

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## HONORING MICHAEL POTE MRA

**HON. PAUL D. RYAN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my deepest condolences on the passing of Michael Potemra, longtime literary editor of National Review Magazine.

Mike Potemra was a conservative thought leader who served President Reagan and three United States Senators—Kasten of Wisconsin, Durenberger of Minnesota, and DeWine of Ohio—before joining the Editorial Board of National Review in 1999. Mike was a valued and proud member of the Reagan Revolution.

I knew Mike when we worked in Senator Kasten's office together nearly 30 years ago. Mike's desk was around the corner from the mailroom where I started as an intern. He was a speechwriter for Senator Kasten, and a masterful one at that. With brilliance and absolute integrity, Mike took everyone he worked with to a higher level . . . so much from him.

Mike loved America and the mobility and economic liberty that America embraces. He was born in Youngstown, Ohio to Slovakian immigrants and grew up speaking both Slovak and English. His life embodies the American Dream: as a child of immigrants, he attended Catholic University, Harvard Law School, and served in the White House and the U.S. Senate.

Mike was a profound and dedicated conservative, but he was never partisan. He was intellectually curious about everything and embraced political discourse as a true American does—always providing people with the opportunity to change his mind—which rarely happened.

On a human level, Mike was a wonderful person with a keen sense of humor. More often than not, everyone who visited Mike's desk left with a smile and a hearty laugh at his jokes, observations, and uncanny impressions of William F. Buckley, Ronald Reagan, and Jack Kemp.

Let us take this time to remember Mike's life and service to our country, and pray for the people who loved him dearly—his family, friends, and colleagues. He was a good man, and a great American.

## RECOGNIZING REPRESENTATIVE BARBARA LEE FOR 20 YEARS OF CONGRESSIONAL SERVICE

**HON. BETO O'ROURKE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Representative BARBARA LEE, a native of El Paso, Texas, who this year is celebrating her 20th year as a Member of Congress. On

June 10, her milestone will be honored with a portrait dedication ceremony at the McCall Neighborhood Center in our mutual hometown, and I rise today to note her achievements and congratulate her on a distinguished career thus far.

Representative LEE was born in El Paso, Texas, where she attended St. Joseph's Catholic School. During her childhood, El Paso remained a segregated community. For instance, Representative LEE and other African American citizens were not able to enter landmark buildings in El Paso such as the Plaza Theatre due to segregation laws. Despite this adversity, her family achieved milestones for racial equality in El Paso: her mother was one of the first African Americans to graduate from Texas Western College (now the University of Texas at El Paso) and her father was the first African American mail carrier in El Paso.

Her upbringing and experiences in the diverse community of El Paso inspired in her a passion for justice and equality, a quality that endured when she moved away from El Paso to California when she was 13 years old. Following high school, she not only raised two sons as a single mother and worked to create a better life for her family, but also attended Mills College, served as president of the school's Black Student Union and later received her master's degree from the University of California at Berkeley.

Her ensuing career in politics further demonstrates her resiliency and determination: she rose through Congressman Ron Dellums' congressional office over the course of 11 years, beginning as an intern and eventually earning the title of Chief of Staff. Similarly, she was elected a California State Assembly member in 1990, a California State Senator in 1996, and a Congresswoman for California in 1998.

During her time as a state representative and the 20 years she has served as a Member of Congress, she has made it a priority to represent some of the most underserved Americans by fighting for justice, equality, and peace. Through that desire, she helped found the Out of Poverty Caucus and the Congressional HIV/AIDS Caucus. She also began serving as chair of the Democratic Whip Task Force on Poverty, Income Inequality and Opportunity in 2013.

Furthermore, she has consistently been a leader in opposing our involvement in endless war, even when it was not politically popular to do so. She was the only member of the House to vote against the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force, which demonstrated her foresight on the open-ended authorization. To recognize her work on these issues, she was nominated, as part of a group of 1000 women around the world, for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2003 to recognize her dedication to peace and human welfare.

Please join me in recognizing Congresswoman LEE's successful and distinguished career and her roots in El Paso, Texas.

## HONORING MONROE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN HINSDALE, ILLINOIS

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Monroe Elementary School in Hinsdale, Illinois for earning the prestigious Green Ribbon Award from the United States Department of Education. The Department of Education awards the Green Ribbon to schools that reduce their environmental impact, improve the health and wellness of their students, and provide effective environmental and sustainability education. I am proud to represent many of the students at this award winning school; Monroe Elementary has earned due credit for a job well done.

Monroe Elementary provides a unique environmental education program through their "Living Classroom"—a set of gardens that stretch across approximately .85 acres of the school's property including a butterfly garden, a prairie, a pond, and their "George Washington Vegetable Garden." In the Living Classroom, students get the opportunity outside the classroom to explore nature and learn about plants and animals.

Monroe also sponsors a student "Green Club," which monitors lunch waste and leads the school's recycling and upcycling programs. I commend the Green Club for their environmental stewardship. Their work highlights how engaged the school body is in protecting the environment.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Monroe Elementary School for earning the U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon, and for their tireless work protecting the environment.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, during the votes held the night of June 7, 2018, and votes held on June 8, 2018, I was inescapably detained and away handling important matters related to my District and the State of Alabama. Had I been present, I would have voted NO on H.R. 3. Regarding amendments to H.R. 5895, I would have voted YES on the Tsongas Amendment; YES on the Beyer Amendment; NO on the Gosar (No. 24) Amendment; YES on the Lee Amendment; YES on the Connolly Amendment; NO on the Gosar (No. 29) Amendment; YES on the Lowenthal Amendment; NO on the Blackburn Amendment; NO on the Norman Amendment; NO on the Gohmert Amendment; NO on the Meadows Amendment; and YES on the Takano Amendment. I would have voted YES

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

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

on the Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 5895, and NO on Final Passage of H.R. 5895.

SUPPORTING INTEGRATION OF  
FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH  
CENTERS IN THE VA MISSION  
ACT OF 2018

**HON. DARRELL E. ISSA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight two important pieces of legislation that address the care of our nation's veterans. Earlier this week, President Donald Trump signed the bipartisan VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks, or VA MISSION Act, into law, enacting key reforms at the Department of Veterans Affairs. This bill will help us fulfill our nation's promise to veterans by increasing access to quality, timely care and benefits, while increasing accountability and transparency at the agency.

Today, the House passed an appropriations package that funds the Department of Veterans Affairs for Fiscal Year 2019, including the new VA MISSION Act. Specifically, I would like to highlight a provision included in the bill that ensures the newly created Center for Innovation for Care and Payment has the resources it needs to improve quality and access to care for our vets, while finding cost savings at the VA by cutting through bureaucratic red tape and establishing common-sense partnerships with sister agencies in the federal government.

One such partnership I hope the Center will consider exploring is the opportunity for VA Medical Centers to integrate care with Federal Qualified Health Centers, or FQHCs. Many veterans, especially those who live in rural communities, face challenges accessing care through the traditional VA system, and partnering with FQHCs that already provide quality care in local communities could be the most effective alternative for veterans facing transportation, mobility, or additional concerns with traveling to the nearest VA hospital.

With over 10,000 FQHC service sites located across the U.S., a pilot program examining the opportunity for FQHCs to work with VA Medical Centers could demonstrate the viability of this program on a larger scale. Under the VA MISSION Act, FQHCs are already designated as eligible providers, just as they have been under current law for years. The Innovation Center has the authority to conduct pilot programs studying the best way to connect veterans to the high-quality care they deserve, and measuring the impact of a potential VA-FQHC partnership will generate the critical data necessary to determine how to achieve the missions of Veterans' Choice while cutting costs at the VA.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE Y-12 NATIONAL SECURITY COMPLEX

**HON. CHARLES J. "CHUCK" FLEISCHMANN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Y-12 National Security Complex in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Construction of the Y-12 plant in 1943 was a vital step in winning World War II, and 75 years later, Y-12 and the NNSA still play an essential role in protecting our nation. Today, Y-12 not only helps to maintain the nation's nuclear deterrent, but provides fuel stock for the United States nuclear navy, retrieves and stores vulnerable nuclear material from around the world, and supports other essential government missions.

The Y-12 National Security Complex is an integral part of the fabric of its community and of the greater East Tennessee region. It is a powerful economic driver, with more than 6,000 full-time contractors, subcontractors, and federal employees working at the site. In addition to being a key component of the region's economy, Y-12 gives back to the Oak Ridge community, providing more than \$400,000 annually to area nonprofits and educational institutions.

On Y-12's 75th anniversary, we reflect not only on its great history, but look to its bright future. The Uranium Processing Facility, a \$6.5 billion dollar project, will transform the site by replacing outdated, legacy facilities, and during construction, create thousands of jobs and have a positive economic impact on the region. Through collaborations with labor organizations, colleges, universities, and schools, the Y-12's lead contractor, Consolidated Nuclear Security, encourages students to consider careers in trades and crafts, as well as engineering and other technical fields.

Seventy five years ago, the men and women of the Y-12 plant worked tirelessly to protect our national interests and help us win World War II, and generations on they continue to serve their nation and their community. The 75th anniversary of the Y-12 National Security Complex is an occasion to reflect on this proud history and celebrate the people of the complex for their contributions.

HONORING THE CAREER AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF PRINCIPAL JAMES P. ANTOS

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and accomplishments of Principal James P. Antos of Brother Rice High School in Chicago. As he prepares to retire, we cannot help but admire his service and hope that his example and distinguished tenure are emulated in the future.

Jim, a local Chicagoan, has been nurturing young minds for 44 years. After deciding in his junior year of high school to become a teacher, Jim earned a B.A. in Psychology and an

M.A. in General Experimental Psychology from Illinois State University. He then began his career in education in 1974 as a psychology and history teacher. From there, he quickly expanded his duties and involved himself in student activities and recruitment, going above and beyond his core responsibilities. In 1979, Jim found his way to Brother Rice High School, where, in addition to his teaching role, he would serve as the baseball coach, Dean of Faculty, Dean of Students, and eventually Principal. His students and peers have frequently praised him, describing him as a father figure, lauding his calm and consistent leadership, and applauding his honest, caring, and compassionate demeanor. As one student recalled, Jim never forgot a name, not just in his own class, but in the entire school. This outstanding public servant has devoted his life to his students, both in the classroom and on the field.

In addition to cultivating the future of America, Jim has also stood in defense of it. He served in the U.S. Army while engaged in Vietnam where he was stationed outside of Qui Nhon at Camp Granite. Jim has not only taught history but has been a part of it—providing the students of Brother Rice with a unique perspective to our nation's story. He has also provided them with wisdom, knowledge, and direction, while helping to guide countless students through high school.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Principal James P. Antos and his accomplishments. I congratulate him on his retirement and thank him for his decades of service at Brother Rice High School.

RECOGNIZING THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AT THE PORT ANGELES MARITIME FESTIVAL

**HON. DEREK KILMER**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the men and women who are serving in the United States Coast Guard on the Olympic Peninsula.

In my travels across our region, I often have the privilege of crossing paths with these outstanding professionals.

For example, I recently attended a ceremony recognizing Petty Officer Jacob Hylkema, who received the Coast Guard Medal for his actions during a storm last summer in which he risked his life to save a fisherman who had fallen overboard. His entire unit received a citation for their actions that day. Together, they rescued 9 people in a 20-hour period.

Mr. Speaker, the good work isn't just limited to one unit. Recently, the crew of the *Active* based in my hometown, Port Angeles, Washington, seized more than \$78 million in illegal drugs during a patrol near the coast of Central America. According to a report in The Peninsula Daily News, the crew seized more than three tons of illegal drugs and arrested multiple people suspected of smuggling drugs into the United States.

This kind of work makes the news, but every day the Coast Guard in our region keeps us safe and keeps our economy moving.

Just as importantly as coming to the rescue of folks in distress, the U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Force Protection Unit Bangor quietly protects the Navy vessels homported in our region as they make the first and final stretches of their missions. I'm looking forward to welcoming members of the unit to Port Angeles when their new facilities are complete.

