

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF BOB EPLING

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the retirement of Bob Epling.

Mr. Epling began his career as an assistant bank examiner with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation in Washington, D.C. From there, he moved to South Florida, where he would spend most of the next fifty years. Mr. Epling worked for several banks in South Florida, and has served as the President and CEO of Homestead/Community Bank of Florida for the last forty years. Through his work at the bank, Mr. Epling has consistently proven himself to be an honorable, ethical man.

Mr. Epling has also been an active member of the South Florida community. He has served as the Chairman of the International Hurricane Center for the past twenty years, serves on the executive board of the South Florida Council of Boy Scouts of America, and is a member of the Military Affairs Committee of the Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce, among many other activities.

Mr. Epling is also a Senior Advisor to the Orange Bowl Committee, after serving as its President in 1993. In his work with the Orange Bowl Committee, Mr. Epling was able to break ground on a renovation of the football stadium and field at Harris Field Park in Homestead. This project is just one example of Mr. Epling's continuing commitment to making life better for his neighbors in South Florida.

I have known Bob for several decades, and have been consistently impressed with the breadth of his involvement with the community. Bob has been a loyal friend, and is an honest voice who can speak to the positive qualities of his community as well as the challenges it faces. I congratulate Bob on a remarkable career and a lasting impact made.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Bob Epling for his tremendous service to the South Florida community, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable individual.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, on March 22, 2017, I missed a vote on H.R. 372 due to a family medical emergency. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted Yea because this bill would subject the health insurance industry to the same antitrust laws that other industries face.

On the same day, I missed a vote on H.R. 1101 because of the same family medical

emergency. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted Nay on this bill because it would allow association health plans to create and set their own health insurance standards, exempting them from most state laws and regulations. I believe this bill would threaten the soundness of insurance markets and result in inadequate health insurance coverage, putting consumers at risk.

TRIBUTE TO SLOSTRINGER MATTHEW FRANK

HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a tragedy and recognize a young man whose contributions were anonymous but were felt by the residents and the entire firefighter and law enforcement community of San Luis Obispo County.

Matthew Frank, known to all as the SLOStringer, died in a car accident Tuesday morning, while responding to a house fire.

He was an independent photographer and reporter who was followed by thousands on social media for his reporting on fires, floods, accidents, rescues, landslides, break-ins and arrests.

The San Luis Obispo High School graduate was the eyes and ears for the community when news happened.

His goal, "My hope is that these sights make someone reconsider their (potentially fatal) actions." He said that public safety doesn't get a fair shake, and he "wanted to set the record straight." I would like to draw attention to how much he cared for his community.

During one of the many disastrous wildfires we experienced on the Central Coast last year, Matthew put his life at risk to help the victims of the Chimney Fire. While covering the fire from the frontlines, he met evacuees whose pets, medications and other items were left behind in the rush to escape the fast-moving fire. He used his credentials to return to the fire lines and recover those items he could for the victims.

As our state's fire agency, CalFire, stated "(Matthew) was quite often the first reporter with breaking news around the county, providing details and pictures. He was an advocate for public safety with a great deal of respect for the jobs performed by our firefighters and police officers."

Matthew Frank, the SLOStringer, was a respected journalist, a businessman and an advocate for public safety who will be missed for his contributions to the first-responder community and residents of San Luis Obispo County.

RECOGNIZING JUSTICE JOSEPH J. MALTESE

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Justice Joseph J. Maltese for his continued dedication to the judicial system.

After receiving his Juris Doctor from New York Law School in 1973, Justice Maltese served as a law clerk for Judge John J. Kelly. Soon after, he started his own successful law firm, Joseph J. Maltese & Associates, which he ran from 1976 to 1992. During that same time, he was serving his country as a Legal Officer in the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the Army. Additionally, it should be also noted that he has served in the Army as an Armor Officer and an Intelligence Staff Officer. This commitment to his country goes to show just how devoted he has been to public service.

With three master's degrees, including one in Judicial Studies, and a Ph.D. in Philosophy, it is easy to say that Justice Maltese has a brilliant legal mind. Throughout his career as a judge, he has put that mind to work. He has served on the New York City Civil Court, New York City Criminal Court, and Court of Claims for Richmond County on the New York Supreme Court. Currently, Justice Maltese serves as an Associate Justice for the Appellate Division, Second Department, and the Presiding Justice for the New York Litigation Coordinating Panel, where he continues to issue impartial rulings based on the letter of the law, as a justice always should.

Despite his busy schedule, Justice Maltese also contributes his time educating future legal minds. He serves as an Adjunct Professor of Law at New York Law School, his alma mater, and he regularly gives lectures to various legal associations. Recently, he was awarded the Charles A. Rapallo and Justice Antonin Scalia Award by the Columbian Lawyers Association for his stellar record in the judiciary.

Mr. Speaker, Justice Joseph J. Maltese's commitment to the judiciary and the rule of law is nothing short of admirable. I thank him for his lifetime of public service, and I wish him nothing but the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, due to the recent birth of my first grandson, Walker Ross Marchant on March 21, 2017, I missed the following votes on March 20th and 21st, 2017:

Roll Call Vote No. 173: Reducing DHS Acquisition Cost Growth Act, I would have voted "yes."

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Roll Call Vote No. 174: DHS Multiyear Acquisition Strategy Act of 2017, I would have voted "yes."

Roll Call Vote No. 175: DHS Acquisition Authorities Act of 2017, I would have voted "yes."

Roll Call Vote No. 176: On ordering the previous question, I would have voted "yes."

Roll Call Vote No. 177: Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 372) to restore the application of the Federal antitrust laws to the business of health insurance to protect competition and consumers, I would have voted "yes."

Roll Call Vote No. 178: Transparency in Technological Acquisitions Act of 2017, I would have voted "yes."

Roll Call Vote No. 179: On ordering the previous question, I would have voted "yes."

Roll Call Vote No. 180: Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1101) to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to improve access and choice for entrepreneurs with small businesses with respect to medical care for their employees, I would have voted "yes."

Roll Call Vote No. 181: Quadrennial Homeland Security Review Technical Corrections Act of 2017, I would have voted "yes."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS OF NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the American Red Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania which celebrates 100 years of service on March 23, 2017. Northeastern Pennsylvanians have a long history of helping our neighbors in need. For the past 100 years, the American Red Cross has been there for the residents of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Founded in 1917, the Red Cross chapters across Northeastern Pennsylvania have been there through wars, epidemics, coal mine accidents, fires, floods, tornadoes, hurricanes and more. Red Cross volunteers and donors have given of their time and resources to help community members.

Members of the Red Cross help families find shelter after a home fire. They give blood to help trauma victims and cancer patients. They deliver comfort items to military members in the hospital. They use their lifesaving skills to save someone from a heart attack, drowning, or choking. Red Cross volunteers have responded to 130 disasters in Northeastern Pennsylvania. They've supported more than 200 families in a time of crisis, some who had lost everything they owned. Direct financial assistance was given to some 535 residents.

The Red Cross is committed to make our communities safer. Volunteers installed more than 4,000 smoke alarms in Northeastern Pennsylvania homes and trained nearly 3,700 children to deal with emergency situations. Another 10,000 adults were trained to perform life-saving techniques such as First Aid and CPR. The Red Cross of Northeastern Penn-

sylvania has delivered 365 various services to our military members, veterans, and their families through its Services to Armed Forces Program.

