

strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Beau Martinez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL SHARLENE M. PIGG, AS SHE PREPARES TO RETIRE AFTER 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND TO OUR NATION

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the military service of Lieutenant Colonel Sharlene M. Pigg, USA, as she officially retires on September 1, 2016, after an exemplary 20-year career. Lieutenant Colonel Pigg is finishing her career as the commander of the Army's Jacksonville Recruiting Battalion which covers 45,079 square miles, 609 zip codes, 87 counties, and is in the jurisdiction of 377 public schools. In this role, she has matched our tremendously talented North-eastern Florida youths with rewarding careers in the United States Army.

First enlisting in the Florida Army National Guard in 1991, she served in communications and public affairs while earning her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science at Stetson University and also participating in the ROTC program at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. Upon graduation, as a Distinguished Honor Graduate, she was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in aviation in the United States Army. She later completed the Army Command and General Staff College.

Over the years, her career has led her to many and varied assignments both in the United States and overseas. They include: 160th Signal Brigade Adjutant at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait; Aide de Camp to the Army Forces Command Deputy Commanding General; and Team Chief, Army Forces Command G-1 Strength Management Branch at Fort McPherson, Georgia; Aide de Camp to the Commanding General of the Combined Security Transition Command, Afghanistan; Recruiting Operations Officer for Georgia Tech Army ROTC, Atlanta, Georgia; Commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1/210th Aviation Regiment, Fort Rucker, Alabama; Battalion S-1, 1/52nd Aviation Battalion, K-16, Korea; Assistant Brigade S-2, 159th Aviation Brigade, Fort Campbell, Kentucky; Platoon Leader, A/5-101st, Fort Campbell, Kentucky; and Executive Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3/6 Cavalry Squadron, Camp Humphreys, Korea.

Prior to coming to Jacksonville, Florida, Lieutenant Colonel Pigg served at the Pentagon in two assignments: first as the Officer Policy Integrator for the Director of Military Personnel Management, Army G-1 and most recently, as the Women in the Army Branch Chief. In this position her team drafted the details of the Army's plans to integrate women into combat units.

She will join her husband Chad Pigg and their young son, Beckam, in Atlanta, Georgia, upon relinquishing her duties as Battalion Commander on June 3. I send Lieutenant Colonel Pigg my thanks for a job well done and a career of service in the United States Army.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of the House to join me in congratulating Lieutenant Colonel Sharlene Pigg on her hard work and dedication to the country during her career in the Army. We wish her, her husband Chad, and son Beckam all of the best.

RECOGNIZING DR. GRAZYNA J. KOZACZKA

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Grazyna Kozaczka. Dr. Kozaczka is a native of Krakow, Poland, where she received her doctoral degree in American Literature from the Jagiellonian University. Dr. Kozaczka is a distinguished scholar and renowned Professor of English at Cazenovia College in Cazenovia, New York. Dr. Kozaczka is also the Director of the Honors Programs at Cazenovia College.

Dr. Kozaczka will be honored at the 2016 Syracuse, New York Polish Festival, receiving the "2016 Pole of the Year" Award. She will be recognized for her dedication to studying Polish American history and for all of her scholarly achievements.

Dr. Kozaczka has published scholarly essays, short fiction, as well as popular articles in both Polish and English. She is the President of the Polish American Historical Association, a member of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America, and a member of The Jozef Pilsudski Institute of America and the Modern Language Association.

I am honored to recognize Dr. Grazyna J. Kozaczka for her incredible scholarly accomplishments and for being named the "2016 Pole of the Year" by the Syracuse Polish Scholarship Fund, Inc.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENT AND SERVICE OF MR. JAMES W. KEATING

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize the extraordinary service of Mr. James Keating. Jim, a lifelong resident of Warren, Ohio, recently announced his retirement from a remarkable career spanning 23 years as the Human Resources Director for Trumbull County.

