

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE 2016 ARMED FORCES ENLISTEES FROM FREDERICKSBURG, VA

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 121 high school seniors in the Fredericksburg, Virginia area who plan to enlist in the United States Armed Forces after graduation. These students have excelled in their academic and extracurricular activities, and I offer my sincere congratulations upon their high school graduation.

Altizer, Zachary; Barrett, Isiah Thomas; Buckley, Jacob Thomas; Croce, Reed; Dingus, Adam Jacob; Dreyer, Jacob Clark; Eiley III, Raymond; Fones, Sean Tyler; Gill, Tyler James; Gordon, Jarrett Reid; Hanse, Martin; Hardy, Tanner Ramsey; Hebdon, Curtis Allen; Higgins, Drayton C; Holmes, Gregory Rolland; Jackson, Anthony; Kelly, Benjamin Wyatt; Knowles, Trent Hunter; Krieter, Jacob Andrew; Krieter, Joseph Paul; Lawson, Ethan William; Lisovich, Thomas Jerome; Lloyd, Coby Jacob; McAllister, William Edward; Michalechen, Alec; Moore, Jahlil; Nelson, Jacob Robert; Oliviera, Logan; Ross, Mathew Andrew; Shay, Matthew Ellis; Sivigny, Douglas; Tibbs, Lytesha Tayquona; Vangorder, Tanner Clyde; Ziadeh, Clinton Austin.

Manuel, Jackson; Ewer, Winter; Patterson, Chance William; Gaskins, Taquana Athalia; Foley, Michael Andrew; Andah, Kow Issiw; Pierson, Thomas Richard; Huber, Colby Toler; Hayes, William Cody; Leitch, Nicholas Ashley; Apperson, Brandon Alex; Martinez, Carlos Everardo; Kirkpatrick, Jacob Aaron; Ruff, Jordan Thomas Philip; Dileo, Robert Gerard; Rock, Desmond Marcell; Gainey, English Blake; Whitaker, Bradley Eugene; Cook, John Lee; Bermudez, Brency; Broussard, Nicole Lynn; Shivers, Jonathan Jay; Snyder, Andrew Thomas; Kinsella, Sean William; Green, Heaven Leigh; Lee, Kelsey Reed; Sublett, Gregory Allen; Sanat, Reza Emanuel; Mariner, Robert Anthony; Abielmona, Mazen; Silver, Benjamin Isaac Landon; Good, Connor David; Straughan, Jessica Lee; Aron, Curtis Davion; Stillabower, Adam Bradley; Sampath, Vimal Ganapathy; Dogra, Praveen; Sanit Asante, Kweku; Valencia Alvarez, Mario Gabriel; Cory, Hunter; Dunn, Sean; Garcia, Jose; Grant, Jame; Isom, Khaliyah; Licht, Benjamin; Moffo, Borian; Owens, Tomomi; Patterson, Arielle; Smith, Toby; Abdullah, Arahim; Cross, Nygel; Sporney, Kory.

Dejesus, Sarah; Herin, Justin; Travers, Carrington; Williams, Namon; Lowery, Krystal; Lober, Zachary; Gilstrap, Jaclyn; Alexander, Mikayla; Patton, David; Deputy, William; Smith, Gary.

Auerbach, Anthony; Baskerville, Dre'Shawn; Beitzel, Nathaniel; Castellino, Rachel; Dale, John Barron; Davis, Brody Logan; Eubanks, Lamont; Fuller, Corey; Gray, Kevin; Hicks, Zahn; Holman, Andrew James; Holmes, Ken-

dall; Howard, Alxendra; Hunley, David; Jolly, Autumn Nicole; Mamboyo, Juan E. Balguin; McGovern, Samuel; Mullins, Blaine; Prince, Colton Dean; Proudfoot, Garrison A.; Savoie, Henry; Soper, Charles Grayson; Stauber, June Maria, Jacob, Lydia.

These students will be honored by the Greater Fredericksburg Chapter of Our Community Salutes at their 5th Annual Military Enlistee Recognition Ceremony on Saturday, May 14, 2016 at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, VA.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking these young men and women and their families for their dedication to serving this great Nation. We owe them and the many Americans who have served, and will serve, a debt of gratitude.

HONORING JANE EHRLICH

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jane Ehrlich, who served for nearly two decades as Columbia Memorial Hospital's chief executive officer.

Jane is this year's Columbia County Association's Distinguished Citizen Award recipient. She has always been passionate about the healthcare field and expanding access in Columbia and Greene Counties.

From an early age, Jane knew she was called to the healthcare profession; tending to her dolls and pets as patients. By the age of 16, she was working in health care. Jane took advantage of a program that allowed high school juniors entering their senior year to work full-time as a nurse's aide and rotate through the hospital.

Following nursing school, Jane worked as a clinical nurse in New York City and Boston. Eventually she was introduced to the administration side of healthcare, to which she took an interest. This led Jane to pursue an MBA with a major in Health Care Administration.

Jane was ultimately offered the position of CEO at Columbia Memorial Hospital in 1994. At the time, the hospital was nearly bankrupt and was losing patients to other area facilities. Shortly after assuming the role, Jane brought the board of directors together and improved the hospital's financial stability and performance, made technological upgrades, and improved staff accommodations and morale. Through these successes, the surrounding community was presented with expanded care and access to vital medical services.

By 1997, Jane's leadership put the hospital in the fiscal position to add a new unit called The Family Birthplace. This state of the art facility encouraged birth as a family experience and was shortly followed by the Kellner Wing. The Kellner Wing housed the Emergency Department and Surgical Services. These important expansions proved the hospital was poised for a bright future.

Jane further worked to expand the hospital's physician network that focused on patient-centric care and a nearly fully integrated system.

Mr. Speaker, Jane Ehrlich has distinguished herself throughout her remarkable twenty-plus-year career with Columbia Memorial Hospital where she has expanded care and choice in Upstate New York. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating her on her countless achievements during a remarkable career, thank her for what she did to expand healthcare access for my home county and the surrounding area, and wish her all the best in her retirement.

SAN DIEGO ZOO GLOBAL
CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand in recognition of one of our nation's most iconic institutions as it celebrates its 100th anniversary. The San Diego Zoo is one of our city's most cherished landmarks, and has been consistently recognized among the world's top zoos. But it is much more than a zoo—it is an economic driver, it educates thousands of children and teachers, and it includes the largest zoo-based conservation research center in the world. It is a place where generations of families have come to appreciate and celebrate the great significance of our planet's most amazing creatures.

The San Diego Zoo was founded in 1916 by Dr. Harry M. Wegeforth, Dr. Paul Wegeforth, Dr. Fred Baker, Dr. Joseph C. Thompson, and naturalist Frank Stephens. It began as a sanctuary for animals abandoned after the 1915–1916 Panama-California Exposition held in San Diego, and it quickly became a home for exotic animals donated by private owners, purchased from circuses and other zoos, and recovered from challenging situations in the wild. It is now one of the largest and most important institutions in our city of San Diego and in the State of California.

Under current President and CEO Doug Myers' stewardship and vision, the San Diego Zoo has transformed into San Diego Zoo Global, an internationally acclaimed conservation organization. With the mission to "Save species worldwide by uniting our expertise in animal care and conservation science with our dedication to inspiring a passion for nature," this truly global organization aids recovery efforts around the world. San Diego Zoo Global's Institute for Conservation Research took the lead in saving the California condor by designing and implementing a successful captive-breeding program. Thanks to their tireless efforts, a species that was on the brink of extinction 25 years ago now has a population of over 420, with more than 200 living in the wild in California, Arizona, Utah, and Mexico.

San Diego Zoo Global is also investing in the future of conservation. Its Global Wildlife

• 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.

Biobank, which stores frozen viable cell cultures, tissue samples, and DNA of more than 10,000 individual animals representing 1,000 species, is perhaps the most important biological vault in the world. This invaluable resource will help San Diego Zoo Global in its mission to lead the fight against extinction, and researchers, universities, and scientific institutions around the world will use it for generations to come.

San Diego Zoo Global is not only a catalyst for wildlife conservation, it is an economic driver, attracting more than five million visitors annually and employing our citizens in its parks and research facilities. In 2014, a San Diego Taxpayers Association research study reported that San Diego Zoo Global had an annual economic impact of \$1.2 billion—roughly the GDP of Australia. It is one of our city's largest and most stable private employers with 1,610 full-time employees, approximately a quarter of whom have been with the institution for more than 20 years.

In addition, San Diego Zoo Global is making an immediate and lasting impact in our nation's classrooms, producing educational materials for children and hosting hands-on conservation research workshops for middle and high school teachers from around the country. Educating and inspiring the next generation to be passionate about wildlife conservation is vital for long-term conservation efforts, and it all begins with one teacher inspiring one classroom.

David Attenborough once said, "People are not going to care about animal conservation unless they think that animals are worthwhile." San Diego Zoo Global and their tireless dedication to saving species has not only taught us all that animals are indeed worthwhile—they have set a new standard for zoological institutions worldwide to adopt and share their commitment to wildlife conservation. San Diego Zoo Global has educated generations to appreciate and understand that all creatures, from the African elephant to the kangaroo rat, are vitally important to life here on Earth—and that we all have a role to play in their care and conservation.

On behalf of San Diego's Congressional Delegation, I graciously commend San Diego Zoo Global on their 100th Anniversary, for being a beacon for our city of San Diego—driving our economy, educating our students, and bringing the world's animals into our lives, our classrooms, and our consciousness—and leading the fight to end extinction.

RECOGNIZING OLDER AMERICANS
MONTH

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I stand before you today to recognize the contributions of past and current older persons to our country, in particular, those who defended our country. Every President since Kennedy has issued a formal proclamation during or before the month of May, asking the entire nation to pay tribute in some way to older persons in their communities. Older Americans Month is celebrated across the country through ceremonies, events, fairs, and

other such activities. Centers such as the Salvation Army Golden Age Center in Buffalo, New York are dedicated to serving those who have given so much.

When Older Americans Month was established in 1963, only 17 million living Americans had reached their 65th birthday. About a third of older Americans lived in poverty and there were few programs to meet their needs. Interest in older Americans and their concerns was growing. A meeting in April 1963 between President John F. Kennedy and members of the National Council of Senior Citizens led to designating May as "Senior Citizens Month," the prelude to "Older Americans Month."

Older Americans Month includes a community of older Americans who deserve recognition for their contributions to our nation and recognizes that older adults are trailblazers—advocating for themselves, their peers, and their communities—paving the way for future generations. This act is committed to raising awareness about issues facing older Americans and helping all individuals to thrive in communities of their choice for as long as possible. We appreciate the value of inclusion and support in helping older adults successfully contribute to and benefit from their communities.

I wholeheartedly believe that our community can provide opportunities to enrich the lives of individuals of all ages by, promoting and engaging in activity, wellness, and social involvement; emphasizing home and community-based services that support independent living and ensuring community members can benefit from the contributions and experience of older adults.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor and recognize Older Americans Month. I urge every resident to take time this month to acknowledge older adults and the people who serve them as powerful and vital individuals who greatly contribute to our community, such as those at the Salvation Army Golden Age Center.