I am grateful to all those who support the American Red Cross mission of preventing and alleviating human suffering in the face of emergencies. It is an honor to recognize them for their century of service. May they continue to fulfill their humanitarian mission.

IN RECOGNITION OF TAYLOR DAILY

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and bid farewell to a valued and trusted member of my team here in Washington, D.C., Taylor Daily. Taylor has risen through the ranks to become a Legislative Aide in my office and will soon be departing the Capitol to prepare for law school.

I extend my deepest and most heartfelt congratulations to Taylor, who I know will thrive in law school and later as an attorney just as she did at Spring-Ford High School, later at Loyola University in Baltimore, and most recently in my office.

Taylor has become not just a capable member of our legislative team—she's become a good friend. I am confident that she will continue to make everyone who knows her proud.

Her parents, Rob & Wendy, deserve recognition for raising such a remarkable daughter destined to achieve remarkable things.

I congratulate Taylor and wish her the best as she embarks upon an important milestone in her education and her life.

HONORING DELTA INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Delta Industrial Institute High School of Sunflower County.

Attorney William Franklin Reden was from Illinois. In 1908 he graduated from The University of Iowa with his Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) degree. He arrived in Mississippi in 1910 and taught school for two years at Utica Institute in Rankin County, Mississippi. In 1914, he established "The Vocational Experimental School for Negroes" in the Mississippi Delta, just 1½ miles northeast of Doddsville. It was initially founded as an educational pilot program to teach the children of sharecropper's in the Mississippi Delta. The idea evolved from there to become "The Delta Industrial Institute High School" in 1917 when it was incorporated.

The Delta Industrial Institute (DII) High School was a private institution similar to the concept of the Piney Woods Country Life School in Rankin County, Mississippi. DII was a boarding school on 80 acres of State leased land. It brought hope, a renewed and change in the delivery of education in the Delta. Prior to the opening of the Institute most of the chil-

dren received their education inside of church schools. It operated during the off season of harvesting, which was mainly in the winter months.

The schools curriculum focused on Morals, Religion, Literary, and Industrial Education with classes in agriculture, home economics, academics and the development of lifelong skills. Students from different grade levels attended the school. There were no buses or automobiles to transport the children to and from school. Many of them walked for miles and some were barefoot without adequate clothing for the walk to school during the winter months. The Delta Industrial Institute High School was like home and family to students. They thought of it as a "community" because of the caring and sharing among teachers to students, in an effort to make the best of things given the era and lack of available resources. Their text books were often outdated and passed down from the white schools. So was equipment (e.g., home economics), and other materials.

In a 1924 newspaper article written by Horace Sylvan Stansel, published in the Ruleville Record, the Mississippi Department of Education received its' accreditation approval as an accredited agricultural high school. This made it the first African American school in the nation to receive this accreditation. The Delta Industrial Institute High School was incorporated in 1917 and educated students for 45 years of their 50 year lease on land from the State of Mississippi. The school closed its doors in 1959 at the time when talks of consolidating the school were going on.

Ms. Hazael Willis Barney, a graduate of the school along with other graduates started the Delta Industrial Institute High School (DII) alumni association. She is also the historian for the school. The Delta Industrial Institute School has educated doctors, lawyers, teachers, and politicians. In fact, Ms. Blanche Smith a graduate of DII went on to become the first Black female Mayor of Muskegon, Michigan. In a 2011 article by Andrea Hall, printed in the Commonwealth Greenwood newspaper, Ms. Barney commented on her inspiration for preserving the history of the Delta Industrial Institute High School by saying, "We are all only here for a short time, so each generation must leave an imprint . . . The DII is an important part of each black student's history in this state."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Delta Industrial Institute High School located 1½ miles northeast of Doddsville, MS located in Sunflower County inside of the Second Congressional District of Mississippi.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 23, 2017, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On roll call No. 189, YEA.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, due to a medical emergency, I was unable to vote on roll call votes 173 through 187. I would like to reflect that if present, I would have voted: aye on roll call number 173; aye on roll call number 174; aye on roll call number 175; nay on roll call number 176; aye on roll call number 177; aye on roll call number 178; nay on roll call number 179; nay on roll call number 180; aye on roll call number 181; nay on roll call number 182; aye on roll call number 183; aye on roll call number 184; aye on roll call number 185; aye on roll call number 186; and aye on roll call number 187.

HONORING DWAYNE K. PICKETT,
SR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Dr. Dwayne K. Pickett, Sr.

A native of the small town of Itta Bena in the Mississippi Delta, Dr. Pickett graduated from Terry High School in Terry, MS. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from the University of Southern Mississippi in May, 1994; a Master of Education in Administration from the University of Southern Mississippi in May, 1995; a Master of Arts in Christian Education from Reformed Theological Seminary (Jackson, MS) in 2000; and a Doctor of Philosophy in Christian Education from New Orleans Baptist Seminary in May, 2011. Dr. Pickett has five sons: Julian (Elyane Alexander), Kenedrick, Malcolm, Dwayne, Jr., and Keishun.

In addition to preaching on Sundays at New Jerusalem, Pastor Pickett has been a guest preacher nationally and internationally. Past service includes his roles as Executive Director of the General Missionary Baptist State Convention Youth Department and Director of Christian Education for the Southern Regional Youth Conference. He has a monthly weekend men's retreat where he teaches a Bible study along with Dr. John Perkins that is designed to develop and encourage vital African-American male evangelical leaders in Mississippi, and he is commissioned by the Christian Men's Network to train men worldwide.

Pastor Pickett's civic service includes successfully chairing the steering committee for a Hinds County Bond Issue of \$21.5 million; enlistment in the Army National Guard, including a tour of duty in Desert Storm/Desert Shield (Sept. 1990 to Dec. 1991); and serving as assistant principal at Brinkley Middle School in Jackson. He believes that an effective kingdom church is active in its local community through education, through ministry outside the church's "four walls", through breaking the curse of poverty and its social damage, and

through offering experiential immersion in God's demonstrated operations of the Spirit in His church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Dwayne K. Pickett, Sr. for his dedication to serving others.

**ST. ANTHONY HIGH SCHOOL 2016-17
BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM****HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the Effingham St. Anthony High School boys' basketball team upon winning its first state championship. This is a remarkable achievement for the Class 1A school and reflects the hard work, determination, and talent this year's team possessed.

The Bulldogs' season started and ended in exciting fashion. They opened with the annual St. Anthony Turkey Tournery and beat a Class 3A opponent for third place, beginning a 19-game winning streak. The Bulldogs later took home the titles in the Vandalia Holiday Tournament and the National Trail Conference Tournament.

Although the Bulldogs hit a rough patch when they lost four of six games, lone senior and all-state selection Drew Gibson coined St. Anthony's 1,000-point club, and the team completed a perfect 8-0 conference season.

In the state championship game, St. Anthony matched up with the highly ranked Okawville Rockets, who forced overtime, but the Bulldogs would find a way to close out a 49-46 victory to conclude a 30-5 campaign, the most wins in school history. In addition to being the school's first state title, it also marked the first for the city of Effingham.

