

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING VICTORIA MOYER  
ARDEN

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Victoria (Vicki) Moyer Arden on her retirement as the Fine Arts Program Coordinator at Oak Grove Union School District in Sonoma County after over 16 years of exceptional service.

Born in Reading, Pennsylvania and raised in Madison, Connecticut, Ms. Arden received her Bachelor's degree from Towson State University and a Master's in Art Education from the University of New Mexico. In 2001, she and her family moved to Sebastopol where she has resided ever since.

During her tenure at Oak Grove Union School District, Ms. Arden developed a robust and comprehensive Fine Arts program that is a model for elementary and middle schools everywhere. She is well-regarded by her colleagues, students and their families for her passion for instilling a meaningful love of art in her students. She dedicated her entire professional career to supporting and promoting quality education for Sonoma students, where the fundamental subjects always included a well-rounded fine arts program. Her skills, talent and energy helped Oak Grove Elementary receive two prestigious California Distinguished School awards during her tenure there, among other distinctions.

Her philosophy that, "arts offer students a unique language to explore ideas, feelings, subject matter, and cultures" was realized by numerous students over the years, many of whom will be grateful for this influence for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing deep appreciation for Ms. Arden's extraordinary service to our public school children, and thank her for the indelible marks she has undoubtedly left on the thousands of students she has educated over the years, as well as her own two children, Paul and Gabe, and her husband John, and extend to her best wishes on her retirement.

MCKENNA GUBANICH

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud McKenna Gubanich for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

McKenna Gubanich is a student at Faith Christian Academy and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by McKenna Gubanich is exemplary of the type of achieve-

ment that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to McKenna Gubanich for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO DOCTORS WILLIAM  
DESTLER AND REBECCA JOHN-  
SON OF THE ROCHESTER INSTI-  
TUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the service of two members of the Rochester, New York community, Rochester Institute of Technology President William Destler and his wife Doctor Rebecca Johnson, Associate of the University.

The Rochester area is home to an intelligent and curious community, thanks to residents who have dedicated their lives to the advancement of higher education. Doctors Destler and Johnson are no exception and thanks to their efforts, Rochester continues to be home to some of the finest institutes of higher learning that have produced notable alumni for generations.

Assuming the Presidency in 2007, Doctor Destler became responsible for a world-renowned university that includes nearly 19,000 students from all 50 states and more than 100 foreign nations. One hundred and twenty one thousand alumni around the world are proud to call RIT their alma mater and, at one point, Rochester as their home. RIT is also the third largest producer of undergraduate degrees in science, technology, engineering, and math among all private universities in the United States.

During his tenure as President, Doctor Destler recognized the symbiotic relationship between RIT and the city of Rochester, serving on multiple civic engagement boards including the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce and the Golisano Family Foundation. Leading his students by example, Doctor Destler is an international authority on high-power microwave sources and is best known for his pioneering work in the collective acceleration of heavy ions. Under his watch, female enrollment has increased 25 percent and international enrollment has increased an astounding 120 percent. Forty-one percent of the freshman class is deaf and hard of hearing, international and African, Asian, Latino, and Native American. These numbers alone are a testament to the strength through diversity of RIT.

Doctor Destler is one-half of an unparalleled team. He is joined by his wife, Doctor Re-

becca Johnson, Associate of the University. In a time when bipartisan discussion is often contentious, Doctor Johnson has served on the committee for the Gray Matter series, which aims to promote civil discussion of divergent views on important topics. She is also the former president of the Board of Directors of the M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence and continues to serve on the board in leadership roles. Her passion also extends to civic engagement, best demonstrated through initiatives such as RIT's 2016 "Roar the Vote." Thanks to her efforts, RIT has made impressive strides toward energy sustainability through programs like the greenRITnetwork and FoodShare.

Over the course of their ten-year term, Doctors Destler and Johnson have truly come to embody the mantra of RIT, "The making of a living and the living of life." It is with sincere appreciation that we thank Doctors Destler and Johnson for their selfless dedication to higher education, RIT, and the proud city of Rochester. We wish them the best in their future endeavors and affirm that they will always be at home in our community.

HONORING SERGEANT JOE MOSS

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Sergeant Joe Moss for his courageous service to our country. Sergeant Moss grew up in Kerens, Texas where he was drafted by the United States Army.

Sergeant Moss grew up in the Fifth Congressional District of Texas, which I have the privilege of representing. After he graduated from Malakoff High School, he began his service in the infantry for the Army during the Vietnam War. During his brave and valiant service to our country he was severely injured. As the squad leader, Sergeant Moss' platoon came in contact with a land mine while on a maneuver. Two of Sergeant Moss' fellow soldiers were killed and several, including himself, were injured. Sergeant Moss lost both of his legs in the explosion, something that would dramatically change his life; it didn't however, change who Sergeant Moss truly was.

There is no doubt that his selfless service to our country saved many lives while in Vietnam. He has helped countless veterans returning from battle by selflessly giving his time and sharing his own experiences to mentor and support those who have fought for our country. While Sergeant Moss returned home in a wheelchair, he did not allow that to confine his tenacious spirit. Thirteen years after he returned, Sergeant Moss, along with a few friends who were also paraplegics, succeeded in climbing the rocky Guadalupe Peak—Texas' highest mountain which reaches 8,751 feet above sea level. The next day, President Ronald Reagan called to congratulate Sergeant

• 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.

Moss. Sergeant Moss is an inspiration and deserves to be honored. I know Sergeant Moss and his fellow soldiers did not all receive the return they truly deserved. So for Sergeant Moss and others, welcome home and thank you.

Humbly, I echo the words of President Ronald Reagan, "We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we will always be free." And humbly, I offer my sincere gratitude to Sergeant Joe Moss for his service and acts of bravery that allow us the freedoms we enjoy today.

OPPOSITION OF U.S. WITHDRAWAL  
ON CLIMATE CHANGE

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in opposition to President Trump's misguided decision to withdraw America from the Paris Climate Agreement. This agreement, which was negotiated and signed by President Obama, was a strong step in the right direction to combat climate change. The deal developed goals to reduce carbon pollution by increasing energy efficiency and investing in energy research and development.

Joining Syria and Nicaragua, the United States is now one of three countries not participating in this groundbreaking pact of 195 nations. With this decision, President Trump has chosen to relinquish America's position as a leader in global environmental policy and thus, forfeits the United States from technological advancements and solar jobs that would drive our global economic growth. To retreat from the world stage gives other countries, such as China and Russia, the opportunity to gain universal influence.

Moreover, President Trump's decision to break America's promise on energy commitment with no plan in place to reduce our carbon footprint jeopardizes our progress toward a more sustainable energy future. Because of the lack of leadership in the White House, citizens across our nation must rely on city and state officials to lead their communities in an effort to combat climate change.

More than 200 mayors from around the United States have joined the Mayors National Climate Action Agenda to adopt, honor, and uphold the commitments to the goals enshrined in the Paris Agreement as well as strengthen local efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. I am proud to say that Birmingham Mayor William Bell has joined this initiative.

Our constituents deserve a responsible energy strategy that meets our obligation to protect the environment for future generations. This strategy should also include a proposed plan to eradicate environmental injustice, an issue that affects many Americans today, including citizens of my district.

For example, Perry County is a largely African American community in Alabama where coal ash from around the country is dumped. Time and time again, we see that communities of color, as well as the poor, are burdened with the negative health outcomes that stem from exposure to pollution and industrial waste.

America deserves a President that will work to establish an energy policy that will position the United States as an energy independent country that also leads the world toward a sustainable future.

HONORING DR. KARI MOE

**HON. KEITH ELLISON**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the public service of Kari Moe, my Chief of Staff for over 10 years.

When I was first elected to Congress, many of my friends and colleagues said the one thing I had to do was hire a great Chief of Staff. Kari has been more than great—she has been irreplaceable.

Kari Moe met my personal hero and a mentor, Senator Paul Wellstone, when she was a freshman at Carleton College, where he was a professor. When the college's conservative administration moved not to renew Senator Wellstone's contract in 1975, Kari organized campus protests to grant him tenure. Kari and her fellow activists were victorious, and Wellstone was granted tenure.

That event marked the beginning of a long and successful career in organizing and leadership. Soon after graduating, she moved to Chicago to work for another personal hero, Harold Washington, the city's first black Mayor.

After Paul Wellstone won his Senate race in 1990, he called Kari to ask her to join his team in D.C. As Senator Wellstone's Chief, she helped achieve many progressive victories and helped develop staffers with her signature nurturing leadership style.

Kari has exceeded all expectations in her role as lead staffer for my office. She has, perhaps more than anyone, shaped my Congressional career. She helped us serve the 5th Congressional District, advance our policy agenda, and build the work of the Congressional Progressive Caucus. We have worked together every step of the way and I have appreciated her leadership. I will miss her and know she will continue to advance our agenda in her future work with young leaders.

She will be remembered in my office for her strength, empathy and leadership, always urging staff to act with purpose, and to remember that real change doesn't come from the top—it comes from empowering people at the grass roots.

I thank her for her service and will miss her in my office.