HONORING LORRAINE MIVILLE IN
CELEBRATION OF HER 85TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to Lorraine Miville in celebration of her reaching the milestone 85th birthday.

As she reflects on the great memories and milestones that have highlighted the past eighty five years, I know she will think fondly on all that she's accomplished and the positive impact she's had on New Hampshire.

It is with great admiration that I congratulate Ms. Miville on achieving this wonderful milestone, and wish her the best on all future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND LIVING LEGACY OF ROSE SCHETROMPF ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to celebrate Rose Schetrompf of Bedford County for recently turning 100 years old. As this tremendous milestone illustrates, Rose is truly a remarkable person. She is a loving parent and grandparent, a long-time small business owner, and a pillar in the community.

Starting in the 1950s, at the Murphy building in Everett, Pennsylvania, Rose opened up Rose Schetrompf Beauty Shop, which she subsequently managed until she was 95 years old. While the location of Rose Schetrompf Beauty Shop may have moved around Everett over the years, one thing always stayed the same: her business's reliable and quality work, which is evidenced by the fact that some of Rose's most loyal customers went to the shop for over 40 years.

I think everyone who went to Rose over the years has their own story, but one that stands out is her commitment to serving her customers. Nothing could stop Rose, including a broken bone. As the story goes, when Rose sustained a broken wrist, she worked right through the injury instead of taking time off, like many people with a physically demanding job might have. Additionally, she is known for her continued willingness to learn the newest hairstyles, which ensured her long-standing business success over the years. When Rose isn't working, she has always been known for finding ways to give back to the community, and that is something that may be just as memorable as her beauty shop.

When people are asked to describe Rose, one of the first things they say is that she is a genuinely great person. During Rose's recent birthday celebration, one of her grandchildren asked her what she attributed her long and full life to. Rose's answer was, "hard work." So today on behalf of the people of Bedford County I would like to thank and recognize Rose for her hard work and role in the community.

RECOGNIZING NORTHWEST INDIANA'S NEWLY NATURALIZED CITIZENS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate thirty-one individuals who will take their oath of citizenship on Friday, May 13, 2016. This memorable occasion, presided over by Judge Joseph Van Bokkelen, will be held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example

of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On May 13, 2016, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Inger Adriana Hamilton, Allen Grayson Oliver, Filip Kaevski, Deepa Majumdar, Mary Kumba Narsu Nyuma, Harnet Singh Bhangoo, Leda Louie Medera Sarmiento, Reynaldo Zavala Reyes, Dhruvi Dharmesh Shah, Shaymaa Kareem Abdulameer, Saima Ali Khan, Lyubov Mykolayivna Shteyn, Obren Gutovic, Eugenio Miranda Leon, Andrea Leal Espino, Carlos Grageda Arzate, Mary Cruz Aguilar, Mia Bella Alvarado, Arturo Amezcua, Elena Leona Bowser, Sherry Chen, Jose Estrada, Fatima Dinora Vazquez, Maria Concepcion Gonzalez, Tin Mang Hlawnceu, Emilia Tabas Jagier, Jesse Jimenez, Mirlym Italia Milfort, Dimitar Vladimir Paunche, Rose Tran, and Chinelo Marilyn Udokoro.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country “. . . of the people, by the people, and for the people.” They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who will become citizens of the United States of America on May 13, 2016. They, too, are American citizens, and they, too, are guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

HONORING JACK BERITZHOFF

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Jack Beritzhoff, who passed away on Thursday, April 21 in San Rafael, California at the age of 97. A Merchant Marine who served in both World War II and the Korean War, Mr. Beritzhoff advocated for the federal government to recognize his service and the service of nearly a quarter million other WWII Merchant Mariners.

After a sea accident curtailed his Navy service, Mr. Beritzhoff joined the war effort as a Merchant Marine, a civilian sailor on ships carrying military cargo and supplies. During the war, he and his fellow Mariners delivered 203 million tons of materials, including bombs, guns, tanks, and troops, at great personal risk. Although the WWII Merchant Marines faced

the second highest casualty rate, they were not officially recognized as Veterans. During the war, President Franklin Roosevelt had promised that the Mariners would receive full Veterans' benefits, but when he passed away that promise died with him. Mr. Beritzhoff and his fellow mariners were left out of the G.I. Bill, and it was not until an act of Congress in 1988 that they became eligible for Veteran status, which allowed them to enter VA hospitals, among other services.

In the years since, Mr. Beritzhoff was a fierce advocate for recognizing the Mariners' contributions to the war, lobbying the White House and Congress and writing a book about his experience at sea. Last year, my colleagues JANICE HAHN and JOHN DUNCAN introduced H.R. 563, the World War II Merchant Mariners Act. If passed, the bill would recognize the 3,000–5,000 eligible WWII Merchant Marines “for their bravery and sacrifice,” and award them \$25,000 each.

A lifelong Californian, Mr. Beritzhoff will be remembered for his sense of humor, love for his family, and steadfast devotion to his cause. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to him today and express our deepest condolences to his surviving family and friends.

HONORING REVEREND JON PEDIGO

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th Anniversary of Ordination of our pastor and friend, Reverend Jon Pedigo.

Reverend Pedigo currently serves as a pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in East San Jose and has been a fixture in our community's spiritual life for over two decades. His dedicated and adroit leadership in the issues of immigrant and workers' rights, LGBT rights, and a focus on carving a path forward to a more peaceful world have been well known and a source of pride throughout our community. As a pastor at St. Julie Billiard Parish in South San Jose, Reverend Pedigo delivered his homily on the story of Bartimaeus in this way: “Physical sight was Bartimaeus's issue,” he said, “but the real sin was the blindness in the seeing-people around him. Seeing-people see skin color, status, age, gender, weight, orientation, education level, etc. They do not see the real you.” Reverend Pedigo has been and continues to be a strong advocate for equal rights and fairness before our laws and in our culture.

As he now serves the community at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, a spiritual haven to many working class immigrant families, Reverend Pedigo helps draw together multiple generations of parishioners of diverse cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds and preaches inclusivity and mutual respect in the face of the issues that sometimes divide our society. “In a time of hate, we must be love,” he has said. “At a time of exclusion, we must be inclusive.”

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to honor Reverend Pedigo for his twenty-five years of service to our community. Reverend Jon Pedigo is an exemplar of selfless service to others. With

his dedicated work, he has served to improve the lives of the parishioners who come to him for solace, respite, and guidance. I know that his many friends and colleagues join me in recognizing this milestone in his life.

RECOGNIZING APRIL 17 AS WORLD
HEMOPHILIA DAY

HON. SCOTT H. PETERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize April 17 as World Hemophilia Day.

Hemophilia is among the range of disorders that impacts fewer than 200,000 annually—thereby classifying it as a rare disease. It is a genetic disorder in which the blood doesn't clot, causing excessive bleeding and easy bruising. Without proper treatment, it can lead to organ damage, serious joint and muscle problems, and terrible pain. More than 20,000 Americans suffer from hemophilia, including an estimated 400 newborns.

In my district, the Hemophilia Association of San Diego County provides educational programming and support services for families in San Diego. They have worked with national organizations and industry partners to improve healthcare, support research, and provide necessary resources for the bleeding disorders community since 1973.

Today, there are about 141 federally-funded treatment centers and programs across the country, including two Hemophilia Treatment Centers in San Diego; Rady Children's Hospital and the University of California San Diego Health. The financial burden for individuals with severe hemophilia is often \$250,000 a year or more. It is important to acknowledge the financial burden for individuals with severe hemophilia and their families. We must continue to invest in research and support efforts to make treatment more accessible to help improve the quality of life for people with Hemophilia.

RECOGNIZING ROSEANNE BUTLER-
SMITH AS SHE IS HONORED BY
THE AMHERST WOMEN'S
INTERCLUB COUNCIL

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Roseanne Butler-Smith for her honorable service and dedication to our communities, especially our libraries, on the occasion of the Kentucky Derby Luncheon at the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village, hosted by the Amherst Women's Interclub Council.

Ms. Butler-Smith earned her B.A. degree in History from Canisius College, as well as a Master's in Library Science and Information from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She is an active member of the community who loves to garden, travel, and even serves as a Boy Scout Leader with Troop 468. She currently serves as the Director of the Amherst Public Libraries, which includes the Williamsville Branch Library. Ms. Butler-Smith

is a member of the New York State Library Association, American Library Association and Public Library Association.

In 2005, budget cuts eliminated funding for the Williamsville Library, which had been a fixture of the town for over 100 years. Ms. Butler-Smith, along with a few dedicated others, raised funds to enable the library to remain open. Afterward, the Williamsville Business Association's Community Enhancement Committee founded the "Love Your Village; Love your Library" movement in support of the Williamsville Library. In 2012, the first annual gala fundraiser for the library was held. In the last five years, the event has grown enormously, and has successfully raised thousands of dollars for the Williamsville branch.

As Amherst Library Director, Ms. Butler-Smith manages the use of this funding. Ms. Butler-Smith's leadership has resulted in great accomplishments for the Williamsville library, including the ability for the library to remain open every Saturday throughout the year.

Ms. Butler-Smith's dedication to our community is equaled only by her commitment to her family. With her husband of 25 years, Gordie Smith, they have raised three children: Ryan, Conner, and Colleen.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor the work of Mrs. Roseanne Butler-Smith. I ask that my colleagues join me in expressing thanks for her admirable work for Western New York.

COMMENDING LOCAL 2016 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FOR THEIR DECISION TO ENLIST IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES AND OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA FOR HOSTING THE FIRST ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ENLISTEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

HON. DAVE BRAT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. BRAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 39 Henrico County, Virginia area high school seniors who plan to enlist in the United States Armed Forces after graduation. These students have excelled in their academic and extracurricular activities, and I offer my sincere congratulations for their selflessness and courageous decision to serve their country upon their high school graduation.

I commend these student leaders for their selflessness and courageous decision to serve their country as members of the United States Armed Forces.

Anderson, Darius; Burch, Jayvon; Byron, Charles; Carter, Samuel; Castro, Juan; Christiani, Josiah; Clune, Thomas; Collins, Michael; Dickerson, Caralos; Englehart, Austin; Feggins, Roman; Ferguson, Kobe; Goodwin, Deberry; Gotee, Nabeel; Grammer, Cameron; Hairiston, Bronzel; Hall, Charles; Hopper, Cameron; James, Donovan; Johnson, Dustin; Kelly, Terrell; Kern, Joshua; Lane, Desmond; Lopez, Arnulfo; Lumpkin, Eric; Marks, Preston; Martin, Kolton; Mayer, Ryan; Miller, Dion; Morin, Kobe; Peatross, Jahmal;

Porter, John; Scheerer, Grayson; Stanley, Markus; Testroet, David; Tyler, Gavin; Warren, Nyquan; Whiteside, Henry; and Williams, Michael.