Led by Coach Cody Rincker, team members were Gibson, Alex Beesley, Adam Levitt, Jack Nuxoll, Alex Deters, Cade Walsh, Wyatt Lawrence, Brandon Runge, Luke Ludwig, Bryson Wall, Ben Strullmyer, Quinton Milleville, and Jacob Dust.

I look forward to watching their future successes in both their academic and athletic pursuits and wish them all the best in these endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the St. Anthony Bulldogs on a job well done.

**HONORING MR. CHARLES W.
PENNY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS
RETIREMENT AS CITY MANAGER
FOR THE CITY OF ROCKY
MOUNT, NORTH CAROLINA****HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my longtime friend and constituent, Mr. Charles W. Penny as he retires at the end of this month after serving 35 years in a variety of positions with local governments across North Carolina—most recently as Rocky

Mount City Manager. Charles Penny is a dedicated public servant and very active in the City of Rocky Mount.

A native North Carolinian, Charles Penny was born on December 25, 1957 in the City of Fayetteville. He and his six siblings were born to the late Necho Penny and the former Eva Dell. He attended Ferguson Elementary School and Washington Drive Junior High School in Fayetteville and is a graduate of historic E. E. Smith High School.

Mr. Penny attended my alma mater North Carolina Central University in Durham, North Carolina where he graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science, with a concentration in Public Administration. In May 1984, he received a Masters of Public Administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he was the 1980 recipient of the Urban Management Traineeship Award.

In July 1981, Charles Penny began his career in local government in Morganton, North Carolina as Assistant to the City Manager. Four years later, he assumed a similar position in Kinston. He was appointed Assistant City Manager of Asheville, North Carolina in February 1987 where he served as City Coordinator for the 1988 North Carolina League of Municipalities Convention. He and his family then moved to Rocky Mount, and he became the Director of Planning and Development. In January 1995, he was promoted to Assistant City Manager of Rocky Mount. On January 1, 2011, Charles Penny became the first African American City Manager for the City of Rocky Mount where he managed an annual budget of over \$210 million.

Charles Penny has shown true leadership in his community by improving and positively impacting the lives of those who live and work in his community. He served as Past Chair of the Board of Trustees at Elizabeth City State University. He is the Former Chair of the Board of Directors for the Lucy Ann Boddie Brewer Boys and Girls Club in Rocky Mount and the American Red Cross in Asheville, North Carolina. He also served on the Board of Directors for the Asheville City School Foundation, the Metropolitan Sewage District, the Neighborhood Housing Services of Asheville, and the Nash Health Care Foundation. Currently, Charles Penny is on the Board of Directors for the Rocky Mount Community Foundation and is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated.

Charles Penny is married to the former Edith Allen of Durham, North Carolina. They share two children—a daughter, Eva, and a son, Charles. They are members of Metropolitan Baptist Church in Rocky Mount where Mr. Penny is the former Chairman of the Trustee Ministry and currently serves as Co-Chairman of the Deacon Ministry.

Mr. Speaker, Charles W. Penny has dedicated his entire adult life to public service. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the dedication and selflessness displayed by Mr. Penny for over 35 years as a public servant in North Carolina. While Charles is deserving of far greater accolades from a grateful public, my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in expressing our sincere appreciation for Charles Penny's hard work and sacrifice.

HONORING SGT. ERIC HENRY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a courageous gentleman, Sergeant Eric Henry, Mississippi State Trooper. Eric has shown what can be done through ambition, tenacity and a desire to serve others.

Sergeant Eric Henry is a part of the 412th Engineer Tech located in Vicksburg, Mississippi. Sergeant Henry's civilian works has been with several law enforcement agencies. In 2007, he became a Mississippi State Trooper. He is stationed at the Jackson Troop C Station located in Pearl.

Sergeant Henry began his military services in December 1998. After enlisting, he was sent to Ft. Sill in Oklahoma for basic training. Basic training was followed by an assignment to AIT at Ft. Leonard Wood in Missouri where he was trained to be a construction engineer and heavy equipment operator. Sgt. Henry has served two tours in Iraq, in 2003 and 2011.

Sgt. Henry's experience has given him a great love and respect for the military and law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sergeant Eric Henry for his passion and dedication to serving our great Country, the State of Mississippi, his community and desire to make a difference in the lives of others.

HONORING LIEUTENANT GENERAL
ROBERT S. FERRELL**HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional officer in the United States Army, Lieutenant General Robert S. Ferrell, who has served as the Chief Information Officer/G6 of the United States Army, and will be released from active duty after more than 37 distinguished years of active Federal service on 31 March 2017. Throughout his career, General Ferrell has personified the highest standards of Army professionalism and the Soldierly virtues of duty, integrity, and selfless service to the Army and our Nation. Many of us on Capitol Hill have enjoyed the opportunity to work with General Ferrell, and it is my privilege to recognize his achievements.

General Ferrell, a native of Alabama, was subsequently raised in New Jersey, enlisted in the Army in 1977 and attained the rank of Sergeant. He then attended Hampton University, enrolled as an ROTC Cadet, and completed his studies as a Distinguished Military Graduate, earning a commission as a Signal Corps Officer.

Throughout his extraordinary career, General Ferrell has served in a variety of command and staff assignments, leading men and women in peace and war, in combat and in humanitarian missions, having commanded Soldiers in Korea, Germany, Bosnia-

Herzegovina and at installations throughout the United States to include Fort Bragg, Fort Hood, Aberdeen Proving Ground and at the Headquarters, Department of the Army, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

General Ferrell has served in positions of truly global responsibility as the Commanding General, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, the Director of C4 Systems, U.S. Africa Command, the Commander, 2nd Signal Brigade, 5th Signal Command, and the Commander 13th Signal Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division.

Of special note, General Ferrell has spent the last 3 years as the Chief Information Officer/G6, responsible for the leadership, oversight, management and execution of the Army's information technology enterprise, synchronizing the resourcing, development and implementation of Army communications and network capabilities for our 1.1 million person Army, and has proven himself a tremendous leader who has demonstrated unselfish devotion to the Nation and our Soldiers and Army Civilians.

General Ferrell's personal efforts have been instrumental in leading the Army and developing an integrated approach to Army Network and communication operations and modernization that significantly enhanced the readiness and warfighting capability of Army forces worldwide.

General Ferrell exemplifies the most important characteristics of our nation's finest military leaders—to include an unwavering sense of duty and tireless devotion to the welfare of our Soldiers, Army Civilians and their Families. He is the proud son of a retired Army Non-Commissioned Officer and for the last seventy consecutive years, a member of the Ferrell family has proudly served in the Armed Forces of the United States.

On behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I thank General Ferrell, his wife Monique, a member of Army Senior Executive Service herself, his two sons, Robert II and Michael, and their entire family for the commitment, sacrifices, and contribution they have made throughout General Ferrell's honorable military service. Congratulations on completing an exceptional and successful career.

HONORING RAYMOND CARTEZ
CARTER**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary community leader, Raymond Carter.