RECOGNIZING MIKE CHRISTOPHER  
ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 40  
YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mike Christopher, a devoted public servant in Franklin County, Pennsylvania. Mike is retiring after 40 years of dedicated public service as supervisor of Washington Township.

Mike was born March 18, 1952 and graduated from Penn State University in 1975 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environment Resource Management. He married his wife Andrea on May 15, 1976, and began working for Washington Township the next year as Supervisor. In 1993, Mike began serving as the Township Treasurer as well as Supervisor.

Mike is one of those outstanding individuals who is a true public servant, Mr. Speaker, and he didn't stop with working for his local community full time. He's served on numerous boards and committees in the Waynesboro area and Franklin County including the YMCA Board of Directors and Building Committee, as President of the Greater Waynesboro Chamber of Commerce, and as Secretary for the Waynesboro Area Drug Education Consortium. He is also the founder of the Franklin County Crime Solvers Board.

I am certainly not the first to recognize Mike for his outstanding service. In addition to much recognition throughout his career, just this year he was awarded the Chairman's Distinguished Service Award at the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors 95th Annual Conference in Hershey.

Mr. Speaker, Mike's willingness to serve his community and Pennsylvania sets him apart as an outstanding individual and I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress. I ask that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Mike on his retirement and wishing him nothing but continued success.

MICKAYLA CUNNINGHAM

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Mickayla Cunningham for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Mickayla Cunningham is a student at Arvada K-8 School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Mickayla Cunningham is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Mickayla Cunningham for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE OF  
BALDOMERO VELA SR

**HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of prominent Rio

Grande Valley businessman, Baldomero Vela Sr., who passed away on Friday, June 2, 2017.

Baldomero, or “Baldo,” as he was known to friends and family, was born and raised in Hidalgo, Texas. After graduating from McAllen High School, he enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1944, serving in the 29th Infantry Division during World War II. He then attended the University of Texas at Austin, graduating in 1949 with a degree in pharmaceuticals.

Following graduation, Baldo was a pharmacist for 50 years in the Rio Grande Valley. In 1957, Baldo opened the Professional Pharmacy in McAllen, Texas. In the 1970s, he purchased Lee’s Pharmacy, which is now owned and operated by two of his five children. In addition to his role as a pharmacist, Baldo was deeply involved in a number of community organizations, including the Hidalgo Lions Club, Knights of Columbus, McAllen Public Utilities Board and McAllen Housing Services.

Baldomero will be remembered as a kind and generous man, whose contributions to his community will not be easily forgotten. His generous spirit will live on in the Rio Grande Valley, leaving those he loved better for having known him.

Mr. Speaker, South Texas lost a strong community member this month. He embodied the values of diligence, selflessness, and service. He will be sorely missed.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF STEPHANIE BARBER GETER AS SHE RECEIVES THE MEDGAR EVERS AWARD FROM THE BUFFALO BRANCH OF THE NAACP

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Stephanie Barber Geter, recipient of The Medgar Evers Award at the NAACP—Buffalo Chapter’s Medgar Evers Dinner. Ms. Geter has dedicated much of her life to serving others, especially the people of Western New York. She has left a lasting impact on our community by putting others before herself and combining her skills with compassion to improve the lives of others.

Ms. Geter served as Senior Vice President of Funds Distribution & Community Initiatives at the United Way of Buffalo & Erie County. In this role, she distributed approximately \$25 million annually to agency providers and community partners which played a vital role in community development within Western New York. Ms. Geter’s tireless work for the United Way of Buffalo & Erie County has improved the quality of life of countless members of our community, and presented so many individuals with opportunities they would not have had without her.

The extensive background in community service Ms. Geter possesses speaks volumes to her drive to make a positive impact on the world. She has experience working in the legislative service branch of government, neighborhood housing programs and youth job services. Ms. Geter has served diligently on numerous non-profit boards, community and government committees and oversight groups as well.

Currently, Ms. Geter works at Buffalo State College as Director of the Head Start Partnership. As Director, she is a mentor and teacher to Head Start teachers who go on to help children. In addition, Ms. Geter serves as the President of the Hamlin Park Taxpayers Association, Board Chair of Restoring Our Community Coalition, Board Chair of Elim Community Corporation, and is on the Board of the WNY Food Bank. As the Board Chair of Restoring Our Community Coalition, she has used her leadership to revitalize neighborhoods along Humboldt Parkway in Buffalo, NY. Ms. Geter has worked with Elim Community Corporation, a bible-based ministry that offers worship to many in our community. In her role on the Board of the WNY Food Bank, Ms. Geter organized and helped provide services vital to the people of Western New York. The impacts of her work can be seen in many different forms. While Ms. Geter has been involved in many different causes and organizations, one constant is her devotion to people in Western New York.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me the time to recognize the remarkable work Ms. Stephanie Geter has done for the Western New York Community. Ms. Geter has truly dedicated her life to helping the people of Buffalo & Erie County. Stephanie’s devotion to serving others is admirable and I would like to congratulate her on receiving the Medgar Evers Award.

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR ROBERT LEE SIMMONS II

**HON. MAC THORNBERRY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express appreciation for the work of Robert Lee Simmons II, Staff Director of the House Armed Services Committee. True confession—I don’t like goodbyes, and I’m not very good at them. So I wrote down a few things I want to say and then will yield to others.

Bob Simmons has been a superb leader of the House Armed Services Committee staff for 12 years, across four chairmen. That longevity and continued confidence in him as chairmen come and go, as Committee members come and go, as the challenges that our military and our country face come and too often stay, is pretty remarkable, especially in the business we are in.

I would say his greatest achievement is that he assembled, led, and inspired an outstanding group of people to give their best for our country through not only changing security challenges, but through changing political environments. And he has always operated in light of the unique responsibilities that the Constitution places on Congress as a separate, independent branch of government. Our system is messy, difficult, usually inefficient—as Churchill said, it “is the worst form of government except for all of the others that have ever been tried.”

Over the years, Bob has spent the hours, incurred the headaches, the time in the car, the frustrations of dealing with knucklehead Members like me with the next great idea. And he has done all of that with patience and a

cheerful disposition—usually. He has made this Committee, and helped make this Congress and this system of government, work. And our nation has benefited.

I believe that there is nothing more noble to which men and women can devote their lives than to the protection of their fellow citizens and the security of our nation. Bob Simmons has devoted his life to that cause, first in industry, then with us, now back to industry. But it has always been the same cause. And the guiding light has always been what’s the right thing to do for our country, and for the men and women who serve it.

Everyone who serves in jobs like these does so at some sacrifice to family. And so I want to thank Donna and Rob for sharing Bob with us these 12 years and for understanding the missed anniversaries and birthdays. We were on quite a roll there for a while.

On behalf of the men and women who have been privileged enough to serve in this room at some point over the past 12 years, we are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work with Bob, for what you have done for us, and for all you have done for that most noble cause.

HONORING CAPTAIN JERRY LYNN TATE

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Captain Jerry Lynn Tate for his courageous service to our country. While Captain Tate enjoys his retirement in Mabank, Texas, his exemplary military career leaves a far-reaching legacy of true, American exceptionalism.

Captain Tate joined the United States Army after graduating from the University of Oklahoma’s Army ROTC. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in January of 1967.

Upon basic training and studies, Captain Tate was an instructor in the Armor School of Topographic Studies at Fort Knox. He went on to earn his Army Aviator Wings and received 18 Air Medals for meritorious achievement while participating in flight support for combat ground forces throughout the Republic of Vietnam. As a pilot as well as an instructor in the Grumman OV-1 Mohawk, Captain Tate flew 945 hours and 315 missions in combat. He also received both the 1,000 and 2,000 hour plaque from Grumman Aerospace, commemorating his accident-free flying hours. There is no doubt that Captain Tate saved countless lives during his outstanding service to our country.

His acts of bravery were commemorated with many awards and decorations, including the Bronze Star Medal. Upon his release from active duty as an instructor pilot and flight commander at Fort Rucker, Captain Tate went on to have a successful career as a pilot for Delta Air Lines for 33 years.

Humbly, I echo the words of President Ronald Reagan, “We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we will always be free.” And humbly, I offer my sincere gratitude to Captain Jerry Lynn Tate for his service and acts of bravery that allow us the freedoms we enjoy today.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANDREA LUNA CERVANTES' RECEIPT OF THE 2017 HAMILTON SCHOLARS AWARD

**HON. PAUL A. GOSAR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Ms. Andrea Luna Cervantes of Prescott, Arizona. Andrea is an accomplished and dedicated student who has devoted tremendous amounts of time and energy to her studies and to improving her community. I am excited to announce that Andrea is one of 35 national recipients of the 2017 Hamilton Scholars Award for outstanding academic accomplishments and community service. Her work ethic, academic aptitude and ability to connect with people of all ages renders her receipt of this award no surprise.

Currently, Andrea is a rising senior at Yuma High School, where she is well on her way to becoming a productive service leader. In reaching this point, she has overcome many hardships through determination and a supportive community. I fully expect she will continue to grow into a productive and engaged citizen—exactly the kind of leader our society is in need of.