Mr. Speaker, this weekend our grateful community will recognize the *Active's* crew and Maritime Force Protection Unit Bangor at the 2018 Port Angeles Maritime Festival.

They deserve every bit of recognition. The men and women serving our region in the Coast Guard work selflessly around the clock to protect our fishermen, the environment and our region's security.

Please join me in honoring them today.

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HONORING RYAN GRAHAM, COMMANDER OF THE QUEENS COUNTY COUNCIL VFW

### HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Ryan Scott Graham as the commander of the Queens County Council of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Ryan graduated from John Adams High School in Ozone Park, New York in 2001. He then enlisted in the United States Air Force, where he served from 2002 to 2008. While in the Air Force, Ryan was deployed to Baghdad in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. His honorable service included working as a stock control technician at Hurlburt Field to provide support for 257 special operations forces, and as a computer systems analyst at Langley Air Force Base to provide support for 136 combat air force units across the globe. For the last four years, Ryan has tirelessly advocated on behalf of the veterans of Queens County as commander of the Queens County Council VFW.

During his time as commander, he diligently worked with local, state, and federal government officials to promote legislation benefiting veterans and improving VA services. Ryan is committed to helping his fellow veterans and will continue in his role as a legislative advocate for the VFW and the veterans of Queens County.

Ryan is extremely well-respected in the Queens County community and is very attentive to the needs of his local veterans, providing them with the resources and support they need. When WWII veteran Leonard Miller's flagpole was destroyed twice by two major storms, Ryan and the Queens County Council VFW came to his aid and replaced the flagpole allowing Mr. Miller to again proudly display the American flag.

For his service to the veterans of Queens County and to our country, I ask all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Mr. Ryan Graham.

REMEMBERING JOHN WESLEY WARDROP

### HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a great Alabamian who tragically died the morning of Thursday, May 31 in a single-car crash near Atmore, Alabama.

At 10 a.m., an Alabama Army National Guard Humvee was involved in an automobile accident on I-65 that killed one soldier and injured the other. John Wesley Wardrop, 38, of Satsuma was killed when his 2009 military Humvee left the roadway and overturned.

Wardrop had devoted much of his life to serving our state and nation. He was a squad leader for the Alabama National Guard's 1165th Military Police Company out of Fairhope. At the time of the crash, he was on a mission preparing for his unit's annual training.

Wardrop was a staff sergeant for the National Guard. He served our country in the military for over twenty years and completed four tours of duty overseas.

Family members say that Wardrop was a man of steadfast faith. The night before his passing, he visited Living Hope Church in Saraland and made a donation to support the children's bible school program. He embodied what it means to be a servant leader.

Sergeant Wardrop left this worldly place helping others. That legacy of service and sacrifice is how he should always be remembered.

On behalf of Alabama's First Congressional District, I want to share our deepest condolences with his wife, Terri, and their two children, Madi and Logan. I hope you can take comfort in knowing that Sergeant Wardrop will forever be remembered for his service and sacrifice to our community, state, and nation.

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IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF SHILOH MANOR

### HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Shiloh Manor, a senior housing complex located in the South Side neighborhood of Easton, Pennsylvania. The vision of Shiloh Manor began in the mind of the late Pastor Fred Davis of the Shiloh Baptist Church. In 1987, while attending a world conference in Japan, Pastor Davis met a former associate and a Philadelphia realtor who specialized in building complexes for senior citizens. With their renewed fellowship, Pastor Davis and Mr. Hatton developed a strategy to apply for a HUD sponsored loan to build a senior citizen's home. On their third application attempt in 1992, the application was approved for \$3.7 million dollars. Since the completion of Shiloh Manor in July 1993, the Greater Shiloh Church congregation, now led by Senior Pastor Phillip Davis, as well as the Board of Directors and the larger community rejoice in the Manor's 58 units, which provide affordable housing for senior citizens of diverse backgrounds.

The story of Shiloh Manor exemplifies how a group of inspired individuals can create meaningful change in their community. I commend the late Pastor Davis and those who carry on his vision for a strong, inclusive community. I wish them well as they celebrate this milestone anniversary through fellowship and worship.

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IN RECOGNITION OF THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF ELIZABETH ROSE O'HANDLEY

### HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Elizabeth O'Handley, a resident of Rockland, Massachusetts, who today celebrates her 80th birthday.

Elizabeth, more affectionately known as Betty or Betty O', was born on June 19, 1938 to Daniel and Rose MacDonald. She is the oldest of three sisters, mother to nine children, grandmother to 42, biological and through love, and great-grandmother to 10.

In her 40s, Betty made the decision to return to school to pursue her degree. She worked a full-time job and a part-time job and attended nursing school full-time while raising the 7 of her children who were still at home. There were many nights when she could be found at Dunkin' Donuts doing homework or studying because it was quieter than at home.

She currently works at the Brockton VA Hospital, where she has worked for over 35 years in the spinal cord injury unit. She was the recipient of the Pierik Award in recognition of her outstanding nursing skills.

Betty has been a devoted parishioner of Holy Family Church in Rockland since 1970 where all of her children were confirmed. She has lived her life as a woman of great faith who shared this by providing religious education to children through teaching CCD for many years. She has shown that being trustworthy, generous, and making everyone feel included are traits to be emulated. The words "great" and "exceptional" do not even begin to describe the truly amazing people like Betty.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Betty O'Handley on this joyous occasion of her 80th birthday. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing her continued health and happiness.

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HONORING REPRESENTATIVE LESTER WOLFF

### HON. THOMAS R. SUOZZI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the illustrious public service career of former member of this body—Congressman Lester Wolff—who will soon be celebrating his 100th birthday.

In recognition of his monumental contributions to the preservation and protection of our environment, especially on Long Island's beautiful North Shore, I am proposing the renaming of the Oyster Bay National Wildlife

Refuge to the Congressman Lester Wolff National Wildlife Refuge.

These precious wetlands, at Congressman Lester Wolff's urging, were protected in 1968.

In 1967, the New York State Legislature—at the insistence of then Governor Nelson Rockefeller and master planner Robert Moses—authorized a bridge across the Long Island Sound.

Lester immediately saw that this bridge would despoil the pristine and precious resource of the Long Island Sound and soon found himself at the center of an enormous political fight.

Lester eventually won this fight and the Oyster Bay Wildlife Refuge was born. Lester's efforts in 1968 are an important part of our nation's environmental history.

I urge my colleagues to support the renaming to the Lester Wolff National Wildlife Refuge and I wish Lester a happy 100th year and many more.

#### TRIBUTE TO EARL HAFNER

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Earl Hafner. He was honored by Practical Farmers of Iowa with the 2018 Sustainable Agriculture Achievement Award at their annual conference in January.

This award is granted annually to someone who has shown dedication to sustainable agriculture, helped by sharing their knowledge and work toward making communities, farms, and food healthy and diverse. Earl farms with his son at Early Morning Harvest and Hafner, Inc. It is a 2000 acre diversified farm that includes certified organic row crops and grass-fed cattle and hogs. They also raise tilapia in an aquaponics greenhouse.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Earl Hafner for this award and for working diligently in the Third Congressional district to make his community a better place to live and work. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress and I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Earl and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF MICHAEL LANGBERG

#### HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the prestigious career of Dr. Michael Langberg who retired from Cedars Sinai Hospital on May 1, 2018 after 37 years of service. Dr. Langberg, Senior Vice President and Chief Clinical Officer at Cedars Sinai Hospital, was also a permanent member of the California Department of Public Health's health care-associated infection advisory committee. He leaves behind a legacy of better quality care, improved health policy, and collaboration with hospitals around the country to ensure patient safety, particularly for those of limited means or with complex medical needs.

Dr. Langberg has always been a strong advocate of quality care and making it available for poorer communities. He is a highly respected national leader on patient safety and health care quality, who led the work at the American Hospital Association to review new care policy, identify potential unintended consequences, and convey those issues to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). His work also laid the foundation for the provision in the bipartisan 21st Century Cures Act that directed CMS to include an adjustment to the Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program to recognize the impact of sociodemographic factors on readmission rates.

In addition to Dr. Langberg's many successes, he has been an advocate for sharing both successes and failures in order to disseminate best practices and advance improvements in quality and safety, which has helped many hospitals across the nation learn how to keep patients safe and improve quality in care. Dr. Langberg has been an invited speaker at the Health Management Academy, the National Patient Safety Congress, and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, and has testified before the California State Senate on physician quality performance in order to help legislators craft better public policy that supports improvement in health and health care.

For these reasons, I am delighted to recognize Dr. Michael Langberg and offer thanks for his selfless commitment to his community.

#### HONORING THE CAREER OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL KENNETH E. TOVO

#### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary career of Lieutenant General Kenneth E. Tovo, the retiring Commanding General of the United States Army Special Operations Command located at Fort Bragg in North Carolina's Eighth Congressional District.

Raised in Saint James, New York, LTG Tovo began his military career while attending the United States Military Academy at West Point. After graduation, he was stationed at Fort Bragg as a Rifle Platoon Leader in the 82d Airborne Division. Serving in combat all over the world allowed LTG Tovo to gain invaluable experience that helped shape his distinguished career.

Deployed on numerous operational assignments around the globe and through some of our nation's toughest times, LTG Tovo always answered the call to serve our great nation. Some of his most notable engagements took place during his assignments with the 10th Special Forces Group. These deployments sent him to Iraq, Bosnia-Herzegovina and several countries in Europe supporting Operation Desert Storm, Joint Guard and Iraqi Freedom. Throughout these operations, he delivered on the promise to keep America safe and directly confront our enemies under the most difficult of conditions.

While defending our nation overseas, LTG Tovo's most important commitment remained to his family back home. He and his wife, Su-

zanne, raised two wonderful children during LTG Tovo's illustrious career. This country cannot repay the debt we owe to LTG Tovo and his family—the Tovos are true American heroes. I wish him well in what is sure to be an active retirement.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in commemorating the career of Lieutenant General Kenneth E. Tovo.

#### RECOGNIZING THE RIBBON CUTTING OF THE NEW SARAH MILDRED LONG BRIDGE

#### HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, as Representative for Maine's 1st Congressional District, I rise to mark a historic occasion in my home state. Today is the official ribbon cutting of the newly built Sarah Mildred Long Bridge.

This span is one of three critical connections between Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and Kittery, Maine. Its predecessor, built in 1940, carried thousands of people between our states every day, bore a rail line used to refuel submarines at the Navy's Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, and lifted to make way for marine traffic on the mighty Piscataqua River.

Retired after 76 years, that structure did these jobs well. But the one dedicated today is designed to do them even better and last an incredible 125 years. It was built by the hard-working men and women of Maine company Cianbro Corp., with the oversight of the Maine Department of Transportation and its counterparts at the New Hampshire Department of Transportation. It should be noted that a \$25 million grant from the federal Transportation Infrastructure Generating Economic Recovery program helped bring the costs of this sizeable project within reach.

A time capsule bearing this statement, along with other mementos of 2018, will be buried with instructions to open in 125 years. Until then, may this bridge serve our communities well and bear current and future generations of travelers safely to their destinations.

#### TRIBUTE TO ZACH STEWART

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Zach Stewart of Perry High School for winning the Class 3-A, 138-pound bracket at the Iowa High School State Wrestling tournament. Zach had a 54-5 record for the season.

Iowa has a long and proud history of strong wrestling programs, producing college and Olympic champions for years. Zach contributes his success to years of hard work and commitment and for the support from his parents, family, coaches and fellow teammates.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Zach demonstrates the rewards of dedication and perseverance. It is an honor representing Zach and his family in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize them

today. I ask that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Zach on competing in this rigorous competition and in wishing him nothing but continued success in his education and his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SEAMAN  
1ST CLASS EDWARD SLAPIKAS

**HON. LOU BARLETTA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the life and legacy of Seaman 1st Class Edward Slapikas, who has finally come home to rest almost 80 years after his heroic passing.