Mr. Raymond Cartez Carter's life began in Marks, MS. On a small farm plantation to his mother Inell Carter. Raymond has resided in Marks for 45 Years and remains a loyal citizen. Raymond Carter is a graduate of Quitman County High School. Shortly after, he joined the U.S. Army Reserve with the 479th ordinance group in Lyon, MS. After attending basic training in Fort Leonard Wood, MO and munitions training in Redstone Arsenal, AL. He returned home to pursue his education in General Psychology.

Raymond began his college education at Northwest MS Community College in

Senatobia, MS, but before his completion of registration, Raymond received a call at his home in the fall of 1990, stating that his unit had been mobilized and were being called to duty. At the age of 19, Raymond was off to defend his country in the Persian Gulf War, known as Operation Desert Storm. Raymond Carter spent 9 months 21 days of active duty service, before safely returning home with his entire unit. Upon returning home, Raymond took time to reunite with family and friends to restore his family values.

In 1995, Raymond was approached by a visionary that helped him launch a Culinary Career, which has proven to be his calling. Through the apprenticeship of several high profile culinarians Raymond Carter has made his mark as an astounding Chef and Caterer. He has since then appeared on both Fox 13 out of Memphis TN, as well as WREG providing media advertisement for his Casino based jobs. Raymond has also traveled the world competing in culinary cooking competitions, in which he won 3rd place in Memphis, TN at The Rajun Cajun Crawfish Festival. Raymond also has published recipes in the 7Stars Cookbook published by Caesars Entertainment. He has since gone on to prepare his signature dish, fried portabella mushrooms for The New York City Food and Wine Festival. Raymond has also shared the spotlight with the likes of Sonny Anderson, Robert Irvine, Guy Fieri, and many other Food Network Stars.

Raymond most recently settled into a career, as a Food Service Director for Coahoma Community College through Valley Services Inc. Raymond is a member of Valley Queen Missionary Baptist Church in Marks, MS. Mr. Carter is also a member of Jonestown Masonic Lodge No. 599 and is a 32nd Degree Mason. He also binds with his community as a member of the "Intruder's Motorcycle Group," whose endeavors are to help build a strong community for our elders and youths. Mr. Carter is a loving and devoted father of four children. Michelle (wife) Ariane, Rachelle, Douglas, Jasmine (children). He has three grandchildren, Allyson, Janae, Jade.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Raymond Carter for his dedication as a respected community leader.

RECOGNIZING DR. JOSEPH
SCHMIDT**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Joseph Schmidt for his career and service for over 50 years at Saint Patrick High School in Chicago, IL. Founded in 1861, Saint Patrick High School is the oldest all-boys Catholic school in Chicago and continues to prepare young men for life by instilling in them a sense of vocation, civic responsibility, and strong personal value.

Dr. Schmidt began his career at Saint Patrick's High School in 1967 as a business teacher, basketball coach, and tennis coach. In 1974, he was named the dean of students and in 1987, he became principal of the school. In 1997, Dr. Schmidt was inducted into the Saint Patrick's Hall of Fame and in 2013

he became the school's second president and the first lay president.

Dr. Schmidt earned a bachelor's degree in Business Management from Purdue University in 1967. He received a master's degree from Loyola University Chicago in School Administration in 1975, and a doctoral degree from Northern Illinois University in School Administration in 1989.

Saint Patrick High School recently awarded Dr. Schmidt with the "Crystal Shamrock Award," the highest honor one can receive at Saint Patrick High School. The award was created to recognize individual achievements and commitments to Lasallian education, the advancement of society, and the mission of Saint Patrick's High School. He served as the Grand Marshall on March 12, 2017 in the Northwest Side Irish Parade in Chicago.

Dr. Schmidt has been committed to the students at Saint Patrick High School since 1967. The current dean of students, Russell Lucas, a 1981 alumnus, said this of Dr. Schmidt, "... He always has time to listen, he is going to work with you and he makes you a better person. I truly want to emulate him. He is truly my mentor."

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing 50 years of dedication Dr. Joseph has shown in education and service. Dr. Joseph has changed the lives of many young men by providing them with the tools they need to succeed in their future endeavors. He is truly an inspiring figure in our community and I thank him for his years of service.

HONORING MS. MADELENE LYON

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Madelene Lyon, whom I have named Woman of the Year in Lake County, California. For more than six decades, Ms. Lyon has selflessly offered both her time and talents to the community. Her leadership serves as an inspiration to many in our community, especially her five children, nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

After graduating from Kelseyville High School in 1950, Ms. Lyon attended UC Davis, where she studied Home Economics. Following a brief period of substitute teaching, Ms. Lyon became the Owner and Operator of Konociti Catering from 1982 until 2014. Since then she has generously used her superb culinary skills to help those in need, volunteering at the Kelseyville Food Pantry and at the Annual Hospice three-day Bereavement Camp where she prepared food for the numerous campers and staff.

Beginning in the late 1960's, Ms. Lyon and her late husband, Walt, became active members in the Lake County agricultural community. Together they raised walnuts, pears and wine grapes, while also working in the sheds during the harvest. In addition, Mr. and Ms. Lyon actively participated in the planning and construction of the Education Pavilion at Clear Lake State Park.

Ms. Lyon has contributed to our community's growth through her extensive volunteer

work at organizations such as the March of Dimes Lake County, where she served as the Chair and Executive Board Member for eighteen years. She also filled multiple roles for the Redbud Audubon Society, serving as Conservation Chair and Chair for both the Bird Count Dinner and Annual Dinner. Additionally, Ms. Lyon draws on her extensive experience with education in her seat on the Lake County Board of Education.

Mr. Speaker, Madelene Lyon is a community leader and mentor who continues to contribute tirelessly to Lake County's progress and success. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

IN HONOR OF MIKE SMITH

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Mike Smith possesses a vision of service that is now celebrating its 20th anniversary. With Barbara Knox and Dr. Rose Austin, Mike helped launch the Rotary Club of East Montgomery County.

Since its incorporation on February 28, 1997, the Rotary Club of East Montgomery County has experienced many changes. Starting as a small breakfast club at the Bentwood Country Club, it increased in size and influence throughout its history. In its 20th year, the Rotary Club's growth has led it to a new, larger meeting location at the Courtyard Marriott in Kingwood.

What hasn't changed is the Club's commitment to service in its local community and around the world. Whether it is funding scholarships for the students of our local school districts, volunteering with the Salvation Army, building and supporting a school in Guatemala, providing food relief in Haiti, or sending supplies for infants in Nicaragua, the Rotary Club of East Montgomery County continues to improve lives.

On February 28, 1997, Mike was part of the original meeting of the Rotary Club of East Montgomery County. It was twenty years ago when articles of incorporation papers were signed and original officers agreed to serve in the club. The meeting was held at Walter McKeller's New Caney bank office with Mike, Ike Williams, Eugene Wisenbaker, and Jim Dickson.

A local Farmers Insurance agent and business owner for 29 years, Mike served as the club's second president. Throughout his time with the club, he witnessed the club's first presidential citation and the first hosting of a foreign exchange student. Plus, he was the first to make a hole in one at the Rotary Golf Tournament.

In addition to serving in the Rotary Club, Mike has served his community in multiple capacities as Chairman of the Board for the Community Chamber of Commerce of East Montgomery County and as a board member of EMCID, Montgomery County United Way, and Lake Houston YMCA.