Those who know Andrea recognize that she has the natural ability to reach out and connect with people of all backgrounds. Included amongst her work in the community is her service as the Vice President of Junior State of America (JSA)—an American non-partisan youth organization that helps high school students acquire leadership skills and the requisite skills to be effective debaters and civic participants. She also serves as the President of her chapter of the National Honor Society—an academic membership-based organization that fosters a commitment to academic excellence. Andrea has competed at high levels of debate moderation and math competitions, and was a participant in the selective Yuma Youth Leadership Program.

Andrea is an ambitious, high-achieving young woman. She embodies the characteristics which, when cultivated, give rise to the best of our society's leaders. It is an honor of mine to recognize this Hamilton Scholar, and I expect only the best from Andrea's future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BRIAN BABIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, June 7, I joined the Vice-President for an important event at Johnson Space Center in my congressional district. As a result, I missed the following recorded votes:

On roll call Number 288, ordering the previous question on House Resolution 374, had I been present I would have voted "yes."

On roll call Number 289, agreeing to House Resolution 374, had I been present I would have voted "yes."

On roll call Number 290, ordering the previous question on House Resolution 375, had I been present I would have voted "yes."

On roll call Number 291, agreeing to House Resolution 375, had I been present I would have voted "yes."

On roll call Number 292, the motion to table the appeal of the ruling of the chair, had I been present I would have voted "yes."

On roll call Number 293, passage of an amendment to H.R. 2213, had I been present I would have voted "no."

On roll call Number 294, passage of H.R. 2213, had I been present I would have voted "yes."

I am pleased that my colleagues in the House voted to pass the Anti-Border Corruption Reauthorization Act of 2017 that will enable the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to fulfill its duty to protect the American people by waiving specific pre-employment requirements for certain qualified candidates to make the hiring process more expedient. The CBP is currently understaffed below its congressionally mandated level and this bill will help alleviate this staffing shortage.

DULLES HIGH SCIENCE TEAM GOES FAR IN NATIONAL COMPETITION

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dulles High School of Sugar Land, TX, for placing in the top 16 at the 2017 National Science Bowl Competition hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy.

The National Science Bowl is a prestigious academic competition that brings together thousands of middle and high school students from across the country. Students compete by solving technical problems and answering questions on a range of topics, such as biology, chemistry, earth and space science, physics and math. From January to March, regional elimination tournaments were held across the country. The top 111 teams from the regional competitions earned the opportunity to compete at the National Science Bowl. Dulles High School made it to the top 16, winning \$1000 for their school's science department. The team members included: Andrew Liu, Shree Mohan, Shreyas Balaji, Anish Patel, Abin Antony, Coach Judy Matney and Coach Chandra Mohan.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Dulles High School for earning a top 16 spot at the National Science Bowl. We're proud to have them represent TX-22 and look forward to seeing their future accomplishments.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ANTHONY WILEY JR. AS HE RECEIVES THE YOUTH AWARD FROM THE BUFFALO BRANCH OF THE NAACP

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor the accomplishments of

Mr. Anthony Wiley Jr., as he receives the Youth Award, which has been awarded to him by the Buffalo Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He is deserving of this award due to his involvement with his local Boy Scout Troop, and his volunteer work for churches throughout his community.

Anthony has been involved with community service as a member of his Boy Scout troop throughout his life, and has been promoted to an Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 237. He attained this honor by earning his merit badges through service-oriented and camping experiences, and was further awarded the rank of Eagle Scout for his hard work and dedication.

Some of Anthony's achievements as a Boy Scout include performing his role as Crew Leader on an eighty-two mile journey at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico, acting as a Patrol Leader and later as a Senior Patrol member, and becoming a member of the Arrow of the Arrow. His Eagle Scout Project involved supervising the building of a new supply cabinet for his church. Notably, he spent a total of 105 hours to complete this project, and was acknowledged and rewarded by the Eagle Scout board of review on December 22, 2015.

Anthony has shown dedication to the Scout Oath, exhibiting an exemplary sense of duty and admirable mental and moral aptitude. He is extensively involved with his community, as shown by his attendance at the Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, where he plays the drums, volunteers regularly in the food pantry, and helps those who run the church in their duties by tending to the sanctuary in the evenings.

He is a graduate of Tapestry Charter High School, where he was a member of the Thunder Hawks Varsity Basketball Team and of the school band.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor Mr. Anthony Wiley Jr. for his hard work and his dedication to his community. I wish him the best in his future endeavors and look forward to seeing how he will continue to serve others.

GOREVILLE HS GIRLS SOFTBALL

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the achievements of the Goreville Black Cats softball team, which earlier this month brought home the Illinois Class 1A State Championship.

The Black Cats put together a 26-8 season this year, swept through the regional and the sectional, and knocked off two of the state's top teams at the state finals in order to claim the title. The team beat Hardin-Calhoun 2-0 in extra innings in the championship game.

These student-athletes and their coaches have represented themselves, their school, and their community in a first-rate fashion. I join with the other Members of this House in congratulating them and wishing them all the best in their future academic and athletic endeavors.

Congratulations to: team members Katie Schuetz, Camille Green, Shayna Elms, Morgan Dunning, Alexandria King, Payton

Sopczak, Adrianna Licka, Cheyenne Walker, Summar Albright (C), Kiara Miller, Breanna Stout, Camren Anderson (C), Macy Goins, Samantha Licka, Kelsey Ray; coaches and staff Steve Webb—Superintendent, Jeri Miller—Principal, Christina King—Assistant Principal, Todd Tripp—Athletic Director, Shanna Massey—Head Coach, Brooke Merrill—Assistant Coach, and Mandy Schuetz—Scorekeeper.

RECOGNIZING LOGAN LEE FOR HIS STATE TITLE AS THE 1A 220-POUND ILLINOIS STATE WRESTLING CHAMPION

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Logan Lee, a sophomore at Orion High School, for being named the Class 1A 220-pound Illinois State Champion in wrestling.

Logan Lee claimed a 12–9 victory at the Illinois State Wrestling Championship, and I would like to recognize Logan for his tremendous accomplishment. Logan's dedication and passion for his sport allowed him to overcome a difficult season, and a state bracket that included the top seed in his path. As a former athlete, I understand the hard work and dedication that goes into being awarded such a title. Logan has dedicated himself to his sport, and shows us all the value of perseverance and a strong work ethic. I am proud there is such young talent in our community, and to see him represent our community throughout the state.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Logan Lee on his title, and I join the rest of our community in wishing him every success in the future.

HONORING FRANK B. MESIAH AS HE RECEIVES THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD FROM THE BUFFALO CHAPTER OF THE NAACP

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exceptional service of civil rights and social justice pioneer Frank B. Mesiah as the former president of the Buffalo Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) as he is presented with the President's Award at the NAACP Annual Medgar Evers Dinner.

Frank Mesiah is from Buffalo's West Side and a graduate of Grover Cleveland High School, in the Buffalo Public School system he would later fight to integrate. He earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Buffalo State College and worked as both a Buffalo police officer, Buffalo teacher, and at the New York State Department of Labor to support his wife and three daughters.

After serving our nation and earning an honorable discharge from the United States Army in the 1950's, Frank worked tirelessly to fur-

ther the civil rights movement in the city of Buffalo. Under his leadership, the local NAACP chapter saw many successes in the public sector, notably in the city's police force and the public education system.

Frank diligently played the role of watchdog in the community by exposing racism and discrimination. Through the work of the NAACP, the Buffalo Public Schools were desegregated, thanks in no small part to Frank's efforts. He also fought for reforms in the Buffalo police force to ensure black and white officers were treated equally in the workplace. The NAACP also advanced black teachers and administrators in public schools.

In addition to striving for improvements for people of color in the city of Buffalo, Frank fought for the rights of women, senior citizens, and the gay and lesbian community. Buffalo is indebted to his remarkable determination and steadfast resolve. While much work remains to be done, Frank's work and the battles fought by the NAACP under his leadership have created a better place for us all.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to highlight the tremendous service of Frank Mesiah and the Buffalo Chapter of the NAACP. Our city is so grateful for his dedication to civil rights. I wish him the absolute best in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING GREG J. FEERE UPON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. MARK DeSAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Greg J. Feere upon his retirement from the Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council. Mr. Feere has been an extraordinary community leader at the Building Trades Council and throughout Contra Costa County.

During his tenure as Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Mr. Feere also served as a Commissioner for the Contra Costa County Fish & Wildlife and as a Trustee of Contra Costa College. Prior to his work with the Building Trades Council, Greg was the youngest Business Manager for Asbestos Workers Local 16 to be elected in 100 years of the Local's history.

During his 30 years of service as CEO of the Council, Greg was elected uncontested for his seven terms, which reflects his accomplished tenure. Some highlights of his achievements include designing the first Community Outreach Program in Northern California to create training and job opportunities for women, minorities and economically disadvantaged workers, doubling the Council's membership in two and a half years, at a time when other unions were losing members and development and promotion of the Best Employee Safety Team (B.E.S.T.) program used at Shell refinery, which set a national safety record of 4 million hours worked without a lost time accident; for which Shell refinery received the Business Roundtable National Safety Award.