Seaman Slapikas was tragically killed in action at the age of 24 while serving aboard the USS *Oklahoma*. He was one of 429 crewmen who perished on December 7, 1941 during the attack on Pearl Harbor. Seaman Slapikas was interred in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, where his name was marked as "unidentified" on the Walls of the Missing.

Now, 77 years later, Seaman Slapikas' remains have been identified thanks to the combined efforts of the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Accounting Agency (DPAA) and Seaman Slapikas' surviving family members. Since 2015, the DPAA has provided closure to over 120 families of fallen servicemen killed aboard the USS *Oklahoma*.

The return of Seaman Slapikas marks a momentous occasion, not only for the Slapikas family, but also for the community of Wanamie, Pennsylvania. The bravery of Seaman Slapikas was commemorated through the establishment of the American Legion Post 971, named for Seaman Slapikas and Petty Officer Keith Jeffries, a fellow serviceman who perished aboard the USS *Arizona* during the same attack. Seaman Slapikas' niece, Ms. Leona Hotko, plans to ensure that her "favorite uncle" is laid to rest near his childhood home in St. Mary's Cemetery in Wanamie.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the heroic life of Seaman 1st Class Edward Slapikas, and posthumously thanking him for his service to our great nation.

HONORING PRESIDENT KEN  
WOLLACK OF THE NATIONAL  
DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTE

**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of Kenneth Wollack, President of the National Democratic Institute (NDI), who is stepping down after a career in foreign affairs, journalism, and politics that has spanned 46 years.

An Illinois native and graduate of Earlham College, Ken broke into national politics as a member of the national staff of the McGovern presidential campaign in 1972. From 1973 to 1980 he was legislative director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). He then became a co-editor of the Middle

East Policy Survey, a Washington-based newsletter, and wrote regularly on foreign affairs for the Los Angeles Times.

Ken joined NDI as executive vice president in 1986 and was elected president by the Institute's board of directors in 1993. He has now led the Institute for more than two-thirds of its history, working on five continents to strengthen political and civic organizations, safeguard elections, promote citizen participation, and champion openness and accountability in government.

Through his years of service, Ken has testified before numerous congressional committees and has appeared on national television and radio as a trusted authority on world affairs. He has served on various task forces sponsored by the United States Institute of Peace, the Council on Foreign Relations, the Brookings Institution, the Bipartisan Policy Center, the Center for U.S. Global Engagement, and the Atlantic Council. He currently serves on USAID's Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid, sits on the Commission on Presidential Debates' Board of Directors, and was chairman of the development program of the U.S. Committee for the United Nations.

In a speech given at the 10th Anniversary of Georgetown University's Masters Program in Democracy and Governance Ken reflected, "I confess to be an incurable optimist who for 32 years has worked in the optimism business." His optimism and tireless dedication to promoting and protecting democracy, good governance, and human rights have earned respect and appreciation across the political spectrum in our country and abroad.

I have been honored to work with Ken and the entire team at NDI in implementing this hopeful vision through the bipartisan work of the House Democracy Partnership (HDP). From the time HDP began its work in 2005, NDI and its partner organization within the National Endowment for Democracy, the International Republican Institute (IRI), have been indispensable partners in strengthening legislative institutions in twenty emerging or re-emerging democracies—ranging from Indonesia and Kenya to Ukraine, Georgia, Peru, Tunisia, and Sri Lanka. HDP has engaged member-to-member and staff-to-staff, while NDI and IRI have helped us organize workshops and exchange visits and have carried out mentoring and consultation aimed at improved legislative practice day-to-day in our partner countries.

This work simply could not have occurred without steadfast leadership from Ken. We have learned a great deal from him and have been strengthened and sustained by his unfailing support. I will forever be grateful to him.

It is a pleasure, Mr. Speaker, to join with friends and colleagues in commending Ken for his remarkable career and for the commitment he has shown to our country's highest ideals and purposes. In turn, he has enjoyed the steadfast support and love of his wife Leslie, his daughters Lauren and Alison, and his grandson, Cooper.

We thank Ken Wollack for his exemplary service and wish him and his family well as he begins the next chapter in his life.

TRIBUTE TO TODD PEVERILL

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Todd Peverill of Glenwood, Iowa for being selected by the Glenwood Area Chamber of Commerce as their Citizen of the Year. Todd received this award for his many years of coaching successful cross country and track teams at Glenwood Community High School.

Todd has coached track since 1992 and cross country since 1998. Through his coaching and leadership skills he has led the Glenwood High School Rams to several team and individual championships and honors. Todd has been active in the Glenwood community by developing and maintaining cross country trails at Glenwood Lake Park and he has been an advocate for high school athletes and outdoor exercise enthusiasts.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Todd in the United States Congress. It is with great pride that I recognize him for his selection as the Citizen of the Year by the Glenwood Area Chamber of Commerce and for his commitment to his community and school. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Todd on receiving this award and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CENTENARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
AZERBAIJAN

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Republic Day of Azerbaijan, and to convey my congratulations to the Republic of Azerbaijan and to all Azerbaijanis.

On May 28, 1918, the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan was founded, becoming the first Muslim democratic state and gaining their independence from the Russian Empire for the first time. While that independence was initially short-lived, taken away when Russia invaded in 1920, Azerbaijan again became an independent nation on October 18, 1991, and has since been an increasingly important ally for the U.S. in the South Caucasus.

Like the city I represent, Houston, Azerbaijan's impressive economic growth has been driven by the oil and gas industry and shaped by adapting to the evolution of that industry. A number of American and international energy companies thrive in Azerbaijan and the Caspian Sea. Azerbaijan's rapid development of its energy infrastructure and expertise has helped it play a crucial role in protecting European energy security and U.S. geopolitical interests by ensuring a stable and sufficient flow of energy to Europe.

As a secular Muslim country, Azerbaijan was a pioneer in extending equal political rights to women, becoming the first Muslim country to give women the right to vote in

1918. After 9/11, Azerbaijan was and continues to be an important counterterrorism partner for the United States, participating in coalitions combating international terrorism and sending its own troops to support U.S.-led military efforts in Afghanistan, Kosovo, and Iraq.

Azerbaijan is an important actor for the advancement of global security and diplomatic engagement on the world stage. It holds observer status in the World Trade Organization, was a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council from 2012 to 2013, and is a member of the NATO Partnership for Peace Program and the OSCE.

I congratulate the people of Azerbaijan on their centennial celebration, and wish them many centuries more of prosperity and success.

IN RECOGNITION OF TEKISHA LEE  
FOR BEING NAMED A WOMAN OF  
ACHIEVEMENT BY THE KAPPA  
FOUNDATION

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tekisha Lee and her acknowledgment as Ypsilanti's Woman of Achievement by the Kappa Foundation. Ms. Lee founded DiverseNote, a career management social network for professionals within an all-inclusive community of professionals.

The Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti-Inkster Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity was established on December 6, 1958. The organization was founded in order to foster relationships between Michigan Kappa Alpha Psis, provide leadership to current students at Michigan universities and mentor youth in suburban Detroit. Since its founding, group members have come together to serve the local community in a variety of ways including golf tournaments, college fairs, pancake breakfasts, Meals on Wheels programs and robust scholarship programming. In addition to their myriad civic endeavors, the fraternity's Kappa Foundation honors female leaders in southeast Michigan annually at their "Women On Achievement" event. This year's honorees include Tekisha Lee, a well-respected leader and businesswoman in our community.

A graduate of Howard University, Ms. Tekisha Lee has turned her lifelong passion for educating and mentoring the next generation of leaders into a successful career. She is the Founder and CEO of DiverseNote, a career recruitment and retention platform that connects candidates with organizations, recruiters, Fortune 500 companies, colleges, universities and alumni associations seeking top talent across the United States. Ms. Lee was also selected as a U.S. Department of State Delegate to the Maghreb region of Africa to advise on job creation and economic development and serves in leadership positions on various non-profit boards including Jobs for Michigan Graduates, the state's top workforce development organization. Ms. Lee has devoted her life to helping others succeed, and she is truly deserving of the Kappa Foundation's recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Tekisha Lee for being named one

of The Kappa Foundation's Women of Achievement. She has distinguished herself with her entrepreneurship and service to the state.

HONORING ETHEL HEDGEMAN  
LYLE

**HON. FEDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I, Congresswoman FEDERICA S. WILSON, from the 24th district of the great state of Florida, along with my colleagues and Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority sisters Congresswomen ALMA S. ADAMS, SHEILA JACKSON LEE, EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, TERRI A. SEWELL, and BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN, rise today to acknowledge and honor the 110th anniversary of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, and the contributions of its founder, Ethel Hedgeman Lyle. Ethel Hedgeman Lyle was a visionary ahead of her time, an advocate for women's rights, and a dedicated community servant.

We stand to bring witness that Ethel Hedgeman Lyle deserves to be commemorated by a U.S. postage stamp in support of her many achievements.

Mr. Speaker, we are especially honored to be joined by our international president Dr. Dorothy Buckhanan Wilson of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, to validate our efforts. She has been on this mission for a long time. It is a journey she hopes to see to fruition.

Mr. Speaker, we are beaming with pride and overflowing with excitement because we are on the verge of making history by bestowing an honor that is about 110 years overdue.

Mr. Speaker in recognition of her great achievements, Ethel Hedgeman Lyle deserves to be commemorated with a United States postage stamp.

Mr. Speaker, Ethel Hedgeman Lyle founded Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in 1908 on a cold January day on the campus of Howard University during a time when Jim Crow laws segregated African-American women and prevented us from joining established Greek organizations. Undeterred by the obstacles of race and gender, she created a legacy of sisterhood that continues to inspire millions of women to devote their lives to community service and activism. She deserves a stamp.

Mr. Speaker, Soror Ethel Hedgeman Lyle cut through the bitter cold of that winter day like a ray of hope, a guiding light, if you will. And, today we have an opportunity to propel the initiative to further immortalize her impeccable character and extraordinary achievements through her commemoration on a U.S. postage stamp.

Mr. Speaker, today, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, is an international service organization with more than 300,000 members in more than 1,000 graduate and undergraduate chapters across the globe. The sorority is headquartered in Chicago and oversees the operations of two charitable foundations. Alpha Kappa Alpha, Incorporated, has inspired millions of women to dedicate their lives to realize its motto, "Service to All mankind." These accomplishments were made possible by Ethel Hedgeman Lyle's vision to

combine scholastic merit, personal achievement, and the rich historic African-American culture to create a women's collegiate-service based organization that has lasted 110 years. She deserves a stamp.

Mr. Speaker, as members of Congress and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, we are humbled to be able to support this effort. Thousands of our members across the globe have signed letters in support of the initiative She Deserves a Stamp. Just making that statement puts me in awe of how incredible Soror Ethel Hedgeman Lyle and her classmates really were.

You see, when they agreed to come together to make history by doing what had never been done before, African Americans and women didn't have the right to vote.

African Americans couldn't even share a lunch counter or schools with whites in 1908.

But, today, 49 African Americans are serving in Congress . . . and seven of them are members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

Mr. Speaker, I think Soror Ethel Hedgeman Lyle knew that one day African Americans and women would be able to vote. She knew that one day African Americans would serve in Congress. And, I strongly believe she knew that if given the opportunity, African-American women would become the most educated demographic in America. She knew this at a time when most women were denied an education. She deserves a stamp.

She is a "Guiding Light." She still shines on the path others didn't know existed.

Her work has lighted a path for many social and academic organizations that tear down the walls of racial and gender inequality. Her work has lighted the path for millions of women to attend college. Her work has shone brightly to highlight how living a life that is dedicated to "Service to All Mankind" can change the world in ways we never thought possible. She deserves a stamp.

Mr. Speaker, now, she needs our support. We have to be a part of this movement. This is our chance to give back to someone who has given the world so much, and continues to give through her legacy. To paraphrase an African proverb, "We are, because she was." And, if anyone has ever deserved to be on a stamp, it is the prestigious, wonderful, visionary Ethel Hedgeman Lyle, the founder of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, the first African American Greek Letter Sorority. She deserves a stamp.