As we congratulate the Rotary Club of East Montgomery County on their 20th anniversary, we thank Mike Smith for his work as a charter member and his service to the community. Mike truly embodies the motto of Rotary: Service Above Self.

IN HONOR OF MRS. MARGARET MOORMAN OF ARKADELPHIA, ARKANSAS

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, the world has changed much over the last 100 years. If you want to know just how much, ask Mrs. Margaret Moorman of Arkadelphia, Arkansas. In 1917, the U.S. faced uncertainty as President Woodrow Wilson prepared our nation for World War I. But all was not bleak. 1917 was also when Loretta Walsh became the first female petty officer in the U.S. Navy and women were granted the right to vote in New York state elections.

In her 100 years of life, Mrs. Moorman saw America win two world wars and put a man on the moon. She has lived through the administrations of 18 presidents of the United States and experienced the American dream.

She worked for 20 years as a food service director, dedicating her life to making sure children had a full stomach in order to learn and grow.

At 100-years-old, Mrs. Moorman is surrounded by many loved ones, including her three children, six grandchildren, and 13 great grandchildren. As Mrs. Moorman celebrates her 100th birthday on Friday, March 30, 2017, I would like to wish a her a happy birthday.

HONORING BRIGADIER GENERAL (RETIRED) MARGARETT E. BARNES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a veteran, Brigadier General (Retired) Margaret E. Barnes of Byram, MS.

Brigadier General (Retired) Margaret E. Barnes was commissioned in 1984 as an Army Reserve Officer. She made history being the first African American female from Mississippi to be promoted to the rank of Brigadier General in the United States Army. She retired from military service in October 2014.

Brigadier General (Retired) Barnes served three years as enlisted service prior to obtaining a Direct Appointment. A lifelong resident of Mississippi, she earned her bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Southern Mississippi, a Master of Public Administration from the University of South Alabama, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the Army War College.

She began her commissioned career with the 412th Replacement Company in Pascagoula, Miss., where she was Team Leader. She served as Battalion Maintenance Officer for the 845th Signal Battalion, and then she returned to the 412th as Company Commander. The 412th was mobilized during Operation Desert Shield/Storm, and she served as its commander at the CONUS Replacement Center, Fort Benning, Ga. After demobilization, she was assigned to the 3d Personnel Command in Jackson, Miss., where she served as Public Affairs Officer, Secretary of

the General Staff and Inspector General. BG Barnes was then assigned to the 348th Personnel Group in New Orleans, where she had key developmental positions of S-2/3 and Chief, Personnel Operations Center. She was selected as Commander of the 324th Replacement Battalion in Starkville, Miss. During her tenure as 324th Commander, she deployed with her battalion to Camp Wolf, Kuwait, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. It was during this deployment period that her unit was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation. After commanding the 324th, BG Barnes was again selected for command and returned to the 348th Personnel Group in New Orleans to serve as Commander. In August 2007, she began service as the U.S. Army Forces Command Deputy, Assistant Deputy G-1 at Fort McPherson, and served as Commander, U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM) Augmentation Unit in Atlanta. Her last assignment before retiring was Deputy Commanding General of the U.S. Army Human Resource Command at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Her military education includes Enlisted Basic Training, Advanced Individual training as a 76Y (Unit Supply Specialist) Reserve Course; 75C (Personnel Management Specialist) Reserve Course; NBC Officer Reserve Course; Adjutant General Officer Basic Course; 121st Army Reserve Command (ARCOM) Pre-Command Course; Security Manager Course; Adjutant General Officer Advanced Course; Combined Arms Services Support School; Inspector General Course; Inspector General Site Administrator Course; Command and General Staff Officer Course; Mobilization Officer Course; Middle East Orientation Course; Adjutant General Battalion/Brigade-Level Pre-Command Course; Army Reserve Battalion/Brigade-Level Pre-Command Course; U.S. Army War College; CAPSTONE; and Advanced Joint Professional Military Education.

Her awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Army Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (2nd Oak Leaf Cluster), Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, The Army Commendation Medal (with 4th Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal (with 4th Oak Leaf Cluster), National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with Bronze Hourglass and "M" Device and "2" for number times mobilized)

Army Service Ribbon, and the Army Reserve Overseas Training Ribbon (with the Bronze Arabic Number 2). She received a commission as an honorary Kentucky Colonel from the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a remarkable woman and an honorable veteran of the United States Army, Brigadier General (Retired) Margaret E. Barnes.

HONORING MS. KAREN
CAKEBREAD

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Karen Cakebread

whom I have named the 2017 Woman of the Year in Napa County, California. Ms. Cakebread is a civic leader in our community who has contributed her time and talents to many noteworthy causes and events.

A native Californian, Ms. Cakebread has a passion for supporting our community's success and everyone knows her for her compassion and dedication. She works closely with many leaders in our Napa Valley wine community to ensure the success and vitality of the region. Ms. Cakebread has served as chair for the Napa Valley Vintners marketing committee, a co-chair of the group's signature event Auction Napa Valley and as a board member. When Calistoga Winegrowers sought recognition as an American Viticultural Area (AVA), Ms. Cakebread served as an inaugural board member for the group and was instrumental in obtaining the AVA designation. Furthermore, she has also served as a committee chair for the Napa Valley Grapegrowers' annual Harvest STOMP event.

Ms. Cakebread also serves on a number of prominent Napa Valley nonprofit boards including the St. Helena Hospital Foundation, the Calistoga Chamber, and the Elaine Mackie Charitable Trust. She is also a strong supporter of the Canine Companions and Guide Dogs programs that provide for the health needs of some of our community's most vulnerable members.

Nothing shows Ms. Cakebread's talents and commitment to her neighbors more than her tireless effort to help people in need after the devastating Valley Fire in 2015. She put her experience in event management to work coordinating with volunteers, nonprofits and city and county government officials to organize tens of thousands of meals for those displaced by the fire.

Mr. Speaker, Karen Cakebread is a true leader in our Napa community whose generosity and dedication set her apart. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SACRAMENTO CITY COLLEGE

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th Anniversary of Sacramento City College. As the Sacramento region celebrates one of its most valued educational establishments, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring this historical institution in Sacramento.

I know first-hand the positive impact that Sacramento City College has had on our community. I have long been a supporter of this distinguished college and the many programs it provides for its students and the surrounding community. Over the years, Sacramento City College has remained steadfast in its mission to create a learning community that celebrates diversity, nurtures personal growth, and inspires academic and economic leadership. At the same time, the college has constantly progressed and improved its academic offerings to ensure that its students have access to a wide range of opportunities and services to advance their success.

Founded in 1916 as part of Sacramento High School, Sacramento City College is the seventh oldest community college in California. In 1964, the college joined the Los Rios Community College District. Today, Sacramento City College provides over 22,000 students a year with exceptional higher learning opportunities through its many academic and vocational programs. Sacramento City College is committed to fostering a diverse learning community and this commitment is reflected in its investments in students, faculty, and staff.

Mr. Speaker, as Sacramento City College celebrates its centennial anniversary with a Centennial Gala, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring this staple of the Sacramento community for all it has provided to our region over the last 100 years.

