In 2007, Ms. Olds made national news when she protested the destruction of a grove of oak trees to construct a sports training facility next to UC Berkeley’s Memorial Stadium. Although she was 87 years old, Ms. Olds, along with former Mayor Shirley Dean and Save the Tree leader Sylvia McLaughlin, climbed into an 80-foot-high tree to prevent it from being cut down.

Ms. Olds was known for her humor and lively spirit. She often made jokes to her colleagues that they referred to as “Bettyisms.” She was an outspoken Council member, unafraid to take on opposing views, and was known for her pragmatic approach to local policymaking. Ms. Olds was adored by many and was greeted by a cheering crowd when she walked into the Council Chambers on the day of her retirement in 2008.

That same year, Ms. Olds was voted “Best Politician” by East Bay Express readers; and in 2014, a path in the Berkeley hills, connecting Sterling Avenue and Whitaker Avenue was named in her honor.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 10TH ANNUAL OUT-OF-THE-DARKNESS COMMUNITY WALK

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 21, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, last weekend we recognized National Suicide Prevention Week in Northern Virginia.

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention National Capital Area chapter hosted their 10th annual signature fundraising event, Out of the Darkness on Saturday, September 16th in Fairfax County, Virginia. Over the past ten years, Out of the Darkness has been vital to the rehabilitation of the human spirit here in Northern Virginia, and has been an integral part of the changing attitude towards suicide prevention and mental health awareness, allowing individuals from all backgrounds and stages of grief to come together in support of each other. The success of this year’s walk, bringing together over 860 attendees and raising over $90,000, attests to the meaningful impact of this chapter in support of Northern Virginian neighbors and their families.

We have lost 1,122 precious lives, perhaps more, due to suicide in the last 12 months in Virginia, including children and veterans. The National Capital Area chapter’s extensive work in providing community resources, including crisis numbers for the Veteran Combat Call Center, Veteran’s Crisis Line, Suicide Prevention Line, and a texting option, have immensely benefited those who are seeking immediate assistance and support. These services are crucial, and especially helpful to those who are fearful in seeking assistance, and I thank you for all your efforts in supporting these programs.

Out of the Darkness was supported by a variety of partners in prevention from across Fairfax County that shared resources to people and their families in various stages of grief, including the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue, Fairfax County Police Department, Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey A. Kincaid and the Department, INOVA Fairfax Hospital, International Association of Fire Chiefs, Virginia Professional Firefighters & Paramedics—IAFF Local 2668, IAFF Financial Corporation, Fairfax County Employee Advisory Council, Fairfax County Live Well Program, Interstate Van Lines, Shirley Contracting, 29 Diner Restaurants, JV’s Restaurant, Austin Grill, Everydayinf.org, Trevor Project, Divine Elements Healing Home, Virginia Academy of Clinical Psychological Services, Abiding Hope Counseling Services, Yava Yoga, David J. Cobb Foundation, Youth for Tomorrow and many other local community businesses and elected officials.

I thank them again for working to support the lives of Fairfax County families as well as those in the surrounding region. I am pleased to represent the National Capital Area chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and its partners in the 10th District, and I wish them the best as they continue to bring awareness to suicide prevention and behavioral health.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Virginia’s Tenth Congressional District, I ask that you join me in recognizing the positive impact of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention National Capital Area chapter Out of the Darkness Community Walk these past ten years.

HONORING MR. JOE PICARD

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY
OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 21, 2017

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Joe Picard for his service in the 65th Infantry Regiment, the “Borinqueneers.” The 65th Infantry Regiment was the largest and longest-standing segregated Latino military unit in our country’s history, and the Borinqueneers service in the face of discrimination led Congress to award these veterans the well-deserved Congressional Gold Medal in 2014.

The Borinqueneers trace their history to 1898, when Congress authorized the creation of a military unit in Puerto Rico. For more than a century, members of the 65th Infantry Regiment served honorably in our Armed Services, displaying valor and distinction in World War I, World War II, and the Korean War. In fact, the Borinqueneers are credited with firing the first American shots in the First World War after stopping a German supply ship from leaving San Juan Bay in 1915.

Throughout both World Wars, the Borinqueneers defended the Panama Canal Zone, and some members of the regiment served in North Africa and Central Europe during World War II. The regiment became a key force during the Korean War after distinguishing itself during the Operation PORTREX military exercise. Over 2,700 Borinqueneers earned Purple Hearts during the Korean War, and some Borinqueneers led the last regimental bayonet assault in U.S. military history.

Despite their honorable service by thousands, the Borinqueneers faced segregation and regular discrimination in the Armed Forces. Our country owes these veterans our thanks, and we must remember the story of the Borinqueneers as role models for national service.