Mr. Feere's rich legacy is filled with positive impacts on working families and the less fortunate for those living in Contra Costa County and beyond. I wish Greg all of the best in his retirement.

Congratulations to Greg on a remarkable legacy of service in Contra Costa.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES JACOBS FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CAREER WITH MACOMB COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. James Jacobs for his work on behalf of Macomb Community College. Mr. Jacobs has been a tireless advocate for the college and higher education during his presidency and career with MCC.

After graduating from Princeton with a degree in politics, Dr. Jacobs began his career with MCC as a professor in economics, where he specialized in occupational education and suburban economic development. After several decades of teaching, Dr. Jacobs moved into MCC's administration in 1994. During his time, he also worked with the Community College Research Center at Columbia University, where he directed efforts on addressing issues facing community colleges throughout the country. In 2008, Dr. Jacobs was named President of MCC and served in this position until this year. During his tenure, Dr. Jacobs spearheaded a number of initiatives to grow and modernize the college, including expanding its training and vocational education programs to provide students in the community with in demand skillsets. These efforts have helped solidify MCC as a leader in workforce development and training.

Dr. Jacobs' decades of service with MCC has helped create a nationally renowned institution that effectively serves the needs of the Southeast Michigan community. Throughout his time as President, Dr. Jacobs has grown and expanded the college's workforce development and entrepreneurship offering, including the Innovation Fund Macomb Community College, which provides assistance to early-stage companies and entrepreneurs. His long-term planning has led to national recognition for MCC, including visits by President Obama and other state leaders. This legacy of excellence has helped drive economic development and provide a quality education to countless students, and Dr. Jacobs' leadership will be missed as he moves on from his current position.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. James Jacobs for his distinguished career with Macomb Community College. Dr. Jacobs' work with MCC has been critical to the development of southeast Michigan and the education of its workforce.

MONICA VALIENTE

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Monica Valiente for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Monica Valiente is a student at Warren Tech North and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Monica Valiente is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Monica Valiente for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF THE  
FALLEN SOLDIER ARMY SER-  
GEANT (SGT) CHRISTOPHER  
ROGER BELL

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of fallen soldier Army Sergeant (SGT) Christopher Roger Bell who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation on June 4, 2011, during Operation Enduring Freedom. SGT Bell was killed when an improvised explosive device hit his convoy in Laghman Province, Afghanistan. Also killed were Sergeant (SGT) Joshua David Powell, Sergeant (SGT) Devin Arielle Snyder, and Specialist (SPC) Robert Lee Voakes, Jr.

SGT Bell was assigned to the 164th Military Police Company, 793rd Military Police Battalion, 3rd Maneuver Enhancement Brigade of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska.

SGT Bell, a Golden, Mississippi native, was 21 years old at the time of death. He joined the Army in July 2008 after graduating from Tremont High School in Tremont, Mississippi, and served at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, before being stationed in Alaska in January 2009.

"If he saw that someone needed help, he did not hesitate to step in and lend a hand," said Robert Worthington. "He always put others before himself. SGT Bell strived for perfection in every aspect of life, and knowing that perfection was out of reach, he still never stopped trying."

He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart and Good Conduct Medal, NATO Medal, and Combat Action Badge. He was also awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Combat and Special Skill Badge, Basic Marksmanship Qualification Badge, and Overseas Service Bar.

On June 17, 2011, SGT Bell was buried with full military honors at the Living Faith Tabernacle Cemetery in Columbus, Mississippi.

SGT Bell is survived by his wife, Samantha Lucas Bell; daughter, Lana Nicole Bell; his parents, Timothy and Barbara Bell; and brothers, Zachary and Timothy Bell. He is also survived by his maternal grandparents, James and Mary Wooten; his paternal grandmother,

Judith Pitcher; his mother and father-in-law, Vera and Roger Lucas; and his brother-in-law, Roger Lucas.

SGT Bell's service and sacrifice will always be remembered.

HONORING NATIONAL CANCER  
SURVIVORS DAY AND THE  
SALISBURY VISITING NURSE AS-  
SOCIATION

**HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Cancer Survivors Day and to honor the cancer survivors and medical professionals gathered in Salisbury, Connecticut who are champions in the fight against cancer.

Cancer has touched all of our lives in some way, and there are more than 15 million survivors in our country. Whether we have seen family, friends, or neighbors fight the disease, they have shown us tremendous courage and fortitude. Their perseverance and commitment to a living fully after diagnosis is an inspiration to us all. Today's celebration in Salisbury makes a powerful statement about our community's commitment to those in need of support and our goal to improve the lives of those who have been diagnosed.

In Connecticut, we are lucky to have leaders in medical treatment and patient care. The Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association has been serving the people of northwestern Connecticut for over a century. These professionals both provide high quality care to patients and address their personal needs, often ensuring they can remain in the safety and comfort of their own home. It is dedicated health care professionals like these who support cancer patients and their families through treatment and to lead a fulfilling life. Each day, the nurses, social workers, and health care professionals of our community make a difference in the lives of our neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, National Cancer Survivors Day is a global event that reminds us of the courage shown by cancer patients and of the everyday compassion that helps those who have been diagnosed. It is fitting and proper that we honor the survivors and care providers gathered in Salisbury, Connecticut today and celebrate their lives and work.

HONORING STEVE HARDY

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Mayor Steve Hardy, a beloved member of the Vacaville community, who passed away this May.

Mr. Hardy was born in San Francisco, and served six years in the Navy from 1960 to 1966 as a radar operator on a destroyer. He then returned home and worked as a San Francisco police officer for five years before leaving that position to become a public policy specialist in Sacramento.

He served as the Staff Director for the California State Senate Committee on Governmental Organization for 19 years. From 1980 to 1985, Mr. Hardy was an advocate for the California State Employees Association, the union of California's state workers.

Mr. Hardy served as Chairman of the Solano County Drug Abuse Advisory Council in 1978 and 1979, and as a member of the Vacaville Human Services Commission from 1977 through 1979.

He also served as a Vacaville Unified School Board Member from 1987 through 1991 where, among other positions, he served as its President. Mr. Hardy was elected to the Vacaville City Council in 2002, where he served two terms. In 2007 he was appointed director of the state Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control by then-Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, which led to his stepping down as a city council member. He was elected Mayor of Vacaville in 2010 and served one term.

Mayor Hardy was an excellent representative for the Vacaville community. He helped lead the city through the Great Recession, improve local surface transportation, and was always able to take a principled approach to the most critical challenges and decisions the Council faced.

Steve Hardy's loss leaves a major void in the community. Mr. Hardy's wife of 46 years, Jerri Hardy, passed away in March 2012. He is survived by a son, Stephen; and a daughter, Shannon. The Vacaville community mourns Steve's passing and remembers his selfless commitment to the community.

IN RECOGNITION OF SAINT  
PARIZE-LE-CHÂTEL, FRANCE

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the people of Saint Parize-le-Châtel, France as they commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the arrival of American troops during World War I.

During the Great War, Saint Parize-le-Châtel was the location of the Mars-sur-Allier Army Hospital which housed more than 40,000 wounded soldiers while it was in operation. Thus a deep and abiding relationship was established and continues to embody the close bond that the United States and France have maintained since the American Revolution.

This year, on the 100th Anniversary of the arrival of American troops to their town, the people of Saint Parize-le-Châtel are coming together to inaugurate a memorial that is dedicated to American servicemen and women who cared for their wounded comrades in arms at Mars-sur-Allier. The commitment of the Saint Parize-le-Châtel community to preserving and celebrating this history is a testament to the deeply held values of liberty, equality, and fraternity by both French and Americans alike. It is at times like this when we should all take a moment to remember and thank those who have risen, time and again, to defend these shared values throughout history.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Saint Parize-le-Châtel on this joyous occasion. I ask

that my colleagues join me in thanking Mayor André Garcia and the Council of Saint Parizelle-Châtel for their efforts in organizing this historic commemoration.

HONORING THE CAREER OF TIFFANY RENEE' LEWIS AS SHE RECEIVES THE DANIEL R. ACKER COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD FROM THE BUFFALO CHAPTER OF THE NAACP

### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor the outstanding works of Ms. Tiffany Renee' Lewis, as she receives the distinguished Daniel R. Acker Community Service Award from the Buffalo Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Her contributions to the community of Buffalo are numerous, including her ownership of the Skin Deep Beauty Spa, her volunteer work for The American Cancer Society's "Look Good Feel Better" Program, her work as a realtor for Realty USA and as a marketing assistant for Watts Architecture and Engineering, and her development of the youth mentorship program, "Confident Girl," which she launched in 2016.

Through her volunteer work with The American Cancer Society's Look Good Feel Better Program, she has provided invaluable assistance to those who are suffering by helping cancer patients to look and feel their best. She is uniquely qualified for this service, as she received her Esthetics license from The Salon Professional Academy, receiving top honor for her hard work. She then further pursued her Certification in Clinical Oncology Esthetics through the Skin Therapy Institute, making her the first African American female to do so in the Western New York Region. Notably, she trained in Washington, D.C., with First Lady Michelle Obama's Personal Esthetician JoElle Lee in June of 2014, earning a Certificate in Dealing with Multicultural Skin. Her dedication has allowed her to become a celebrity esthetician, speaker, educator and mentor who specializes in the health and wellness of the skin. In addition to her honorable work with cancer patients, she has also demonstrated her preeminence in her field through her work with celebrities, professional athletes and world renowned artistic directors. She also offers guidance by contributing to magazine and newspaper articles, as well as radio shows. She is now a highly-regarded expert in the field of Esthetics.