These students will be honored by the Henrico Chapter of Our Community Salutes at their Annual Military Enlisted Recognition Ceremony on Tuesday, May 10 at Hermitage High School in Henrico, VA.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking these young men and women and their families for their dedication to serving this great Nation. We owe them and the many Americans who have served and will serve a debt of gratitude.

CONGRATULATING JEFF GRANT ON WINNING A GOLDEN APPLE AWARD

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Mr. Jeff Grant on winning a Golden Apple award.

Jeff Grant, A.P. biology, anatomy and physiology teacher at Downers Grove North High School, was awarded with a 2016 Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching. The Golden Apple is awarded to only twelve high school teachers in Illinois and is a testament to Jeff's commitment to enriching the lives of our nation's students.

Jeff, a Downers Grove North grad himself, has invested his time and energy into connecting students with science, experts from the field, and real hands-on research. His classroom is filled with pictures of Nobel Prize winners and astronauts, many of which have written to his class and sent personal messages to students after Jeff reached out to them. Downers Grove North principal Scott Kasik described him saying, "He's always searching for ways to connect kids with science, to make science real, to get them excited about the wonder of science. Jeff is a self-described science geek, but I think he's made being a science geek a really cool thing to be."

We as a nation benefit greatly from teachers like Jeff, who dedicate themselves to the pursuit of academic excellence among our students today.

Mr. Speaker and my distinguished colleagues in the House, please join me in congratulating Jeff Grant on receiving a Golden Apple award.

AN AMERICAN WITH A FELONY CHARGE IS STILL AN AMERICAN

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 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 for protection of the constitutional right to vote.

Across the country, voting polls have been shut down and voters have been shut out. New voter ID laws have been passed and eligible voters have been passed up. The American people want to vote. With so many new state laws that have made it harder for voters to get to the polls, we must take a hard look around and ask the question—why don't we want people to vote? Why make voting for eligible voters harder and not easier? The leaders in Congress need to have an answer to this question. Suppression of the right to vote is especially un-democratic and ultimately un-American.

Not only are voting rights being attacked through its process, but there are Americans in this country that have been targeted as well. A felony charge does not automatically make someone any less American. Why then, should Americans who have served their time be removed from the democratic process? Just last month, Governor McAuliffe of Virginia had a response to this question; and his action made a clear statement—former felons are still Americans and they still have rights. Faced now with not only severe scrutiny but a lawsuit as well, Governor McAuliffe boldly did what he believes to be constitutional, democratic and right when he restored the voting rights of all Virginians with a prior felony conviction who fully served their time and have been released from supervised probation or parole.

The state of Virginia is not alone. On March 10 of this year, Maryland also restored the right to vote for an estimated 40,000 individuals with past felony convictions. On that date, Maryland joined 13 other states as well as the District of Columbia in putting a stop to this continued disenfranchisement that plagues the majority of states in the country, including Alabama. We may be faced with great opposition, but fear of a fight is not an excuse to run away from doing what is right.

I don't have to remind anyone that this is an election year. But when I look around and see the ongoing suppression of the right to vote, I feel obligated to remind us all of what is at stake in this election. Every vote counts. Everyone who calls the USA their home will have to deal with the consequences of this election. Americans who are convicted felons will have to deal with the consequences. They should not have to deal with these consequences in silence. They too have a voice and they too must be heard.

Voting rights need protection and eligible voters need proponents of the Constitution and the democratic process to fight for them—to fight for their rights. The suppression needs to stop, the oppression needs to stop and the excuses need to stop. There is too much at stake this election year and Congress needs to stand up and do something about it now.

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.

Mr. Speaker, my Republican colleagues should join the 168 Members of Congress and support H.R. 2867—the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015. Let's restore the Voting Rights Act of 1965. It is the right thing to do.

HONORING NELS JOHNSON

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nels Johnson of Fairfax, California, for more than 40 years of outstanding reporting at the Marin Independent Journal (IJ), the largest daily newspaper in Marin County. Mr. Johnson's columns and articles have sparked conversations and changed policies in our community for decades, and his presence in the paper will be sorely missed.

A graduate of Rutgers University in New Jersey, Mr. Johnson initially came to California in a Volkswagen van on a cross-country road trip in the early 1970s. After working briefly at a weekly paper in Tiburon, he joined the IJ as a reporter in May of 1972, where he continued to work through his retirement on April 28 of this year.

Mr. Johnson's encyclopedic knowledge of Marin County and its government is unparalleled. During his tenure, he covered some of the largest stories in the North Bay. From the Trailside Killer to the Mount Vision Fire to monitoring Supervisors' expense accounts, Mr. Johnson was at the forefront of the news he covered—and once, famously, became part of the story himself. When an elderly couple in Inverness disappeared in 1994, his reporting led investigators to find the truck in nearby Lake Nicasio.

Throughout my years as a California State Assemblyman and now as Member of Congress, I always found his coverage to be tough, fearless, and fair. He often used his voice to empower the voiceless, particularly in elevating threats facing local fisheries and fishers. I appreciate the unbridled passion for journalism Mr. Johnson brought to the Marin IJ, and his honest approach to both big and small stories.

I know I am not the only one of his readers who will miss Mr. Johnson's dogged reporting, insight into local news and issues, and, of course, his column on fishing. Mr. Speaker, it is therefore fitting that we honor and thank Nels Johnson for his immeasurable contributions to civic life in Marin County and California.

RECOGNIZING DEBORAH HABES AS SHE IS HONORED BY THE AMHERST WOMEN'S INTERCLUB COUNCIL

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Deborah Habes for her honorable service and dedication to our community on the occasion of the Kentucky Derby Luncheon at the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village, hosted by the Amherst Women's Interclub Council.

A resident of the Village of Williamsville since 1977, Ms. Habes has been the cornerstone to her community for several years. She has been the Village of Williamsville Deputy Clerk since 2001, and previously occupied the

role of Village Building Department Clerk from 1991 to 2001.

In addition to her official duties, Ms. Habes volunteers extensively. She is a member of the Williamsville Business Association (WBA) on the Board of Directors. Currently she is Chair of the WBA Community Enhancement Committee, Chair of the 'Love Your Village, Love Your Library Mad Hatter Returns!' Fund-raiser Gala since 2012, volunteer member of the Village Beautification Committee since 1990, and Volunteer Chair of the Village of Williamsville Garden Walk since 2010, and Volunteer Chair of the annual Village/WBA Main Street in Bloom Project. As a village resident, village volunteer and a village employee, she aids in this committee's mission to bring together Village residents, businesses and the Village government as a unified community force.

In 2005, drastic budget cuts eliminated the branch from county funding. After the great, and much appreciated efforts of other dedicated community members enough funds were raised to allow the library to remain open, but with very limited hours. Under Ms. Habes' leadership the committee picked up the reins, and continued to support this library by starting the 'Love Your Village; Love Your Library' movement and presented the inaugural Gala Fundraiser inside the Williamsville Library in February 2012. They have now celebrated 5 years of increasing success for this now signature Village-centric event, and the Committee is happy to report that through a combined effort, thousands of dollars have been raised in the last 5 years solely for the support of the Williamsville Branch.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor the work of Mrs. Deborah Habes. I ask that my colleagues join me in expressing our thanks for her admirable work to better the Village of Williamsville.

HONORING THE NORTHWEST INDIANA BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2016

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep respect and admiration that I rise to commend numerous exceptional leaders from Indiana who were honored as the Northwest Indiana Business and Industry Hall of Fame's Class of 2016. While there were many deserving nominees, the individuals selected as this year's inductees include: Greg Ludkovsky, Frank Schilling, Harley Snyder, JoAnn Birdzell, Urschel Laboratories, Incorporated, and State Senator Earline Rogers. For their many contributions to the advancement of Northwest Indiana, these honorees were recognized at a ceremony at the Radisson Hotel Celebrity Ballroom in Merrillville, Indiana, on Tuesday, May 10, 2016.

Since 2007, Greg Ludkovsky has been vice president of global research and development at ArcelorMittal. He has been a driving force for global customer relations, which has changed ArcelorMittal from a materials supplier to a solutions supplier. Greg works directly with automotive original equipment manufacturers to develop one-of-a-kind steel. In

addition, he has been a leader in engaging East Chicago school students by bringing them into the facility to teach them about the science and technology that takes place at ArcelorMittal each day.

Frank Schilling is the president of Schilling Home Improvement Center. Schilling Home Improvement Center has been very successful and currently serves more than 400 contractors. In addition, Schilling Development currently has 1,000 lots ready for housing development in Northwest Indiana. Frank and his wife, Shirley, have put much time and effort into building the Shrine of Christ's Passion, located in Saint John. This moving interactive prayer trail illustrates the last days of the life of Jesus Christ. Frank is very active in charitable organizations and is involved with the Women's Crisis Center and the American Heart Association.

Harley Snyder is a real estate and land development executive and the president of HSC, Incorporated. He recently completed ten years as the governor's founding appointee to the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority. In this position, he worked on the development of the Gary/Chicago International Airport, as well as the expansion and improvement of the South Shore commuter rail line. Throughout his truly impressive career, Harley has helped to develop some 3,000 homes in Lake and Porter Counties. In 1976, he became the first chairman of the Realtor's Equal Opportunity Committee, which created the first non-discrimination agreement. This helped to ensure that people of any race or religion could own a home. In addition, Harley has served on the board of Valparaiso University for twenty years, is a member of the Porter County Community Foundation, and was the first chairman of the Northwest Indiana Forum.

JoAnn Birdzell is the chief executive officer (CEO) for Saint Catherine Hospital in East Chicago. JoAnn has been a leader in healthcare administration for many years. In 1995, she was named senior vice president of operations for Ancilla Systems, where she oversaw seven hospitals throughout Indiana and Illinois. In 2001, she assisted in the merger of Saint Catherine Hospital and Saint Mary Medical Center with the Community Healthcare System. As CEO of Saint Catherine Hospital, JoAnn leads through modern management techniques and follows the hospital's mission to serve all in need of medical care. In addition, she is a member of the Indiana Hospital Association Board, has helped to promote Medicaid expansion in Indiana, and assisted in the founding of the Nazareth Home in East Chicago.

The recipient of the Enterprise of the Year Award is Urschel Laboratories, Incorporated. For over 100 years, Urschel Laboratories has been known for its innovation, excellent customer service, and generosity. Recently, the company completed construction of its new \$80 million facility. In March of this year, the Urschel family sold the company to its employees in order to ensure a secure retirement for each of them. In addition, the Urschel family has given much of its time, effort, and contributions throughout the years to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Porter County, the Valparaiso Family YMCA, and the William E. Urschel Pavilion ice rink in Valparaiso.

