

School and attended St. Lawrence University Collegiate Center in Watertown. During the Korean War, Ronald answered his country's call by proudly serving in the U.S. Navy as a journalist. His service during the war marked the start of his career in journalism and lifelong concern for others.

Attending college on the G.I. Bill, Ronald graduated from the University of Virginia in 1958 and then moved home to Watertown where he worked at the Watertown Daily Times as a reporter and later as a copy editor. While working at the Daily Times, Ronald honed the writing skills that would serve him so well for the rest of his life.

In Rochester, Ronald served for 14 years as editor-in-chief of Kodak's weekly employee newspaper, Kodakery. In this capacity, he helped to lift the spirit of the Kodak family and kept them connected, informed.

On top of his commitment to Kodak, Ronald was a pillar of Rochester's business and civic communities. As an officer in the International Association of Business Communicators, Ronald helped others learn the trade that he had so clearly mastered at Kodak. He was also active in the Irondequoit United Church of Christ and served for many years as an assistant scoutmaster with Boy Scout Troop 154. There is no doubt that Ronald's teaching, mentorship, and example inspired untold young people to lift their eyes to the mountaintops, inspiring them to consider the wisdom and power of nature.

Together with Eva, his loving wife of 47 years, Ronald raised two children and four grandchildren. While living in Rochester, Ronald and Eva enjoyed square dancing and playing cards, particularly Hearts. Ronald and his family were avid hikers who frequently explored the Adirondack High Peaks. In fact, Ronald summited all 46 high peaks of the Adirondacks and was named an Adirondack Forty-Sixer.

In tribute to Ronald's lifetime of service in Rochester and beyond, I stand to honor him today. As his family and friends mourn his passing, let this record celebrate his legacy of love, compassion, and good works. Mr. Speaker, Ronald Wiley strengthened every community he called home and his dedication to his fellow American shows us the best of our nation's soul.

Ralph Waldo Emerson described the successful life like this: "To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and to endure the betrayal of false friends. To appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know that even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded."

Surely, Ronald succeeded.

#### LAWN CARE MONTH DECLARATION

### HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 13, 2015*

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize April as national lawn care month.

The landscape industry employs approximately one million people across America and contributes an estimated eighty billion dollars to this economy. From the national mall to an opening day outfield, and even to our own front and back yards, images of beautiful lawns and yards are often iconic depictions of American culture and the American dream.

As we recognize these images, we must also recognize the work that goes into the upkeep of such lawns. Landscape and lawn care professionals play a vital role in ensuring that these important lawns are not only maintained, but also healthy, as healthy grass and turf have important environmental benefits. Healthy grass produces oxygen, reduces runoff, which improves water quality, removes carbon dioxide from the air, acts like an air conditioner—cooling everything around it, reduces noise, and acts as a firebreak.

#### IN TRIBUTE TO LEO RIES

### HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 13, 2015*

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Leo Ries, the Executive Director of Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Mr. Ries is retiring after 15 years with this organization; the office he ran is part of LISC's national network.

Mr. Ries has spent much of his career helping improve neighborhoods in Milwaukee. Prior to his employment at LISC, he worked for the City of Milwaukee for 10 years, ultimately serving as Director of Housing and Neighborhood Development. Mr. Ries' heart has always been in neighborhood work; he brought people and organizations together in order to create projects that had a real impact on struggling neighborhoods. He has remained optimistic regarding the future of Milwaukee's neighborhoods even while acknowledging the challenges of people struggling against "hopelessness and helplessness"; he sees promise and opportunities in the resurgence of urban living especially by the millennial generation.

The son of a Sheboygan mink rancher, Ries is the youngest of seven children. He attended a seminary high school and thought for a time he wanted to be a priest. Leo Ries has enjoyed an unusual and varied working life. He worked as a volunteer at Casa Maria Catholic Worker House, a cab driver, registered nurse in an intensive care unit and as business manager for two inner-city Catholic churches.

Mr. Ries has worked on many initiatives during his tenure at LISC but he has identified two recent projects as being especially meaningful. The relaunching of the Associates in Commercial Real Estate (ACRE) program, which Marquette University oversaw from 2005 to 2010, to help introduce minorities to careers in commercial real estate and working with the Milwaukee Police Department on proactive community safety strategies. He sees both of these initiatives as providing a structure for building relationships among people; people from different races came together for these two projects with a shared interest in building Milwaukee's future.