TRIBUTE TO KYLE BISCOGLIA

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Kyle Biscoglia of Waukee High School for winning the Class 3A, 120-pound bracket at the Iowa High School State Wrestling tournament. This is Kyle's third straight championship.

Iowa has a long and proud history of strong wrestling programs, producing college and Olympic champions for years. Kyle contributes his success to years of hard work and commitment and the support of his parents, family, coaches and fellow teammates.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Kyle demonstrates the rewards of dedication and perseverance. It is an honor representing Kyle and his family in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize them today. I ask that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Kyle on competing in this rigorous competition and in wishing him nothing but continued success in his education and in his future college education at the University of Northern Iowa.

#### HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN OUR BACKYARD AND IN OUR CONVENIENCE STORES

#### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, May 29th marked the 3-year anniversary of the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act (JVTA). This legislation officially declared that modern-day slavery will not be tolerated in our country. Since its passage the United States has seen enormous efforts to find and protect victims of this scourge on society. While JVTA took an important step forward in the fight against human trafficking, much more must be done.

The International Labor Organization estimates that there are still hundreds of thousands of victims of human trafficking in America. One challenge we face in this fight is the difficulty associated with finding and communicating with victims.

Since 2006, the nonprofit organization 'In Our Backyard' has been advocating and fighting against the horrors of human trafficking. Recently, this group has created a program known as CSAT—Convenience Stores Against Trafficking.

Not only does this program train clerks to spot signs of human trafficking in victims, it also utilizes the convenience and isolation of the convenience store bathrooms as a way to reach victims. Convenience stores can be found on almost every corner, and they see hundreds of customers each day—making them an easy place for traffickers to bring their victims without the fear of being found out.

Now, In Our Backyard is attempting to turn the tables on these criminals and transform convenience stores into places where victims can come across both highly trained staff members and information on hotlines and websites where they can get help. With over 11,000 convenience store locations in 29 states—including my home state of Texas—this organization has been able to help victims all over the country.

The fight against human trafficking is not over. We must recognize and appreciate the volunteers and organizations such as In Our Backyard that have taken up this fight as well. Together, we will succeed in making trafficking a thing of the past.

And that's just the way it is.

#### RECOGNIZING JOHN AND BENJEAN RAPP

#### HON. EVAN H. JENKINS

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2018

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John and Benjean Rapp of Summersville, West Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Rapp are cornerstones in their community, who have dedicated their lives to bettering our nation, and improving West Virginia.

John Rapp served our country in the United States Air Force and returned home to the Mountain State to serve as a West Virginia State Trooper for over 20 years. Outside his time in uniform, John also served as county commissioner for Mercer county from 1990 to 1996. While a county commissioner he prioritized growing the economy and infrastructure development.

Benjean Rapp has been an active member of her church and serves as a local leader through multiple civic groups.

Benjean has played an integral part in working to restore the historic Old Main High School in Summersville.

Together, they have made a tremendous team and have had a positive impact in their community and the Mountain State.

I would like to thank them for their service and dedication to not just their communities but to our nation. I wish them all the best as they continue to work to better our world.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MARY HALL-THIAM FOR BEING NAMED A WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT BY THE KAPPA FOUNDATION

#### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2018

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Mary Hall-Thiam for being named a Woman of Achievement by the Kappa Foundation. Dr. Hall-Thiam has distinguished herself through her civic activism and her public service.

The Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti-Inkster Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity was established on December 6, 1958. The organization was founded in order to foster relationships between Michigan Kappa Alpha Psis, provide leadership to current students at Michigan universities and mentor youth in suburban Detroit. Since its founding, group members have come together to serve the local community in a variety of ways including golf tournaments, college fairs, pancake breakfasts, Meals on Wheels programs and robust scholarship programming. In addition to their myriad civic endeavors, the fraternity honors female leaders in southeast Michigan annually at their "Women of Achievement" event. This year's honorees include Mary Hall-Thiam, a longtime public servant and educational champion.

After receiving her Educational Doctorate in Guidance and Counseling from the University of Michigan, Dr. Hall-Thiam began a distinguished tenure of service in the public sector

of the State of Michigan. She has served in various positions including the Acting Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Programs at the Michigan Department of Human Services as well as co-Project Manager of the 2008 Poverty Summit put on by the state. She is known for her dedication to her work and local community and seeks to give back as often as possible. She currently serves as the President of Pearls and Ivy Foundation of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and as the Chairperson of a branch of the NAACP. Dr. Hall-Thiam is well-known in southeast Michigan for her engagement and activism, and we are grateful for her lifetime of service to our state.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mary Hall-Thiam for being named one of The Kappa Foundation's Women of Achievement. Her leadership has opened doors for all residents of our state and will continue to better public institutions for years to come.

#### A BAD YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN VIETNAM

#### HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2018

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we held a hearing on human rights in Vietnam. It has been a very bad year in Vietnam for human rights. Since the beginning of 2018 alone, the Vietnamese government has handed out sentences totaling over 100 years in prison and house arrest to human rights defenders and democracy advocates.

In the past year alone, 22 bloggers have been jailed as well as six members of the Brotherhood for Democracy. An outrageous 15-year sentence was given to Nguyen Van Dai, whose wife Vu Minh Khanh testified before this committee in 2016.

Nguyen Van Dai should be released unconditionally and immediately. I know he is courageous and he wants to remain in his own country seeking rights and reform. However, if he desires to leave Vietnam, he should be allowed to leave with his wife immediately. Vietnam's loss will be the world's gain.

The Vietnamese government has gotten a free pass on human rights for too long.

There are currently 169 political and religious prisoners in Vietnam, including bloggers, labor and democracy advocates, and religious leaders.

Freedom House rates Vietnam as "Not Free" and possessing of some of the world's highest press and internet restrictions.

The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom again this year recommended that Vietnam be designated as a "Country of Particular Concern" for egregious religious freedom abuses. U.S. policy has failed the Vietnamese people. This is a bipartisan criticism. We have enriched Vietnam's Communist leaders and coddled their interests at the expense of the hopes and desires of the Vietnamese people of liberty and human rights.

The Trump Administration has an opportunity to bring about real reforms in Vietnam if tangible human rights improvements are linked to better U.S.-Vietnam relations.

The U.S. has leverage to encourage reform—Vietnam needs a strong U.S. partnership—particularly as China's aggressiveness



increases. The question is—will this leverage be used to help the people of Vietnam or their Communist rulers?

I have been to Vietnam. I have met with its rights advocates and young activists for decades now. The younger generation in Vietnam—66 percent of Vietnam is under the age of 40—looks to the U.S. as a land of opportunity and freedom.

This generation wants the same liberties enjoyed by their relatives in California, Texas, Virginia, Louisiana and so many other places where former Vietnamese refugees have flourished.

They want to speak freely, blog freely, worship freely, and be free to choose and change their leaders.

Failing to press for concrete human rights improvements underestimates U.S. leverage and will disappoint the young generation in Vietnam who are that country's dynamic future.

The President will face pressure from his advisors and the business community to look at Vietnam through the lens of trade deals and the containment of China. Hopefully, he will be able to see the situation more clearly than past Administrations.

I know there is great interest in the Pentagon about a partnership with Vietnam to oppose China's aggressive South China Sea policy. The U.S. has an interest in free and open sea lanes.

But no government that represses its own people or restricts fundamental freedoms can be a trusted ally of the United States. No government that censors the Internet, tortures and jails dissidents, and crushes civil society should be given generous trade or security benefits without conditions.

Robust championing of individual rights will meet with some success—if recent history is our guide.

The Vietnamese government has responded to concerns expressed by the last two Administrations when they linked human rights improvements to better U.S.-Vietnam relations.

Whether to gain entry into the World Trade Organization (WTO), the TransPacific Partnership (TPP) or to address U.S. concerns over religious freedom abuses, the Vietnamese government took steps toward reform when pressed by past American Presidents.

It is when the U.S. loses interest in human rights that conditions regress—as it has in the past year.

The business of the Communist Party is staying in power and repressing those they believe will challenge their power. They will not embrace human rights improvements or the rule of law unless it is a firm condition of better relations with the U.S.

Putting human rights and the rule of law at the center of bilateral relations is the goal of H.R. 5621—the Vietnam Human Rights Act—bipartisan legislation that was introduced last month.

The bill emphasizes the connection between human rights improvements and U.S. interests and states that U.S. policy should prioritize the freedom of religion, freedom of the press, Internet Freedom, independent labor unions, the protection of women and girls from trafficking, and advances in the rule of law as critical components of both U.S.-Vietnam relations and any U.S.-led effort to ensure a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

Similar bills passed three times in the House with overwhelming margins, only to stall in the Senate.

U.S. policy must send the unmistakable message to the Government of Vietnam that human rights improvements are fundamental to better relations, critically linked to our mutual economic and security interests, and will not be ignored or bargained away.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN MCCONKEY

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate John McConkey of CAM High School for winning the Class 2A, 285 pound bracket at the Iowa High School State Wrestling tournament. John finished the season with a record of 57–1.

Iowa has a long and proud history of strong wrestling programs, producing college and Olympic champions for years. John contributes his success to years of hard work and commitment and for the support from his parents, family, coaches and fellow teammates.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by John demonstrates the rewards of dedication and perseverance. It is an honor representing John and his family in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize them today. I ask that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating John on competing in this rigorous competition and in wishing him nothing but continued success in his education and in his future endeavors.

#### REFORMING OUR DISASTER RESPONSE SYSTEM

#### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Hurricane Harvey hammered Houston last August, bringing with it a deluge of rain. In the nine months since then, Houston has begun to recover. Downtown Houston is full of students and workers of all ages, strolling the streets during their lunch break. However, there is still lots to be done. Only minutes north of downtown Houston, Minute Maid Park, and the Toyota Center is Kashmere Gardens, a neighborhood that 10,000 Houstonians have called home. Each street in this neighborhood has houses that are no longer habitable, with destroyed doors and gutted interiors.

While the rest of Houston is flourishing, Kashmere Gardens is floundering. This is not due to the actions of any one agency, but rather the convoluted and bureaucratic disaster-response system that almost everyone agrees is failing to provide the necessary support in the wake of these disasters. Federal recovery funding currently comes from 17 different federal agencies, including HUD and DHS, which oversees FEMA. We must streamline the recovery process for the sake of those who are impacted by disasters. There are still Houstonians, including those in Kashmere Gardens, who are living in transitional housing because they are unable to navigate the government's cumbersome disaster recovery efforts.

When someone's home is destroyed in a hurricane, wildfire, or volcanic explosion, they should not have to spend months trying to discern their eligibility for federal disaster relief. They should be able to focus on rebuilding their home and their life.

Another hurricane season is just beginning, and it is expected to again be a season with above-average activity. We must learn from past disasters to better respond to disasters that are still to come.

And that's just the way it is.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A GOLD STAR FAMILIES MEMORIAL MONUMENT AT WASHINGTON CROSSING NATIONAL CEMETERY

#### HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Washington Crossing National Cemetery as the first national veterans' cemetery to accept from the Hershel 'Woody' Williams Medal of Honor Foundation the gift of a beautiful Gold Star Families Memorial Monument, which will be dedicated on Saturday June 9, 2018. Approximately 35 similar monuments have been dedicated across the country, but this one is the very first in a national veterans' cemetery.

The Hershel 'Woody' Williams Foundation is a nonprofit organization that seeks to erect monuments for Gold Star families throughout the United States, and provides scholarships to children of fallen heroes.

At the request of John C. Heenan, Project Chairman, I would like to honor the important and enthusiastic help provided by the Director of Washington Crossing National Cemetery, Gregory J. Whitney, and his team along with the official support group, The Guardians of the Washington Crossing National Cemetery, to bring this most noble project to fruition.

