

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF GREEK AMERICAN PROFESSIONAL WOMEN AND ITS WOMAN OF THE YEAR, LOULA LOI ALAFOYIANNIS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Association of Greek American Professional Women. In March 2011, it honored my good friend, Loula Loi Alafoyiannis, as its Woman of the Year at an awards ceremony held on International Women's Day. In a fitting tribute, it is presenting a scholarship to an outstanding female student of Hellenic descent in Loula's name.

Founded in New York, the Association of Greek American Professional Women (AGAPW) is an independent non-profit organization that provides a forum for American women of Hellenic descent working in various professions and businesses. It is a clearinghouse for information, resources, support and networking opportunities, and helps to expand career opportunities and advance Greek-American professional women by forging partnerships and establishing symbiotic relationships with other organizations within and outside the Greek-American community. In so doing, AGAPW plays an important supportive role for Hellenic American women who seek to work and improve their quality of life in the U.S., Greece, Cyprus, and around the world.

Loula Loi Alafoyiannis is a remarkable leader whom I am proud to call my friend. She is the Founder, Global President, and Chief Executive Officer of the Euro-American Women's Council (EAWC), which since 1996 has helped forge ties between entrepreneurs in Europe and America and advance women's rights and opportunities in the worlds of business and education.

Loula Loi Alafoyiannis is widely admired in the world of business and government for her strategic acumen and wise counsel. She provided training to prospective start-up business proprietors in Azerbaijan and was honored with IBM's prestigious Crown Award for women entrepreneurs. She served as a trusted advisor to me and to many distinguished public servants, including former Congressman Joseph Kennedy of Massachusetts, former New York Governor Mario Cuomo, U.S. Senators Hillary Clinton and Paul Sarbanes, and others. In addition, she is a noted public speaker who has delivered lectures before the National Foundation for Women Legislators and other distinguished audiences in both the public and private sectors.

Prior to founding the Euro-American Women's Council, Loula served as Vice President of the United States Hellenic American National Council, which she co-founded with her husband, John. It helps to build bridges between Greek and American entrepreneurs and to advance women's opportunities in business and education.

Loula is also a dedicated philanthropist and humanitarian who has devoted herself to serving others through many worthwhile causes. She sits on the Human Rights Advisory Council of New York, volunteers with the Daughters of Roumeli and the Hermes Athletic Club in New York, and was named Woman of the

Year by the Boys Club of Queens. For her tireless humanitarian efforts, she was honored by the Asociacion Mexicana de Mujeres Jefas de Empresa. In particular, Loula has devoted herself throughout her life to assisting those affected by cancer and other serious illnesses, especially low-income children from Greece.

Despite her busy career, Loula has remained focused on her beloved family. She is deeply devoted to her husband John, their daughter Rania, son Konstantine, daughter-in-law Nina, son John-Nicholas, Jr., daughter-in-law Nadia, and her "crown jewels", her grandchildren Aristotle, Konstantine John, and Isabella-Rania.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my esteemed colleagues join me in paying tribute to the Association of Greek American Professional Women and its 2011 Woman of the Year, Loula Loi Alafoyiannis.

HONOR FLIGHT COLORADO'S EIGHTH FLIGHT

HON. CORY GARDNER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise on the occasion of Honor Flight Northern Colorado's eighth flight to Washington, D.C. bringing Veterans of WWII, Korea, and Vietnam to see their memorials. On behalf of a grateful delegation, state, and country, we welcome these heroes.

The 122 Veterans on this flight include 48 from the Korean conflict, and 8 Purple Heart recipients from the Vietnam War. The Honor Flight program, founded in 2005, was intended to first honor all WWII Veterans that could make the trips, but then to afford the same to those from the Korea and Vietnam eras. We are, this day, honoring those Veterans from Korea (the Forgotten War) and Vietnam, our longest conflict in modern times, as they get to see their memorials. These trips are provided to our Veterans at no cost to them or their families.