Ms. Lewis also holds a dual degree in Legal and Religious Studies, and has spent more than twelve years working within the community on various development programs. She combined her extensive experiences in community organizing and the beneficial social effects of Esthetics to create the "Confident Girl" Mentoring Program, which works to empower youth, teens and young adults in New York. The program serves over thirty young people in the Advantage After-School Program in Niagara Falls, New York, by helping them to pursue self-discovery and wholesome developmental strategies. She works to promote feelings of self-confidence and self-worth in

those who might otherwise feel marginalized. She teaches children and young adults about the importance of taking care of their minds, bodies and spirits. Simultaneously, she advocates for the youth members of her community, and continues to learn and develop ever-improving methods of Esthetic care and community development.

Formerly Ms. Lewis served as Vice-Chair for the Buffalo Promise Neighborhood Community Council, and has been a member of the National Notary Association, the Buffalo Niagara Association of Realtors, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the National Association of Realtors.

A native of Memphis, Tennessee, Ms. Lewis moved with her family to Buffalo, New York, at a young age. The Buffalo community is extremely grateful to her for her hard work and her contributions to the overall health of its members.

Ms. Lewis has been recognized for her accomplishments many times before, earning the Trailblazer Award by the program "Women Making History," the Women of Influence Award by Buffalo Business First, the New York State Award for Public Policy, the Volunteer of the Year Award for her community service with the developmentally disabled, a Volunteer Award by the Buffalo Promise Neighborhood, and many more.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor Ms. Tiffany Renee' Lewis for her inspirational dedication to the community. She has proven herself to be an extraordinarily intelligent and accomplished woman, and I wish her the best in her future endeavors.

CORBIN WINS KATY TOMPKIN HIGH'S FIRST STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mason Corbin of Katy, TX, for winning the state championship title in the Boys High Jump 6A division at the University Interscholastic League Track and Field State Meet.

Most people spend years training to win a state championship and then there is Mason. The Katy Tompkin High School junior tried out for track and field in February for the first time at the recommendation of a friend, even though he's been an avid basketball player since seventh grade. Mason won his first high jump meet in March by clearing 6-7 and went on to prove he can compete with the best by clearing 6-10 (and breaking a personal record) at the District 19-6A championships. He's currently ranked 15th in the nation and will compete at the New Balance Outdoor Nationals in the elite meet this June in North Carolina. We wish him good luck.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Mason for winning the state championship. We're proud of his quick success and look forward to seeing him do well in his upcoming meets.

MIGUEL NUNEZ

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Miguel Nunez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Miguel Nunez is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Miguel Nunez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Miguel Nunez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONOR FLIGHT OF OREGON

### HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize twenty-five World War II veterans from Oregon who visited their memorial on the National Mall on Friday, June 9, 2017 through Honor Flight of Oregon. Every time I have the chance to meet one of these heroes from the "Greatest Generation," I am reminded of the poignant words of General Dwight D. Eisenhower. In a message to Allied troops just before D-Day, he said, "The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty loving people everywhere march with you."

He was right then, of course, Mr. Speaker. But over seventy years later, liberty loving people everywhere continue to owe—these heroes for their extraordinary service and their incredible stories of sacrifice and bravery on behalf of our country. That's why it is my privilege to enter their names into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD today.

The veterans on this Honor Flight from Oregon are as follows: Robert Turkisher, Air Force; Curtis Lyon, Army Air Force; Benny Ashbaugh, Army; Lloyd Bert Baldwin, Army; Fred Feigner, Army; Albert Wellman, Army; Kenneth Williams, Army; Helen Bennett, Women's Army Corps; Frank White, Army and Navy; Jack Rickard, Marine Corps; Ray Rigutto, Navy Reserve and Marine Corps Reserve; Duane Amundson, Navy; Theodore Bennett, Navy; Rudolph Fenk, Navy; Frank Kline, Navy; Robert Martin, Navy; Thomas McAllister, Navy; Andrew Naylor, Navy; Julene Peterson, Navy; John Sefren, Navy; Samuel Sorrels, Navy; Quentin Smith, Navy; Dan Smith, Navy; Donald Warneke, Navy; Santo Regalbutto, Navy Reserve.

These twenty-five heroes join the over 150,000 veterans who have been honored through the Honor Flight Network of volunteers nationwide since 2005.

I also want to thank and recognize the guardians and group leaders on this flight, as well as the dedicated Board Members of Honor Flight of Oregon, who worked so hard to make this trip happen.

Mr. Speaker, at the height of the Civil War in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln wrote, "Honor to the Soldier, and Sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause." Each of us in this Chamber and in this Nation should be humbled by the courage of these brave veterans who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country.

WELCOMING THE ROMANIAN  
PRESIDENT TO THE UNITED  
STATES

**HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to welcome Romanian President Klaus Iohannis to our Nation's Capital, and I look forward to personally meeting with him this evening. Two days ago, President Iohannis placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in the Arlington National Cemetery, honoring the memory of our service members. Tomorrow, he is meeting with President Trump and other American officials. Romania is a stalwart U.S. partner and an important member of the NATO Alliance. It hosts the Aegis Ashore Missile Defense System at Deveselu military base, which protects NATO members from ballistic missile threats originating from the Middle East.

Romania has also been a staunch American ally in global counterterrorism operations against ISIS and Al Qaeda, collaborating on intelligence-sharing initiatives to support U.S. and NATO operations. The Romanian armed forces have supported U.S. and NATO missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other theaters for over a decade, contributing more than 30,000 total combat and support personnel. With over 600 troops currently serving in Afghanistan, Romania maintains the fourth largest NATO contingent protecting vital U.S. security interests and the safety of Afghan communities and international forces.

I join all my colleagues in welcoming a true friend, Romanian President Klaus Iohannis.

COMMENDING COLONEL ANTHONY  
MITCHELL

**HON. RODNEY DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Colonel Anthony Mitchell for his efforts as Commander of the St. Louis District of the U.S. Army Corps of

Engineers. Before his command ends in June of 2017, he will have overseen nearly \$200 million in civil works water resource planning, design, construction, and regulatory functions in the states of Illinois and Missouri.

Mitchell began his duties as the 51st Commander of the St. Louis District in 2014 and has since then worked to provide leadership and direction to more than 700 military and civilian personnel, functioning to provide water resource engineering solutions to the 300 miles of the Mississippi watershed above the Ohio River.

Aside from his accomplishments in engineering, Mitchell's military decorations are praiseworthy as well. Featuring two Bronze Star Medals; the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, four Meritorious Service Medals, two Army Commendation Medals, four Army Achievement Medals, the Parachutist Badge and the Army Engineer Association's Bronze de Fleury Medal. Additionally, in 2012 Mitchell was recognized as the Black Engineer of the Year Award Recipient for Professional Achievement in Government. These awards are truly a testament to Mitchell and the level of dedication he puts in to his work.

Colonel Mitchell's commitment to the St. Louis District has undoubtedly contributed to the Mississippi Valley Region's excellence and I congratulate him on his many achievements and thank him for his work.

NEVAEH JENSEN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nevaeh Jensen for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Nevaeh Jensen is a student at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Nevaeh Jensen is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Nevaeh Jensen for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE BROWARD  
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

**HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the honorees of the Broward Education Foundation for their efforts to make the Broward County Public School system one of the best in the state. These men and women have served Broward County with distinction

through their efforts, and they have demonstrated a commitment to improving our public schools in South Florida.

The Broward Education Foundation helps to provide the students of Broward County with an exceptional education, enabling them to reach their greatest potential. The scholarships provided by the Foundation will enable 190 students this year alone to pursue their goals of higher education.

I express deep appreciation for the Broward Education Foundation's important work. Their dedication has truly changed lives by providing students the educational tools they need to achieve success. I thank them for their work and service.

HONORING BOB PESTONI

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bob Pestoni upon the occasion of celebrating 125 years of family winemaking in the Napa Valley.

A native of St. Helena, California, Mr. Pestoni graduated from St. Helena High School before attending Napa Valley College and then joining the U.S. Army. Mr. Pestoni is the descendant of the Pestino and Domingos winemaking families.

Mr. Pestoni's great-great-grandfather, Albino Pestoni, immigrated to Napa Valley from a small village in Switzerland near the Italian border in 1892. Ten years later, he, his wife Maria Madonna, and their four sons established Bonded Winery 935. One of those sons, Henry, formed a vineyard management crew and planted and managed vineyards throughout the upper Napa Valley. He learned how soil, sunlight, rootstock, and varietal selection could affect fruit quality, and, along with his wife Lena, he owned and operated Old Mill Winery from 1933 to 1958.