LISC has accomplished so much under the leadership of Leo Ries; programs initiated

under his tutelage have become models for the nation and made Milwaukee a strong, prosperous community for all of its residents. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to know and work with Leo Ries for so many years and wish him much success as he transitions into a different phase of his life.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Leo Ries and I am proud to call him friend. The citizens of the Fourth Congressional District and the State of Wisconsin are privileged to have someone of his ability and dedicated service working on their behalf for so many years. Leo, I thank you for all that you have done. I am honored for these reasons to pay tribute to Leo Ries.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF RAY BARBER OF BOZRAH, CONNECTICUT

### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 13, 2015*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor an exceptional constituent from Bozrah, Connecticut whose lifetime of service, leadership, and expertise was recently recognized by the New London County Fire Chiefs' Association upon his installation as their next president.

Ray Barber is a local institution with an extensive history of community and public service dating back to his teen years when he joined the Bozrah Volunteer Fire Company in 1952. As Chief and then President of the BVFC, Mr. Barber served through the town's acquisition of its first fire truck in 1953, and through the decades, helped grow the emergency services the town provides to its residents. Today, Bozrah is a heart-safe community with a full complement of EMTs and ambulance services thanks in large part to Mr. Barber's commitment to improving safety.

Mr. Barber's contributions expand well beyond the BVFC. He served in the U.S. Army, as First Selectman in Bozrah, for 20 years, on the Bozrah Board of Finance, and in the Connecticut Council of Governments. It would be an understatement to say that his skills and passion for the region made his new role as President of the New London County Fire Chiefs' Association a richly deserved honor.

As President, Mr. Barber will lead an 83-year-old institution with 65 member organizations and will represent the interests of volunteer and career fire fighters across the region—over 3,000 personnel. I ask the House to join me in thanking Ray Barber for his service, congratulating him on this deserved honor, and wishing him success in the years to come.

#### IN HONOR OF COLONEL RANDOLPH E. ROSIN

### HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 13, 2015*

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Randolph E. Rosin of New Jersey for his military achievements, contributions, and service to the people of New Jersey and the United States of America.

Originally from Watertown, Connecticut, Colonel Rosin enlisted in the Army in 1979 after his high school graduation. While serving, he was accepted to the United States Military Academy Prep School at Fort Monmouth, NJ, later going on to West Point and concentrating in Middle Eastern studies and Arabic. Afterwards, Col. Rosin served with the 1st Cavalry Division in Fort Hood, TX, and the "Hell on Wheels" 2nd Armored Division. Colonel Rosin greatly benefited from this training post-graduation as he served in Saudi Arabia for Operation DESERT SHIELD/STORM as the coalition warfare operations office for the Army Forces Central Command. His most significant effort during that war was his initiative to develop the anti-fratricide measures used by all Coalition forces, such as the inverted "V" which saved countless lives from friendly fire.

After completing psychological operations career field training, Colonel Rosin was deployed as a Middle Eastern-focused psychological operations officer in Saudi Arabia and later to Egypt, Jordan, and Yemen. He also participated in Operation DESERT FOX. Additionally, Colonel Rosin was a part of a core group of planners that was responsible for planning our nation's response to the 9/11 attacks.

More recently, Colonel Rosin has worked in the Office of Military Cooperation at the U.S. Embassy in Egypt, as well as part of the Information Operations Chief for Multi-National Corps-Iraq, leading a large staff that worked on degrading extremist threats and legitimizing the Iraqi government.

After returning to the United States, Colonel Rosin worked as the Chief of the Information Operation of the Middle East Region in the U.S. Central Command, countering violent extremist propaganda on the web. Serving as the direct representative of the Secretary of Defense to the U.S. Ambassador and Government of Yemen, he oversaw military operations to prevent attacks on the U.S. Homeland and develop cooperation programs throughout the region.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Randolph E. Rosin is a great American who exemplifies true love for our country. His service, which has been honored by 20 awards, is one that should be remembered as he retires from our Armed Forces.