The fact that these soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen would uproot themselves from their homes and families and put themselves in harm's way for our country is very humbling. The sacrifices they—and the families they left behind—made are truly incredible. The debt of gratitude we owe them can never be repaid, for without their honor, courage, commitment, and above all—sacrifice we would not be able to enjoy the freedoms we have today.

Please join me in thanking Charles Agnew, Lewis Ashcraft, Robert Barnard, Eugene Bonkiewicz, Carson Bright, Frank Brown, Wayne Bullock, William Castor, Lowell Dart, Donald Draxler, Robert Duntsch, Jose Duran, Joseph Edwards, George Emerick, Jack Endacott, Marvin Fowler, Robert Gillham, Warren Garst, Joseph Graham, William Hampton, Walter Hayward, Roland Kaiser, Willis Kramer, Victor Lazar, David Leon, Verne Lewellen, Harry Livingston, Mary Livingston, Gilbert Lopez, Russell Mam, W. Dennis McHenry, Raymond Mega, Gerald Monroe, Donald Morrison, Bernard Nettesheim, Reynolds Olson, Homer Phillips Jr., Richard Porter, Marion Raines, James Rauenbuehler, Frederick Reck, Gilbert Rohde, Walter Sapp, Henry Schmitt

Jr., John Shedd, Alan Schultes, Bill Shupe, Waldo Smith, Charles Smoot, Fredrick Stein, William Stromberg Sr., Gene Thorson, Clyde Treadway, Theodore Wahler, Arthur Wartburg, Crowell Werner, James White, Robert Williams, Evans Woodhouse, Darryl Anderson, Raymond Anderson, Donald Armagost, James Ball, Eugene Ball, Harry Ball, Leslie Brumley, Orlis Charboneau, Dale Crist, Robert Cupp, Timothy Daley, Bobbie Desmond, Edward Eson, Clarence Ehrlich, Alvin Eurich, Francis Fleming Jr., James Flynn, Leslie Fraley Jr., George Frysinger III, Richard Gero, John Goad, Virgil Hanson, Roman Hermann, John Hess, Billy Hettinger, Donald Hoffman, Marguerite Ingram, Robert Kramer, Robert Kruger, Lindy Leifheit, Chester McCoy, Chester McGuire, William Miller, Raymond Nuss, James Ochsner, Louis Peterson, Marshall Petring, Arnold Piel, Wayne Pimple, Richard Reagan, Gerald Rice, Harry Rieger, Edward Roebuck, Gerald Ross, Alan Seaman, Dick Sears, Joseph Sellers, William Shirey, Norris Slechta, Robert Stanley, Elizabeth Strahan, Clarence Strahan Jr., William Striffler, Darrell Viegut, Sam Warner, Doyle Biggs, Paul Delgado, Edward Fast, Dennis Henneberg, Donald Hess, Daniel Menzies, Jack Roberts, Steven White, Irvin Tregoning, Jimmie Tregoning and Merrill Tregoning for their dedication, commitment, and service to this great nation.

JOY PINNIGER'S RETIREMENT

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise to take this opportunity to recognize Jennifer Joy Pinniger on the occasion of her retirement as President and CEO of the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSGA). Ever since Joy joined the National Stone Association sixteen years ago, she has been an advocate of the 107,800 men and women in the aggregates industry workforce.

She has focused NSSGA's advocacy on those issues with the most potential impact on the industry, always aware that the most effective advocates are those members of NSSGA who work every day to produce the construction materials essential to the built environment.

She has dedicated herself to educating Members of Congress and the public alike about the importance of the aggregates—or the stone, sand and gravel industry—not only to the Country as a whole, but to our individual lives.

About 10 tons of aggregates per person are used annually in America—everything from glass to cleaning products to pharmaceuticals, toothpaste, and so much more. Every mile of interstate contains 38,000 tons of aggregates and about 400 tons of aggregates are used in construction of the average home.

Joy led NSSGA's advocacy for the successful passage of the last two surface transportation authorization bills—SAFETEA-LU and MAP-21.

She worked closely with coalition partners in the Transportation Construction Coalition and the Americans for Transportation Mobility. She realized early on that involvement of the public—those affected by the need to get to and