The recipient of the Partners in Progress Award and the keynote speaker for the event is the Honorable Earline Rogers, Indiana State

Senator. For decades, Senator Rogers has been one of the Indiana General Assembly's most valuable and impactful leaders. Earline served eight years in the Indiana House of Representatives before she was elected to the Indiana State Senate in 1990, and the effect she has had on the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond is truly inspiring and immeasurable. To name just a few of her countless accomplishments, Senator Rogers helped to create casino gaming in Indiana, co-authored riverboat gaming legislation, helped to raise the age at which the death penalty can be applied in Indiana to the age of eighteen, assisted with the creation of the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority, and has been instrumental in major education reform. In addition, Senator Rogers serves as a member of the Northwest Indiana Transportation Study Commission and the Indiana Lakes Management Work Group, and is president of the board of trustees for the Gary YWCA.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending these outstanding leaders upon their induction into the Northwest Indiana Business and Industry Hall of Fame. They are truly deserving of this honor, and for their exceptional leadership and unwavering commitment to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond, each of them is worthy of the highest praise.

HONORING JUDGE TERRY
TALLMAN FOR HIS SERVICE TO
MORROW COUNTY AND THE
STATE OF OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend Judge Terry Tallman for his many years of dedicated public service in Morrow County. Terry is set to retire at the end of his term after serving 18 years as Morrow County Judge, the longest in history, and I would like to pay tribute to his leadership for the people of Morrow County and the Columbia Basin.

Terry grew up working on his family's farm in Adrian, Oregon. After graduating high school in 1963, Terry continued working on the farm until he joined the Navy amidst the Vietnam War in 1969. Serving aboard the USS *Kitty Hawk*, Terry was responsible for maintaining the ship's ultrasound systems and making repairs on the aircraft, skills he enjoyed learning and putting to use.

It was through the Navy that Terry met Cheryl, his wife of 42 years. While stationed in California the couple was introduced by Cheryl's brother with whom Terry served. The two were married in 1974 following Terry's discharge from the Navy. Terry then took the opportunity to attend college at both the University of Oregon and Oregon State University before returning to the family farm in Adrian. With the continuing development of irrigated agriculture in the Columbia Basin at the time, Terry and his brother saw a wonderful opportunity to put their skills to use on their own, and, in 1978, Terry and Cheryl moved to the Boardman area.

After establishing a successful custom farming operation in Boardman, Terry began to

take interest in serving his community. His efforts and success on the City of Boardman Planning Commission led numerous community members to encourage him to run for Mayor of the City of Boardman, a position he won and held for 5 years. In 1999, the position of County Judge was vacated and Terry successfully ran for the seat.

Since then, Terry's career has been marked by an impressive long term vision for Morrow County. His skill at administering the county budget and staying fiscally responsible has left the county in a markedly better financial position. Under Terry's leadership, Morrow County has seen substantial growth in a broad range of economic activities from wind turbine projects to value-added agriculture processing and data centers.

With federal forests, an Army chemical depot and a Navy bombing range located within the county, communities experience plenty of federal hurdles while striving to grow their economies. Terry and I worked closely on many of these issues as he made sure the needs of the local communities were not ignored by the federal government. Throughout, I appreciated and counted on his counsel and suggestions as we plotted a path forward to a solution. Whether it was wind energy and transmission line development on the edge of the bombing range, or ensuring the Army turns the Umatilla Depot land over to the communities as planned, I knew I would find Terry in the middle of the issue working to foster economic growth and balance the national security needs at the sites. Thanks to Terry's dedicated efforts over the past 18 years to tackle these issues and invest in the future, Morrow County has welcomed that growth with room to take advantage of new opportunities ahead.

As Terry begins his transition into retirement, I know he will look forward to free time to spend with his 3 children and grandchild, as well as plenty of time to spend doing what he loves on his farm again.

Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, please join me in recognizing and thanking my good friend, Judge Terry Tallman, for his many years of leadership and wise counsel in Morrow County.

HONORING CHARLES BLACK

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Charles Black, who passed away on Monday, March 14 in Corte Madera. Born in Sydney, Australia, Mr. Black was a World War II Veteran who supported American troops in the Pacific with the Royal Australian Air Force. In his retirement, he and his wife settled in Marin County, where they continued to visit new places, sail, and enjoy life and family.

Born in 1926, Mr. Black developed an early love for travel and boating. His family spent summers in New Zealand, and at the age of 10, took a 9-month trip around the world—which included a visit to the almost-completed Golden Gate Bridge. As a teenager, he witnessed WWII firsthand when a Japanese submarine fired torpedoes on American ships. When Mr. Black turned 18, he joined the

Royal Australian Air Force to fight with the Allied troops in the Pacific Theatre.

Following the war, he worked as a purser on ships sailing throughout the South Pacific and Asia, serving his entire career with Burns Philip. In 1972, he married Joanne Holloway of Corte Madera. In 1982, they began spending half the year in Sydney and half in Tiburon, and later settled full-time in Marin County. There, Mr. Black was an active member of the Tiburon Rotary Club, and was able to pursue his passion for sailing.

Mr. Black will be remembered for his extraordinary kindness, spirit of adventure, and love for his family. He is survived by his children Liza and John, and his grandchildren Thomas, David and Claire. For his civic engagement and service during WWII, it is appropriate that we pay tribute to Charles Black today and express our deepest condolences to his surviving family and friends.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL
DREW T. DOOLIN

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the service of Colonel Drew T. Doolin, of the Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Agency, or JIDA, who will retire from the United States Marine Corps on July 1, 2016, after 30 years of distinguished and faithful service to our nation. Colonel Doolin significantly contributed to the global fight against Improvised Explosive Devices during his final tour of duty as JIDA's Chief of Staff. His direction and oversight were crucial in ensuring our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines serving in harm's way had the necessary capabilities and training to protect them from improvised threats.

Colonel Doolin's service has spanned a variety of command and staff billets to include Chief of Staff and assistant Chief of Staff for Aviation Ground Support at Third Marine Aircraft Wing; Commanding Officer, Marine Wing Support Group 37; Commanding Officer, Combat Logistics Battalion 7 during two combat deployments to Iraq; Director, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Exercise Training Branch J-7; Director, Lifecycle Management Branch, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps; Director, Logistics Operations Team, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps; Commandant of the Marine Corps' Executive Research Fellow at the Brookings Institute; and Military Aide to Vice President Dick Cheney.

Colonel Doolin's decorations include the Legion of Merit Medal with gold star in lieu of second award, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with gold star in lieu of second award, the Meritorious Service Medal with two gold stars in lieu of third award, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Gold Star in lieu of second award, the Joint Staff Badge, and the Vice Presidential Service Badge.

By his side throughout his successful career and arduous deployments have been Maribeth, his wonderful wife of 28 years, and their children Kendra, Ryan, Delayna and Caroline. Their love and support has aided and strengthened Colonel Doolin throughout

his service and I congratulate them as well on this special occasion. I am proud to share in the celebration of Colonel Doolin's military career, and as he and his family move to this next chapter of his life, I wish Colonel Doolin "fair winds and following seas" as he embarks on his future endeavors. *Semper Fidelis* Marine.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHIEF JAMES BURKUSH AND HIS SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a Granite State first responder for his thirty-nine years of service to the Manchester Fire Department in Manchester, NH.

Chief James Burkush joined the Manchester Fire Department in 1977 and became Chief in 2008. Firefighter Burkush was a standout member of the department and worked through the ranks of the department over the next thirty one years before being appointed Chief on February 19, 2008. Throughout his storied career Chief Burkush responded to many different calls, but it is the efficiency and professionalism with which Chief Burkush handled every situation, no matter how dire, that makes him an exceptional leader and role model. Chief Burkush remains an exemplary public servant, and I applaud his dedication to making his community a better, safer place to live.

On April 29, 2016 Chief Burkush retired from the Manchester Fire Department with thirty nine years of service to the people of Manchester and the Granite State. He will now take on the role of Chief with the Hooksett Fire and Rescue Department. On behalf of the people of the First Congressional District of New Hampshire, I thank him for his dedicated service to the community and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING MR. MARTY MARASCO'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO AND RETIREMENT FROM THE ALTOONA-BLAIR COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Martin Marasco's many invaluable contributions to and retirement from the Altoona-Blair County Development Corporation.

Mr. Marasco has been the President and CEO of the Altoona-Blair County Development Corporation, known as ABCD Corp, since 1994. His work has been fundamental in helping the industrial and commercial economic expansion in Blair County. Specifically, under his leadership, ABCD Corp. has facilitated over 800 economic development projects, totaling in excess of \$1.5 billion in total project costs that have resulted in the creation and re-

tention of over 19,000 jobs. Thanks to his hard work, Blair County has seen the growth and introduction of businesses, which in turn have helped improve the standard of living for many families and individuals in Blair County.

Among his many responsibilities, Mr. Marasco was the Executive Director of the Blair County Industrial Authority and Blair County General Authority, which are public agencies that help provide information and pathways for public funding and taxable and tax-exempt financing.

Furthermore, I am happy to highlight that this dedication has not gone unnoticed, as Mr. Marasco has been the recipient of awards from the Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA), Boy Scouts of America, Kiwanis Club, Italian Heritage Society and others.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to recognize Mr. Marasco, who has devoted his life to serving Blair County. On behalf of the many people he has positively impacted, I offer our tremendous gratitude. I am proud to serve constituents like Mr. Marasco, and wish him well in retirement.

HONORING NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

HON. CARLOS CURBELO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize this week as National Teacher Appreciation Week. This is an opportunity to demonstrate our heartfelt gratitude to all the exceptional men and women who dedicate their life's work towards the education of our youth. As a former member of the Miami-Dade County's School Board, I know firsthand the commitment and sacrifices our teachers make to ensure that our students have a solid educational foundation. Our teachers are the key to guiding our students in becoming the productive citizens and future leaders of our nation. With each lesson they teach, they bring wisdom, instill growth, inspire love, and enlighten the path for our youth. It is with profound honor and humility that I thank teachers universally for being mentors and motivators.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF MR. GERVAIS OXENDINE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my dear friend Mr. Gervais Oxendine and to commemorate the legacy of service to North Carolina he left behind.

Mr. Gervais Oxendine ("Mr. Gervais" as he was affectionately referred to by folks in Robeson County) was born on August 18, 1943 in Robeson County. After growing up in the area and attending Pembroke State College (now UNC Pembroke), Gervais was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Navy. He served his country for four years during the Vietnam War aboard the USS *Forrestal*.

Mr. Gervais' lifetime of service to our country continued even after his enlistment ended. His son, Eric Oxendine, is currently a U.S. Navy Captain. Gervais was also an integral member of the Lumbee Warriors Association, a local non-profit group that helps veterans across the region who are struggling with PTSD. Additionally, Gervais was a lifetime member of VFW Post 2843 in Pembroke.

Gervais was a successful businessman, working more than 32 years in key management positions for Abbott Laboratories. Gervais played an important role in the company's expansion into the Caribbean, Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, and received Abbott Lab's President's Award on four separate occasions.