Jim had previously been the Human Resources Director for Heltzel Steel and served 12 years as an elected councilman in Warren. During his tenure at Trumbull County, Jim managed labor relations with five bargaining units within the Sheriff's Office and four with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees units, including contract

negotiations and resolving grievances. In 2006, Jim established a county-wide committee to develop a personnel policy manual that could be adopted by all Trumbull County elected officials.

In leading this committee, Jim exhibited not only his extensive knowledge of human resources policy, but also his ability to lead and establish consensus among county officials. The result was a personnel policy manual that was adopted and is now followed by all elected officials and departments in Trumbull County government. This brings the entire county into legal compliance, fostering fairness and uniformity in human resources practices, and significantly reduces the county's liability exposure.

As a result of his success with the county-wide policy manual in Trumbull County, Jim was tapped by the County Commissioners Association of Ohio's County Risk Sharing Authority (CORSA) in 2012 to be a member of the CORSA Personnel Policy Best Practices Panel. As a member of this Panel, which received the Ohio Public Employer Labor Relations Association and National Public Employer Labor Relations Association 2013 Pacesetter Awards, Jim helped take his success with a county-wide manual in Trumbull County to counties throughout the State. Ultimately, Jim's leaves a professional and productive labor-management environment he has successfully fostered at Trumbull County.

In addition to his knowledge of labor law, Jim is known for his common-sense, respectful approach to labor negotiations. His professional and logical demeanor brings out the best in both sides, and reduces the tendency for proceedings to become adversarial—rightfully earning Jim a reputation for fairness in negotiations. For his leadership in Trumbull County and for the example he has set for government hiring practices across State of Ohio, Jim was awarded the 2014 Ohio Public Employer Labor Relations Association's "Award of Excellence".

Jim has served his city and his county, and he has earned the respect of his peers. We have been lucky to have him in our community, and Jim will now have an opportunity to spend more time with his wonderful wife, Bernadette, his three children, Brendan, Ryan and Mary Kathryn, and three grandchildren, Justin, Alexis, and Donovan. Mr. Speaker, I wish Jim a great retirement.

CONVENING OF THE 'RELIGIONS AGAINST TERRORISM' CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN ASTANA, KAZAKHSTAN

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the upcoming conference in Astana, Kazakhstan entitled 'Religions Against Terrorism.' I was honored to be invited to this conference by Chairman Tokayev, Chairman of the Senate of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and regret that I will not be able to attend this important event.

The conference will bring together political and religious leaders from around the world who are dedicated to ensuring that religious

freedom is the rule rather than the exception. These leaders will also spend their valuable time discussing ways in which we can help defeat those who wish to pervert and twist religions into vehicles of hate and destruction.

Between 2003 and 2012, Kazakhstan was host to four important gatherings that drew senior members from many different religions including Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, Judaism, Hinduism, and Taoism. By holding the upcoming conference, Kazakhstan once again leads its region and the world in working toward a time when all religions are respected and those wishing to do harm under the color of religion are undermined and stopped from doing so at every turn.

Mr. Speaker, under the leadership of President Nazarbayev, Kazakhstan has, since the earliest days of its independence, been a valued leader in promoting religious tolerance. This legacy continues with the upcoming 'Religions Against Terrorism' conference and will, I am sure, continue far into the future. I wish my friends a successful conference and applaud their laudable efforts.

HONORING MARY BABULA

HON. MARK POCAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Babula from Madison, Wisconsin who passed away at the end of last year. Mary dedicated her life to advocating for the rights of children and teachers in her community. While her presence in our district is sorely missed, her legacy lives on in our community.

Mary Babula began her career in early childhood care as a volunteer at Christian Day Care Center in Madison while earning her Bachelor of Arts in Social Work at University of Wisconsin-Madison. After graduating, she became a teacher at the Christian Day Care Center and was later named its third Executive Director. Mary also served as Director of the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA), where she tirelessly devoted her time advancing positive policy changes for children by focusing on the needs of the professionals who provided child care for Wisconsin's families.