Mr. Pestoni and his brother Marvin used their foundation in sustainable farming to establish Upper Valley Disposal Service in 1963. Paying the same careful attention to the soil as their ancestors did, the brothers offered composting as a solution to our local wine community's discarded grape skin, pulp, seeds, and stems. Upper Valley Disposal and Recycling has been very successful, inspiring our community to refer to Mr. Pestoni as the "King of Compost."

After many years of growing winegrapes for other wine producers, Mr. Pestoni and his wife, Sylvia, opened the doors of Rutherford Grove Winery in 1994. This year, in celebration of their family's 125th anniversary of Napa Valley Winemaking, the winery was renamed Pestoni Family Estate Winery.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Pestoni and his family before him have made single vineyard, hand-crafted wines for 125 years. They are my friends. I am proud that this hardworking man and family do so much for our community. It is fitting and proper that we honor them here today.

## TRIAD HS GIRLS SOCCER

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding sports team from southern Illinois. The Triad High School Women's Soccer team won the Illinois Class 2A state championship on June 3, defeating Wheaton Academy 5–4. After 100 minutes of scoreless play the Lady Nights began to make goals and fight off their competitors' shots resulting in their State Title.

The Lady Nights from Troy, Illinois, put together a 22–6 record en route to the championship, defeating rivals and earning one small victory at a time.

My congratulations go to: Madisyn Stauffer, Jody Ellis, Kalie Gibbs, Madison Mell, Madeline Keller, Jordyn Besserman, Hailey Busche, Chelsea Riden, Meaghan Smith (C), Samantha Bassler (C), Ashley Newcombe, Sydney Thomas, Eryn Fanning, Chloe Scott, Erynn Little (C), Sydney Beach, Katie Rogers, Jordan Wilson, Sierra Schlemmer, Rebecca Byrd, Morgan Bohnenstiehl (C), Molly Suess, Mercedes King and coaches and staff Matt Bettlach—Varsity Head Coach, Jim Jackson—Varsity Assistant Coach, Heather Seger—Junior Varsity Coach, and Bailey Stack—Freshman Coach.

## NICOLE DERWENT

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nicole Derwent for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Nicole Derwent is a student at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Nicole Derwent is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Nicole Derwent for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PEARLAND TEACHER AWARDED  
NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Daniel Clason of Pearland, TX, for being awarded a Fellowship by the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation of Alexandria, VA.

A social studies teacher at KIPP Spirit College Prep, Daniel is one of 53 people nationwide to receive this fellowship. The James Madison Fellowship recognizes promising and distinguished teachers, while supporting further study of American history and government by those who want to teach related courses in secondary schools. The fellowship will fund up to \$24,000 of Daniel's master's degree, which is focused on the history and principles of the U.S. Constitution. This will allow Daniel to pursue a more in depth education, which he can pass on to his students.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Daniel for being awarded the James Madison Fellowship. Our students will greatly benefit from his hard work and will grow up to be defenders of the U.S. Constitution.

RECOGNIZING TYLER FLEETWOOD  
FOR HIS TITLE AS THE CLASS  
1A 120-POUND ILLINOIS STATE  
WRESTLING CHAMPION**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Tyler Fleetwood, for being named the Class 1A 120-pound Illinois State Champion in wrestling.

Tyler Fleetwood is now Fulton High School's first two-time state champion with an 11–5 victory over Aurora Christian in a 120-pound title match, and I would like to recognize Tyler for his tremendous accomplishment. Tyler's dedication and passion for wrestling secured him the state championship title yet again, and a state bracket that included the top seed in his path. As a former athlete, I understand the amount of commitment and hard work it takes to be awarded such a title. Tyler is an example of the importance and value of perseverance and a strong work ethic. I am proud that there is such young talent in our community, and to see him represent our community throughout the state.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Tyler Fleetwood on his title, and I join the rest of our community in wishing him every success in the future.

HONORING KANASHA BLUE AS SHE  
RECEIVES THE RUFUS FRAZIER  
HUMAN SERVICES AWARD FROM  
THE BUFFALO CHAPTER OF THE  
NAACP**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to recognize Kanasha Blue's service to others. Ms. Blue's years of work in public service have earned her the Rufus Frazier Human Services Award at the NAACP—Buffalo Chapter's Medgar Evers award dinner.

A native of Montego Bay, Jamaica, Ms. Blue has made improving the lives of others a fundamental component of her life. She has re-

sided in Buffalo, NY since 1997 and is a Veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom as well as a retired Staff Sergeant of the New York Army National Guard.

In addition to her commendable and brave service in our military, Ms. Blue is impressive in her willingness to go above and beyond what is asked of her. While deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Ms. Blue organized a drive for personal care items and clothing for local workers in need that helped close to 100 people meet their basic personal care needs. Recently, she supported deployed troops with a personal care item drive that resulted in hundreds of dollars in products being donated to the noble cause. These are just a few examples of Ms. Blue actively searching for opportunities to help others.

Ms. Blue volunteers with the Second Baptist Church Food Pantry, Lambda Pi Upsilon Sorority, Inc., and the Buffalo/Niagara Mentorship Program. She has used her leadership skills to bring about positive change in the lives of countless individuals. Her ability to lead and impact others led her to serve as President of Second Baptist Church Missionary/Deaconess Ministry, Third Vice Commander of the American Legion Jesse Clipper Post 430, Executive Committee member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and Co-Chair of the Young Adult Action Committee (YAAC).

Other accomplishments by Ms. Blue include her Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from SUNY Buffalo State and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Marist College. She enjoys spending time with her husband of two years, Robert Blue.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to take the time to recognize the great work Ms. Kanasha Blue has done for the Western New York community and people throughout the world. Her generosity and dedication are admirable and I wish her the best in all her future endeavors.

TO EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR  
COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION  
OF A HYDROELECTRIC  
PROJECT**HON. DAN NEWHOUSE**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in my district. Specifically, this legislation will provide for a "commencement of construction" deadline extension for the Enloe Dam Hydroelectric Project that is being developed in Washington State by the Okanogan Public Utility District.

On July 9, 2013, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) granted the Okanogan Public Utility District an original license for the Enloe Dam Hydroelectric Project, which will be located at the existing Enloe Dam that is situated about 3.5 miles northwest of the City of Oroville in the State of Washington. The current Enloe Dam was constructed in 1920 on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land for power generation. However, operations ceased in 1958 when the extension of Bonneville Power Administration's

high voltage transmission line into the Okanogan Valley provided a less expensive source of electricity. The proposed Enloe Dam Hydroelectric Project makes economic and environmental sense, as it will convert currently untapped energy in existing flow releases into clean, renewable energy.

The Enloe Dam Hydroelectric Project will have a footprint that is roughly half the size of the existing facility but will provide approximately three times the generating capacity of the decommissioned plant. Completion of the Project will provide Washingtonians and the Pacific Northwest region with a clean, renewable energy resource that generates an estimated 45,000 megawatt hours per year of carbon-free, renewable power. Additionally, the proposed project will create jobs and needed employment opportunities in a region with an unemployment rate that far exceeds the national average, underscoring the many positive benefits this project will have for the local community, state, and region.

The legislation will allow for development of this critical hydropower facility to move forward under a realistic regulatory timeline and in a manner consistent with prior congressional actions on similar projects. By passing this measure and extending the commencement of construction deadline for the Enloe Dam Hydroelectric Project, Congress can help spur hydropower development in Central Washington and ensure the Project's many benefits are realized. For these reasons I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation, which will have a positive and lasting impact on the region's energy supply and economic viability.

RECOGNIZING RABBI MICHAEL C. SIMON

**HON. LOIS FRANKEL**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions of Rabbi Michael C. Simon to the Jewish community and the South Florida community at large.

For thirteen years, Temple Beth Kodesh in Boynton Beach, Florida has been blessed by Rabbi Simon's wisdom and leadership. Thirteen is a spiritually meaningful number in Judaism, repeated numerous times throughout the Torah, oral law, and liturgy. I would like to join the congregation in celebrating Rabbi Simon's milestone.

In addition to his leadership of the congregation, Rabbi Simon is the author of a book that focuses on Jewish life from a variety of different perspectives, and is an Adjunct Professor of Rabbinics at Gratz College and an Adjunct Professor of Jewish History at Florida Atlantic University.

I congratulate Rabbi Simon and his family for their exemplary service to the Jewish community in South Florida, and wish them many years of health and happiness.

RECOGNIZING GLAD TIDINGS CHURCH AND BISHOP JERRY WAYNE MACKLIN ON THEIR FIVE POINT CELEBRATION

**HON. ERIC SWALWELL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Glad Tidings Church of God in Christ on its "Five Point Celebration" and the congregation's continued service to our community.

Glad Tidings Church, celebrating its 39th anniversary, has been an anchor for the people of South Hayward, California since its establishment in 1978. Founder Bishop Jerry Wayne Macklin has worked tirelessly with local schools, government agencies, and non-profit organizations to transform a neighborhood once overrun by drugs and crime into a community of faith and opportunity.