More than any of his notable career or military accomplishments, folks across North Carolina knew Gervais as a man who fought fiercely for Robeson County and the Lumbee Native American Tribe. Mr. Gervais served on the UNC Pembroke Board of Trustees for eight years, during which time he worked closely with North Carolina Board of Governors officials to advocate for UNCP. He was also a key leader for issues facing the Lumbee Tribe, and aggressively supported efforts for federal tribal recognition, along with additional state and federal resources for his people.

Mr. Gervais was seen as the go-to-guy in Robeson County when it came to turning political ideas into real policy reforms to help the region. He was one of my first supporters in the area, and I'll never be able to repay the debt of gratitude I owe for his friendship and counsel over the years. I'm going to dearly miss my friend, Gervais Oxendine, but I know his legacy will live on through his wonderful wife, Dr. Olivia Holmes Oxendine, his two sons and three grandsons.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in commemorating the life of Mr. Gervais Oxendine for his service to Robeson County and his commitment to bettering the lives of everyone in our community and state.

HONORING PETER "P-B" BIELAK

HON. CHRIS COLLINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Peter "P-B" Bielak of Washington, D.C., who recently received the Silver Beaver Award for his outstanding contributions to the Boy Scouts of America here in the District of Columbia.

P-B has dedicated his life to furthering the scouting movement and preserving its storied legacy in the United States. A Scout Historian for over 40 years and enthusiastic vexillologist, P-B is the person scouts go to with questions about old patches, uniforms and flags. A symbol of his dedication to getting more boys involved in scouts, P-B recently helped found the Helping Other Scout Troops Incorporate Needed Gear (HOSTING) program, which collects uniforms, sleeping bags, backpacks, tents, and cooking gear for financially needy youth and adults all over the D.C. area. Due to its overwhelming success, the HOSTING program outgrew its warehouse space and plans to increase its imprint on the community.

P-B is also the founder of the History of Scouting Trail (H.O.S.T.), located in Washington, D.C. This set of four interactive hikes allows scouts and leaders to learn about the founders of the Boy Scouts of America while exploring the nation's capital.

As Chairman of the Congressional Scouting Caucus, I have had the privilege of working with P-B on a number of occasions to promote scouting on a national level. P-B embodies the twelve points of the Scout Law, so I know he is always prepared and doing his best in every aspect of life.

A role model for young scouts, P-B is a tireless advocate for the D.C. scouting community. His receipt of the Silver Beaver Award is certainly well-deserved. I congratulate him on this honor and look forward to working with him to increase the positive impact scouting can have on our nation's young men.

WILLIAM P. THOMAS

HON. THOMAS MacARTHUR

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and life of William P. Thomas, of the Third Congressional District, and to express my sincerest condolences to his family and loved ones he has left behind, and to recognize his service, as well as his career and community engagement.

William, a resident of Stafford Township, New Jersey, was a graduate of Cardinal Hayes Memorial High School in New York City and attended Princeton University before he enlisted in the U.S. Army to defend our country during World War II as part of the Fifth Ranger Battalion. For his honorable service, he received five medals, including the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. When he returned home from the war, determined to provide for his family, he started his own company, William P. Thomas Builders. The company was successful and completed projects, which included 500 homes, motels, a 55-unit oceanfront condominium in Ship Bottom and work on the Ocean County Courthouse. He also developed Deer Lake Park in Stafford.

William began selling real estate in 1953 and was extremely prosperous, eventually becoming president of the New Jersey Association of Realtors and the New Jersey Shore Multiple Listing. Thomas ultimately became the broker-owner of Prudential Zack Shore Properties in Toms River, which recently became Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Zack Shore Realtors, a business now overseen by his son and sister.

Mr. Speaker, the people of New Jersey's Third Congressional District are tremendously honored to have had William P. Thomas as a hardworking and dedicated member of their community. It is with a heavy heart that I commemorate his honorable service to our country, as well as his fruitful career and life, and recognize the lasting legacy that he has left behind, before the United States House of Representatives.

CONGRATULATING
SCHWARTZE ON RECEIVING THE
MISSOURI 9-1-1 DIRECTOR OF
THE YEAR AWARD

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Springfield-Greene County, Missouri, 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Director Zim Schwartze on receiving the Missouri 9-1-1 Director of the Year Award.

The 9-1-1 Director of the Year award is given annually at the Missouri Public Safety Communications Conference, and honors a director who has performed in an exceptional manner for that year. The winner is chosen by a combination of Missouri Chapters of Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, the National Emergency Number Association and the Missouri 9-1-1 Directors Association.

Schwartze retired as a captain in the Columbia Police Department before her current role as emergency communications director. She had previously served as director for the Boone County Joint Communications 9-1-1 and in the Office of Energy Management. In addition to her primary job, she is also an adjunct professor at the Law Enforcement Training Institute in Columbia and the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command, the treasurer of the Missouri 9-1-1 Directors Association, and has volunteered for the Missouri Special Olympics for over 25 years.

Mr. Speaker, Zim Schwartze has dedicated her life to serving the Missouri community. In addition to her immense service through her police work, her leadership and organization of the Missouri emergency services has been invaluable. She is the model of an ideal public servant, and I urge my colleagues to join me in expressing my deep appreciation and gratitude for all she has done for Missouri. On behalf of the 7th district, I thank Zim for her service and extend my congratulations on this well-deserved award.

HONORING THE HARTVILLE
EAGLES BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Hartville Eagles Boys Basketball team for winning the Class 2 Missouri State Championship to finish their already impressive season. Coach Brett Reed led the team to a dominant 64-37 win over Iberia in the championship game at Mizzou Arena earlier this spring.

The final victory came at the end of an 18 game win streak, concluding the best boys basketball season in Hartville history. In addition to winning the first Class 2 Missouri State Championship for Hartville, the team also won the Clever Tournament, the Mountain Grove Tournament, the Summit Conference, and became the Class 2 District 9 Champions for the fourth straight year. Ending with an overall

record of 29-4, the team showed its ability to compete on a statewide level, with their only losses coming from opponents in higher classes.

The Missouri Basketball Coaches Association recognized the outstanding success of the Eagles' season by naming Brett Reed the Class 2 Boys Basketball Coach of the Year as well as naming Ryan Ward the Class 2 Boys Basketball Player of the Year. In addition, Ryan Ward and Deric Jones were both named members of the All-State Class 2 Boys Basketball Team.

For these exceptional achievements, it is my honor to recognize and congratulate the Hartville Eagles Boys Basketball Team before the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING RABBI NORTON D.
SHARGEL

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my fellow congregant, Rabbi Emeritus Norton Shargel, who is celebrating the 70th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, May 14th.

I have had the great pleasure of knowing Rabbi Shargel since moving to Westchester County and joining his congregation. He has served as a spiritual leader for the Jewish Community Center of Harrison (JCCH) since 1970. Throughout his time as Rabbi, he has enriched our community with his insight and warm demeanor, and his dedication to his congregation is unflinching.

Throughout his life, Rabbi Shargel has committed himself to his rabbinical studies. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy and Semitics from Johns Hopkins University, and a degree in Religious Education from Baltimore Hebrew College. He first entered the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1954 and studied at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem before earning his Master of Hebrew Letters and Rabbinical Degree in 1959. He also holds a degree of Doctor of Hebrew Letters and an honorary Doctorate of Divinity from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

Beyond his impressive academic resume, the Rabbi has worked as a spiritual leader in various communities. In 1959, Rabbi Shargel served as an army chaplain at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he was an active member of the local Jewish community. He then moved to Easton, Pennsylvania, where he served as leader of the Bnai Abraham Synagogue. During his time in Easton he founded "ProJect," an interfaith, interracial group devoted to improving the community.

Since 1970, Rabbi Shargel has served JCCH and has worked to improve interfaith cooperation in the community. He organized an interfaith Bible Study Group and has developed an ongoing dialogue with local clergy. He has served as President of the Westchester Board of Rabbis and helped create the first Westchester Clergy Institute, a seminar for clergy of all faiths. Since 1998, Rabbi Shargel has served as an Adjunct Professor of Religion at Manhattanville College in Purchase, New York, teaching courses in Judaism and Holocaust Studies.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call Rabbi Shargel my friend, confidant, and spiritual leader. I congratulate him on a lifetime of commitment to the Jewish community, and I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 70th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah.

RECOGNIZING HARRY CORNELL,
THE FORMER CEO OF
CARTHAGE, MISSOURI'S
LEGGETT & PLATT INCORPORATED

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harry Cornell, the former CEO of Carthage, Missouri's Leggett & Platt, Incorporated. Harry's contributions are to be memorialized with a statue in his likeness on the manufacturer's campus, which will also be renamed in his honor.

Born to Mack and Marjorie Cornell in 1928, Harry is a true Missourian. He went to the University of Missouri and, upon graduation, immediately joined Leggett & Platt. After 3 years, Harry was selected to be a plant manager at their factory in Ennis, Texas, and was elected to Leggett & Platt's Board of Directors a mere five years later in 1958. Seeing an opportunity to expand the company, he purchased a majority of the stock for Leggett & Platt and was soon appointed CEO.

Cornell served as CEO for Leggett & Platt for nearly 40 years, and was instrumental in creating the thriving company that we know today. Under his tenure, Leggett & Platt experienced unprecedented growth; Leggett & Platt sales increased exponentially, moving from \$7 Million a year to over \$3.7 Billion in sales. Furthermore, Harry oversaw the company when it was added to the Standard & Poor's 500 (S&P 500) index and continued to serve on Leggett & Platt's Board of Directors after his tenure as CEO until 2008—retiring after 50 years with the company.

Those who worked with Harry during his four decades leading Leggett & Platt knew that he subscribed to the following unattributed quote, which was prominently displayed in his office or repeated by him: "Success is founded on a constant state of discontentment, interrupted by brief periods of satisfaction on the completion of a job particularly well done."

Mr. Speaker, Harry Cornell is not only a shining example of the business acumen that makes America the great country it is, but he is also a true Missourian to his core. I would like to extend my thanks, both personally and on behalf of the 7th district, for his integral role in developing Leggett & Platt into one of Missouri's true titans of industry, creating countless jobs and keeping our economy strong and healthy. I urge my colleagues to join me as I congratulate Harry on his storied and influential career, which is a living testament to the American Dream.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF COL. HOWARD L. WILLIAMS
(RET)

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the passing of Colonel Howard L. Williams (Ret), affectionately known as "Chappie," who sadly passed away on March 25, 2016.

Born and raised in Emporia, VA, Chappie worked briefly in the Norfolk Navy Yard after high school and then, in 1943, enlisted in the United States Marine Corps with the 123rd Platoon at Montford Point Camp, New River, North Carolina. After completing segregated boot training, he served with honor in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater of WW II as a member of the 1st Marine Ammunition Company 7th Depot. His company provided ammunition support in the Marshall Islands, Saipan and landed on D Day at Okinawa in support of the 1st & 6th Marines Division.

