Megan Huddle, who was recently honored with the Brighton Assembly of God's Gold Medal Award, the highest achievement in the Assemblies of God Girls Ministries program.

To be honored with the Brighton Assembly of God's Gold Medal is the culmination of a 13-year journey of devotion to God that begins in kindergarten and finishes at the end of high school. The Girls Ministries program strives to instill Christian values and virtues in the young women who will be the future of our nation.

To be honored with a gold medal, girls must go above and beyond the requirements for completing the five levels of clubs offered by the ministries. Medal awardees must also have read the Bible twice, the New Testament three times, memorized portions of scripture and have met weekly with a sponsor who helps to guide them spiritually.

Mr. Speaker, Megan Huddle has not only displayed an uncommon level of spiritual devotion during her time in the Girls Ministries program, but also a measure of determination and commitment that will undoubtedly serve her well through her life. On behalf of Missouri's Seventh Congressional District, I urge my colleagues in congratulating her on this well-earned achievement.

TRIBUTE TO SOUTHERN IOWA REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Southern Iowa Regional Housing Authority (SIRHA), Creston, Iowa on their 40-year anniversary. This is an important milestone in their history of service to southern Iowa and the Third Congressional District.

SIRHA provides rent assistance and rent subsidy to low income citizens, elderly and disabled persons of the Third Congressional District in Iowa. They also rent apartment units to citizens in communities that are scattered throughout a six-county area. SIRHA programs have helped to create a positive environment to promote self-sufficiency.

Mr. Speaker, throughout its many years of service, Southern Iowa Regional Housing Authority has successfully provided necessary services to the communities of Iowa's Third Congressional District. I congratulate SIRHA on this historic anniversary. It is an honor to represent its employees in the United States Congress. I wish SIRHA nothing but continued success for another 40 years and beyond.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF TREY SMITH ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Trey Smith of Delphos, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Trey's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2020. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Trey brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming