

beneficial US-Taiwan partnership. It's important that we continue to build our alliance on a mutual commitment to the rule of law, free and fair elections, and free enterprise. It is in that spirit that the Taiwan government offers the Taiwan Fellowship to students: so that our friendship and mutual understanding will continue into future generations.

COMMENDING THE EFFORTS OF
"DO MORE 24—ONE DAY. OUR
COMMUNITY."

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the tremendous efforts of "Do More 24—One Day. Our Community." Today, June 19th, thousands of residents from across the National Capital Region will help make a positive, lasting contribution to those in our community in need of assistance through the region's largest philanthropic giving day: Do More 24.

For 24 hours only, residents will go to domore24.org and choose an organization or cause closest to their hearts to support. They will be able to contribute to one or more of the 550 participating nonprofits serving our neighbors in Northern Virginia, the District of Columbia, and suburban Maryland by providing food, shelter, education, and access to medical care, affordable housing, and other essential services.

Launched by United Way of the National Capital Area last year, the Do More 24 campaign helps nonprofits raise money during the difficult summer months, when many nonprofits see a drop off in donations that creates gaps in their budgets. Last year, 11,000 donors contributed \$1.3 million during the Do More 24 blitz. Their generosity allowed our regional nonprofits to serve more people, expand their programs, and buy necessary equipment.

For example, Martha's Table, which has been providing food to families for 35 years, plans to use this year's Do More 24 donations to expand its "Summer Food Fund" to provide breakfast and lunch for children who would normally receive those meals through school. Hunger doesn't take a summer break, and neither will Martha's Table.

Joseph's House, another nonprofit, provides nursing and support services to homeless men and women struggling with AIDS and cancer. Its mission is to "nurture the living and accompany the dying." Thanks to last year's donations, Joseph's House was able to purchase a desperately needed new van and cover food costs that had exceeded its budget.

Mr. Speaker, Do More 24 encourages us to imagine a community where every man, woman, and child is healthy, fed, educated, and employed. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the United Way of the National Capital Area for this initiative and in thanking the thousands of residents who participate. I encourage us all to consider how we can "Do More" for our local community on June 19th.

AZERBAIJAN'S REPUBLIC DAY

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Republic of Azerbaijan on its commemoration of Republic Day, a remembrance of an extremely important event in Azerbaijani history. When the Russian Empire collapsed in 1917, it brought chaos to the region. On May 28, 1918, the Muslim National Council adopted a Declaration of Independence, and established an independent Azerbaijan Democratic Republic in the southern and south-eastern Caucasus.

Along with the establishment of this Democratic Republic, Azerbaijan adopted several laws, the most famous among these was the establishment of the right to vote for women, a full year before it was adopted in the United States. Azerbaijanis also received the rights to assembly, speech, and religion.

This new and leading democracy flourished until it was crushed by a military attack of the Soviet Union in April 1920, and all government institutions of Azerbaijan were abolished. Sadly, it took another 71 years of Russian repression until Azerbaijan could, once again, establish an independent Democracy.

Today, we remember the courage and foresight of this independent Democratic Republic and we wish them well for the future.

RECOGNIZING PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE RECRUIT CLASS 2014-01

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the most recent graduates of the Prince William County Public Safety Academy. As they join the ranks of the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue, these men and women are entering a proud profession with a rich history.

Securing a position as a first responder begins with a competitive application process. Recruits must then complete a rigorous and comprehensive 23 week training program before graduating as a Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue Technician I.

A Technician I is trained in emergency medical services, fire prevention and countless other public safety measures. The certifications required to reach the status of a Technician I cannot be accomplished without dedication and hard work. The graduates have completed the requisite coursework for certification in CPR, Infection Control, CISM, EMT-B, Firefighter I, Firefighter II, EVOC 2, EVOC 3, Flashover Simulation, RIT, Mayday, Hazmat Awareness/Operations, Swift Water Rescue Awareness, LPG with Simulation, Rural Water Supply, BLS Protocols, Rope Rescue Awareness, Vehicle Rescue Awareness and Child Passenger Safety Seat Installation. Each graduate has completed more than 600 hours of training and education.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of the Prince Wil-

liam County Department of Fire and Rescue Recruit Class 2014-01:

Joel Bernardo, Ryan Beuttenmuller, Peter Francisco, Brendan Galvan, Andrew Mullinax, Daryl Palumbo, Lauren Pinkston, Rachel Reardon, Craig Walton, Jordan Wiley, and Travis Zimmerman.

There are many reasons that firefighters and first responders are known as America's Heroes. These brave men and women regularly put the lives and well-being of those they serve ahead of their own. I am confident that this newest group of graduates will serve the citizens of Prince William County with distinction and honor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the newest members of Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue. I want to thank them for making this commitment to public service in our community, and, in the tradition of their new firefighting family, I say, Stay Safe.

CONGRATULATING FORT LAUDERDALE AS AN ALL-AMERICAN CITY

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fort Lauderdale for being one of only 10 communities nationwide selected as an All-America City.

Established in 1949 by the National Civic League, the All-America City Award recognizes cities and towns across the country for exemplary community-based problem solving and civic engagement efforts that involve public, private, and non-profit entities.

I would like to congratulate Mayor Seiler and his staff, Fort Lauderdale's residents, and all its community and business leaders on this accomplishment.

Together, you're helping make Fort Lauderdale an outstanding place to live, work, visit, and raise a family.

RECOGNIZING THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY AND HONOREES OF THE VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF THE GLOBAL ORGANIZATION OF PEOPLE OF INDIAN ORIGIN

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Virginia Chapter of the Global Organization of the People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) on the occasion of its 5th Anniversary and to recognize this year's honorees.

GOPIO was founded at the First Global Convention of People of Indian Origin in New York in 1989. The initial purpose of GOPIO was fighting human rights violations of people of Indian origin. While we have seen improvements over the years, human rights violations continue to be a major issue for people of Indian origin living outside India. In 2001, GOPIO was accredited by the U.N. as an NGO to participate in the World Conference