IN HONOR OF DR. ROSE AUSTIN

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Rose Austin possesses a vision of service that is now celebrating its 20th anniversary. With Mike Smith and Barbara Knox, Dr. Austin helped launch the first Rotary Club of East Montgomery County and served as the club's first female president.

Since its incorporation on February 28, 1997, the Rotary Club of East Montgomery County has experienced many changes. Starting as a small breakfast club at the Bentwood Country Club, it increased in size and influence throughout its history. In its 20th year, the Rotary Club's growth has led it to a new, larger meeting location at the Courtyard Marriott in Kingwood.

What hasn't changed is the Club's commitment to service in its local community and around the world. Whether it is funding scholarships for the students of our local school districts, volunteering with the Salvation Army, building and supporting a school in Guatemala, providing food relief in Haiti, or sending supplies for infants in Nicaragua, the Rotary Club of East Montgomery County continues to improve lives.

Service is where Rose excels. That is why she received Rotary International's Four Avenues of Service Award and was inducted into District 5910's Roll of Fame. She is a major donor, benefactor, and member of the Bequest Society. Rose also served as District Governor from 2010 through 2011.

Rose authored a community development grant to empower community leaders to teach New Caney and Splendora ISD students how to help make thoughtful and beneficial life choices. Under her leadership, the club became active in The Rotary Foundation and hosted the district's Foundation Seminar, collaborated with Lone Star College-Kingwood for Career Day, and held a Reading Hour with area elementary students.

During her year as Governor, she hosted the district's Million Dollar Dinner and travelled to India, where she participated in a National Immunization Day. India was declared polio-free shortly after her visit, and Rose proudly states that she had a part in a polio-free India. Since serving as District Governor, Rose has

been a Rotary President-Elect Training Seminar facilitator/discussion leader, and she has received the Trailblazing Women of Rotary award. Through her years of service, by her side for 45 years has been her husband and college sweetheart, Milton.

I congratulate the Rotary Club of East Montgomery County on their 20th anniversary and thank Dr. Rose Austin for her service as a charter member. Rose truly embodies the motto of Rotary: Service Above Self.

38TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, April 10th will mark the 38th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA). Both the TRA and the subsequent Six Assurances given by President Reagan in 1982 are the foundation of our successful partnership with Taiwan.

Since 1979, the United States has consistently maintained strong commercial ties with Taiwan. Currently, the country is our ninth largest trading partner. In 2015, two-way goods trade between the United States and Taiwan totaled \$67 billion and the Department of Commerce estimated that trade with Taiwan supported 217,000 jobs in 2014.

Looking ahead, the U.S. should continue to affirm its commitment towards assisting Taiwan by supporting the cross-Strait policy first articulated by President Reagan that the U.S. will not discuss Taiwan's defense priorities with the Chinese government.

Mr. Speaker, for 38 years, we have enjoyed a special relationship with Taiwan and look forward to continuing this successful partnership.

HONORING MRS. MARGRIT MONDAVI

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my good friend Margrit Mondavi whom I am posthumously naming Woman of the Year. She passed away on September 2, 2016 at the age of 91, but her legacy will live on as the "First Lady of Napa Valley." Margrit's name is synonymous with good food, fine wine and great art. She was a major influence in the development of our wine community, a supporter of the arts, and a true leader in making our Napa Valley a world renowned destination.

Margrit Mondavi was born in Switzerland in 1925 and immigrated to America shortly after World War II. She settled in the Napa Valley in 1960 and immediately made an impression on the Valley's cultural institutions. After volunteering to organize a successful concert at the Charles Krug Winery in 1966, Margrit earned a position with the winery. Her career blossomed when she was named the public relations director for Robert Mondavi Winery in 1967, where she set a new course for the institution's events and support of the arts.

In her decades of work at the Robert Mondavi Winery, Margrit put Napa Valley on the map as a cultural destination. The winery hosted many prominent artists to showcase their work and founded the Summer Concert Series in 1969 to bring legendary artists to the Napa region. Margrit also brought new attention to the culinary art by organizing cooking classes which paired great Mondavi wines with the finest French and American food. In 2003, she published a cookbook with her daughter Annie entitled Annie and Margrit: Recipes and Stories from the Robert Mondavi Kitchen.

Margrit and her late husband, Robert Mondavi, were lifelong patrons of the arts and education in our community. Margrit was instrumental in raising support to preserve and renovate the Napa Valley Opera House. The couple also endowed the Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science and the Mondavi Center for Performing Arts at the University of California, Davis. The enology and culinary institute educates the future leaders of our wine community, and the performing arts center hosts both students and world famous performers.

Mr. Speaker, Margrit Mondavi was a true pioneer and visionary who brought global acclaim to our Napa Valley wine community. She taught us to love life a bit more and to embrace the richness of our culture, and generations to come will benefit from her contributions. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her life and legacy here today.

HONORING SAMUEL WOODS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a courageous and remarkable veteran, Samuel Woods.

Mr. Woods is a native of Leland, Mississippi, born on February 22, 1944.

Mr. Woods attended and finished grade school at Abraham Lincoln School Center then went to high school at Breisch High School in Leland, Mississippi.

Growing up Mr. Woods was into baseball and football. In baseball, his position was centerfield. However, in football, he played several positions; fullback, halfback, center linebacker and outside linebacker.

In high school, Mr. Woods learned how to weld and lay bricks under Mr. Turnipseed. This trade helped him get his first job in Memphis, Tennessee as a brick layer. While there, he received a two year scholarship at Oakton Community College but couldn't attend because he got drafted into the U.S. Army. However, he didn't want to go to regular Army so, he went home (Mississippi) to beat the Draft and start school in the Army.

Mr. Woods finished basic training at Fort Polk, Louisiana. From there, he went to Fort Benning, Georgia, to Signal School and Airborne training. Next, he was transferred and assigned to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, home of the 101st Airborne Division. He was granted a team of twelve soldiers. He moved up in rank and became SGT E-5. He joined Pistol and Rifle teams, where he got to travel and make a jump every week. Mr. Woods worked hard with his team and became team chief.

In 1967, Mr. Woods' team got airlifted to Vietnam. They were stationed at Bien Hoc home base, where he got his first Tet offense. When they landed at Bien Hoc Airbase, they were pinned down for a while. Later, they got engaged in combat. Sometime later they made it to their destination, 501 Signal Battalion 101st Airborne Division.

Mr. Woods installed and operated various equipment; landlines (LL) and radios, set up cables and connected to the Battalion Headquarters Toc to read out to all the units. Most of Mr. Woods' work was done in the field.

He moved around a lot to various places like Phu Bui and Hue Da Nang, always in combat. He got sprayed twice with Agent Orange and had a close encounter with a 122mm rocket, which causes him to have hearing problems today. After he left Vietnam in 1968, he got out of the service.

After returning from Vietnam, his first job was in Greenville, Mississippi, at Atkinsaw, where he had to grind and polish saws. On January 13, 2002, Mr. Woods married Ruby Lee and they have one son, Japheth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Samuel Woods for his time and dedication to serving our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANTHONY G. BROWN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. BROWN of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 185, NAY on Roll Call No. 186, and YEA on Roll Call No. 187.

