

leaving behind both a loving family and a legion of admirers.

Some people go through life wondering if they made a difference. Elizabeth Laird, the Fort Hood Hug Lady, didn't have that problem. Her kindness and commitment to being of service to others touched thousands and reminds us how the simplest of gestures can have the largest of impacts.

STRYKER BY DESIGN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Stryker by Design for receiving the 2016 Commerce City Entrepreneurial Spirit Award.

The Entrepreneurial Spirit Award recognizes a company or entrepreneur that demonstrates a pioneer spirit toward new product development, a business start-up, or growth into new markets. Stryker by Design is a woman-owned, contract manufacturing company that has been in business since 2000.

Stryker by Design specializes in "soft-sewn" products, made by highly-trained and talented operators including refugees from war-torn countries in Africa and the Middle East. Stryker manufactures backpacks, military and tactical gear, fashion bags and more at their facility located on Monaco Street in Commerce City. The company uses an innovative approach to contract manufacturing. The owners not only make their clients' products, but they also offer office, design and warehouse space to some of their clients and even allow the companies access to their production floor. Their success has enabled them to double their employee count, invest in new machinery, and fully utilize their 10,000 square foot space.

I extend my deepest congratulations to the Stryker by Design for this well-deserved recognition by Commerce City.

THIS "HOLY COW" WINS "BEST IN SHOW"

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Emily Fiedler for her artwork earning the title of "Best in Show" at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo's Junior High Contest.

Emily is in eighth grade at St. Laurence Catholic School in Sugar Land, Texas. This talented student earned the Junior High title of "Best in Show" for her artwork, "Holy Cow." In addition to this elite award, Emily received a scholarship to the Glassell School of Art. The Houston Rodeo Art Programs have produced 50 years of talented students and phenomenal art. We are so proud of Emily, 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 Emily for her success at the Houston Live-

stock and Rodeo Junior High Art Contests. We can't wait to see what she does next.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RABBI  
HERBERT BAUMGARD

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in remembrance of Rabbi Herbert Baumgard, who passed away this past Friday, at the age of 95.

Rabbi Baumgard founded Temple Beth Am, which is an important institution in my congressional district that has brought the South Florida Jewish community together for over 60 years.

A native of Norfolk, Virginia, Rabbi Baumgard served as an assistant to a Chaplain in World War II.

He credited that experience with his motivation for becoming a Rabbi.

One of Rabbi Baumgard's strongest ideals was the continuing friendship and alliance with the State of Israel.

The Rabbi was committed to not only strengthening our ties with our great ally, but to seeing that the United States continues to support and defend the Jewish State, which is an idea that I shared with him.

I am so honored and privileged to have had the opportunity to represent Temple Beth Am and to experience all that Rabbi Baumgard has done to improve South Florida.

May his memory be a blessing.

TRIBUTE TO SYLVIA AND MERLIN  
MCALLISTER

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sylvia and Merlin McAllister of Shenandoah, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. They were married on April 7, 1946.

Merlin and Sylvia have enjoyed many adventures together throughout their 70 years. Mr. McAllister said, "We've been here, there, and everywhere, and just have a good time and enjoy life. We work together and we make a good team." They have visited all 50 states and traveled throughout Europe. Merlin and Sylvia are active members of the Farragut United Methodist Church in Farragut, Iowa.

Mr. Speaker, Merlin and Sylvia's lifelong commitment to each other and their two children, three grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren truly embodies Iowa values. I commend this great couple on their 70th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

OLD DOMINION FREIGHT LINE,  
INC.

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc. for receiving the 2016 Commerce City Business on the Move Award.

The Business on the Move Award recognizes businesses bringing new employment, growth in sales or new capital investment to the city in the last year. Old Dominion Freight Line is a motor carrier providing regional, inter-regional and national less-than-truckload (LTL) and value-added logistics services. The company has been in Commerce City for 20 years. In 2015, the company expanded its footprint to a 65,000 square foot facility which enabled them to add 70 jobs and 125 trucks departures a day, delivering 275,000 packages annually.

