

IN RECOGNITION OF DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI OF PIUS X ON THE OCCASION OF THE SCHOOL'S 11TH ANNUAL AWARDS

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Augustine Pullo, Alfred DeRenzis, and Father Edward Quinnan for their contributions to their profession, community, and faith after graduation from Pius X in Bangor, Pennsylvania. They have been recognized by their beloved school.

Augustine Pullo, Class of 1973, had a passion for music that started early. He continued his musical endeavors and earned a degree at East Stroudsburg University. For 17 years, he worked as a top manager at a McDonald's. Later, he established three successful businesses in the Northampton County's Slate Belt. A posthumous award recognized his dedication to his community and to his school.

Alfred DeRenzis, Class of 1963, was once Student Council President and was active in clubs and sports. He left Pius to earn a dental degree, become faculty at the University of Maryland School for Dental Medicine, and later a stockbroker. Today, he participates in model airplane competitions. He kept a second residence in his hometown of Roseto and maintains ties to Slate Belt community.

Father Edward Quinnan, Class of 1974, was a member of the honor society while in school and was active in many clubs. After Pius, he studied biology and chemistry before graduating from the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, CA, and becoming an Assistant Professor in Counseling at Loyola University in Chicago. He currently provides retreat programs and finds it "life-giving."

I add my congratulations to the honors bestowed from Pius X Junior/Senior High School. I applaud the dedication to profession, community, and country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I missed the following votes:

1. Thompson (CA) Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on this amendment.

2. Polis Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.

3. Cicilline Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.

4. Smith (TX) Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.

5. Austin Scott Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.

CONGRATULATING REPUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL TIGERS BASKETBALL

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Republic High School Tigers Basketball Team for winning the Missouri Class 4 State Championship.

The Tigers clinched the title with a thrilling finish, making a three pointer with only seven seconds left for a final score of 45–42. Members of the team include Dylan Bekemeier, Brock Yocum, Chase Hoffmann, Josh Vaughn, Dillen Ramsey, Dakota Fortner, Canyon Smith, Jordan Kerr, Cole Hurst, Cody Geiger, Tim Brazeal, and Cory Lafferty.

Through their hard work and determination on and off the court, the Tigers developed into a truly great championship team, earning back to back state titles. The Tigers ended the season 27–4, remaining undefeated in their district. The Tigers were also the Central Ozark Conference Champions for the 2013–2014 season.

I also want to commend Head Coach Trevyor Fisher for a job well-done on developing such a strong basketball program.

The team, with the help of its coaches and the support of their families and community, persevered through the turmoil of the season and the trials of the state championships. Together, they grew as individuals and as a team, and their successes show what can be achieved through hard work, dedication, and belief.

The Republic community is justifiably proud of this extraordinary group of young and talented student-athletes. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Republic Tigers as they celebrate their consecutive Class 4 Boys State Championships.

TRIBUTE TO REP. PATRICK MEEHAN

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize my colleague, Rep. PATRICK MEEHAN of Pennsylvania, for his work on behalf of victims of domestic violence, sexual trafficking and addiction. The legislation approved by the House today includes significant funding and reflects his advocacy for these issues in Congress.

Congressman MEEHAN has been a leader throughout this process and I have appreciated his input on how to make this bill as strong as well possible to deal with domestic violence, trafficking and addiction. It is my understanding that just last week, Mr. MEEHAN hosted a summit on human trafficking, bringing together local and Federal law enforcement and victims' advocacy organizations to address the crisis. He has also long been a voice for the victims of domestic violence and has been among the strongest advocates for funding for programs authorized by the Violence Against Women Act. He has also fought for our veterans, and his leadership helped ensure higher funding for veterans' treatment courts.

I am pleased to say that the FY15 CJS bill contains the highest levels of funding for combating human trafficking, ever. This is a testament to the hard work and experience of Congressman MEEHAN who, among others, knows just how vital these resources are for trafficking victims. I appreciate his continued efforts to raise awareness in Congress and to advocate for these important resources.

COMMENDING LOCAL 2014 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FOR THEIR DECISION TO ENLIST IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY AND OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA FOR HOSTING THE FOURTH ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ENLISTEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize 6 graduating seniors in my community for their record of academic and athletic accomplishment and for their admirable decision to enlist in the United States Navy. I also express my appreciation to Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia for providing this opportunity to be among the first to say to each of these young men and women: "Thank you."

I have had the privilege of working with Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia since its inception in 2011. That year my office was contacted by one of the founding parents who upon learning that her son and other students at his school who had decided to enlist would not receive any recognition during graduation, joined with other parents to organize the first enlistee recognition ceremony of its kind in the region. The first ceremony recognized a total of 9 students. This year, we will recognize 129 young men and women who have chosen to serve our country in uniform.

With graduation season upon us, thousands of young people in my community, and millions across the nation, are preparing for the next chapter in their lives. Some will pursue higher education or vocational training, others will seek to enter the workforce immediately, and many will answer the call to serve their community and their country.

The United States of America has distinguished itself from other nations through the entrepreneurship and spirit of our people, the knowledge that we can achieve any goal if we set our minds to it, our inherent compassion and generosity, our fierce patriotism, and the extraordinary sacrifices and dedication to country exhibited by the members of our Armed Forces. The young men and women from our community who will be enlisting possess an abundance of each of these qualities. I join with their families and friends in congratulating and commending the following graduates on their enlistment in the United States Navy:

Teresa Bailey, Sullivan Stansfield, Kevin Quintanilla, Yeagwang Kim, Ryan Kokotkiewicz, and Saurav Bhandari.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the courage and dedication of these graduates and in assuring them and their families that the full support and resources of the U.S. Congress and the American people will be behind them on every step