Mr. Speaker, Joe Picard served our country in the 65th Infantry Regiment during the Korean War despite the danger and discrimination that the Borinqueneers faced. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

RECOGNIZING KEMAL PASAMEHMETOGLU FOR HIS LEADERSHIP AT THE IDAHO NATIONAL LABORATORY

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON
OF IDAHO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 21, 2017

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Kemal Pasamehmetoglu for his leadership at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL). For the past five and a half years, Dr. Pasamehmetoglu has served as the Associate Laboratory Director for Nuclear Science & Technology at INL.

Dr. Pasamehmetoglu has been instrumental in supporting the Department of Energy’s Office of Nuclear Energy in developing the roadmap and setting national research and development priorities. His vision and passion for nuclear energy has been a huge asset to INL, the Office of Nuclear Energy, and the nation.

During his tenure, Kemal traveled the globe serving in leadership positions in multi-national collaborative efforts. He enhanced INL’s reputation nationally and internationally as a groundbreaking laboratory for nuclear energy research and development.

Most recently, Kemal led the national effort to develop the Gateway for Accelerated Innovation in Nuclear (GAIN) initiative and served as the White House National GAIN Initiative coordinator. The initiative provides the nuclear community with access to the technical, regulatory, and financial support necessary to move innovative nuclear energy technologies toward commercialization while ensuring the continued safe, reliable, and economic operation of the existing nuclear fleet.

Kemal has accepted a new position at INL as the Executive Director of the Versatile Fast Neutron Source Research and Development Initiative. A fast reactor would be groundbreaking in providing next generation nuclear fuel testing capabilities.

Kemal holds a doctorate in mechanical engineering from the University of Central Florida and has more than 30 years of research engineering experience within the national laboratory system.
This new facility will feature flexible teaching and learning spaces, as well as a variety of courses in transportation and manufacturing. These fields play an important role in local economic development, and the addition of this facility will continue Clinton Community College’s legacy of bringing education and opportunity to the North Country.

On behalf of New York’s 21st District, I want to congratulate Clinton Community College on the opening of the Institute for Advanced Manufacturing. We are grateful for the College’s commitment to educating our community, and hope that this addition serves it well for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE USS THE SULLIVANS DD–537/DDG–68 ASSOCIATION’S 27TH REUNION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 21, 2017

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and welcome the USS The Sullivans DD–537/DDG–68 Association to my hometown of Buffalo. New York on September 20th, 2017 as they celebrate their 27th reunion at the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park.

On November 13, 1943, following the First World War, five brothers tragically lost their lives at sea when a Japanese torpedo struck and sunk the USS Juneau while sailing the Solomon Sea. Upon learning that George, Francis, Joseph, Madison, and Albert Sullivan had all perished, President Roosevelt honored their memory by renaming DD–537 in their name as USS The Sullivans.

Since the Second World War, two ships, DD–537 and DDG–68 have proudly shared the name USS The Sullivans and the motto of “We Stick Together” in order to exemplify the courageous and enduring spirit of the Sullivan brothers. For over 70 years a USS The Sullivans has patrolled the world’s waterways, thus preserving the peace and promoting international stability.

In the years since it was decommissioned, DD–537 has served as the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park. Located in Buffalo’s Canalside district, USS The Sullivans DD–537 has served as a floating monument to the Sullivan brothers’ enduring legacy as well as to the countless men and women who have served aboard a USS The Sullivans since 1943.

Mr. Speaker, it is again with great pride that I welcome the 27th reunion of the USS The Sullivans DD–537/DDG–68 Association to Buff- falo, New York as they celebrate the storied legacy of their vessels in the company of fellow veterans and current service members.

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 21, 2017

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Betty Tsai, a retired Bucks County Community College professor who started the Salute to Mothers Scholarship. The scholarship allocates funds for women who are attending Bucks County Community College while raising at least one child. This year is the tenth anniversary of the creation of the Salute to Mothers Scholarship, and it has raised over 120,000 dollars to date.

This scholarship is vital to providing mothers with greater career opportunities, and encouraging women to participate in our workforce. It is only available to mothers who possess a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better, and are enrolled in at least six credits for the upcoming semester. I appreciate the philanthropy that recognizes the struggles of balancing family and school, and thank Betty Tsai for her work to that end.

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 21, 2017

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Betty Tsai, a retired Bucks County Community College professor who started the Salute to Mothers Scholarship. The scholar- ship allocates funds for women who are attending Bucks County Community College while raising at least one child. This year is the tenth anniversary of the creation of the Salute to Mothers Scholarship, and it has raised over 120,000 dollars to date.

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HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 21, 2017

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Booz Allen Hamilton Toastmasters Potomac Club, a ten year Arlington, Virginia communications and leadership club, achieving significant success in its club and membership. Toastmasters International is a global, international communication community founded in 1904 by Dr. Ralph Cherry Smedley.

Dr. Smedley, the director of a local YMCA, observed several young men who were not getting jobs. He took it upon himself to form a