Under Mary's leadership, WECA established the Wisconsin Child Care Improvement Project, which launched Child Care Resource and Referral agencies statewide. Throughout her time as director, Mary helped develop and refine multiple programs, including TEACH, REWARD, YoungStar Conference and Training, and the Food Program, which continue to provide support services to child care centers around the state. In her spare time, Mary was also a relentless advocate for the rights of children and early child care professionals at the local, state, and federal level.

Mary's lifetime commitment to our community and her work as an activist has been invaluable to Wisconsin. Her legacy will live on through the services Wisconsin provides to its children and families.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Ms. Mary Babula today.

TESTIMONY OF CONGRESSMAN TED POE (TX-02) TO THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND CIVIL JURIS- PRUDENCE IN REGARDS TO CHARGE NO. 1

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as a former Harris County Judge and prosecutor and the cofounder and chairman of the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus, protecting the most vulnerable in our society is a top priority for me.

I first learned about human trafficking when I was overseas in the Ukraine and soon discovered that modern day slavery occurs in the United States as well, including all around Texas, which is unfortunately a hub given its proximity to the border and many large highways, ports, and airports.

The United States views itself as a leader in the fight against human trafficking, even going as far as to grade other countries on their efforts to combat trafficking in persons. Yet, before the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act (JVTA) became law, I heard about common issues from anti-trafficking organizations on the national, state, and local levels as well as law enforcement and local leaders:

The federal government barely funds efforts to combat trafficking in the United States.

Trafficking victims are often arrested and treated as criminals, but buyers are often not.

Many Americans including those that interact with trafficking victims—law enforcement, educators, medical professionals, and others—do not know about human trafficking or understand how to identify victims.

A bipartisan, bicameral group of Members of Congress, led in the House by myself, a Texas Republican, and Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY, a New York Democrat, and in the Senate by a Texas Republican, Senator JOHN CORNYN, an Oregon Democrat, Senator RON WYDEN, who came together, recognizing these issues, and wrote a bill to address them, relying a lot on what we learned from Texas, a trailblazer in addressing human trafficking.

A core provision of JVTA is the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund. It is clear that more resources need to be put towards human trafficking, but the question is where to get the money. The answer is to supplement current funding, which should be a priority through general appropriations, with financing from the criminals. Let those who harm vulnerable people pay for the damage they have caused. A \$5,000 special assessment is collected from those convicted of human trafficking and other related charges, which goes into the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund to finance grant programs that address trafficking including law enforcement operations, training, and victims' services.

A fundamental goal of JVTA is for victims of human trafficking to be treated as victims and not criminals. This is addressed in a number of provisions in the law, including a newly created community-based block grant. The grant promotes the use of a collaborative model (government and non-profits working together) by cities and states to address child trafficking through the enhancement of anti-trafficking law enforcement units, the creation or continuation of problem solving courts like the GIRLS court in Houston, and shelters and services for victims. The bill also changes statutory language that references child prostitution to child trafficking and encourages a safe harbor model in the states.

We also focus on the demand—buyers, those that exploit women and children. While many call these people "johns," I call them child molesters. John is a name from the Bible, a good guy, not someone who pays money to abuse a fellow person. JVTA clarifies that those who buy sex from trafficking victims are human traffickers, can and should be punished under federal law, and are subject to the same penalties as sellers. Gone are the days of boys being boys. We can no longer turn a blind eye to this crime.

These core provisions of the legislation guide JVTA as a whole as a victim-centered, tough on crime, fiscally responsible measure that makes certain that the United States is truly a leader in ending modern day slavery.

I commend the Texas Legislature for making our state a leader in fighting against the scourge of human trafficking. I appreciate the weight given to this important bill and look forward to continuing to work together to protect our children, the vulnerable in our society, and making sure the bad guys pay.

A society will be judged by how it treats the most vulnerable.

And that's just the way it is.

CALIE LINDEMANN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Calie Lindemann for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Calie Lindemann is a 7th grader at Oberon Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Calie Lindemann is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Calie Lindemann for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.