Since opening in January 2010, more than 11,000 of our nation's veterans have made this cemetery their final resting place. The Gold Star Families Memorial Monument is a tribute to Gold Star Families—to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom and their loved ones who continue to honor their memory.

We must never forget our fallen service members, who paid the ultimate sacrifice to uphold our liberties and cherished way of life. For the families of those departed, may this monument serve as a small token of our humble gratitude for the heroism of their loved ones.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THEOLA JONES FOR BEING NAMED A WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT BY THE KAPPA FOUNDATION

#### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Theola Jones for being named a



Woman of Achievement by the Kappa Foundation. Mrs. Jones has impacted countless lives through her career at Wayne County General Hospital and work in the Inkster community.

The Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti-Inkster Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity was established on December 6, 1958. The organization was founded in order to foster relationships between Michigan Kappa Alpha Psis, provide leadership to current students at Michigan universities and mentor youth in suburban Detroit. Since its founding, group members have come together to serve the local community in a variety of ways including golf tournaments, college fairs, pancake breakfasts, Meals on Wheels programs and robust scholarship programming. In addition to their myriad civic endeavors, the fraternity's Kappa Foundation honors female leaders in southeast Michigan annually at their "Women of Achievement" event. This year's honorees include Theola Jones, a beloved public servant in Inkster.

Mrs. Jones distinguished herself throughout her 33-year career at Wayne County General Hospital, serving in numerous roles, including Ward supervisor and Worksite supervisor for students involved in Wayne County's Score program. Additionally, Mrs. Jones was a regular contributor to local newspapers and published the Caregiver's Companion, a collection of prayers and reflections drawn from her career and work as a caregiver to her mother. Mrs. Jones has also been active in community organizations, chairing the first federally sponsored food programs in Inkster, serving on the local YWCA Board of Directors, and remaining engaged in supporting many other local organizations. As a result of her service to the city of Inkster and its residents, Mrs. Jones has received numerous awards, including a Lifetime Achievement Award and Key to the City of Inkster from city mayor Byron Nolen. She is well-known in the community for her engagement and activism and remains involved in civic life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Theola Jones for being named one of The Kappa Foundation's Women of Achievement. Mrs. Jones' work and involvement in the Inkster community has been critical to its growth and development.

#### IN MEMORY OF ARLENE BEVERLY HALLIGAN

#### HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Arlene Beverly Halligan, who passed away on April 1, 2018 at the age of 82, after a lifetime of public service to her community.

Mrs. Halligan was born on March 30, 1936 in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, and later moved to San Francisco in the late 1950s, looking to enjoy the single life in a big city. Not long after, she would meet and marry Jim Halligan, and settle in Marin County to raise their children Shea and Kelly.

Known in and around Marin County as a prominent philanthropist, Mrs. Halligan's most recent, treasured venture was the restoration

of Mt. Tamalpais Railroad's historic Gravity Car Barn and Depot, where she once held the position of Project Director for the Mount Tamalpais Association. Working on her passion project to the very end, just weeks before her passing, Mrs. Halligan helped to secure the final steps to bring back to Marin County the No. 9 Heisler from where it has been located in Scotia, California. It was the only remaining locomotive from the Mt. Tamalpais Scenic Railway.

In addition to her extensive community service, Mrs. Halligan was well known around Marin and beyond for her famous Christmas Eve parties, which many residents looked forward to all year long. Mrs. Halligan could also be found playing a lively game of tennis, traveling around the world, passionately discussing politics, or voraciously reading anything she could get her hands on.

Mrs. Halligan is survived by her son Shea Halligan, daughter Kelly Halligan and son-in-law Don LeBuhn, and her three grandchildren Samantha, Andrew, and Mackenzie LeBuhn.

Mr. Speaker, the depth of Mrs. Halligan's service to her community has left a positive legacy across Marin County and the entire Bay Area, and she will be profoundly missed. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to her today and honor her memory.

#### TRIBUTE TO GAVIN RODGERS

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Gavin Rodgers of Glenwood, Iowa for being selected by the Glenwood Area Chamber of Commerce as their Junior Citizen of the Year. Gavin is a senior at Glenwood Community High School and has received numerous awards and honors for his instrumental and vocal music talents.

Gavin is an accomplished drummer and singer and according to the Glenwood Opinion-Tribune, "Gavin provides drum lessons to younger students and is always willing to give his time at school and to his community. He is known for offering encouragement and inspiration to fellow students and always going the extra mile for others."

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Gavin in the United States Congress. It is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for his selection as the Junior Citizen of the Year by the Glenwood Area Chamber of Commerce, and for his commitment to his community and school. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Gavin on receiving this award and in wishing him nothing but continued success in all his future endeavors.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for the following votes because I

was very ill and remained in my congressional district in Miami to recuperate. Had I been present, I would have voted YES on Roll Call Vote No. 231; YES on Roll Call Vote No. 232; YES on Roll Call Vote No. 233; NO on Roll Call Vote No. 234; NO on Roll Call Vote No. 235; NO on Roll Call Vote No. 236; YES on Roll Call Vote No. 237; YES on Roll Call Vote No. 238; and YES on Roll Call Vote No. 239.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF LOIS RICHARDSON FOR BEING NAMED A WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT BY THE KAPPA FOUNDATION

#### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lois Richardson for being named a Woman of Achievement by the Kappa Foundation. Mrs. Richardson has distinguished herself through her civic activism and advocacy on behalf of the Ypsilanti community.

The Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti-Inkster Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity was established on December 6, 1958. The organization was founded in order to foster relationships between Michigan Kappa Alpha Psis, provide leadership to current students at Michigan universities and mentor youth in suburban Detroit. Since its founding, group members have come together to serve the local community in a variety of ways including golf tournaments, college fairs, pancake breakfasts, Meals on Wheels programs and robust scholarship programming. In addition to their myriad civic endeavors, the fraternity honors female leaders in southeast Michigan annually at their "Women of Achievement" event. This year's honorees include Lois Richardson, a spiritual and beloved leader in Ypsilanti, Michigan.

A lifelong resident of Ypsilanti, Mrs. Richardson received a B.S. in Social Work from Eastern Michigan University in 1965 and has served the community in various capacities during her distinguished career. She is a licensed and ordained minister, having graduated from Freedom Center Bible College in 1977, where she also served as an instructor. Mrs. Richardson has also compiled an outstanding record of public service through her time on the Ypsilanti City Council. She was first elected to the Council in 2000 and has been a strong advocate for strengthening the city's public education system, as well as spearheading initiatives to address the needs of working families and children. Mrs. Richardson's selection as Ypsilanti Mayor Pro-Tem from 2008 through 2016 by her fellow Council members underscores the respect she has earned for her outstanding service on behalf of Ypsilanti and its residents.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Lois Richardson for being named one of The Kappa Foundation's Women of Achievement. Mrs. Richardson has distinguished herself with her work as a public official and through her involvement in Ypsilanti civic life.

HONORING MR. RAFAEL BARBOZA  
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RE-  
TIREMENT AS A GUIDANCE  
COUNSELOR AT COACHELLA  
VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

### HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Rafael Barboza on his retirement after more than 30 years of service as a guidance counselor for the students of Coachella Valley High School.

For more than 30 years, Mr. Barboza has spearheaded Coachella Valley High School's efforts to make attending college a reality, leading college application workshops and connecting students with financial aid and scholarship opportunities. He has influenced countless students' lives, and our entire community is grateful for his dedication and commitment to the next generation of leaders.

When I was a student at Coachella Valley High, my goal was to one day attend medical school and become a doctor. That dream often felt very far away, and at times, I wondered whether it might just be a fantasy. If it wasn't for the support and encouragement of my teachers and counselors, especially Mr. Barboza, I do not know whether I would have achieved my lifelong dream of becoming a physician.

Mr. Barboza was my guidance counselor and mentor, as he has been for thousands of Coachella students over the years. Few people have had such a positive impact on my life. Mr. Barboza drove me to become a better student and a better person. He taught me the value of hard work, integrity, and perseverance.

Like myself, many students in my congressional district aspire to pursue a higher education, but often struggle to afford the application fees, tuition, textbooks, and many other expenses. When the time came for me to apply for college, and money was tight at home, Mr. Barboza paid for my application, as I'm sure he has done for others. Without his generosity, the first step in my journey towards becoming a doctor would never have been possible.

Mr. Barboza has also lent his voice to local and national conversations about the rising cost of higher education. As someone on the front lines of our public school system, I hope he will continue to enrich this discussion with his insights.

In recognition of the positive impact he has had on my life, and the lives of countless students and alumni of Coachella Valley High School, it was my privilege to host Mr. Barboza as my guest for President Barack Obama's 2015 State of the Union Address.

Now, on the eve of his retirement, I am honored to congratulate my counselor and mentor, Mr. Rafael Barboza, on his well-earned retirement and wish him health and happiness in this new chapter of life.

THE TOTE PROJECT

### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, friends always bring out the best in each other. In the case of Fay Grant and Michelle Chavez, friendship yielded a business idea that would combat a social ill.

These best friends have always had a heart for helping others. Several years ago, Grant had a full-time job as a music editor for Sony. On the side, however, she made tote bags by hand from old fabrics and clothing scraps, which she then sold to raise money to help the victims of human trafficking. Chavez, a music director for a website at the time, had also taken on roles to help fight human trafficking. She became an active campaigner, attempting to broaden awareness and exposure to fair trade and human trafficking.

The two friends realized that they could do even more by combining forces, so they decided to turn Grant's bag endeavor into a full-time business, which they named the Tote Project. The main goals of this venture are to give back to others, to promote ethical manufacturing, and to spread awareness of human trafficking.

The business took off, and soon Grant and Chavez were struggling to keep up with an ever-increasing demand for their eye-catching bags, with requests pouring in from not only from America but also from Australia, Germany, Japan, Korea, and several other foreign countries.

Rather than selling these trendy, hip bags for profit, however, the two decided that they would use a portion of the proceeds to help victims of human trafficking. They found a willing partner in Two Wings, an organization that mentors human trafficking victims and helps them achieve their vocational and professional goals. Ten percent of the profits made by the Tote Project go directly to this organization.

The two have gone a step further in providing not only financial assistance to human trafficking victims but also employment and job training. All of the bags for sale on the company's website are handmade by women who were either trafficked themselves or have deemed to be at risk of being trafficked.

Human trafficking occurs in America and around the globe. Thousands of people are coerced or kidnapped to be trafficked, and thousands more are living with terrible physical and emotional scars as survivors of trafficking.

The Tote Project's logo features the blue rose, a symbol of achieving the impossible and defying the odds to fight human trafficking. Mr. Speaker, we need more individuals in the world today like Fay Grant and Michelle Chavez striving to achieve the impossible and end this scourge on humanity once and for all.

And that's just the way it is.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF ABERDEEN  
TOWNSHIP HOSE & CHEMICAL  
CO. NO. 1

### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Aberdeen Township Hose & Chemical Co. No. 1 in Aberdeen, New Jersey on its 100th anniversary. The fire company continues to provide exemplary service to the residents of Aberdeen and is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Officially named the Aberdeen Township Hose & Chemical Co. No. 1 in 1977 after the change of the township's name, the fire company was organized in 1918 as the Oak Shades Fire Company, which is still used by many as the unofficial name to this day.

Prior to Oak Shades Fire Company's founding, the section of Matawan Township that is now Aberdeen had no official fire company, leaving the protection of its residents to an understanding with the Matawan Borough Fire Department. Disagreements over the arrangement spurred citizens to organize its own fire company. The company included 27 charter members, four of whom served as the charter officers. In 1920, its name was changed, and in 1932, the Matawan Township Hose & Chemical Company No. 1 was official incorporated with the State of New Jersey.

