

quick renovation is testament to the commitment and hard work of Alfreda and Tony Calucci, as well as the importance of the restaurant's role within the Hazleton community. Today, Rostas Cafe remains a Hazleton staple, and Melissa Calucci has joined her parents in adding to the restaurant's success and character.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Rostas Cafe as it celebrates its 65th anniversary. I am incredibly grateful for this community landmark that continues to bring generations of the Hazleton community closer together, and I look forward to the cafe's success over the years to come.

HONORING GARRETT NICHOLAS
DOWNEY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Garrett Nicholas Downey. Garrett 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 397, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Garrett has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Garrett 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, Garrett has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. ALBERT
"BUTCH" ARENAL

HON. THOMAS J. ROONEY

OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 2015

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Albert "Butch" Arenal, retiring Chief of Police for the Punta Gorda Police Department in Punta Gorda, Florida.

For the past three decades, Butch has been a pillar in our Florida community. Born and raised in Charlotte County, Butch has dedicated his adult life to the Punta Gorda Police Department. He has been with the Department for almost 30 years, and has served as Chief of Police for eight of those years.

Under his leadership, the Department was awarded the Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce Small Business award as well as a number of other well-deserved accolades. Additionally, he will be sworn in as the President of the Florida Police Chief's Association, which is but a small testament of his leadership ability. As a member of Congress, it has been my pleasure to work with Butch professionally and get to know him personally.

Mr. Speaker, I speak for the Charlotte County Community as we say farewell to

Butch and wish him the best of luck as he joins Coconut Creek Police Department, they are truly lucky to have him.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARY
GABRIELE, THE OLDEST
ITALIAN-AMERICAN IN THE HA-
ZLETON AREA

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 2015

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Mary Gabriele as she is celebrated as the oldest Italian-American in the Hazleton Area, an honor bestowed upon her by the Hazleton Chapter of UNICO. UNICO is the largest Italian-American service and volunteer organization in the United States, and has a significant, positive impact within my congressional district.

On March 19, 1909, Mary was born to Nicholas and Tomasina Lauro in Medix Run, Pennsylvania. Her family moved to Hazleton Heights in 1916 where she was able to establish strong, communal roots. As one of nine children, Mary began working at the Duplan Silk Mill at the youthful age of 14. The fact that she committed long and arduous hours at the facility did not stop her from obtaining an education, however. She went on to impressively complete her studies at St. Gabriel's High School during the evenings—a feat symbolic of her tireless work ethic.

Mary married Nazario Gabriele in 1935, and the newly married couple moved to Peace Street in Hazleton. It was here where Mary and Nazario raised their four children: Carmel, Nicholas, Mary, and Thomasina. After dedicating years to her family, Mary returned to the workforce at numerous retail stores in the area, including Bon Ton, Leader, Dotte's, and Fashion Bug. Mary and Nazario were married for a wonderful 49 years before Nazario passed away in 1984.

Currently, Mary resides at Providence Place in Drums, where she remains active and enjoys visits from friends and her extended family, including five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mary Gabriele as the oldest Italian-American in the Hazleton Area. My community is extremely fortunate to have now called her a neighbor for close to 100 years. I hope she will be able to celebrate this monumental occasion in the company of her family and friends.

HONORING SEAN CHRISTOPHER
McMULLEN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sean Christopher McMullen. Sean 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 397, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Sean has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Sean 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, Sean has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Sean Christopher McMullen 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 DR. ROBERT S.
LAUBACH

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 2015

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Dr. Robert Laubach, a pioneer in adult literacy and lifelong advocate of literacy and education. Dr. Robert Laubach, affectionately known as Dr. Bob, was born in the Philippines and lived there through his high school years. Dr. Bob moved to the United States and completed his undergraduate studies in Ohio. He went on to pursue graduate studies at Syracuse University where he earned a master's degree in journalism and a Ph.D. in education.

Dr. Bob developed his love of literacy and journalism at an early age, working the printing press for his dad's early literacy work. Dr. Bob traveled to over 40 countries in 5 years when he was in his twenties with his father and Dr. Bob carried his passion for literacy, both nationally and internationally for the rest of his life.

In 1952, Dr. Bob founded the Syracuse University Literacy Journalism program and taught hundreds of educators from around the world how to prepare literacy materials. Dr. Bob developed literacy primers in local languages and organized literacy programs in more than 60 countries. In 1959, Dr. Bob began publishing News for You, a weekly news source for adult new readers, which is still in publication today. Dr. Bob also founded New Readers Press, which develops and publishes instructional materials for adult learners and adult education teachers. Today, New Readers Press continues to provide over 400 educational titles that help adults learn how to read, write, and do basic math.

Dr. Bob was more than an educator, he was an innovator who helped changed countless lives by giving the gift of literacy. Dr. Bob's legacy of literacy will live on in the Central New York community, and all over the world through the thousands of literacy organizations, tutors, trainers, volunteers, and students who continue to work toward his dream of a world where everyone can read and write.

HIGHLIGHTING THE UNIVERSITY
OF MOBILE'S PROJECT SERVE

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 2015

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the students, faculty, staff, and administration at the University of Mobile for their commitment to community service through "Project Serve."

The University of Mobile, which was founded in 1961 by Alabama Baptists as a Christian university, established Project Serve during the university's 50th anniversary in 2011. For Project Serve, the university cancels classes for the day, and the classroom moves into the community in order to provide students and faculty with an opportunity to serve others. This year's event will be held on September 25th.

