

House. Like many Hoosiers, she worked on her family's farm where she learned a strong work ethic, something she has utilized throughout her life. She has been blessed with three children, four grandchildren and one great grandchild. At the age of 81, she earned her General Education Development degree and was awarded "Adult Student of the Year" by the State of Indiana. A woman deeply committed to the community around her, she continued to serve others by working as a tutor at a local private school until last year and volunteered at the local food pantry.

I want to sincerely thank Mrs. Hunter for her service and recognize her unwavering commitment to her community. It is my honor to offer my congratulations to Mrs. Hunter on this special occasion. I wish her a very happy birthday and many more years of continued health and happiness.

HONORING THE MICHAEL BAKER CORPORATION'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2015

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Michael Baker Corporation, an engineering firm which is celebrating its 75th Anniversary on May 1.

Founded in 1940 in Rochester, Pennsylvania, the firm's success began with a focus on surveying and civil engineering. Since that time, Baker has added a host of differentiated services including communications, planning, architecture, and environmental consulting to assist its clients' projects. The Michael Baker Corporation has grown to employ more than 5,000 employees in over 90 offices worldwide.

Baker has a storied history of completing landmark projects throughout the world. In 1977, Baker engineers designed the New River Gorge Bridge in West Virginia, at that time the world's longest single span steel arch bridge. Baker's important projects extend internationally and include infrastructure improvements in Afghanistan and a 2,600 mile fiber optic network linking Mexico's major cities with the United States.

Baker employees continue to exemplify their core principles of leadership and the development of an employee and client focused company. All Michael Baker employees, from interns to the Chairman of the Board of Directors, take time to engage in the communities they serve.

I also have personal experience with the Michael Baker Corporation, having worked as a summer intern on a highway construction project when I was studying engineering in college. Lessons from that internship still help me today as I serve on the Transportation Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the great service that the Michael Baker Corporation and its employees have provided for 75 years. May their dedication and work ethic serve as an example to all.

HONORING MR. STEVE ANDERSON FOR RECEIVING NATO'S SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2015

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer Mr. Steve Anderson my sincere congratulations on being named a recipient of the 2014 NATO Science and Technology Organization's (STO) Scientific Achievement Award for his outstanding contributions in the realm of defense data farming methodologies. This award is NATO's highest honor for those in the defense and science technology industry. There is no question that the contributions from him and the MSG-088 task group to NATO's humanitarian assistance and disaster relief will continue for years to come.

Mr. Anderson is a fine example to his fellow citizens of dedication, selflessness, and commitment to the common good around the world. I thank him for his devotion to NATO preparedness, and I commend him on this special occasion. Again, congratulations on this much deserved award.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RICHARD CHOI BERTSCH

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2015

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Richard Choi Bertsch, who passed away unexpectedly last weekend at the age of 56.

Richard was an integral member and leader in the Korean American community. His business acumen matched the respect he garnered from his peers. He dedicated much of his life to important causes, especially the fervent fight on behalf of the so-called "comfort women"—women who were sexually enslaved by the Japanese Imperial Army during the World War II.

Born on August 9, 1958, to his parents, Kenneth and Kyung Bertsch, Richard attended elementary school in Seoul, South Korea. In 1973, he came to the U.S. with his family, where he grew up in Southern California. A graduate of the University of California, Irvine, he started multiple electronics business.

He found his true passion as a civic leader, and he was exceptionally skilled in connecting people of diverse backgrounds and communities. Richard founded the Korean American Democratic Committee and helped found the Korean American Coalition, serving as chairman of its Orange County chapter.

Richard was a selfless individual who cared passionately about justice and the civic spirit. To put it simply, he left a deep and lasting impact on his family and his many friends from all walks of life. When a 2004 South Korean book blamed Jews for the attacks of September 11, 2001, Richard joined with Rabbi Abraham Cooper to fight its publication. Also, in 2008, when police killed a young artist, Richard led the Korean American Advisory Commission to bring the case before federal authorities for a civil-rights violation review.

Just last month, when Los Angeles Times asked about his hopes for the future in Washington, he said, if "The two parties sincerely work[ed] together for the betterment of our country, rather than constantly [being] locked in ideological gridlock . . . it would give some hope to people that politics does matter." Each of us in this hallowed chamber should take these words to heart.

My heart was broken when I learned of Richard's untimely passing. Yet, I believe it is safe to assume, Richard continues to task each of us to continue our service and dedication to the betterment of our community, and this nation.

Richard is survived by his wife Yang-Uk Kim, his sons Sunny and Sunoo, and his daughter Summer. Richard's family, friends, and I will miss him greatly.

Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart, I recognize and remember the life of Richard Choi Bertsch—a man whom I am honored to have called a dear friend.

RECOGNIZING DR. KAREN STOUT

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Karen Stout for her outstanding dedication as President of Montgomery County Community College.

Dr. Stout is moving on after fourteen years of service as President. Her tenure has brought the college success and expansion at a time of remarkable transformation in higher education. Under her leadership, the college has been an example of management and vision for community colleges in Pennsylvania.

Her initiatives have reshaped the college's campus, forged new and important partnerships in the Montgomery County community, and given students access to programs that will teach them the skills they need for the jobs of the future. Dr. Stout is a visionary not only in her work with students and the community, but also because of the particular emphasis she has had on creating opportunity for our veterans. Her leadership will certainly be missed, but she has left the college strong and poised for continued prosperity in the future.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 7th district of Pennsylvania, I want to thank Dr. Stout for all she has done to educate countless students and I look forward to working with her again in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF THE NAMI OF SYRACUSE

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2015

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Syracuse to the 24th District. Since 1981, NAMI of Syracuse has worked to improve the lives of countless families in Central New York who have relatives suffering from mental illness.