Throughout its 100 year history, Aberdeen Township Hose & Chemical Co. No. 1 has been supported by its members and the community. The fire company continued to expand and add equipment, ensuring the safety of its residents. Today, the fire company is housed in the Lloyd Road Firehouse, which was built in 1962 and includes five truck bays, a training room, a kitchen and a meeting room.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 100th anniversary of Aberdeen Township Hose & Chemical Co. No. 1 and thanking its members for upholding the duty to serve and protect the community. This milestone and the dedication of the members of Aberdeen Township Hose & Chemical Co. No. 1 are to be celebrated.

### TRIBUTE TO CALEB SANDERS

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Caleb Sanders of Glenwood High School for winning the Class 3A, heavyweight state title at the Iowa High School State Wrestling Tournament. Caleb has a 45-3 season and this is Glenwood's first state championship since 2016.

Iowa has a long and proud history of strong wrestling programs, producing college and Olympic champions for years. Caleb contributes his success to years of hard work and commitment, and the support he has received from his parents, family, coaches, and fellow teammates.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Caleb demonstrates the rewards of dedication and

perseverance. It is an honor to represent Caleb and his family in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize them today. I ask that all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in congratulating Caleb on competing in this rigorous competition and in wishing him nothing but continued success in his education and in his future college football career at South Dakota State University.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LADIES  
PROFESSIONAL GOLF ASSOCIATION'S  
INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) for years of devoted and distinguished leadership as they are recognized by ATHENA International. The organization's devotion to the professional and athletic development of women is deserving of acclaim.

ATHENA International was founded in 1982 by Lansing businesswoman Martha Mertz to honor the contributions of those who help women to succeed. Ms. Mertz has long held the belief that it takes a village to help women in our communities thrive and has seen her small nonprofit grow exponentially over the years. Today, ATHENA International is a global organization that mentors and trains women in more than 500 cities and 8 countries around the world. The ATHENA Leaders of Huron Valley help develop and support women through various programming initiatives including entrepreneurial classes and one-on-one mentoring. The great work of Michigan's female leaders is honored at the ATHENA Awards each year. This year's winners include the Ladies Professional Golf Association, an organization dedicated to promoting women in sport.

Founded in 1950 by a group of female golfers dedicated to integrating women into the sport, the LPGA is the oldest women's professional sports organization in the country. The association's 13 founders are revered as trailblazers for standing up for equality in a time where women's sports organizations were not in existence. In the 78 years since LPGA was established, the tenacity and courage of the organization's founders has translated into today's leadership and programming. In addition to its publicized competitive tours, the LPGA supports golf teachers and develops young players through its qualifying school. The association is known for its dedication to the players of tomorrow and gives young golfers playing privileges on the LPGA tour. Their years of work have both equipped and inspired countless women to follow their dreams and reach their full potential as golfers and community leaders.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Ladies Professional Golf Association for their dedication to cultivating the athletes of tomorrow. We are grateful for their years of service.

THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT OF  
FICIALS ENCOURAGED BANKS TO  
VIOLATE THE LAW

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it appears the past Administration would stop at nothing to boost Iran's economy, even if it meant violating the law.

For years, we imposed sanctions on Iran restricting the Ayatollah's access to American financial institutions and to the U.S. Dollar.

During the Iran deal negotiations, we received repeated assurances from senior officials at the U.S. Department of the Treasury that the U.S. would not give the Ayatollahs access to the dollar.

But this week, a Senate report indicated that this was a bold-faced lie.

Behind closed doors, the Treasury Department deliberately attempted to violate U.S. law.

In early 2016, the Obama Administration secretly issued a license to let Iran sidestep U.S. sanctions so that it could convert billions in frozen assets through an American bank.

Luckily, American banks refused and instead decided to comply with U.S. law.

These former officials must be held accountable for trying to convince American banks to skirt U.S. law on behalf of a state sponsor of terrorism. Justice must be served.

And that's just the way it is.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT  
AND RELATED AGENCIES  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019

SPEECH OF

**HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2018*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5895) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes:

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Chair, as the co-chair of the Northwest Energy Caucus, I was pleased to be a cosponsor of the Newhouse amendment.

Included in President Trump's Fiscal Year 2018 and 2019 budget requests were proposals to sell off transmission assets of the Power Marketing Administrations, including the Bonneville Power Administration. Previous presidents, of both parties, have proposed the same. The theory behind selling the assets is the U.S. gets a one-time influx of cash with no harm to ratepayers.

I recognize these proposals for what they are: budget gimmicks that will only serve to drive up energy costs for Oregon and other Northwest residents and businesses. It's important to note that BPA costs the federal government nothing; it is entirely funded by Pacific Northwest ratepayers. Any money BPA borrows from the U.S. treasury is repaid, with interest.

By law, BPA is required to sell power at cost. No private company would buy BPA's assets unless it was assured it would make a profit, which would translate into higher electricity costs.

Additionally, BPA serves millions of rural customers, and maintaining transmission infrastructure is costly. There is no guarantee that a private company would invest in less profitable lines that serve rural areas, harming rural communities. In fact, it could lead to serious neglect or complete abandonment of the lines.

In May, President Trump thankfully listened to Northwest lawmakers and scrapped his FY19 proposal. This amendment would ensure that no funds could be spent to reconsider the idea.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL  
PROTECTIVE SERVICE REFORM  
ACT OF 2018

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to introduce a bill to reform the Federal Protective Service (FPS) because I believe it is long overdue to improve the important organization. In the aftermath of the 1995 Murrah Building bombing, the Department of Justice (DOJ) assessed the vulnerability of Federal office buildings in the United States, particularly to acts of terrorism and other forms of violence. The DOJ report made several recommendations, including upgrading the Federal Protective Service (FPS) and bringing each Federal facility up to minimum standards suggested for its security level. When the Murrah Building in Oklahoma City was attacked, it was after careful planning that focused on gaps in the federal building security at the site to allow the massive destruction and the loss of life that touched all Americans.

The DOJ report noted that the FPS has the experience and historical character to provide security services in Federal buildings for much of the Federal workforce. But, the report also noted that FPS has limited resources to determine building security requirements to address terrorist threats. FPS, according to the report, needs to re-establish its role and take the lead in emphasizing the need for security.

Unfortunately years later, many of the reforms that DOJ found necessary have not taken place. Since the bombing of the Murrah Building, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Department of Homeland Security Inspector General have both issued numerous reports indicating where FPS needs to improve in order to prevent another tragedy and improve security in Federal buildings. The GAO has made very clear that FPS must increase its oversight of its contract guard force, improve screening practices, and be more nimble in responding to threats to Federal buildings.

The Federal Protective Service is a part of the frontline defense for thousands of Federal buildings, which include Federal courthouses, Social Security Administration buildings, Agency headquarters, and other buildings. FPS has approximately 1,300 employees, including approximately 1,000 Law Enforcement Officers

(LEOs) or "inspectors" and 15,000 contract guards, also known as Protective Security Officers (PSOs). After the Oklahoma City bombings in 1995, FPS' authorized staffing level was 1,450. FPS maintained about the same level of staffing until it dropped to 1,100 in 2007. After concerns about the decrease and its effect on security, Congress, through the appropriations process, began mandating a minimum staffing level. Ultimately, this means that the FPS has fewer employees than it had in 1996, in the immediate aftermath of the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, while GSA has expanded its real estate holdings since 1996 by nearly 33 percent.

FPS spends about \$1.3 billion in executing its mission while delivering security and law enforcement services for the 8,700 assets that the General Services Administration (GSA) owns, controls, or leases. FPS services include providing a visible uniformed presence in major Federal buildings; responding to criminal incidents and other emergencies; installing and monitoring security devices and systems; investigating criminal incidents; conducting physical security assessments; coordinating a comprehensive program for occupants' emergency plans; presenting formal crime prevention and security awareness programs; and providing police emergency and special security services during natural disasters, such as earthquakes, hurricanes, and major civil disturbances, including man-made disasters, such as bomb explosions and riots.

As the Federal inventory of buildings has steadily increased over the last 30 years, the quality and implementation of security standards have varied greatly. The Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management has unfortunately found that security in Federal buildings is not uniform and is often set by non-security personnel employed by tenant agencies through a Building Security Committee for each individual public building. This approach to security makes it difficult to gauge properly the actual risk at Federal facilities and then allocate FPS resources appropriately.

My bill, the FPS Reform Act of 2018, addresses some of the long-standing issues identified by the original DOJ report in the aftermath of the bombing of Alfred P. Murrah Building and subsequent reports by the GAO. It creates a minimum level of training for Protective Service Officers (PSOs) while increasing the authority of PSOs to carry firearms and detain suspects accused of a felony. The bill also improves the training and procedures for federal agencies participating in the Building Security Committees to ensure that there are uniform and appropriate security standards for individual buildings occupied by federal agencies. Finally, the bill requires the Secretary of DHS to study and report back to Congress on several areas of concern with respect to securing federal buildings including the level of personnel needed to secure federal buildings, the best model for funding FPS, the feasibility of federalizing FPS contract officers, and best practices in preventing explosives from entering Federal buildings.

More than 22 years after the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, it is readily apparent that although FPS has made some strides in improving the protection of Federal buildings there is more progress that needs to be made. In my role as Ranking Member of

the Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management Subcommittee and a former law enforcement official, I believe it is imperative that I do everything possible to protect the millions of federal workers and daily visitors, and to keep federal buildings safe. With increased oversight and additional legislative authority I believe the Federal Protective Service can thrive in its mission of protecting Federal Facilities, their occupants, and visitors by providing superior law enforcement and protective security services.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to consider this legislation and pass it as soon as possible.

#### TRIBUTE TO CORY FAUST

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Cory Faust of Glenwood, Iowa for being selected by the Glenwood Area Chamber of Commerce as their Educator of the Year. Cory has had a lasting influence on the success of the Glenwood Rams football, track, and athletic programs.

Cory is the physical education teacher, head football coach and girls track team coach. He has been at Glenwood High School for the past six years and led the Rams to three state football playoffs and to a district championship in 2015. He has also led the girls track team to two championships. Cory's positive impact on the entire athletic program at Glenwood High School has earned him the reputation and respect as a man of character and faith.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Cory in the United States Congress. It is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for his selection as the Educator of the Year by the Glenwood Area Chamber of Commerce and for his commitment to his community and school. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Cory on receiving this award and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE EXCHANGE CLUB OF WYANDOTTE ON THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING

### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Wyandotte Exchange Club's 90 years of service to our southeast Michigan community. The organization has bettered countless lives through its service initiatives.

Chartered on May 1st, 1928, the Exchange Club of Wyandotte has grown exponentially since its humble beginnings. The organization stems from the National Exchange Club, the only national service organization that solely serves communities within the United States. Today, there are over 650 local clubs that support the unique cities that they exist in.

The Exchange's Core Values are family, community and country, and these pillars of service are no better exemplified than by the work done by members of the Exchange Club of Wyandotte.

Since its founding, the Exchange Club has grown both in size and scope. Its increase in membership and funding has allowed the organization the increased ability to focus on helping children, families and other local civic agencies. The Exchange Club is known as a force for good within Wyandotte and its dedication to partnering with other local charities and schools without seeking recognition. From partnering with local churches to holding fundraising events to supporting the Wyandotte Soup Kitchen, the Wyandotte Exchange Club has provided invaluable service and friendship to our southeast Michigan community for the past 90 years. The Exchange Club of Wyandotte's longevity and record of success are testaments to the great work that it has done, and it is my hope that the organization continues to build on these achievements in the years ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Exchange Club of Wyandotte on its 90th anniversary. The Exchange Club has successfully supported important local initiatives in Wyandotte since its founding.