I extend my deepest congratulations to the Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc. for this well-deserved recognition by Commerce City.

HONORING SANDRIDGE FOOD CORPORATION ON RECEIVING THE  
2016 SMART BUSINESS EVOLUTION OF  
MANUFACTURING AWARD

**HON. JAMES B. RENACCI**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Sandridge Food Corporation on receiving the 2016 Smart Business Evolution of Manufacturing Award. Sandridge Food Co. is a family-owned refrigerated foods manufacturer located in Medina, Ohio.

For more than 50 years, Sandridge Food Co. has produced fresh deli salads, soups, entrees, desserts, sauces, and dips for the food service and retail sectors. A leader in the refrigerated foods industry in North America, Sandridge has built its rich heritage with an unparalleled commitment to food safety, culinary excellence, and innovation.

Small businesses across the country work hard every day to produce the goods and services needed to drive our nation's economy.

I offer my sincerest congratulations to this valued business and community partner.

HONORING NORTH PANOLA HIGH  
SCHOOL

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable school, North Panola High School of Sardis, Mississippi and the great leadership it is under.

North Panola High School is a rural high school situated on the eastern edge of the Mississippi delta. For many years the high

school has been a part of a school district that had been plagued by low test scores, violence and a negative school culture. The school district had been taken over by the state several times due to year after year of low test scores.

In July of 2011, Robert King, Conservator of the North Panola School District, hired Jamone Edwards as the principal of North Panola High School. Jamone Edwards, a graduate of Mississippi State University and The University of Mississippi, was the youngest principal the school had ever witnessed. He brought innovative ideas and worked tirelessly to increase teacher morale and create a positive school culture. Under his leadership and the staff's support, the school has made significant gains in the accountability model in which schools are rated. Prior to the new leadership, for many years the school was considered low performing and on academic watch. During his tenure, the school rose to Successful, which is equivalent to a C school. In the 2013–14 school year, Mr. Edwards led the school to its first ever High Performing Status, which is equivalent to a B school. This is a remarkable achievement as the school had never experienced such success and recognition.

Additionally, since 2010, the school has many successes to celebrate. The school's graduation rate was at an all-time low of 49 percent in 2010. Since that time, the graduation rate has risen to 73 percent for the 2013–14 academic school year. Currently, the high school is projected to have a graduation rate of 85 percent for the 2014–15 accountability rating. In addition, Algebra I and U.S. History subject area test scores have surpassed the state's average, and English II and Biology I state test scores are slightly trailing the state's average.

North Panola High School has also made significant improvement in preparing students for college and acquiring scholarships. In 2010, the mean ACT score was 14.8. Since that time, several students of North Panola High School has scored 20 or better on the ACT. In 2010, the high school graduating seniors had generated \$150,000 in scholarship monies. In 2014, the high school graduating class of approximately 80 students received in excess more that \$2 Million in scholarship monies creating more opportunities for our children to succeed in college and careers after high school.

In March 2015, North Panola High School received an award from the State Superintendent of Education, Dr. Carey M. Wright and the Mississippi Department of Education, for closing the achievement gap between black and white students in the area of English/Language Arts and Mathematics. North Panola was one of the only predominantly minority high schools to be recognized with the Distinguished School Award. As a result, North Panola High School received \$23,750.05 to further enhance the students' overall educational experience.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing North Panola High School for its dedication to serving our great state of Mississippi and country.

UNITED PARCEL SERVICE (UPS)

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud United Parcel Service (UPS) for receiving the 2016 Commerce City Business of the Year Award.

The Business of the Year Award is given to a company showing leadership within its industry and the community. UPS has been in the Commerce City community for over 44 years and employs 2,700 people as the largest private-sector employer in the city. They recently added 90 full-time jobs and constructed a large high capacity Compressed Natural Gas fueling station for their local fleet of 300 UPS cars and tractors.