IN HONOR OF LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, while the world was at war in 1917, Melvin Jones, a Midwest businessman, told the members of his local business club, the Business Circle of Chicago, that there was more to life than monetary success. Melvin Jones used his resources to better the lives in his local community and around the world. His vision for the world was ordinary people using their talents to improve their local communities.

Melvin Jones should be proud that the organization he founded celebrates its 100th year of service. Today, Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization—with over one million members in more than forty-six thousand clubs. Lions continue their mission of improving communities, creating better places to live, work, and raise families. Melvin's idea of a civic organization has spread from the Midwest into countries in every corner of the world. There are twenty-five amazing Lions Clubs in the Eighth District of Texas.

A common desire to serve unites Lions Club members from around the world as they provide humanitarian assistance, encourage

peace, and promote international understanding. The Lions are known worldwide for their integrity and resourcefulness as they encourage their volunteers and empower them to serve in their local communities.

Since their founding, the Lions have had a steady vision and a clear mission: to become true "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness." Their tireless efforts to aid the world's visually impaired have set a high standard. For nearly half a century, the Lions Clubs International Foundation has made smaller, local and large-scale international humanitarian projects possible. In its twenty-seven year existence, SightFirst has been restoring sight and preventing blindness on a global scale by targeting and countering the major causes of blindness.

Additionally, the Lions' Leo Program has helped give young people worldwide the opportunity to learn servant leadership. Today, there are approximately 144,000 Leos and 5,700 Leo clubs in more than 140 countries.

I am proud to congratulate all members of Lions Clubs International for their dedication to servant leadership and undying quest to better their communities by bringing millions out of darkness.

HONORING DR. RHONDA RENFRO

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Rhonda Renfro whom I have named Woman of the Year in Solano County, California. Dr. Renfro is a respected community leader and founder of Club Stride, a nonprofit group that empowers the young people in our community.

A native of Los Angeles, California, Dr. Renfro studied Business Administration at San Francisco State University and Leadership at Patton University. She then completed her double doctorate in Theology and Divinity from the Miracle Faith Institute in Pensacola, Florida and is an ordained Pastor. She has nearly two decades of experience in data and systems management at Kaiser Permanente and has worked with numerous corporate boards.

Dr. Renfro founded Club Stride, Inc. in 2011 to address the needs of underserved youth. Under her leadership, Club Stride offers young people leadership development programs and the chance to take action through social justice initiatives. Through Club Stride, young people develop their public speaking skills and combat the negative stereotypes. More recently, Dr. Renfro launched the Hype 808 Radio internship program that brings together young adults to produce a weekly radio broadcast. Broadcasters between ages 14 and 19 speak candidly about issues impacting their lives and encourages young people to become advocates from a young age.

Dr. Renfro also organizes an annual youth scholarship awards gala to support students between 15 and 24 years old who have demonstrated their commitment to community, academics, church and family. The gala provides awards for achievement in leadership, humanitarianism and academics.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Rhonda Renfro is a dedicated leader and empowers the young people in our community to be the leaders of tomorrow. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

HONORING BARBARA J.P.
WASHINGTON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Barbara J.P. Washington, who is an Educator, a Leader and Public Servant.

Barbara J.P. Washington holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Mississippi Valley State University and Master of Education degree from The University of Mississippi—both in English Education.

She joined the Department of English and Foreign Languages at MVSU in 1974 as an instructor. While at the university, she has held numerous roles such as Honors College director, Writing Center professional tutor, and student teacher supervisor.

Her professional memberships include the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Mississippi Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Phi Delta Kappa, National Council of Teachers of English, Mississippi Congress of Parents and Teachers, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc.

Washington has served as an Education Advisory Committee member for the Leflore County School District, adviser for Alpha CM Honor Society, Region IV director of Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society and head coach and co-coach of the Honda All-Star Academic Team. Over her career, she has earned numerous honors including Teacher of the Year, NAFEO Distinguished Alumni, William Winter Faculty Scholar of the Year and SACS Outstanding Services Rendered.

She has actively served her community through local, state, regional and national organizations. Washington served as secretary, northern regional coordinator and director for the state Parent Teacher Association; numerous roles for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; PTSA president at Leflore County Elementary and High schools; Sunday School teacher and a host of other volunteer efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Barbara J.P. Washington, an Educator, a Leader and Public Servant for her dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANTHONY G. BROWN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. BROWN of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been

present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 181.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF ALFRED "AL" YSRAEL

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of the late Alfred "Al" Ysrael. Al was a former senator in the Guam Legislature, a business leader and generous philanthropist and humanitarian. He was born on April 10, 1930 and passed away on March 10, 2017 at the age of 86. Al was an icon in our island community. He was a true pioneer in business and paved the way for many on Guam. He made invaluable contributions to our island economy and was instrumental in developing Guam's real estate and tourism industries.

After finishing college in the Philippines, Al moved to Guam in 1951. He started his career working in a bowling alley, where he later went on to open and operate one of his own. He became a U.S. Citizen in 1958, and his life has been a true example of living the "American Dream." In 1960, Al married my sister Diana, and together they have five children and 15 grandchildren.

Al was the founder of Tanota Partners, a family company which today owns numerous valuable real property on Guam, including the Outrigger Guam Resort and Dusit Thani Guam Resort. He was responsible for building Guam's first hotel and developed many other hotels in Guam's now vibrant tourist district in Tumon. Many of the modern developments in Guam's real estate industry can be attributed to Al and his innovativeness. Al's leadership and entrepreneurship created jobs and expanded real estate and development opportunities throughout Guam and the region. Al was inducted into the Guam Chamber of Commerce's Guam Business Hall of Fame in 2004 and named Guam Business Executive of the Year in 2006.

In addition to Al's success in business, he also gave back to our community as a public servant and philanthropist. Al was elected to the 12th and 13th Guam Legislature from 1973 to 1976, and served as Vice Speaker during the 13th Guam Legislature. He dedicated his life to improving our island and community, and he supported many charitable and non-profit causes. In recent years, Al and his family gave millions of dollars to the development of Guam's local private schools and other charitable organizations.

I am deeply saddened by Al's passing, and I join the people of Guam in celebrating his life and remembering his contributions to our island community. My thoughts and prayers are with his family, loved ones and friends. I especially extend my condolences to his wife of 57 years, Diana; his five children, Michael, Elizabeth, Mariana, Catherine, and Donna and their spouses; and his 15 grandchildren. He will be dearly missed, and his memory will live on in the hearts of the people of Guam.

HONORING MS. SYLVIA VILLA-SERRANO

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Sylvia Villa-Serrano whom I have named the 2017 Woman of the Year in Contra Costa County, California. Ms. Villa-Serrano is a civic leader in our community who supports the small business community and youth and seniors.

A native of San Francisco, California, Ms. Villa-Serrano has lived in Hercules, California since 1989. She led a successful three decade long career in financial services with Wells Fargo Bank, and in her retirement, Ms. Villa-Serrano has dedicated her time and skills to supporting organizations and coordinating fundraising for worthy causes in our community.

Ms. Villa-Serrano has been a true champion for small businesses in our community. She has been active with the Hercules Chamber of Commerce since 2009 and organized the city's first ever Business and Consumer Expo. She currently serves as the Executive Director of the Bay Front Chamber of Commerce, an organization which she founded to bring together the Pinole, Hercules and Rodeo Chambers of Commerce for coordinated development and business programs.