This is a record year for Project Serve with more than 1,200 members of the University of Mobile community signed up. On the 25th, these students will spread out to over 60 locations in Mobile and Baldwin counties to take part in service activities. For example, students from the School of Nursing will administer blood pressure checks, do laundry, and paint fingernails for residents of Little Sisters of the Poor. The RamCorps brass and percussion unit will perform for youth at the Strickland Youth Center. The men's basketball team will partner with Habitat for Humanity to build homes. These are just a few examples of the service projects that will make a big difference for people in Southwest Alabama.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the University of Mobile for making community service such an important part of their college experience. Through Project Serve, students will learn that there is more to personal development than just what you can find in a textbook. While Project Serve will only last one day, I am confident the experience will lead to a lifetime of service for everyone in the University of Mobile community.

HONORING ALAN DOAN AND
SARAH GALBRAITH

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alan Doan and Sarah Galbraith, small business owners from Hamilton, Missouri, on being named the Small Business Persons of the Year by the Small Business Administration, in recognition of their company, the Missouri Star Quilt Co.

After their father lost his retirement savings in the 2008 market crash, Alan and Sarah thought of their mother's skills with sewing and quilting. They decided to take out a loan to purchase a quilting machine to make the quilts and earn extra money to support their family. They began their business in a small building close to their parents' home and that is where Missouri Star Quilt Co. was born. They decided that in order to grow their business, they needed to reach a broader market and began putting quilting tutorial videos on the internet.

Their business grew exponentially and soon they were receiving more orders than they could handle. Today, the Missouri Star Quilt Co. has more than 180 employees in Hamilton, Missouri, they have prompted other small businesses to open up their shops nearby, and have attracted as many as 10,000 tourists a month to Hamilton, which has a population less than 2,000. Their small business has not only profited and thrived, but has allowed many members of their community to thrive as well.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Alan Doan and Sarah Galbraith for their achievement in receiving the SBA Small Business Persons of the Year award, as well as their hard work and commitment to their community.

HONORING GLENN HACKNEY FOR
CONTRIBUTIONS IN PUBLIC
SERVICE

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of one of the most dedicated, selfless and kind-hearted individuals I have ever had the pleasure of knowing, Mr. Glenn Hackney. He is a friend and a true unsung hero for whom I have the deepest admiration.

Glenn moved to Alaska before statehood, arriving in 1948. He served in the State House from 1972 to 1976 and the State Senate from 1976 to 1980. From the time of his arrival, Glenn began a life of service to Alaska. Mere words today cannot express the profound impact Glenn has had on the lives of many; he has truly done so much good, for so many people. Glenn has always lived by the simple words of Abraham Lincoln and I quote: "To ease another's headache is to forget one's own."

In that same vein, Glenn's service to his community runs deep. I recall a time when Glenn was cleaning up the streets of Fairbanks, AK and was struck by a vehicle. He suffered many broken bones and endured great pain, but never held any ill-will towards the driver. In fact, he was more concerned for the driver's well-being than his own. Soon thereafter, he was back on the street once again doing his part to clean up the community. Glenn is a strong, silent leader; a gentleman and a dear friend. I hope that this body will join me in recognizing his contributions to society and the great state of Alaska.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL TRUCK
DRIVER APPRECIATION WEEK

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 2015

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, this week, September 13–19, is designated National Truck Driver Appreciation Week and is set aside to honor the 3.4 million professional truck drivers in the United States. Trucking employs more than 7 million people, making it not just essen-

tial to our economy, but one of our country's largest sources of employment as well.

Citizens in every community around the nation rely on trucks—for the food we eat, the clothes we wear, and the products we use. As Ranking Member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I know firsthand how important truckers are to the strength and well-being of our great nation.

But trucks don't move without highly skilled drivers. I have long fought to ensure the safety of American roads and to preserve American trucking jobs. I have also advanced measures to ensure that all truck drivers have the opportunity make a decent living.

In order for our truckers to do their jobs, they need Congress to do its job and pass a long-overdue, robust highways reauthorization. Truck drivers are on the front lines and face the effects of Congressional inaction every day.

More than 147,000 bridges in the United States are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete (one of every four bridges). Nearly two thirds of the nation's roads are in less than "good" condition. Congestion is a ballooning problem, affecting 42 percent of America's major roads and costing the economy \$121 billion a year.

While our infrastructure has deteriorated, Congress has been asleep at the wheel, passing short-term patches that prolong uncertainty and force states to delay critical projects to fix decrepit, weight-restricted bridges that can't handle freight trucks or pockmarked highways that blow out tires.

As our needs have increased, surface transportation programs have been limping along with flat funding since 2009. The federal gas tax pays for highways and public transit, but it has not been raised in 22 years, and its purchasing power has fallen 40 percent. We need to do more than the status quo.

This must change. The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee is currently working on a bill to improve the conditions of our nation's roads, bridges, and intermodal facilities by reauthorizing surface transportation programs. A long-term bill is the only responsible action for Congress to take.

Robust levels of Federal investment make a truck driver's workplace—our highways—safer and more efficient. The Federal government needs to continue its leading role in promoting an interconnected interstate system vital to the timely movement of goods and people. This system must be paid for with guaranteed, sustainable funding that will bring our economy into the 21st Century—and not myopic solutions to replace a strong Federal role, such as tolling or privatization.

National Truck Driver Appreciation Week is an opportunity to reflect on the vital role that truck drivers play in supporting and sustaining our economy and our society. The best way Congress can honor truck drivers is to pass a fully funded, long-term authorization bill.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY
OF NAVAL AIR STATION
JACKSONVILLE

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 2015

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of Naval Air