#### RECOGNIZING THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. BEDE THE VENERABLE

##### HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 13, 2015*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to the parishioners of St. Bede the Venerable on the anniversary of the founding of the church that has provided spiritual guidance for 50 years, the first Catholic church in Northampton Township. St. Bede parishioners also are recognized and commended for the contributions they have provided to the spiritual and moral well-being of the greater Northampton community. Yours is a history that began on May 26, 1963 with the announcement of the founding by His Eminence John Cardinal Krol, Archbishop of Philadelphia. An elementary school followed in 1966 and con-

tinued until the 2012–13 school year when St. Bede the Venerable School was merged with Assumption BVM, of Feasterville to become St. Katharine Drexel Regional School. This school, kindergarten through 8th grade, continues the tradition of providing an exemplary, faith-based curriculum, while the parish has grown to include more than 3,200 families and 11,000 parishioners. May your mission continue to the community of the faithful—with all good wishes for the future.

#### HONORING PADS OF LAKE COUNTY

##### HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 13, 2015*

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize PADS of Lake County for the exceptional work they do providing emergency shelter to families and individuals experiencing homelessness.

Providing advocacy, dignity and shelter, PADS Lake County works to combat homelessness with compassion and respect. PADS strives to end homelessness by helping clients commit to their own health and recovery and assisting them in gaining self-sufficiency through affordable housing.

PADS is the first point of contact when homelessness strikes and often the only hope for individuals, families and veterans facing a long night in the cold or extreme heat. In this way, PADS truly does save lives.

In short, PADS services provide a safe environment for people to get back on their feet, and the Tenth District is fortunate to have an organization like PADS providing critical services to our individuals and families most in need.

#### TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL WARTELL COMMUNITY SERVANT, ARMY VETERAN AND GOOD SAMARI- TAN

##### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 13, 2015*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I have taken to this floor many times to mourn the tragic deaths caused by senseless death acts of gun violence that have too frequently plagued our communities in recent years.

I rise today to remember Michael Wartell of Houston, Texas, a constituent of mine who died last Thursday, March 26, 2015, when he was caught in the crossfire of a gun fight and struck by a stray bullet.

Mr. Speaker, Michael Wartell lost his life doing what he lived for, helping others.

The reason he happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time on that fateful day is because he was there to do the right thing for the right reason.

As the Houston Chronicle reported, "the 62-year-old Army veteran made a habit of going out of his way to protect the people he cared about, to make sure they were safe, [including] out for the owners of a tiny laundromat less than half a block from his Fifth Ward home."

After a robbery there, Michael Wartell often would go to the laundromat to see to it that the owners made it safely to their cars at the end of the day; once he broke up a fight at the laundromat, persuading a gunman to put away his weapon.

Born and raised in Houston, after high school Michael Wartell enlisted in the United States Army, serving two tours of duty.

After his service in the military, he worked as a truck driver driving across the country in his 18-wheeler for over twenty years, before retiring to move back home so he could care for his aging mother, Earline.

Michael Wartell loved to read, particularly books about history and cooking and he loved to cook, spend time with his dog, and lend a helping hand to people in his neighborhood.

Unfortunately, last Thursday Wartell was caught in the crossfire, struck by a stray bullet as he tried to run to safety.

Mr. Speaker, this terrible tragedy is simply the latest reminder that action is needed, and needed now, to prevent gun violence.

As a member of the House Democratic Task Force on Gun Violence Prevention and the Ranking member of the House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, I understand that changing the pervasive culture of gun violence will not happen overnight.

This tragedy is another powerful reminder of the urgent need to enact sensible policies to reduce the incidence of gun violence, beginning with the adoption of universal background checks which are supported by nearly 90% of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, the death of Michael Wartell is a tragedy for his family and loved ones, for the Houston community, and for the nation he served with honor and distinction as a member of the Armed Forces.

He will be deeply missed and I ask that a moment of silence be observed in his memory.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF YAEL HORNSTEIN GALPERIN

##### HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 13, 2015*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Yael Hornstein Galperin—mother, wife, grandmother, professional opera singer, and school administrator—who passed away on April 5, 2015, at the age of 87.

Yael met every challenge in life head on, with integrity and great intellect. Born in Israel to Russian immigrant parents, she took a job at a salt factory so that she could help support her family. She went on to serve in the Israeli Defense Forces and its elite security service, and later pursued a career as a professional opera singer.

In 1949, she married a fellow opera singer, Levi Galperin, a Holocaust survivor and rabbi from Romania. The young couple moved to Philadelphia, where Yael was awarded a full scholarship to the Academy of Vocal Arts, and was a prized performer.

Yael embraced motherhood, putting aside her full-time pursuit of opera to raise her children. She continued to sing, but also began to