In September 1945, Chappie went ashore with the first troops of the 1st Marine Division 3rd Amphibious Corps in North China to perform occupation duty.

He was honorably discharged from the Marines in 1946, and as a result of the GI Bill attended Virginia State University, where he graduated in 1950 with a Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Education. While attending Virginia State he was commissioned as a second Lieutenant in the ROTC. Chappie served in the military for over 30 years in numerous assignments with the United States Marines Corp, Army National Guard and the US Army Reserves. He retired with the rank of full Colonel as the Director for Supply and Transportation in the 510th Field Depot, United States Army.

After college, he began a long career teaching in the Baltimore City Public Schools at Harlem Park Middle, Dunbar High, and at Baltimore City College, finally retiring from the Baltimore City School Board in 1994.

Chappie was the recipient of numerous awards for his contributions to organizations in the community. In June 2012, he received the Congressional Gold Medal for his service in the segregated Marine Corp units known as the Montford Point Marines.

He leaves behind his wife of 56 years, Marilyn, and two devoted sons, Michael and David.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud to remember the life and legacy of Colonel Howard L. Williams (Ret), who served this nation with honor and distinction. He will be dearly missed by all.

RECOGNIZING MILDRED JANE
WORSHAM AND LANDON WORSHAM

HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks in recognition of the service and dedication of Mildred Jane Worsham and Landon Worsham to the Chatham Presbyterian Church and the entire Chatham community.

Mildred Jane Worsham has been serving the Chatham Presbyterian Church congregation as their organist for over 70 years. Mrs. Worsham began playing for Chatham Presbyterian in 1945 at the age of sixteen. Over the years, she shared that duty with the late Augusta Parrish on an every-other-month basis, and she now serves as the sole organist.

In addition to her duties as organist, Mrs. Worsham has also served as the church's longstanding session clerk, Choir Director, taught Sunday School, Bible School and Bible Studies, and Mrs. Worsham had the honor of being named the first female elder of Chatham Presbyterian Church and was one of the church's first female deacons. She was also a commissioner for the Presbytery of the Peaks, which included 129 churches spanning parts of Central Virginia, Southside, the New River Valley and Allegheny Highlands, and served as the Commissioner to the General Assembly of Presbyterian Church in the United States. Mrs. Worsham has also been a member of the Sylvania Garden Club, the Homemaker's Club, and assisted her husband's work as Chief of the Chatham Volunteer Fire Department for over 50 years.

For decades, Landon Worsham's service to the Chatham community has extended far beyond firefighting. In 2013, I had the privilege of joining the Town of Chatham, Virginia to honor Mr. Worsham for his 60 years of service to Chatham as a volunteer firefighter, 50 of which he spent as fire chief. In addition to this tremendous accomplishment, Mr. Worsham has been an active volunteer at the Chatham Presbyterian Church, serving as the superintendent of Chatham Presbyterian's Sunday school for over 50 years and counting. Mr. Worsham is also an elder at the church and has served numerous times on the session.

Mr. Worsham also served as a leader in the Chatham Lions Club and the Chatham Jaycees, as well as serving as the Vice President of the Pittsylvania County Fire-Rescue Association. He also served his country in the U.S. Air Force during World War II, and was wounded in New Guinea and awarded the Purple Heart.

I ask the members of this House of Representatives to join with me and the entire Chatham community in thanking and honoring the service and dedication of Mildred Jane and Landon Worsham to the Chatham Presbyterian Church and the Town of Chatham, and to the surrounding counties and our great nation.

HONORING COLONEL GREGORY
BAINE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the fine career and honorable service of a man whose actions have helped maintain the safety and security of our nation's fight against terrorism, Colonel Greg Baine. After 29 years of faithful service to our country, Colonel Baine is retiring from the United States Army. It is with great pride and honor that I recognize Colonel Baine for his tireless devotion to the wellbeing of our nation.

After graduating from Beaumont Charlton Pollard High School, Colonel Baine earned his political science degree from Texas A&M University. Colonel Baine began his military career in 1987 with the United States Army, where he was commissioned as a First Lieutenant with a duty in Sinai, Egypt. As a natural leader, he earned the esteemed rank of Colonel by serving our nation in duties in Saudi Arabia, Kosovo, Germany and two combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. Colonel Baine is a true patriot; devoted and loyal, an honorable defender of liberty and freedom.

Colonel Baine commanded the 2nd Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment during his 14 month combat tour in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. I had the privilege of meeting Colonel Baine while in Iraq in 2008. His role in our nation's fight on terrorism will never be forgotten. After Iraq, he volunteered for another 13 month combat tour to Afghanistan, where he commanded Regional Support Command South in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Throughout his career, Colonel Baine's service and dedication have consistently earned him the recognition of his superiors. The list of this model citizen's accomplishments will have enduring effects on our nation.

A dedicated family man, Colonel Baine married his college sweetheart, Heidi. Together they are the proud parents of two grown children, Gary Baine, II and Alexia.

On behalf of the Second Congressional District of Texas, I commend this remarkable Texan for his exemplary service and dedication to not only the State of Texas, but the nation as a whole. Thank you, Colonel Baine, for a lifetime of selfless service to our country. And that is just the way it is.

REMEMBERING JUDGE JOHN J.
GARRITY

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant for Maryland, Judge John J. Garrity, who sadly passed away on April 14 at the age of eighty-two. John and I had been friends for many years, going back to the 1960's, when I was a young State Senator and he was an Assistant State's Attorney and President of the Prince George's County Young Democrats.

John began his life in the St. Joseph's Orphanage in Burlington, Vermont, and after finishing secondary school joined the U.S. Navy, where he served honorably from 1955–1959. During that time he married his wife, Bertha Ann, with whom he would spend sixty wonderful years and raise two sons, Kevin and John Jr. He earned undergraduate and law degrees from American University and began practicing law in Maryland in 1964.

John first served as Assistant State's Attorney for Prince George's County in 1967 and two years later became Assistant Attorney General for the State of Maryland. He was selected as a Prince George's County Commissioner in 1970 and then elected to the Prince George's County Council the following year, serving as its Chair in 1973. In 1974, the people of Maryland Legislative District Twenty-

Two sent him to the House of Delegates in Annapolis, and in 1978 he became my colleague in the State Senate, when I was serving as its President. While in the Senate, John stood up for the rights of crime victims and sponsored legislation to ensure that victim impact statements could be given during sentencing, ensuring their voices would be heard in court. In 1982, John was appointed to the Court of Special Appeals, where he served with distinction for twelve years.

Mr. Speaker, I will miss John Garrity very dearly, and I will never forget his friendship or his kind spirit. He was so proud of his service to Maryland and to our nation, and he was proud as well of his Irish roots. My thoughts and prayers are with his Ann, Kevin, John Jr., daughter-in-law Karen, and grandchildren Kelly, Colleen, and Kerry. I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking Judge John J. Garrity for lending talents and wisdom to the work of securing justice and creating opportunity for Marylanders throughout his life and career.

HONORING PACE UNIVERSITY'S
LIENHARD SCHOOL OF NURSING

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the fiftieth anniversary of Pace University's Lienhard School of Nursing, and to applaud its work in educating generations of nurses.

Founded in 1966, the Lienhard School of Nursing was Westchester County, New York's, first collegiate nursing program. Over the past fifty years, the School has maintained its commitment to excellence and scholarship by embracing change and always focusing on meeting the health needs of the general public.

The School has offered the highest level of education to nursing students and has paved the way in designing innovative new nursing programs, including the first nurse-managed health care unit on a college campus, one of the first nursing programs in the country for second career individuals, and was an early Doctor of Nursing Practice Program. This leadership in the field of nursing makes the School one of the finest in the country.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have the Lienhard School of Nursing in my district. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the School during its fiftieth anniversary year.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY
OF PALATINE, ILLINOIS

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the incorporation of Palatine, Illinois.

Since its origin, Palatine has been dedicated to building a friendly and welcoming community for residents and visitors alike and has been a model for Illinois towns to follow. It is no surprise that the village motto is, "A Real Home Town".

In the years since its first settler, George Ela, and its incorporation on April 2nd, 1866, Palatine has become a center of culture and commerce, serving as a home to families, businesses, professionals, churches and organizations that have made this a vibrant and thriving community. Palatine boasts a population of over 60,000 people, a large multinational corporation, and a four year college. Over the years, Palatine has developed a well-deserved reputation as a village with small-town heritage, big city ambition, and hometown charm.

On the occasion of this 150th Anniversary, we join together to celebrate Palatine's legacy of growth and prosperity and to look ahead to the opportunities facing this great village and our nation.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing the 150th anniversary of the incorporation of Palatine, Illinois and wishing her residents a very successful year ahead.

CONGRATULATING DALE HUHNEKE
OF MUNCIE, INDIANA

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exceptional volunteer effort of the Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church volunteers, led by Dale Huhnke of Muncie, Indiana, on October 24, 2015.

On this day, known as Make a Difference Day, Dale managed a group of church volunteers in an effort to help struggling Muncie families. Their targeted acts of giving included everything from providing a family a fresh bag of groceries to giving a needed haircut. Dale's strong leadership on Make a Difference Day helped more than 180 Muncie families enjoy a better and happier quality of life.

Dale will be recognized for his extraordinary efforts this year at the Make A Difference Day National Awards Luncheon on May 12, 2016. Each winner is awarded a \$10,000 donation to ensure they are able to continue their community projects in the future.

Today, I am proud to thank Dale for his leadership and the Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church volunteers for their philanthropic spirit and ongoing commitment to improving the lives of Muncie families. I hope that fellow Hoosiers will be inspired by Dale to be a force of good in their own communities as well.

HOUSTON FIREFIGHTERS ANSWER
THE ALARM

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the station numbers of the Houston Firefighter who answered the call of the Spring Branch Fire in Houston, Texas on May 5th, 2016.

Station Number 2, Station Number 4, Station Number 5, Station Number 6, Station

Number 8, Station Number 10, Station Number 11, Station Number 12, Station Number 13, Station Number 15, Station Number 17, and Station Number 22.

Station Number 24, Station Number 28, Station Number 30, Station Number 31, Station Number 38, Station Number 39, Station Number 42, Station Number 49, Station Number 50, Station Number 51, Station Number 57, and Station Number 60.

Station Number 62, Station Number 66, Station Number 67, Station Number 69, Station Number 75, Station Number 77, Station Number 78, Station Number 83, Members from OEC (Office of Emergency Communications), and Village Fire Department (Mutual Aid).

TRIBUTE TO TIM COOPER

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the hard work and dedication of Tim Cooper. Mr. Cooper went to work as a custodian for the North St. Francois County R-1 School District on April 8, 1970. He was 20 years old. He retires from that same school district on June 30, 2016, just a day shy of his 67th birthday.