#### HONOR FLIGHT NORTHERN COLORADO 2018

### HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, in honor of America's heroic veterans, the Honor Flight Network conducts two annual Honor Flight ceremonies to Washington, D.C. to give our nation's heroes a day to visit and reflect at their war memorials. On May 6, 2018, Honor Flight Northern Colorado held its 20th Honor Flight that gave many of our courageous veterans this extraordinary opportunity. I am pleased to recognize the May 6, 2018 Honor Flight honoring World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans of Northern Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, those who participated in this flight are as follows:

World War II: William Behrns, Leila Morrison, Gail Wares. Korean War: Melvin Cook, Eldred Cooley, Eugene Curry, Bearl Dennison, James Dewey, Tito Garcia Jr, Karl Gruber, Manuel Jimenez, Donald Johnson, Myron Kapperman, Roger Lindgren, Bobby Lewis, John Mansfield, Thomas Mathias Jr, Dale Mikkelsen, Mary Miller, Robert Murphy, Howard Nomes, James Onorato, Wilbur Smith, Sigvard Stenlund.

Vietnam War: Bruce Abel, Gary Allen, Russell Ayer, Roger Baker, John Ballenski, Philip Ballenski, Robert Beckman, Delmar Benkendorf, Joseph Bicek, Ivan Birdsall, Roger Booker, James Boyle, Ronnie Brown, Robert Buchanan, Ronald Byers, Wesley Carter, Timothy Casseday, Everett Collins, David Cordova, John Cordova, Keith Cross, Terry Curry, Terry Dack, Scott Dallman, James Ehrlich, Rodney Enriques, Gary Evans, Brian Finkle, Lewis Finch, Rudolph Gallegos, Pete Gomez, Clayton Goss, Stanley Graffis, John Haddick, Michael Hadwick, William Hamlin, Arthur Harris, Michelle Herdengen, Charles Hill,

Richard Hill, William Hilgenberg, Ronald Hoagland, Robert Johnson, Ronald Klug, Terry Kramer, Lonnie Kruse, Darrel Kyger, Bertram Langeberg, Gerald Lauer, Jay Lee, James Lichty, Anthony Lucas, Thomas Mannix, Juan Martinez, Modesto Martinez, James McDaniel, Kenneth McDonald, Ronald McDuff, Phyllis Minch, Alfred Montoya, Thomas Moreno, Donald Morris, Stephen Morris, Dennis Moss, Joseph Muzy, Emery Patrick, Joseph Plummer, Steven Prater, Benjamin Prieb, Ronald Rains, Donald Ratliff, Richard Regan, Frederick Reiter, Thomas Robb, Bonnie Rohn, Fernando Romero Jr, Charles Rossi, Janice Schilling, Dennis Seitz, William Sladek, Michael Smith, Stephen Smith, Edward Snider Jr, John Tallman, Bruce Tibboel, Gary Todd, Gary Trippel, Billy Trobee, David Valdez, Wesley Van Pelt, Louis Velasquez, Stuart Veltkamp, Paul Wallace, Bryan Warwick, Tom Wasmer, Robert Watters, Steven Wilson, John Yost, William Young.

It is my distinct pleasure as the U.S. Representative of the 4th District of Colorado to recognize the honor, courage, and sacrifice of these heroes, along with all members of America's Armed Forces. I thank them for their dedication and service to this nation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JARED POLIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for the vote on passage of H.R. 5895 (Roll Call No. 257). Had I been present, I would have voted "No" on final passage.

H.R. 5895 is a consolidation of three appropriations bills, all which deserve individual consideration. The FY19 Energy and Water appropriations bill does little to protect our environment, cuts investment in clean energy initiatives, weakens safeguards to protect endangered species and makes drinking water less safe for children.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND DR. KENNETH SAUNDERS, SR. AND FIRST LADY SHIRLEY HARRIS SAUNDERS

### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to rise today to congratulate Rev. Dr. Kenneth Saunders, Sr. and his wife, First Lady Shirley Harris Saunders, as they celebrate their retirement. Dr. Saunders and Sister Shirley have dedicated nearly 30 years of service to North Stelton A.M.E. Church in Piscataway, New Jersey, and their leadership and commitment are truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Dr. Saunders and Sister Shirley are devoted to their faith and community. Dr. Saunders is Treasurer of the New Jersey Annual Conference and First Episcopal District, a member of the Episcopal Committee for the African Methodist Episcopal Church and an officer on the Middlesex County Black Caucus. A dedi-

cated public servant and an active member of the community for years, he also previously served on the New Jersey State Parole Board, the New Brunswick Theological Seminary Board of Trustees and as Chaplain for the Piscataway Police Department and Council.

A community leader in her own right, Sister Shirley has also endeavored to improve the lives of others. Through her work with the New Jersey Conference Women's Missionary Society, the Nubian Sisters for Christ Ministry, the Shirley A. Saunders Youth Liturgical Dance Ministry, the North Stelton Scholarship Ministry, and many others, Sister Shirley has been a staunch advocate for youth and family issues. Her involvement with the New Brunswick Theological Seminary Ladies Auxiliary and the New Jersey Conference Women's Missionary Society, as well as other faith-based organizations, exemplifies her commitment to serving the Lord and community.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating Rev. Dr. Kenneth Saunders and his wife, Sister Shirley Harris Saunders on their retirement and thanking them for their years of service and leadership to the North Stelton A.M.E. Church and the greater Piscataway community.

#### TRIBUTE TO GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN

### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with the entire California Republican Delegation to honor and pay tribute to former California Governor George Deukmejian, who passed away in Long Beach, California on Tuesday, May 8, 2018. Deukmejian served the people of California in many ways throughout his life and he will be deeply missed.

Deukmejian's parents, George Sr. and Alice Gairden, were Armenians who emigrated from the Ottoman Empire in the early 1900s to escape the Armenian Genocide. George Jr. was born on June 6, 1928, in Menands, New York. Deukmejian graduated with a B.A. in Sociology from Siena College in 1949 and then earned a Juris Doctor from St. John's University in 1952. Shortly thereafter he served for two years in the U.S. Army, assigned to the Judge Advocate General's Corps. In 1955, Deukmejian moved to California and later met his future wife Gloria Saatjian. They married on February 16, 1957, and had three children.

Following a brief time in private law practice in Long Beach, Deukmejian entered politics and, in 1962, was elected to the California State Assembly. A few years later, Deukmejian was elected to the State Senate, where he would serve for twelve years and rise to become the Majority Leader. With a legacy of advocating for law and order, Deukmejian successfully ran for Attorney General in 1978. In 1982, Deukmejian was elected to his first term as Governor of California. He would later be re-elected to a second term in 1986. Throughout his time as Governor, Deukmejian was known as a fiscal conservative who was tough on crime and helped make the state economically competitive.

Along with the entire California Republican Delegation, I want to extend my heartfelt condolences to the Deukmejian family, his friends,

and everyone who had the pleasure of serving with him. Although Governor Deukmejian may be gone, the many life-changing contributions he made in California will have a lasting impact.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on June 7, 2018, during consideration of H.R. 5895, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2019, I am recorded as voting 'aye' on roll call No. 246. On this vote, I was misreported. I duly intended to vote 'no' on roll call No. 246.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAT MONTGOMERY FOR HER IMPACT ON MICHIGAN'S EDUCATIONAL LANDSCAPE

### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pat Montgomery for years of devoted and distinguished leadership as she is recognized by ATHENA International. Her service to her students has given them the confidence to go out into the community and make a difference.

ATHENA International was founded in 1982 by Lansing businesswoman Martha Mertz to honor the contributions of those who help women to succeed. Ms. Mertz has long held the belief that it takes a village to help women in our communities thrive and has seen her small nonprofit grow exponentially over the years. Today, ATHENA International is a global organization that mentors and trains women in more than 500 cities and 8 countries around the world. The ATHENA Leaders of Huron Valley help develop and support women through various programming initiatives including entrepreneurial classes and one-on-one mentoring. The great work of Michigan's female leaders is honored at the ATHENA Awards each year. This year's winners include Pat Montgomery, an educator who sees endless potential in each one of her students.

Inspired to promote education in an unstructured setting, in 1967, Ms. Montgomery founded Clonlara School in Ann Arbor in an effort to further her vision of a school that allowed students the freedom to explore their interests in an intellectually stimulating learning environment. Initially consisting of only 8 students, Clonlara's education offerings have grown and expanded over the decades, and the school today runs a homeschooling program that serves students through international offices in Europe and Central America, as well as with online offerings. Ms. Montgomery was the driving force behind the conception and development of Clonlara, serving as a teacher, executive director and in other roles and has been fundamental to the school's longevity. Her efforts have created a lasting impact on the Michigan educational community and have bettered countless lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Pat Montgomery for her years of service. She has set a high bar for educators in Michigan and across the country.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019

SPEECH OF

**HON. JACKY ROSEN**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2018*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5985) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes:

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of our amendment, which strikes a provision in this bill that would prohibit the future closure of the Yucca Mountain project.

This extreme language severely undercuts any opportunity to pursue viable alternatives for Yucca Mountain, including job-creating alternatives that OMB would be required to study under my bill, the Jobs, Not Waste Act.

Even worse, this language we're seeking to strike would essentially prevent another community that consents to storing nuclear waste from being considered as the nation's nuclear repository—effectively closing the door to safer, more viable sites and forcing Nevada to become the sole dumping ground for nuclear waste we never even generated.

Based on DOE's own studies, Yucca Mountain is unfit as a repository site for nuclear waste because of the impact it would have on national transportation.

This bill throws evidence-based policy making out the window in a narrow-minded effort to force Nevada into being a nuclear waste dump.

Instead of spending billions more in hard-earned taxpayer money on this project that's destined to fail and that will inevitably put families across the country at risk, let's leave the door open to forward-thinking alternatives for Yucca Mountain.

TRIBUTE TO DONNABELLE AND ELVIN ERNEST

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Donnabelle and Elvin Ernest of Bedford, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. They were married on March 8, 1948.

Donnabelle and Elvin's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 70th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 70th year together and I wish them

many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them nothing but the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, in order to attend my son's graduation on Thursday, June 7, 2018, I was unable to cast my votes on roll call numbers 240 through 252.

Had I been present, I would have voted:

NAY on Roll Call No. 240—On ordering the previous question;

NAY on Roll Call No. 241—On agreeing to the resolution;

NAY on Roll Call No. 242—On approving the Journal;

NAY on Roll Call No. 243—On passage of H.R. 3, a rescissions bill, which eliminates Children's Health Insurance Program funding;

AYE on Roll Call No. 244—On agreeing to the Tsongas amendment to increase funding for the purposes of offshore wind job training grants;

AYE on Roll Call No. 245—On agreeing to the Beyer amendment to restore funding for clean energy research;

NAY on Roll Call No. 246—On agreeing to the Gosar amendment to eliminate funding for clean energy;

AYE on Roll Call No. 247—On agreeing to the Lee amendment;

AYE on Roll Call No. 248—On agreeing to the Connolly amendment;

NAY on Roll Call No. 249—On agreeing to the Gosar amendment;

AYE on Roll Call No. 250—On agreeing to the Lowenthal amendment to support clean oceans;

NAY on Roll Call No. 251—On agreeing to the Blackburn amendment; and

NAY on Roll Call No. 252—On agreeing to the Norman amendment.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN VAN CAMP FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED CAREER WITH SOUTHWEST SOLUTIONS

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. John Van Camp for his outstanding career at Southwest Solutions. Mr. Van Camp has served the state of Michigan and its homeless population well through his service.

Mr. John Van Camp returned to his hometown of Detroit, Michigan after living overseas and serving in the Peace Corps. Once back in the United States, he attended graduate school at Wayne State University and became involved in the newly created Southwest Solutions. The company was established as a mental health agency in 1972 in response to deinstitutionalization in Michigan and across

the nation. Mr. Van Camp joined Southwest Solutions as an administrative assistant in 1973 and worked at the company for years before being named Executive Director in 1981. Throughout his tenure as CEO of Southwest Solution, the company has expanded into one of the largest nonprofits in the state of Michigan.