Ms. Villa-Serrano also supports a number of noteworthy organizations that address the needs of seniors and youth in Hercules. She has been a member of the Hercules Lions Club for 15 years where she organizes vision screenings for seniors and an annual Lions Holiday Luncheon for disaster relief fundraising. Ms. Villa-Serrano was also instrumental in raising \$50,000 to build the Children's Garden at the Hercules Library to encourage kids to learn and love reading.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Villa-Serrano has been a true champion for small businesses and many valuable causes in our Contra Costa community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

TRIBUTE TO LAVERNE GREENFIELD

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate LaVerne Greenfield for being named a 2017 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2017 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 680 past business leaders and growing.

LaVerne serves as a development associate at Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity, where his work improving data integrity and automation has allowed more time for staff to fundraise and work with, volunteers. He draws inspiration from his large family, and has served his community in several roles over the years outside of his work, including with the Habitat Young Professionals and the Greater Des Moines Young Professionals Connection.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like LaVerne in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating LaVerne on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2017 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANTHONY G. BROWN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. BROWN of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 159, on Roll Call No. 160, and on Roll Call No. 161.

THE PASSING OF CAPTAIN
WILLIAM "IRON BILL" DOWLING

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the legacy of Captain William Ross Dowling. A former fire fighter, Captain William "Iron Bill" Dowling earned his nickname by courageously fighting back from the catastrophic injuries he endured in the 2013 Southwest Inn fire. He equally and relentlessly fought for his family, his country, and his faith.

Captain Dowling died on Tuesday, March 7th, 2017, surrounded by his loving wife of 23 years, Jacki, and their three children—Forrest, Faith and Foster.

He graduated from Klein Oak High School in Spring, Texas, and became a Marine after convincing a recruiting officer that he would succeed in military service. Fulfilling that promise, William Dowling earned the rank of Corporal and provided security for United Nations troops in Somalia, also serving in Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, among other locations.

He earned a Combat Action Ribbon, a Good Conduct Medal, a Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, a National Defense Medal, a Southwest Asia Service Medal, and a Sea Service Deployment Medal.

After serving his country, Bill joined the fire service to serve his community. He was a member of the Houston Fire Department and the Champions Fire Department where he served for 13 years.

He rose through the HFD ranks, and just as he preferred, worked in some of the busiest

stations in the city—Stations 12, 19, 25, 48, and finally 68.

Captain Dowling was among the brave firefighters who raced into the blaze that consumed an Indian restaurant and the Southwest Inn motel on May 31, 2013. The roof, weakened by a smoldering pocket of fire, collapsed on the men with Dowling's legs being pinned beneath the rubble. His legs had to be amputated, and he suffered brain injuries that left him unable to speak.

He passed away on March 7th in Colorado after a bout of pneumonia and cellulitis. Captain William "Iron Bill" Dowling is survived by his loving wife Jacki, and their children, Forrest, Faith and Foster; parents, Mary and Rick Dowling; sister, Mary Harrison and husband Rodney; nephew, Garrett; niece, Hannah; brother, Joseph and wife Toni; niece, Georgia Thormer and husband Michael; niece, Elizabeth Dowling; nephew, River Dowling; brother, John and wife Sarah; nieces, Abigail and Madeline; and nephew, Jonathan.

HONORING MS. RONIT RUBINOFF

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Ronit Rubinoff whom I have named Woman of the Year in Sonoma County, California. For twenty-five years Ms. Rubinoff has served as a public interest attorney, significantly increasing access to justice for those that need it the most.

Born in Los Angeles, California, Ms. Rubinoff later moved to Berkeley. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and French and then went on to complete her Doctor of Jurisprudence. She then settled in Sonoma County and has actively contributed to the County's ability to provide top notch legal representation to all people, regardless of their ability to afford it. She took part in the development of Sonoma County's first full service Legal Aid organization, where she currently serves as the Executive Director.

Ms. Rubinoff provides legal representation for domestic violence victims, families living in substandard housing, children facing abuse and neglect and elders. Additionally, Sonoma County Legal Aid provides advocacy services for Spanish speakers and undocumented individuals. Currently, over four-thousand low-income individuals receive legal assistance every year thanks to her work with the organization.

Furthermore, Ms. Rubinoff enjoys mentoring current and aspiring law students. She offers advice and guidance to those who aim to become a public interest lawyer, preparing them for both the challenges and rewards of the field. She has also served as a Mock Trial Coach for several years and enjoys mentoring with aspiring lawyers in the competition.

Mr. Speaker, Ronit Rubinoff has dedicated her legal career to promoting social justice and ensures that many people in our community receive the legal representation they need and deserve. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

IN HONOR OF BARBARA KNOX

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Barbara Knox possesses a vision of service that is now celebrating its 20th anniversary. With Mike Smith and Dr. Rose Austin, Barbara helped launch the Rotary Club of East Montgomery County.

Since its incorporation on February 28, 1997, the Rotary Club of East Montgomery County has experienced many changes. Starting as a small breakfast club at the Bentwood Country Club, it increased in size and influence throughout its history. In its 20th year, the Rotary Club's growth has led it to a new, larger meeting location at the Courtyard Marriott in Kingwood.

What hasn't changed is the Club's commitment to service in its local community and around the world. Whether it is funding scholarships for the students of our local school districts, volunteering with the Salvation Army, building and supporting a school in Guatemala, providing food relief in Haiti, or sending supplies for infants in Nicaragua, the Rotary Club of East Montgomery County continues to improve lives.

From the beginning, Barbara has diligently served on Rotary committees, as a board member, and as an essential member and volunteer: assisting with community service efforts and local fundraisers. Barbara participated in Rotary events such as the annual Spelling Bee, Project Connections student

scholarship event, and the annual golf tournament. Barbara and her husband Dalton have also worked for many years with other Rotarians at the concession stand during the East Montgomery County Fair and Rodeo.

When Barbara is not volunteering with the Rotary Club, she serves as the Senior Executive Vice President of Rosewood Funeral Home, where she has worked for 25 years. Barbara is not only a community leader but a community pioneer. Barbara served on the Humble Area Chamber of Commerce for eight years, becoming the first woman to chair the Chamber. For five of those years, she was chair of the Membership Committee and earned five Lifetime Memberships by recruiting at least thirty-two new chamber members each year. Additionally, Barbara has served on the board of the Greater East Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce.

I want to congratulate the Rotary Club of East Montgomery County on their 20th anniversary and thank Barbara Knox for her service to the club as a charter member and as true servant of her community. Barbara truly embodies the motto of Rotary: Service Above Self.

 TRIBUTE TO JOE DEJONG
HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Joe DeJong for being named a 2017 Forty Under

40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2017 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 680 past business leaders and growing.

Joe leads the ESOP Finance Team at Bankers Trust Company, helping companies across the nation transition to employee ownership and create an extremely attractive culture for employees. Outside of the many hours he spends on growing the ESOP business, Joe has been a member of the Board of Directors of Orchard Place for the past seven years, giving him the privilege of mentoring young men and providing him with a deeper perspective on mental health issues facing young people.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Joe in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Joe on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2017 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.