The efforts of Bishop Macklin and his congregation are to be honored at their upcoming "Five Point Celebration". The four-day event will celebrate the Church's 39th anniversary, the making of the final payment on the property's mortgage agreement, the groundbreaking of the Chester McGlockton Wellness and Family Life Center, the Inaugural Episcopal Elevation of Bishop Macklin as 2nd Assistant Presiding Bishop of Church of God and Christ, and last, but not least, the 65th birthday of Bishop Macklin.

Today, under Bishop Macklin's compassionate leadership, Glad Tidings Church has helped change perspectives on what a place of worship can offer its community. Bishop Macklin has sought to provide accessible healthcare through its Health and Wellness Department, organized food drives for our vulnerable citizens, and secured affordable housing for those most in need.

These and countless other examples are what make Glad Tidings Church of God in Christ a pillar of our community and worthy of our recognition today. I want to thank Bishop Macklin and Glad Tidings devoted congregation for the positive impact their services have created in our community, and I offer my heartfelt congratulations during this time of celebration.

PATIENCE ADAMS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Patience Adams for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Patience Adams is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Patience Adams is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Patience Adams for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING JOAN CLAYBROOK ON HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend, Joan Claybrook, on her 80th birthday on June 12th.

Joan has dedicated her life to improving the health and safety of all Americans. She served as president of Public Citizen from 1982 until 2009, where she led efforts to make our roads safer, protects our civil rights and liberties, and reform our campaign finance system. During the Carter Administration, she was appointed Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Joan is the recipient of numerous distinguished service awards for her tireless commitment to consumer advocacy.

Today, Joan continues to serve on the boards of Public Citizen; Georgetown University Law Center; Citizens for Tax Justice; Public Justice; Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety; and Citizens for Reliable and Safe Highways. She frequently writes articles published in the nation's major newspapers and has appeared on all major networks and hundreds of local and syndicated radio programs.

I've had the privilege of knowing Joan for many years and I can't think of a more dedicated, more passionate public servant. I continue to be amazed by her energy and grit. I have no doubt that the lives of millions of Americans are better, and safer, because of Joan's work. I'm proud to call her a friend and I wish her the happiest of birthdays.

HONORING MR. JOHN MILLINGTON

**HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the life of my friend Mr. John Millington and to recognize his extraordinary contributions to our nation's understanding of global affairs, and his public service to the State of Connecticut and the Town of Washington, Connecticut. John passed away on December 16, 2016 at the age of 90, after a long life of dedicated service.

John was born in Gwynedd Valley, Pennsylvania and developed a love of nature early in his life. He began working in publishing and embarked on a diverse career connecting his interests in global affairs and journalism. John began his career with Time, Inc., and later moved to Bangkok, Thailand to manage the Bangkok World newspaper. With his experience working in international journalism and publishing, John joined the Council on Foreign Relations to support the organization's business development and membership growth.

In addition to his distinguished career in journalism and foreign affairs, John was a well-known and active member of his community in Washington. A lifelong advocate for conservation and environmental issues, John chaired Connecticut's Council on Environmental Quality during Governor Weicker's administration and was an instrumental champion of the campaign to protect the Shepaug River. Locally, he served as a board member of the Washington Community Housing Trust. The Town of Washington recognized John's tremendous contributions and passion for service in 2014 with the Stephen Reich award, the town's highest honor for citizenship.

Mr. Speaker, John Millington led a remarkable career and enthusiastically lent his talents to improve Washington, Connecticut, and our country. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor his life and memory here today. John Millington was a friend and a mentor, and I miss his wise counsel. My condolences go out to his wife, Edwina, and to his children and grandchildren. Those of us who knew John will cherish his memory, and his legacy will live on in our community.

RECOGNIZING THE YOUNG MEN'S  
AND YOUNG WOMEN'S HEBREW  
ASSOCIATION

**HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Young Men's & Young Women's Hebrew Association (YM&YWHA)—colloquially known as the "Y"—of Washington Heights and Inwood. On this agency's centennial anniversary, I want to highlight the indelible impact this institution has impressed upon our children and adults in our community of all backgrounds over several generations in New York's 13th district.

Since its founding in 1917 the mission of the "Y" has never wavered. The tradition of *tikkun olam*—literally "repairing the world"—has been exemplified by the "Y" in its acts of kindness and community service. Staff and lifelong volunteers have always looked to their neighbors to evaluate the most pressing needs and find out the best way to serve the needs of the community. Over the last century, Washington Heights & Inwood has seen multiple changes to its composition and outward face. Each year, a group of Jewish and Dominican students work together to study the history of the Dominican Republic's immigration policies prior to WWII, making the country one of a few safe harbors for Jews fortunate enough to escape Germany.

What binds these diverse populations to New York's 13th district is the "Y" embracing the mantle of the Mother of Exiles as Emma Lazarus wrote in *The New Colossus*. In its early years, the "Y" dealt with the aftermath of World War I and World War II resettling refugees from abroad here in our community. During the 1970s, the "Y" aided Jewish refugees from Russia with the same urgency and compassion afforded earlier in the century. This is emblematic of its mission to meet the needs of the time and people which has never wavered.

Over the last 100 years that has included providing access to social services; offering

English classes and citizenship tutoring; assisting those with mental health concerns; launching the first day camp for neighborhood children; developing a thriving nursery school; opening a center for new parents; building a 100-unit independent living facility for older adults and the mobility impaired and providing services to support older adults to age in place.

Today, the "Y" has embraced the diverse and multicultural tableau of New York's 13th district. All staff are trained in cultural diversity and services all offered in English, Spanish, and Russian. The commitment of the "Y" remains steadfast by expanding its after school program, senior center services, and establishment of a new Camp Twelve Trails program. Over the last century, the "Y" has continued to innovate and serve the needs of New York's 13th district.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to celebrate and commemorate the centennial anniversary of the YM&YWHA of Washington Heights and Inwood. I sincerely hope that all Members of Congress will have the benefit of such an institution to one day laud and commemorate 100 years of service as I do today.

REINA GUTIERREZ

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Reina Gutierrez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Reina Gutierrez is a student at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Reina Gutierrez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Reina Gutierrez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

FORT BEND SOFTBALL TEAM  
WINS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Fort Bend Christian Academy (FBCA) softball team of Sugar Land for winning the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) State Championship.

The FBCA softball team beat Dallas Christian 6–2 in the Division II final, concluding an incredible 24–8 season. Their season included an undefeated District 7 championship, along with complete domination in their four playoff games, outscoring opponents 37–2. The

FBCA softball team isn't a stranger to winning though. Over the past 11 years, the FBCA softball team has won six TAPPS State Championships, including last year's 2016 title. That's great.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the FBCA softball team for winning (again) the TAPPS State Championship. We are so proud of all their hard work and look forward to next year's state championship.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LEE M. ZELDIN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday evening June 6 I was not present for votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 287, and YEA on Roll Call No. 286.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CON-  
GREGATIONAL CHURCH OF  
SOUTH DENNIS

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 200th Anniversary of the Congregational Church of South Dennis in Massachusetts.

Founded in 1817 by a collection of sea captains, the Congregational Church of South Dennis today remains widely renowned as the Sea Captains' Church. Prior to its foundation, since 1795, a house of worship was built at the very location upon which the current building stands. From 1795 to 1817 the people of South Dennis shared ministers with North Dennis and Harwich. In 1817, the church received its first full-time minister, Reverend John Sanford, and was formally organized into the Congregational Church of South Dennis. Construction of the current building used by the church was completed in 1837.

The Congregational Church is further recognized for its unique feature—the oldest working organ in the United States. Built in 1762 by Swiss organ builder John Snetzler in London, England, very little is known regarding its journey to the United States. Historians confirm that it was acquired by the Congregational Church of South Dennis on September 22, 1854 for \$600—where it has remained for over 160 years and delights and moves listeners through its chords and music every Sunday.

Today, the Congregational Church is made up of an intimate, dedicated community of loving, caring, and welcoming neighbors. Part of the United Church of Christ, the church is led by Rev. Dr. Paul R Adkins. To celebrate this momentous occasion, the Congregational Church has organized a concert and guided tours of the meetinghouse and cemetery, which will showcase the church's fascinating history and ties to seafaring.

Mr. Speaker, the 200th Anniversary of the Congregational Church of South Dennis is testament to the culture of acceptance and grace

exhibited by this community. I ask that you join me in recognizing this historic anniversary.

**HONORING TYLER HORTON AS HE RECEIVES THE YOUTH AWARD FROM THE BUFFALO BRANCH OF THE NAACP**

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the accomplishments of this year's recipient of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Buffalo Branch Youth Award, Tyler Horton.

Tyler was born and raised in Buffalo, and has always been a contributor to his community. At an early age Tyler displayed signs of leadership by becoming the Vice President of the National Junior Honors Society while attending Westminster Community Charter School, where he achieved the title of Valedictorian. At the age of 12 he became a Boy Scout, and later, an Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 237, where he earned many merit awards and badges.