Mr. Van Camp is known by his coworkers and friends for his leadership abilities and dedication to the men and women of metro Detroit. Under his leadership, Southwest Solution offers over 70 programs for Michigan residents ranging from housing assistance to workforce development to community engagement. The programs assist various populations throughout southeast Michigan, primarily focusing on vulnerable populations including the homeless, veterans and children. Southwest Solutions is lauded for its unparalleled work in housing development—the company has spearheaded over 700 units of affordable housing and restored 25 multi-story buildings. Mr. John Van Camp has made a tremendous impact on the direction of mental health and rehabilitation services in Michigan, and his hard work and expertise will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring John Van Camp for his service as CEO of Southwest Solutions. Mr. Van Camp has effectively served the state of Michigan and its vulnerable populations through his nonprofit work.

HONORING KENT BRAITHWAITE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS A SOCIAL STUDIES AND ENGLISH TEACHER AT COACHELLA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. RAUL RUIZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Kent Braithwaite on his retirement after 39 years of service as a teacher, counselor, and role model for the students of Coachella Valley High School.

During his tenure, Mr. Braithwaite has left an indelible impression on countless students. As a social studies and English teacher, an advisor, and a mentor, he has helped countless students prepare for and pursue a college education. More importantly, he instilled in his students a lifelong love of learning.

Many years ago, I was one of those students in Mr. Braithwaite's English class. I like to think I tried my best in every class—but Mr. Braithwaite was the kind of teacher who not only taught, but inspired his students to work even harder. He challenged my classmates and me every day, pushing us to write clearly, read carefully, and question the beliefs and assumptions we brought to his classroom.

In the Coachella Valley—the region I grew up in and have the privilege to represent—there are still far too many young people who drop out of school before they can graduate or pursue a higher education. Teachers like Mr. Braithwaite are helping to show these students that they can achieve their dreams by pursuing their education.

During his nearly four decades of teaching, Mr. Braithwaite has served his fellow teachers

and the Coachella Valley Unified School District in various leadership positions, and received prestigious recognitions from the California State Assembly, the House of Representatives, and many local advocacy organizations for his excellence in teaching. Most importantly, he has the gratitude of thousands of Coachella Valley High School alumni.

Mr. Braithwaite is joining his wife and fellow teacher, Jennifer Braithwaite, for a well-earned retirement. Over her 38-year career, Mrs. Braithwaite invited Holocaust survivors and Vietnam veterans to speak to her classes, gave out scholarships to her students, and helped bring the Advanced Placement program to Coachella Valley High School. Like her husband, Mrs. Braithwaite has always gone above and beyond to serve her students.

On behalf of all the students whose lives Mr. and Mrs. Braithwaite have touched, I would like to offer my sincerest thanks and congratulations to them both on their inspiring and meaningful careers.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF NAVAL WEAPONS STATION EARLE

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 75th anniversary of Naval Weapons Station Earle. Since its opening, Naval Weapons Station Earle has been a pivotal base for the United States Department of Defense and its significance is truly deserving of this body's recognition on this historic milestone.

Named after Rear Admiral Ralph Earle, the Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance during WWI, Naval Weapons Station Earle was called Naval Ammunition Depot Earle until 1974. It is based in two facilities in Monmouth County, New Jersey—the Waterfront, located in the Leonardo section of Middletown, and Mainside bordering Colts Neck, Howell, Tinton Falls and Wall Township. The two sections are connected by the military corridor and rail line, Normandy Road. The Waterfront includes a miles long finger pier—the longest in the Western Hemisphere—into Sandy Hook Bay. The pier sustained damage in Superstorm Sandy and now includes oyster reefs as an additional protection measure from future storms.

Naval Weapons Station Earle was established out of the need for a munitions loading base in the Port of New York, a need that became increasingly pressing during World War II. The Leonardo and Colts Neck locations were chosen for their distance from densely populated and developed neighborhoods yet their proximity to important landmarks such as New York City, New York Harbor and the Atlantic Ocean.

During WWII, the base served a vital role in transporting ordnance, including most of the munitions used in the invasion of Normandy. Naval Weapons Station Earle's strategic location has remained critical to our military, loading ships used in Operation Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Naval Weapons Station Earle encompasses nearly 12,000 acres and remains an active base today with over

1,500 personnel. With six times more loading capacity of any base on the East Coast, the support Naval Weapons Station Earle provides to our country is invaluable.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in recognizing the vital contributions of Naval Weapons Station Earle as it celebrates 75 years of operation.

IN RECOGNITION OF JIM KOSTEVA FOR HIS CAREER OF SERVICE ON BEHALF OF THE SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN COMMUNITY

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jim Kosteva as he retires from the University of Michigan. Jim has been an outstanding public servant who has served the students of southeast Michigan with distinction.

After receiving his bachelor degree in Metropolitan Studies from North Central College, Mr. Kosteva took a position as the Director of Community Planning for Canton Township in southeast Michigan. It was there that his passion for the state and the issues facing Michigan residents grew. He was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 1984 where he served for four terms. During his tenure as a Michigan legislator, he focused on the issues of school finance reform, public transportation, solid waste management and land use. His legislation, the Michigan Education Trust, was passed into law during his first term and created one of the first pre-paid college tuition plans in the country. His years of effective public service and passion for education issues allowed him to excel in his next role as Director of Communications at the University of Michigan.

Mr. Jim Kosteva joined the University of Michigan in 1994 as the Director of Community relations. In this position, he coordinates partnerships with local and national organizations, works with the City of Ann Arbor on issues of mutual concern and fosters philanthropic engagement among the student body and faculty. Under his leadership, the University has cultivated a meaningful relationship with the City of Ann Arbor that has led to the resolution of public and campus safety concerns as well as a 62.3 percent growth in Ann Arbor's tax base since 2001. Mr. Kosteva is known by his colleagues and students for his creative and strong leadership as well as his passion for city-university relations. Throughout his career, he has represented the University on a variety of local boards including the Ann Arbor Chamber of Commerce, the Ann Arbor Convention and Visitors Bureau and Washtenaw United Way. He has had a tremendous impact on the direction of the University of Michigan's community relations, and we look forward to his continued positive impact on our Michigan community in the coming years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Jim Kosteva and his years of service to the southeast Michigan community. His dedication and tireless efforts on behalf of the University of Michigan made him an exemplary public servant.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JARED POLIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for the vote on passage of H.R. 3 (Roll Call No. 243). Had I been present, I would have voted "No" on final passage.

This bill cuts critical funding from the Children's Health Insurance Program, education and job-training programs. H.R. 3 was brought to the floor in a rushed and closed process, with the Appropriations Committee holding no hearings or mark-ups and limiting the opportunity for Members to review the legislation.

TRIBUTE TO GABE PAULEY

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Gabe Pauley of AHSTW High School for winning the 170-pound Class 1A Iowa High School State Wrestling Championship. Gabe finished the season with a record of 56–0. This is Gabe's second individual State Wrestling championship.

Gabe said, "I've always wanted to be a state champ and now I have it. It feels great. I don't even have any words for it." Gabe finished third in the 2017 wrestling championship meet. "It takes dedication, training, and perfection in order to become a champion," Gabe added.

Iowa has a long and proud history of strong wrestling programs, producing college and Olympic champions for years. Gabe contributes his success to years of hard work and commitment and the support of his parents, family, coaches and fellow teammates.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Gabe demonstrates the rewards of dedication and perseverance. It is an honor representing Gabe and his family in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize them today. I ask that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Gabe on competing in this rigorous competition and in wishing him nothing but continued success in his education and in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANA MCCUNE VAN DE VELDE FOR BEING NAMED A WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT BY THE KAPPA FOUNDATION

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ana McCune van de Velde for being named a Woman of Achievement by the Kappa Foundation. Mrs. McCune has distinguished herself through her leadership and community involvement.



The Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti-Inkster Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity was established on December 6, 1958. The organization was founded in order to foster relationships between Michigan Kappa Alpha Psis, provide leadership to current students at Michigan universities and mentor youth in suburban Detroit. Since its founding, group members have come together to serve the local community in a variety of ways including golf tournaments, college fairs, pancake breakfasts, Meals on Wheels programs and robust scholarship programming. In addition to their myriad civic endeavors, the fraternity honors female leaders in southeast Michigan annually at their "Women of Achievement" event. This year's honorees include Ana McCune van de Velde, a well regarded leader in southeast Michigan.

A lifelong Midwesterner, Mrs. McCune moved to Michigan after graduating from college. She is an accomplished entrepreneur and businesswoman, serving at various companies including AT&T Corporation, New Detroit and the Automotive Strategy Corporation. Although she is an accomplished leader in the private sector, Mrs. McCune's real passion lies in civic work, specifically children's education. She sponsors the Pink Panthers, an all-girls robotics team in Detroit and has served on the Indiana University Alumni Association Executive Council. Her distinguished career and philanthropic engagement has bettered countless industries and individuals and we are grateful for her commitment to southeast Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ana McCune van de Velde for being named one of The Kappa Foundation's Women of Achievement. Mrs. McCune has distinguished herself with her work as an entrepreneur and through her philanthropic work.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on roll call No. 216, I inadvertently voted 'aye.' I strongly oppose the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act, and I intended my vote be recorded as 'nay.'

IN RECOGNITION OF MR.  
MATTHEW ROSA

#### HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Matthew Rosa on his election as President of the California Future Farmers of America.

Matthew Rosa was born on March 25, 2000, in Visalia, California to his parents, Noel and Holly Rosa. He attended local schools, most recently El Diamante High School in Visalia, California. During his high school tenure, Matthew served in many leadership posts in the El Diamante Chapter of Future Farmers of America (FFA), including Sentinel from 2015 through 2016, Vice President from 2016 through 2017, and President from 2017 through 2018. In the role of Chapter President, Matthew concurrently held the position of San Joaquin Region FFA President.

Beyond FFA, Matthew is an avid golfer, playing for the El Diamante Miners golf team in his sophomore, junior, and senior years of high school. He served as a member of St. Mary's Youth Leadership Team from 2015 through 2016 and is active in the Good Shepherd Catholic Parish of Visalia.

During his participation in FFA, Matthew was a member of the winning FFA Cooperative Marketing Team in 2017 and earned a State Proficiency Award for Dairy Production Placement. In his academic pursuits, Matthew became a lifetime member of the California Scholarship Federation and was a two-time recipient of the Visalia Unified School District Board Student Achievement Award.

In early 2018, Matthew was one of seventy-four members of California's extended FFA organization to apply to run for state office. After many interviews during the California FFA Convention in Anaheim, California, Matthew advanced among the twelve finalists to address the convention. Following voting, Matthew was declared the winning candidate for President of California FFA on April 25, 2018.

As California State FFA President, Matthew will be tasked with the three primary tenets of FFA leadership: motivating members to achieve their highest potential, serve as a goodwill ambassador to the community at large, and provide key direction and execute the various programs undertaken by FFA regions and chapters.

Matthew's passion for farming is a reflection of his upbringing. As the son of a dairyman, Matthew has learned the lessons of hard work and dedication growing up at the Rosa Brothers Dairy and Creamery.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Mr. Matthew Rosa on his election and wishing him well on his future service to the California Future Farmers of America.

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IN RECOGNITION OF RABBI  
BENNETT F. MILLER

#### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2018*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rabbi Bennett F. Miller on his retirement as Senior Rabbi of Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Rabbi Miller has dedicated over 40 years to Anshe Emeth and his commitment and leadership are truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Ordained a Rabbi in 1974, Rabbi Miller joined Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple the same year. Since that time, he has provided outstanding spiritual guidance to the congregation and has promoted and supported a mission of social action and community service. In addition to his work at Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple, Rabbi Miller is also a member of the Jewish Agency for Israel Board of Governors and is Immediate Past-Chair of the Association of Reform Zionists of America.

Prior to his service at Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple, Rabbi Miller served as the spiritual leader of Congregation Havurah in New York and the New Jersey State Advisory Council on the Holocaust. Rabbi Miller earned his doctorate from Princeton Theological Seminary and his Master of Arts and Hebrew Letters from the Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, as well as a certificate in Non-Profit Management and Fundraising from New York University.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Rabbi Miller on his retirement and thanking him for his many years of dedicated service and leadership to Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple and the greater community.