Mr. Cooper has been a custodian who took his job very seriously, but at the same time, he took every opportunity to be a friend to the students and staff he saw every day. He worked first at Desloge Elementary School, then preferred a change of scene at the high school. But, a year later, he returned to the elementary students and staff he loved so well at the same school, now called Parkside Elementary.

His Principal, Brandon Gregory, calls Tim "one of the greatest men I have ever worked with who takes care of everyone around here. He seeks neither praise nor recognition." His coworkers say he is what "makes Parkside." Former students say they always looked up to him—and they still do. One former student recalls him helping her dig through the lost and found until they located her purple winter coat. He is respected and loved by all.

Mr. Cooper has lived the motto that whatever you do, do it well. He has loved his work and that has shown through every one of the 46 years he's been a part of the North County district.

For his dedicated service to the students and staff of the North St. Francois County School District, it is my privilege to honor Tim Cooper today before the United States House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING THE BROWARD SENIOR HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2016 inductees to the Dr. Nan S. Hutchinson Broward Senior Hall of Fame, which recognizes Broward County residents over 60 for their volunteer work.

This is the 33rd year that the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Broward County has inducted residents into the Hall of Fame. The names of this year's 10 honorees are the following: Sandra K. Both, Mitchell "Mitch" Ceasar, Commissioner Sue Gunzburger, Moshin Jaffer, Marie Goodrum Johnson, George A. Kling, Arlene Lakin, Patti Lynn, Judge Ronald J. Rothschild, and Jack Shifrel.

I am pleased to honor this year's inductees and thank them for their contribution to our community.

HONORING ROCK AND WRAP IT UP & LENA AND JOSEPH MANDELBAUM HUMANITARIAN AWARD

HON. KATHLEEN M. RICE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rock and Wrap it Up, a nationwide nonprofit organization based in New York's fourth congressional district. This incredible organization has spearheaded an extremely effective and innovative effort to fight hunger and poverty by collecting and donating surplus food and supplies from music and sports venues, hotels, and schools.

Rock and Wrap it Up started on a relatively small and local scale, partnering with the Nikon at Jones Beach Theater in my district to collect and distribute food that had been prepared by the venue but not sold. Over the past two decades, Rock and Wrap it Up has grown exponentially both in size and scope, partnering with several renowned music groups, dozens of professional sports teams, international hotel chains, and more than 300 schools nationwide, to help collect surplus food, toiletries, school supplies and other assets and sharing them with various anti-poverty agencies.

Today Rock and Wrap it Up has more than 5,000 members in 500 cities and five countries. The organization not only helps feed millions of hungry people each year but it also teaches its partners and interested groups how to leverage their contracts and resources to ensure that leftover food and supplies are donated, allowing its network and mission to grow even when the organization is not directly involved. Rock and Wrap it Up has touched millions of lives across the country and around the world, and I am truly grateful for all of their work and extremely proud that this organization calls our district home.

I would also like to thank Beth and Lenny Fliegel, recipients of the Rock and Wrap It Up Lena and Joseph Mandelbaum Humanitarian Award, for their incredible support and dedication to this organization and its mission.

AMERICAN PATRIOTISM—TAKING CARE OF OUR HEROES

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, while patrolling the blue South Pacific seas, two Amer-

ican Stallion helicopters collided off the coast of Hawaii. It was January 14, 2016. Twelve U.S. Marines on board perished. Despite rescue efforts by air and sea, the Marines were never found. Their watery graves are only known to God. Major Shawn Campbell, 41, and Corporal Matthew Drown, 23, were Texas' own.

In the aftermath of this tragic loss, the military community banded together, ready to support the family who had just experienced one of the most traumatic moments that a young family can possibly be faced with. The U.S. military always takes care of its own. That is one reason why our warriors, and their families make the U.S. Military the best in the world.

In particular, Kalie Rhodes and her mothers group (Mothers of Preschoolers) quickly sprang into action, ready to lend a hand and shoulder to those who were distraught by tragedy. The MOPS meet twice a month, joining together in fellowship to connect and learning different parenting and life skills. Katie is the wife of Captain Johnathan Rhodes, a 2002 graduate of Kingwood High School and 2006 graduate of West Point.

Kalie and her team provided support for the visiting families of the missing Marines. They not only prepared meals and cared for some of the smaller children, they also bought and distributed a wide variety of gift cards for food, gas and clothing. The support and encouragement from MOPS and Kalie to the families of those killed is impressive.

As the search continued John Hedley's (USMA '68) Veterans coffee shop in NC donated over \$500 and Craig Carson's (USMA '68) company in Indiana donated over \$5,000. The Military community never stops supporting each other. We were shown this once again as the Wingman Foundation (ex-Naval and Marine aviators) served as a clearing house for the monetary donations and reimbursed the moms for out-of-pocket expenses. In addition, they donated \$50,000 to the families.

Furthermore, the Johnny Mac Soldiers Fund (USMA '86) has provided scholarships for all the children of the deceased Marines. This scholarship program for the kids of the fallen Marines is commendable and inspiring. This is an excellent way to take care of those that have lost a parent.

The fallen Marines were honorably doing their duty, taking care of America. Now Americans are returning the favor by taking care of those military families. These individuals who spring to action, ready to help at a moment's notice are fiercely patriotic. They are the backbone of a rare breed—the American breed that protects us.

And that is just the way it is.

GINGER ONTIVEROS RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE TO VVC FOUNDATION

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 15 years of service given by Ginger Ontiveros to the Victor Valley College Foundation. Recently, Ginger announced that she will be stepping down from her role as Executive Director of the foundation.

Under Ginger's leadership, the Victor Valley College Foundation was transformed into a regional powerhouse. Her expertise resulted in the foundation raising over \$27 million since 2012. In addition, her tireless efforts led to the securing of \$15 million in California Career Pathways funding.

Ginger was also instrumental in professionalizing the foundation staff. She recruited seven development professionals, implemented an award-winning public relations campaign, and produced a quarterly magazine to connect the community with the college.

Ginger may be leaving the Victor Valley College Foundation, but her legacy will undoubtedly live on. She truly made a difference in her community, but most importantly she improved the educational opportunities for students at the college.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 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 \$19,190,059,553,782.20. We've added \$8,563,182,504,869.12 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.

CONGRATULATING BIG BROTHERS,
BIG SISTERS OF THE OZARKS ON
RECEIVING THE BIG BROTHERS,
BIG SISTERS OF AMERICA GOLD
STANDARD AWARD

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Big Brothers, Big Sisters of the Ozarks on recently being selected as a Gold Standard Award recipient by the Big Brothers, Big Sisters of America.

Each year, Big Brothers, Big Sisters of America selects 16 local chapters out of more than 300 to receive the Gold Standard Award, which is bestowed in recognition of their having contributed extraordinary improvements to their communities.

Springfield based Big Brothers, Big Sisters of the Ozarks has earned the award for the first time since the chapter's inception 33 years ago. This year, they recruited more than 250 new men and women, resulting in an escalated number of matches between mentors and their mentees. To build on their success, the organization aims to recruit an additional 130 members this year, which would expand their reach to more than 600 at-risk youths.

Mr. Speaker, Big Brothers, Big Sisters of the Ozarks provides a virtually immeasurable value to my constituents in Missouri's Seventh Congressional District. By giving children in our community stable role-models to look up

to, they've pivotally redirected young lives toward drastically brighter futures. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Big Brothers, Big Sisters of the Ozarks on achieving this well-deserved commendation, and sincerely thank them for their dedication to America's future generations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT PITTENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 166 through roll call no. 172, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call no. 166, I would have voted YEA, Roll Call no. 167, I would have voted YEA, Roll Call no. 168, I would have voted YEA, Roll Call no. 169, I would have voted YEA, Roll Call no. 170, I would have voted NAY, Roll Call no. 171, I would have voted YEA, and Roll Call no. 172, I would have voted YEA.

IN HONOR OF MY PHAM

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. My Pham on her recent recognition as Giant Food's 2015 Community Leader of the Year Award. This award is given annually to a Giant Food employee who is recognized as a leader who has demonstrated a desire to give back to their local community and enrich the lives of those around them. Ms. Pham was selected for her leadership on community engagement initiatives from a consideration pool that consisted of 82 Giant district stores. What a remarkable accomplishment.

Ms. Pham won this award due to her ongoing, proactive work in Leesburg and the greater Loudoun area where she strives to be a role model to the community and help those less fortunate. Currently, Ms. Pham is working with the local Rotary Club in Ashburn to fill more than 600 backpacks with much needed school supplies for children in the community. Ms. Pham's efforts are joined by Ms. Sharon Wright, owner of Loudoun Clear Marketing and Leesburg Girl Scout Troop 913 Leader, along with Girl Scout troops throughout Loudoun County.

Together, they are decorating the donation bins and handing out fliers during this "school supply blitz" to ensure each backpack is full of necessary school supplies. Additionally, the Ashburn Rotary Club is crafting store-specific posters and coordinating pickup and delivery of the school supplies.

Ms. Pham has collaborated with eight counterparts from other local Giant stores to host this "school supply blitz," which is scheduled to launch on July 21st of this year and I look forward to monitoring both Ms. Pham and Giant Food's efforts to serve the needy across Loudoun County. Ms. Pham's "school supply blitz" is much needed and most appreciated by our community and will do so much for children and families in our area. I am honored to recognize Ms. Pham and the work she has

done to bring local businesses, children, and other organizations together to achieve a common goal of helping less fortunate members of our community.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND
DEDICATED SERVICE OF THE
HONORABLE DENNIS "NICK"
NICHOLSON

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and dedicated service of the Honorable Dennis "Nick" Nicholson. Northwest Florida suffered a tremendous loss with Commissioner Nicholson's passing on April 29, 2016; however, the legacy of this truly remarkable man will be remembered for many years to come.

Commissioner Nicholson was a Georgia native born in Hiawassee on June 23, 1936 to Everett and Grace Nicholson. Raised in Ohio, he graduated from Canton Timken High School in 1954 and enlisted in the United States Air Force. Commissioner Nicholson served his country with honor and distinction for 26 years, retiring at the rank of Senior Master Sergeant.

Although his military service culminated at Hurlburt Field in 1981, Commissioner Nicholson's passion for public service continued. Following two terms on the Fort Walton Beach City Council, he was elected to serve on the Okaloosa Board of County Commissioners from 1995 to 2002. Additionally, Commissioner Nicholson served on several local boards, including the Okaloosa County Tourist Development Council and the Air Force Enlisted Village—home to surviving spouses of retired enlisted U.S. Airmen. He was also a dedicated member of the Fort Walton Beach Elks Club and a board member for the First United Methodist Church of Fort Walton Beach.

