

how hard work and dedication can affect the future of a community and business. I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Tim Cappel for his many accomplishments and for his service to the Atlantic community. I wish him continued success in all his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF ALEX  
MELNIKOW'S RETIREMENT

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 8, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to use this time to recognize the tremendous work of my constituent Mr. Alex Melnikow of Clifton, Virginia. Mr. Melnikow retired on February 3rd, 2016, after over 40 years of service to the United States. His dedication to a high standard of conduct allowed him to remain honest and loyal, and allowed him to make a positive impact to the efficiency in our armed services.

During his most recent assignment, Mr. Melnikow served as the lead analyst for Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages (DMSMS) within the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Systems Engineering, Engineering Enterprise, and Defense Standardization Program Office. Mr. Melnikow strove to enhance the efficiency of engineering practices such as operational support, alliance forces interoperability, material configuration, training development and outreach.

In addition to his time at DMSMS, Mr. Melnikow served for 25 years as a logistics program manager for the Defense Logistics Agency, as well as 7 years with the Tennessee Valley Authority as an acquisition program manager. He served as a senior staff engineer for the Defense Logistics Agency in the Logistics Research and Development Program. In 2007, he received the Defense Logistics Agency's Outstanding Program Manager Award as a result of his efforts on the electronics availability program. These experiences all contributed to his impressive technical background as a test engineer and as a senior program manager.

Mr. Speaker, I now ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Mr. Alex Melnikow for the outstanding services he provided to the United States throughout his long-lasting career. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 8, 2016*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, on June 7, 2016, due to a weather-related travel delay I was absent for recorded votes No. 269, No. 270, No. 271 and No. 272.

I would like to reflect how I would have voted if I were here:

On Roll Call No. 269 I would have voted yes.

On Roll Call No. 270 I would have voted yes.

On Roll Call No. 271 I would have voted yes.

On Roll Call No. 272 I would have voted yes.

HONORING NATHAN WIRT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 8, 2016*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nathan Wirt. Nathan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1099, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nathan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Nathan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Nathan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nathan Wirt for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO DANNY WEBER,  
FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

**HON. DAVID W. JOLLY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 8, 2016*

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a hero in our community, Danny Weber, who was recently named East Lake Firefighter of the Year.

Mr. Weber has been a firefighter-paramedic for seven years, and has served Pinellas County since 2014. Mr. Weber has dedicated his life to assisting individuals and families in our community, but one story in particular demonstrates his courage and selflessness, and inspired his selection as Firefighter of the Year.

On June 12, 2015, a woman lost control of her vehicle and drove into a large pond. Shortly after, the East Lake Fire Rescue arrived on the scene, and Mr. Weber wasted no time making his way to the woman trapped inside of her vehicle. He rescued the woman from inside the sinking car and pulled her to safety. Selfless acts like this one are truly heroic.

This is not the first time Mr. Weber has been recognized for his service. Mr. Weber also won the Morroni Award as the Pinellas County Firefighter of the Year. I am grateful that Mr. Weber is part of our community and continues to make a difference. I ask that this body join me in recognizing Mr. Weber for his service to Pinellas County.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BETO O'ROURKE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 8, 2016*

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, during the roll call votes on Monday, May 23, 2016 through Thursday, May 27, 2016, I was absent due to an invitation from the President to join him on his trip to Vietnam.

Had I been present, on roll call number 229, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 230, I would have voted Yea.

On roll call number 231, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 232, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 233, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 234, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 235, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 236, I would have voted Yea.

On roll call number 237, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 238, I would have voted Yea.

On roll call number 239, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 240, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 241, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 242, I would have voted Yea.

On roll call number 243, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 244, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 245, I would have voted Yea.

On roll call number 246, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 247, I would have voted Yea.

On roll call number 248, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 249, I would have voted Yea.

On roll call number 250, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 251, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 252, I would have voted Yea.

On roll call number 253, I would have voted Yea.

On roll call number 254, I would have voted Yea.

On roll call number 255, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 256, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 257, I would have voted Yea.

On roll call number 258, I would have voted Yea.

On roll call number 259, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 260, I would have voted Nay.

On roll call number 261, I would have voted Nay.