The employees at the UPS facility are an integral part of the transportation and logistics sector in Colorado and in the western U.S. but also an integral part of the local community. They give countless hours in volunteer services, donate to local charity programs and are stewards of the economy and the environment. They have assisted in many community projects including the relocation of the old Commerce City Civic Center to the new Historical Society Property, the renovation efforts in local schools, and the remodel of the Hope Center, which helps individuals with developmental disabilities and at-risk children and adults.

I extend my deepest congratulations to the United Parcel Service for this well-deserved recognition by Commerce City.

HONORING 41 PALM BEACH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ENLISTING IN THE U.S. ARMED FORCES

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 41 high school seniors from Palm Beach County, Florida for their admirable decision to enlist in the United States Armed Forces after graduating this year. Of these 41 enlistees, nineteen are Army enlistees, three are Army Reserves enlistees, eleven are Marine Corps enlistees, four are National Guard enlistees, and four are Navy enlistees.

These young men and women have demonstrated a tremendous sense of bravery and patriotism in their commitment to our nation. I am proud of them, this institution is proud of them, and their families, friends, and communities are proud of them. Their dedication reminds us that in the face of a diverse set of challenges, the United States remains an example of freedom, justice, and perseverance throughout the world.

I want to personally thank these 41 local graduating seniors for their commitment to our nation and recognize their selflessness. They are: Dylan Smith, Cristian Machuca, Bradley Scaccia, Denzel Persaud, Christon Fitzpatrick, Breana Williams, Jean Decime, Mark Brown, Shantel Johnson, Lashonda Darrisaw, Davarie McCarthy, Precious Montgomery, Emerson

Charles, Lawrence Hamilton, Mayco Saincere, Jahnque Miller, Keisha Oreste, Reginald Mehu, Bailey Federer, Richard Rodriguez, Moses Louis-Charles, Joshua Brewer, Nicklaus Lawrence, Delinson Tomas Velasquez, Destinee Allen, Joshua Cruz Pozuelos, Joshua Wilkes, Oshane Wilson, Allen Gonzalez, Kristen Dodd, Luis Sepulveda, Wadson Dieujuste, Montus Desulma, Ian Little, Natalia Ruiz, Maikyria Lawson, Francis Fevrier, Cristy Guillen Beltre, Fritznick Thelusca, Carlos Gonzalez Vega, and Raja Pargan.

Mr. Speaker, our nation is blessed with the best trained and strongest fighting force in the world. We owe a debt of gratitude to each and every American serving in our armed forces, and to the many veterans who have served before them. Their spirit of service is something we can all be proud of. It is my distinct honor to recognize these young leaders here today, and to thank each of them for stepping forward on behalf of this great nation.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the National Association of University Women of Houston, Texas for hosting their 57th South Central Conference in serving young women.

The National Association of University Women (NAUW) was established in 1910 in Washington, DC by Mary Terrell, Dr. Sara Brown, and Mary Cromwell. The internationally known, non-profit organization directs their efforts toward young women, inspiring them to strive for success regardless of their circumstance. The NAUW works to accomplish this by granting high school seniors with scholarships and advocating women's rights, educational issues, and inspiring young women of tomorrow to make a difference. The 57th South Central Sectional Conference will be held from June 16th to the 18th at the Hilton Westchase Hotel in Houston, Texas.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the National Association of University Women for hosting their 57th South Central Conference in Houston. We appreciate their public service.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPTAIN GREG KEITHLY

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Captain Greg Keithly on his retirement from the United States Navy after thirty five years of dedicated service.

Captain Keithly enlisted in the Navy in July of 1981 and began his long career of loyal service to our nation. After his completion of U.S. Hull Maintenance Technician School at Treasure Island, California and later Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, he would go on to serve