The lessons Tyler learned in his Boy Scouts troops truly molded him into an outstanding citizen. In 2012 he was a Chaplain and Assistant Patrol Leader at the Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico, where he was able to share his Scout experience, serving as a mentor to other young men. In 2016 Tyler supervised and assisted renovations of the Macedonia Baptist Church's food pantry. Through his example of volunteerism and leadership, Tyler eventually became an Eagle Scout and a Member of the Order of the Arrow. Tyler now attends Bethesda World Harvest International Church and contributes to the youth group and Cinematography Team.

This year, Tyler is graduating from Health Science Charter School, where he is the Salutatorian, a member of the National Honors Society, a winner of the Jesse Ketchum Memorial Fund Bronze winner, and a Student Ambassador.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor this impressive young man as he is recognized by the NAACP. I wish him the best in all his future endeavors and look forward to seeing him continue to do good for others.

**IN RECOGNITION OF JONATHAN ALLEN'S FIRST ROUND SELECTION BY THE WASHINGTON REDSKINS IN THE 2017 NFL DRAFT**

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate Mr. Jonathan Allen, who was recently drafted in the first round of the 2017 National Football League draft by his hometown team, the Washington Redskins.

Mr. Allen is from Leesburg, Virginia and played football at Stone Bridge High School in Ashburn, Virginia. Under the leadership of his

coach and mentor, Mickey Thompson, the team finished with winning seasons each year he was there, and after graduating in 2013, Mr. Allen attended the University of Alabama as a five-star recruit, where he was named to the first team All-Southeastern Conference during his sophomore, junior, and senior years. Additionally in 2016, as a junior, he was instrumental in Alabama's National Championship, in which they defeated the Clemson Tigers.

Mr. Allen has also won a number of individual accolades, including being named the Washington Post All-Met Player twice in high school, being selected as the 2012 Virginia Gatorade Player of the Year, and lastly being recognized as a 2013 U.S. Army All-American. At the University of Alabama Mr. Allen's football career blossomed. He was named the 2016 SEC Defensive Player of the Year and was also the recipient of the Bronko Nagurski Trophy and the Chuck Bednarik Award, which are given to the best defensive player in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

With Mr. Allen signing a four year contract with the Redskins, he is truly returning home. The team's practice facility is located in Ashburn, Virginia, and Mr. Allen is especially ready to give back to his community through the local mentorship of Coach Thompson's Bulldogs at Stone Bridge High School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Jonathan Allen on becoming a Washington Redskins player. I commend him for his impressive accomplishments, and I am proud to represent him and wish him all the best in his NFL career.

**RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY SERGEANT FIRST CLASS (SFC) CLARENCE DOUGLAS McSWAIN**

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Army Sergeant First Class (SFC) Clarence Douglas McSwain who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our great nation on June 8, 2006, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. SFC McSwain died from injuries he sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his military vehicle during combat operations in Baghdad.

SFC McSwain, of Meridian, was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

SFC McSwain was a proud soldier on his third tour in Iraq when he was killed. He met his 4-month-old son, Kenneth, only once. SFC McSwain's Sister, Ashley McSwain, said her brother put his family first. She said it was bad that the world had to lose him because he was one of the good guys.

SFC McSwain's father, Reverend Theodis McSwain, recently reflected on his son's service.

"I was very proud of him," Rev. McSwain said. "He wanted to serve his country."

SFC McSwain, a 1993 Meridian High School graduate, played high school football and graduated with honors. After high school,

he attended the University of Southern Mississippi according to the Associated Press article.

"I was a medic that worked with him in his first two rotations and I just found out about his death," Troy Criddle said. "I am hurt by his passing. He was a great soldier and will always be a paratrooper."

"Clarence and I had the opportunity of spending a lot of time together in the 1st PLT Company C 2nd Battalion 237th," Staff Sergeant (SSG) Shannon Corbin said. "I believe that he was a shaping catalyst in me both professionally and personally."

SFC McSwain is survived by his father and mother; Theodis and Sandra Lee McSwain; wife, Kendrah; children; Jasmin, Krista and Kenneth McSwain; and siblings; David, Ashley, Kimberly, and Christopher McSwain.

SFC McSwain proudly served our nation to protect the freedoms we all enjoy.

**IN RECOGNITION OF NANCY KATZ AND MARGO DICHELTMILLER FOR THEIR LIFETIME OF ADVOCACY FOR LGBT RIGHTS**

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nancy Katz and Margo Dichtelmiller for being recognized by the American Civil Liberties Union's LGBT Project for their advocacy and efforts on behalf of LGBT rights. Ms. Katz and Dr. Dichtelmiller have played an important role in supporting the LGBT community through their engagement at the state and local level.

In a committed relationship for over 30 years, Ms. Katz and Dr. Dichtelmiller have been consistent champions for LGBT rights and have played a crucial role in achieving victories at the state and local level. Both have been strong supporters of Affirmations, the LGBT community center in Ferndale, Michigan, that offers services and support to individuals throughout southeast Michigan, having served as co-chairs for its capital campaign to raise funds for a new facility. Additionally, Ms. Katz and Dr. Dichtelmiller have worked with nonprofits and advocacy groups to improve protections for same-sex couples and ensure that they receive the benefits and protections that they deserve. They are well-known in the Michigan civil rights community for their commitment to justice and long record of leadership on these issues.

Ms. Katz and Dr. Dichtelmiller have been at the forefront of the battle for LGBT rights throughout their lives, and their work has helped pave the way for progress at the federal, state and local level in providing equal rights for all. The past decade has seen dramatic progress in strengthening LGBT rights and protections, as well as a transformation in attitudes among the wider public, and this progress would not have been possible without Ms. Katz and Dr. Dichtelmiller's tireless activism and support of local organizations committed to this cause. Their visionary efforts have helped break down barriers and improve the lives of LGBT Americans, and the significant accomplishments underscore the impact of their actions.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Nancy Katz and Margo Dichtelmiller for their leadership in promoting LGBT rights. Their actions have set the stage for key victories for LGBT Americans.

REMA-ELENA THOMAS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Rema-Elena Thomas for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Rema-Elena Thomas is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Rema-Elena Thomas is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Rema-Elena Thomas for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF JOHN T. KNOX

**HON. MARK DESAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of a former Contra Costa Assemblyman, Mr. John Knox.

Mr. Knox spent 20 years in the Assembly, representing western Contra Costa County. Besides the state's environmental law, he sponsored laws creating the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, which was signed by Governor Reagan and thwarted plans to fill in parts of the bay; authorizing state regulation of health maintenance organizations, rewriting standards for sales of stock and other corporate securities in California, and establishing regional planning agencies.

Even after he retired from the Legislature and joined a law firm, he was often brought back to preside as the house parliamentarian. A section of Interstate 580 leading to the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge is named the John T. Knox Freeway because of his success in obtaining funding to rebuild a dangerous, undivided highway.

After his time in the Assembly, Mr. Knox was always willing to sit down and discuss issues, whether that be in classrooms or simply over lunch with colleagues and peers. He was always willing to lend his knowledge and experience to the betterment of the Contra Costa community.

John was an inspiration and a friend, and will be greatly missed by not only myself, but the entire Contra Costa community.

RECOGNIZING SHERIFF JIM PADILLA ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheriff Jim Padilla, who retired as the Henry County Sheriff on May 28. Sheriff Padilla has honorably served Henry County over the past 41 years and he will be greatly missed.

Sheriff Padilla began a lifelong career in public service as a member of the Kewanee Police Department for 8 years, and later served 33 years with the Sheriff's Department. He has dedicated his career ensuring public safety and protecting the lives of all individuals within our community. Sheriff Padilla always exemplified what it meant to be a strong leader and worked tirelessly to pass the public safety sales tax, which provided the department with the resources it needed to better serve our community. I am proud to have such dedicated civil servants in our Illinois' 17th Congressional district.

Mr. Speaker, as the wife of a Sheriff, I know how hard law-enforcement officers work to keep our communities safe. I would like to again formally congratulate Sheriff Padilla on his well-earned retirement and thank him for all of his contributions and service to our community.

RICHLAND COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Richland County Middle School in Olney, Illinois, for their recognition by the National Association of Music Merchants.

It is a great honor to be seen as one of the Best Communities for Music Education in the United States. With help from director Eric Combs, the middle school's music program has shown commitment and support of the arts throughout the school and the community. The music program allows students to express themselves and grow as a person.

I applaud Mr. Combs and all of the participating students for their dedication to this program and for their hard work. I ask that we all congratulate Director Eric Combs and the students at Richland County Middle School for their Best Communities for Music Education Award.

SUGAR LAND, TX WINS BEST CITY

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sugar Land for being awarded the "best city" by the Texas Travel Counselors.

Tourism and travel professionals recognized Sugar Land with this prestigious award after action-packed visits to Sugar Land's historic locations. These visits included the Houston Museum of Natural Science, the Fort Bend Children's Discovery Center, Constellation Field and a behind-the-scenes tour of the Smart Financial Centre. The Texas Travel Counselors agreed that my hometown of Sugar Land offers an impressive mixture of old and new.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Sugar Land for being awarded the "best city" by the Texas Travel Counselors. We're proud to have such an exemplary city represent TX-22.

ROSE MERRILL

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Rose Merrill for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Rose Merrill is a student at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Rose Merrill is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Rose Merrill for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.