Most will remember Commissioner Nicholson as a man of integrity and a consummate public servant who was instrumental in establishing the Emerald Coast Conference Center, constructing the handicapped access at Marler Park, and helping Okaloosa Island recover from the devastation caused by Hurricane Opal in 1995. Those who are blessed to have known him best will also remember this lifelong Ohio State and Cleveland Browns football fan as a compassionate and devoted family man.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House of Representatives, I am privileged to recognize the Honorable Dennis "Nick" Nicholson and pay tribute to his honorable lifetime of service to the Northwest Florida community and our great Nation. Vicki and I extend our heartfelt prayers and deepest condolences to Josie, his best friend and wife of nearly 60 years; their four children. Deborah Demyan (Andrew) of Shalimar, Florida; Scott Nicholson (Michele) of Shalimar, Florida; Sandra Thompson, of Pensacola, Florida and Suzy Nicholson Hunt (Rich) of Destin, Florida; grandchildren: Shelby Demyan, Cody Nicholson, Hannah Miller (Marshall) of Annapolis, Maryland and Shane Nicholson; and the entire Nicholson family.

HONORING TAIWANESE AMERICAN
HERITAGE WEEK**HON. JOHN KATKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Taiwanese American Heritage Week. During this week, celebrations of Taiwanese culture, the history of Taiwan, and the contributions of Taiwanese Americans will take place across our country, including in my district, in Central New York.

This year marks the 37th anniversary of the enactment into law of the Taiwan Relations Act which functions as the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwanese relations. Today, this law continues to provide a strong foundation for the bond between the people of both countries.

Taiwanese Americans have made invaluable contributions to the diversity and prosperity of American society. Taiwanese Americans have succeeded as successful and notable artists, Nobel Laureate scientists, researchers, human rights activists, business leaders and so much more.

Taiwanese American Heritage Week provides us with an opportunity to learn more about the outstanding contributions men and women from Taiwan have made to our nation, and to the world. During this special week, we are able to embrace America's diversity and celebrate the spirit of community that binds us together as one nation.

HONORING ANTHONY RUSSO III

HON. THOMAS MacARTHUR

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and life of Anthony "Tony" Russo III, of the Third Congressional District, and to express my sincerest condolences to his family and loved ones he has left behind, as well as to recognize his career and community engagement.

Tony was one of Burlington County's most well-known and respected farmers and was a former member of the Burlington County Board of Agriculture and was described as both "a pillar of the Tabernacle community" and "a giant in New Jersey agriculture." His farm celebrated its 75th anniversary last year and is one of the most well-known farm stands in South Jersey, in very large part due to Tony who took over operations of the farm after the death of his father in 1991.

Tony and his wife Maryann were married for 50 years and enjoyed working together on the farm, along with his son and daughter-in-law. A tragic accident claiming his life has left a devastating void in the lives of his family, friends, and loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, the people of New Jersey's Third Congressional District are tremendously honored to have had Anthony "Tony" Russo III as a selfless and dedicated member of their community, whose generosity and vivacious spirit will never be forgotten. It is with a heavy heart that I commemorate his career and life, and recognize the lasting legacy that he has left behind, before the United States House of Representatives.

IN HONOR OF MARY CATHERINE
(KITTY) VAN BORTEL**HON. CHRIS COLLINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine who was recently awarded one of the highest honors in her industry.

Mary Catherine (Kitty) Van Bortel, president of Van Bortel Subaru in Victor, New York, which is located in my Congressional district, was named the 2016 TIME Dealer of the Year. Ms. Van Bortel received this highest honor out of a select group of dealers from across the country recognized at the 99th annual National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) Convention & Exposition in Las Vegas on April 1st.

The TIME Dealer of the Year award is one of the automobile industry's most prestigious and highly coveted honors. Recipients are among the nation's most successful auto dealers who also demonstrate a long-standing commitment to community service. In fact, Ms. Van Bortel was one of only 50 auto dealers from 16,000 nationwide—nominated for the 47th annual award.

The award is sponsored by TIME in association with Ally Financial, and in cooperation with NADA. A panel of faculty members from the Tauber Institute for Global Operations at the University of Michigan selects one finalist from each of the four NADA regions and one national Dealer of the Year.

A 1972 graduate of Palmyra-Macedon Central High School in Palmyra, New York, Ms. Van Bortel earned a B.A. in psychology from Wells College in Aurora, New York, in 1976. Although her father was a car dealer who owned 17 franchises at one time, she began her career at a dealership independent of her family.

Having first worked at Ridley Ford in Webster, New York where she became the top salesperson, Ms. Van Bortel was later a sales manager at Holtz Mercedes-Benz and BMW in Rochester, New York, before opening a used-car lot—her first step toward owning a dealership.

She later convinced Subaru to give her a chance and opened Van Bortel Subaru in 1991 vowing to make it the largest-volume Subaru dealership in the nation. Within seven years, that goal was achieved. Her business has since expanded to include Van Bortel Chevrolet in Macedon, New York, and Van Bortel Ford in East Rochester, New York, both of which she owns with her brother.

The reputation which she has built over the last 30 years has been the most rewarding part of her automotive career. And that reputation includes an unwavering commitment to giving back to her community. A nine-year breast cancer survivor, Ms. Van Bortel is dedicated to spreading the word that early detection is the cure. She has raffled off pink Ford Mustangs, given countless speeches to those who would listen and become a major contributor to the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester. Other organizations Ms. Van Bortel supports include: National Susan B. Anthony Museum & House in Rochester; The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children; American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure

(fundraising cycling event); Warrior Salute (assists veterans as they transition back to civilian life); Vistor/Farmington Food Cupboard (Thanksgiving baskets); IAC Kids: It's About Caring for Kids (help families in the Greater Rochester region going through financial hardships due to their child's severe illness); House of Mercy in Rochester (homeless shelter and advocacy group); Open Door Mission in Rochester (homeless shelter); Catholic Charities USA and many other local organizations.

In addition, Ms. Van Bortel has received numerous awards for her community service and business leadership, including the 2009 Herbert W. Vanden Brul Entrepreneurial Award from the Saunders School of Business at Rochester Institute of Technology; 2011 Athena Award from the Women's Council of the Rochester Business Alliance and 2009 Rochester Women's Network "W" Award.

In 2005, she was named one of the "100 Leading Women in the North American Auto Industry" by Automotive News.

Ms. Van Bortel was nominated for the TIME Dealer of the Year award by Robert Vancavage, president of the New York State Automobile Dealers Association.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all of the members of the New York Congressional delegation, please allow me to once again congratulate Ms. Mary Catherine (Kitty) Van Bortel on this prestigious award and thank her and her family for their involvement in the Rochester area.

I wish her, her family, and her employees at the dealerships a prosperous and bright future.

HONOR OF POLICE WEEK—MAY 15–
21, 2016**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the men and women who support and defend our communities by putting their lives on the line each and every day.

Police Week is a time set aside to honor not only our fallen heroes, but all men and women in law enforcement work tirelessly to protect our neighborhoods. While it is often in emergencies that we remark at their courage and perseverance, we know that they remain vigilant every day. I send my deepest condolences to the friends and family members of these brave women and men who so proudly wore the police uniform.

One hundred twenty-eight officers lost their life last year, including one from Minnesota. Investigator Steven Martin Sandberg was shot and killed on Sunday, October 18, 2015. His selfless dedication to protect and serve the community of Aitkin County will be forever remembered.

This week, we honor Officer Steven Sandberg and the other law enforcement officers who lost their lives last year. With profound gratitude we thank them for all they do to keep our cities safe. Congress must continue to ensure that our law enforcement professionals have the resources they need to protect our communities.

THANKING MELISSA LEAYM-FERNANDEZ FOR HER CHARITY AND SERVICE

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

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

Ms. Leaym-Fernandez is a professional artist and visual arts teacher in Flint Community Schools. Flint schools have an art budget of less than one dollar per student annually, but Ms. Leaym-Fernandez makes it her mission to combat this by providing opportunities and resources for Flint students to express themselves artistically. She has worked tirelessly to find funding opportunities to empower both her visual arts program and the students within it since she took the lead two years ago.

Ms. Leaym-Fernandez emphasizes the importance of artistic expression by focusing her efforts on the population of disenfranchised students in her district who need her help the most, especially those students who attend an alternative education institution. Fostering success in students who vary from being teen parents, on probation, or have learning or discipline difficulties is a commendable mission. Especially in light of the ongoing water crisis. By striving to give students the resources they need to express themselves creatively and artistically, Ms. Leaym-Fernandez sets an admirable example for teachers and community members alike.

It is my honor to represent such active and charitable members of our community, and Melissa Leaym-Fernandez is a shining example. The type of direct and individual care that Ms. Leaym-Fernandez has shown is exactly what the students of Flint need.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the work done by Ms. Leaym-Fernandez and thank her for the service she has provided to the students and city of Flint.

THANKING HOLT PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENTS FOR THEIR CHARITY AND SERVICE

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the students of Holt Public Schools for the support they have offered to the city of Flint and its residents during the Flint Water Crisis.

Seven students from Washington Woods Middle School and Dimondale Elementary have embarked on a campaign to donate a truckload of drinking water to Flint residents. The students quickly accomplished their fundraising mission by selling rubber ducks at local community events, and cooperation with Meijer stores and UFCW Local 951 assisted in their donation effort. The student group is continuing their successful community service campaign and plans on raising funds for the delivery of another truckload of water.

To date, over \$4,500 has been raised by the group's Truck of Water for Flint GoFundMe fundraiser. This has allowed a truckload of over 36,000 water bottles to be delivered to Flint residents, and the second load of drinking water is forthcoming. The type of direct care that these students have shown is exactly what the residents of Flint need. It is my honor to represent such active and charitable members of our community, and this group of young students is a shining example.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the work done by these Holt Public Schools students, and I thank them for the service they have provided to the city of Flint.

CONGRATULATING KILLOTTA TARTT-WALL ON BEING NAMED NATIONAL HEAD START TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in

recognizing Ms. Killotta Tartt-Wall for her unwavering commitment to equal educational opportunities and student success.

Ms. Tartt-Wall has worked in the educational field for 12 years. She has worked as an Early Childhood Special Education Teacher for five years and has worked for the Head Start program for seven years. For two summers she also taught the Tot Lot summer Preschool Program. All of her teaching has been done in the Flint area with Flint families and children.

Ms. Tartt-Wall is dedicated to making a difference in the lives of young children and their families. She believes that one of the pathways out of poverty is having a good educational foundation that focuses on partnering with families to help ensure the success of the children she works with.

Head Start is the national commitment to give every child, regardless of circumstances at birth, an opportunity to succeed in school and in life. When Head Start was first launched in 1965, the idea of providing comprehensive health, nutrition, and education services to children in poverty was revolutionary. The Head Start Model, developed over the decades has been built on evidence-based practices and is constantly adapting—using the best available science and teaching techniques to meet the needs of local communities.

This year, Ms. Tartt-Wall was nominated for the National Head Start Teacher of the Year by her peers. She has a reputation of having endless enthusiasm and a passion for working with at-risk families and children. Ms. Tartt-Wall is an outstanding example of what one person can do to bring hope and success to the children and families affected by the Flint Water Crisis.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Ms. Killotta Tartt-Wall for her dedication to the families of Flint and commitment to educational success.