

scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Gabriel has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Gabriel removed and replaced stones from the prayer garden at St. James Catholic Church in Liberty, Missouri, enhancing the overall beauty and quality of the prayer garden.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Gabriel Harrison Biggs for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING WORLD WAR II VETERAN LESLIE MAST'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2013

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in celebration of World War II Veteran Leslie Mast's 100th birthday on Saturday, October 5, 2013. Mr. Mast, a Machinist Mate First Class, is an extraordinary individual from Elkhart, Indiana. Throughout his life, Mr. Mast has demonstrated a deep-rooted courage and commitment to his family and our country.

At the age of 29, Mr. Mast enlisted in the United States Navy as a machinist. After training, Mr. Mast sailed to New York where he received his overseas assignment. He was sent to Arzew, Algeria where his crew spent three weeks training and preparing before they received orders to Bizerte, Tunisia. Mr. Mast spent one year in Bizerte maintaining and repairing a variety of different vessels. During his time in the Navy, Mr. Mast learned how to appreciate the little things in life. Thanks to the brave fighting spirit of servicemembers like Mr. Mast, freedom triumphed over the empires of tyranny.

Our country owes a great deal of respect and gratitude to incredible individuals like Mr. Mast who have devoted their lives to protect the United States of America at home and abroad. Thanks to the service and sacrifice of Hoosier war heroes, our country remains strong and free. Mr. Mast's commitment to defend liberty truly symbolizes the essence of American patriotism.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in celebration of Leslie Mast's 100th birthday and admirable service to this great nation.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2013 BLACK ACHIEVERS, INC. AWARDS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding recipients of the 2013 Black Achievers, Inc. Awards.

Black Achievers, Inc. is an impressive organization dedicated to promoting qualities such as leadership, service, and making a positive impact in our community. This years' award-ees embody these noble values.

The recipients of this the 2013 Black Achievers, Inc. awards are Jorge Albarran, Leslie Allison, Kimberly Beaty, Larry Bonds, Harold S. Cardwell, Jr., Shemika Charles, Phillip Dabney, Jr., Vincent J. Grooms, Lloyd James Hargrave, Dwight Douglas Hicks, James Jones Jr., Leonard E. Lane, Kyle L. Mann, Willie A. Price, Dolly Michelle Randle, Kaamalal Robinson, George E. Stokes, Mark Worthy, and Keith M. Young.

Each of these impressive individuals has made significant contributions in various career and community endeavors. I am proud to see such dedicated, hard-working individuals be recognized tonight, and applaud their efforts to better our community.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for giving me the opportunity to recognize the recipients of the 2013 Black Achievers, Inc. Awards, and those who work tirelessly for this valuable organization. Their achievements are commendable and their devotion to our community is inspiring. I wish each and every one of them the best in all their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2013

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 512 on H.J. Res. 70—On the Motion to Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no".

Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 513 on passage of H.J. Res. 70, Making continuing appropriations for National Park Service operations, the Smithsonian Institution, the National Gallery of Art, and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum for fiscal year 2014, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no".

Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 514 on passage of H.J. Res. 73, Making continuing appropriations for the National Institutes of Health for fiscal year 2014, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no".

SWISS FLOWER AND GIFT COTTAGE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Swiss Flower and Gift Cottage for receiving the 2013 Wheat Ridge Business of the Year Award.

This award recognizes a business that exemplifies the "Best in Business" that represents the values of our community.

Swiss Flower and Gift Cottage owner Heidi Haas-Sheard has been conducting business in her building since she was a small child, and in 2012 she decided to educate the community on the multitude of businesses on 44th Avenue from Ward Road to Harlan in Wheat Ridge. She wanted to encourage people to shop local for those things they need and want. It started with a simple idea of pointing out 44 reasons to shop 44th Avenue, including

a list of established businesses and a map to reference their locations. She then designed a postcard listing all the businesses on 44th that she provided to each business, thus creating a shared advertising idea. With the assistance of the City of Wheat Ridge and local partners, the vision now includes a website, signage on the bus shelters along the corridor, and a raised awareness of the businesses along 44th Avenue in Wheat Ridge.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Swiss Flower and Gift Cottage for this well deserved recognition by the City of Wheat Ridge and the Wheat Ridge Business Association. Thank you for your dedication to our community.

DR. WILLIAM H. FARLAND

HON. JARED POLIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2013

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary public service career of Dr. William H. Farland as he concludes his tenure as Vice President for Research at Colorado State University (CSU), one of the nation's top research universities.

Dr. Farland received his undergraduate degree from Loyola University; a master's degree in Zoology from the University of California, Los Angeles; and a doctor of philosophy degree in cell biology and biochemistry from the University of California, Los Angeles.

At the Environmental Protection Agency, Dr. Farland rose to become the highest-ranking career scientist, appointed Deputy Assistant Administrator for Science in the Office of Research and Development (ORD) and also directing the EPA's Office of the Science Advisor. His 27-year federal career was characterized by a commitment to the development of national and international approaches to the testing and assessment of environmental agents.

Numerous executive-level committees and advisory boards within the federal government sought his expertise. Examples of his service include: Chairing the Executive Committee of the National Toxicology Program (NTP); serving as a Public Member of the American Chemistry Council's Strategic Science Team for its Long Term Research Initiative (ACC/LRI); and as a Member of the Programme Advisory Committee for the WHO's International Programme on Chemical Safety.

Dr. Farland received numerous accolades for his public service including recognition in 2002 by the Society for Risk Analysis with the "Outstanding Risk Practitioner Award" and appointment in 2005 as a Fellow of the Society. In 2006, he received a Presidential Rank Award for his service as a federal senior executive.

Dr. Farland's outstanding public service continued at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO, where he oversaw record-breaking annual research expenditures in excess of \$300 million, representing a third of the University's overall budget. Dr. Farland was also named to two prestigious National Academies of Science committees that address environmental issues' impact on human health and named an Academy of Toxicological Sciences Fellow.