

it is my pleasure to recognize Ms. Spencer for her leadership and dedicated commitment to service programs.

Wendy Spencer was nominated by President Obama and was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate in April 2012. Under her leadership, CNCS has launched new public-private partnerships, including FEMA Corps, School Turnaround AmeriCorps, STEM AmeriCorps, Justice AmeriCorps, and Financial Opportunity Corps. Wendy has also increased the agency's focus on reaching veterans and military families, overseen the national service response for many severe disasters, and strengthened relationships with public officials and local leaders.

Wendy Spencer's efforts to engage local leaders includes creating the annual Mayor and County Recognition Day for National Service, where city mayors, county officials and tribal leaders express their appreciation for Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and volunteerism in general. When first launched in 2013, the Mayor and County Recognition Day for National Service included 830 city mayors and local officials recognizing and celebrating service across the country. On April 5, 2016, 3,539 mayors, county officials and tribal leaders participated in the Mayor and County Recognition Day for National Service—making it the largest one day gathering among public officials in history.

Through her innovative leadership and collaboration, Wendy Spencer has led national service programs in transforming lives and improving communities while implementing local solutions. Wendy Spencer is a pioneer of national service. Mr. Speaker, as community members, and various national and state community service leaders gather at OneOC in Orange County, California, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Wendy Spencer for her significant contributions and commitment to the Corporation for National Community Service (CNCS).

HONORING MAYOR ROBERT  
BEUTTER FOR A DISTINGUISHED  
CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE

### HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 29, 2016*

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize former Mayor of Mishawaka Robert Beutter, and honor his many years of public service to the City of Mishawaka and our nation.

Mayor Beutter was born in Mishawaka, Indiana on April 6, 1935. He attended Indiana University and earned degrees in business administration and law. After graduating from law school, he joined the U.S. Army and served as a Captain in the Judge Advocate General Corps.

In 1972, Beutter became a member of the City of Mishawaka's Legal Staff, serving for 8 years. In 1984, he was first elected Mayor, and would serve five terms totaling 20 years. Upon completion of his time as Mayor, Beutter became the Assistant City Attorney where he served another 8 years until 2012.

Bob Beutter is a fixture in our community. He has been active on boards and in leadership roles for the Mishawaka Food Pantry;

Boy Scouts of America; Salvation Army Kroc Center; Mishawaka Kiwanis Club; and Salvation Army Advisory Board.

He has received such honors as the Community Service and Leadership Award by the Boy Scouts of America; two Sagamore of the Wabash awards by two different governors; the American Legion Post 161's Veteran of the Year; and was named an Honorary Graduate from Bethel College.

Given all of Beutter's service to the community, it was only fitting that the City of Mishawaka's riverfront park was named after him, as it is the focal point of our community.

Beutter and his wife Mary have been married for 55 years. Together, they have helped build and grow Mishawaka. I want to thank them both for their service and sacrifice to help make our community a better place.

HONORING MR. RALPH KEECHLER

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 29, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ralph Keechler, who has served the City of Sonoma, California and the Sonoma Valley Fire and Rescue Authority (SVFRA) for 60 years. In addition to his own volunteerism, Mr. Keechler has passed on his passion for service to his son, Joseph. Together, Ralph and Joseph Keechler have volunteered with the SVFRA for a remarkable 100 years combined.

Mr. Keechler is a Sonoma native, and served in World War II with the 75th Infantry Division. During his military service, Mr. Keechler participated in the Battle of the Bulge and earned the rank of Corporal. He has also been an active member of the Native Sons of the Golden West for 71 years, promoting and preserving California's history and landmarks for future generations.

His work with the Sonoma Valley Fire and Rescue Authority ensures fire, rescue, and emergency medical services to Sonoma and surrounding communities. Mr. Keechler currently serves as Division Chief of SVFRA, guaranteeing his experience informs the organization's operations.

Mr. Keechler has been a true leader in the Sonoma community. He and his late wife of 50 years, Barbara Keechler, have passed along their passion for service to their three children, Christine, Joseph, and Karen.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Keechler has dedicated his time and knowledge to serving his community for six decades, and Ralph and Joseph Keechler's unique contribution of a combined century of volunteerism is an inspiring example to our country. Therefore, it is fitting and proper to honor him here today.

TRIBUTE TO DUPONT PIONEER

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 29, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a great Iowa company, DuPont Pioneer of Johnston, Iowa as they celebrate their 90th anniversary.

Founded in 1926 by former United States Vice President Henry A. Wallace, the Hi-Bred Corn Company, as it was originally known, set out to share the promise of hybrid seeds for all farmers. Early on, Wallace recognized hybrid seeds could offer tremendous value through higher yields and increased profitability for farmers. His instincts were right and his knowledge and understanding of corn genetics completely changed the manner in which crops were grown in the United States.

Today, DuPont Pioneer employs 13,000 people globally and partners with generations of loyal customers. This iconic company has grown from a small research facility in Johnston, Iowa, to a multi-billion dollar company serving customers in over 90 countries worldwide. With 2 million seed production acres and 100 research and development facilities around the world, DuPont has left a lasting impact on the State of Iowa and the agricultural industry.

Mr. Speaker, over the last 90 years DuPont Pioneer has left an indelible mark on the agriculture industry. Their innovation and forward thinking increases yields and food production around the world to feed a growing population. I commend DuPont Pioneer and their employees for a job well done. I also ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in honoring this company for their unwavering commitment to agriculture and the state of Iowa. I wish DuPont Pioneer and their employees nothing but continued success in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING NOVEC FOR ITS  
COMMITMENT TO THE RESI-  
DENTS OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 29, 2016*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative (NOVEC), which was recognized during the 6th Annual Hylton Center for Performing Arts Awards Gala for its commitment to supporting communities in Northern Virginia.

Founded on January 1, 1983, the not-for-profit distribution cooperative provides electrical services to more than 160,000 homes and businesses located in Clarke, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Stafford, and Prince William counties, the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park, and the Town of Clifton. As one of the largest electric cooperatives of its kind in the United States, NOVEC's service territory spans 651 square miles. Over the past 33 years, NOVEC has achieved and maintained excellence in the areas of safety, customer satisfaction, and technology management, showcasing an extensive record of efficiency and productivity. Their service is consistently ranked the best in the region, averaging a 99.99 percent average system reliability over the past 5 years. As a cooperative, NOVEC's customers have an ownership interest, and therefore, share in any profits generated by the company. These profits are allocated annually to improve the health and well-being of customer-owners and community residents.

NOVEC is invested in the community with emphasis placed in the areas of corporate sponsorship, community volunteerism, and