

charitable work. Makenna's selfless actions and commitment to public service is an inspiration to all of us, and for that we honor her.

ETHAN CRANSTON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ethan Cranston for earning third place in the C-SPAN StudentCam competition.

This nationwide competition is an opportunity to encourage students to learn more about the three branches of government by telling a story or demonstrating a policy or law that affected them or their community. Ethan and his project, 'Marijuana in Colorado—The Road to Ruin or Reward', was picked out of 2,280 entries nationwide and 5,000 participants.

Congratulations to Ethan on this tremendous accomplishment and well-deserved prize. Thank you for your interest and participation in our community, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ERWIN GAINES

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Erwin Gaines—father, husband, grandfather, businessman and inventor—who passed away on April 12, 2015, at the age of 79.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Erwin was a graduate of Von Steuben High School where he was a star soccer player. He went on to serve in the United States Army in Europe and after receiving an Honorable Discharge, he moved to Los Angeles, California. He was a businessman and inventor who received numerous patents for medical supply products. During his business career he worked internationally in Mexico, China and throughout Europe. Erwin volunteered in the community serving as a coach and as President of the Victory National Little League.

Erwin was an avid fisherman and a Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club Knot Tying Champion. He was a devoted fan of the Los Angeles Dodgers and longtime season ticket holder. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Arlene, his sons, Calabasas City Councilmember Fred Gaines and Jeffrey Gaines, his daughters-in-law, Las Virgenes Unified School District Board Member Jill Gaines and Vivian Gaines, and his five granddaughters.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Erwin Gaines.

OUTSTANDING LEADER

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Julie Diaz for being named the

new principal of Travis High School in Richmond, TX by the Fort Bend Independent School District (FBISD).

After completing her education at the University of Houston and the University of Iowa, Principal Diaz began her 30 year career as an elementary school teacher. She has worked with FBISD for the past 23 years. Her exemplary efforts have led to her two nominations as a campus Teacher of the Year, and also as a District Elementary Teacher of the year finalist. Our community is lucky to have outstanding educators like Principal Diaz.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Julie Diaz on being named the new principal of Travis High School. We know that you will continue to be an outstanding leader, and we wish you the best of luck at Travis High School.

ALEXA VANSCHAARDENBURG

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Alexa VanSchaardenburg for earning third place in the C-SPAN StudentCam competition.

This nationwide competition is an opportunity to encourage students to learn more about the three branches of government by telling a story or demonstrating a policy or law that affected them or their community. Alexa and her project, 'Marijuana in Colorado—The Road to Ruin or Reward', was picked out of 2,280 entries nationwide and 5,000 participants.

Congratulations to Alexa on this tremendous accomplishment and well-deserved prize. Thank you for your interest and participation in our community, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for the vote on H.R. 373 but had I been present, I would have voted "yes." The Good Samaritan Search and Recovery Act would allow volunteer search groups faster access to public lands to conduct searches for missing persons. This legislation will help first responders as well as victims and families in difficult situations and I support its enactment.

I was absent for the vote on H.R. 1324 but had I been present, I would have voted "yes." The Arapaho National Forest Boundary Adjustment Act of 2015 will adjust the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest in Colorado to incorporate additional land.

HONORING EL DÍA DE LOS NIÑOS

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Aurora Hispanic Heritage Advisory Board's el Día de los Niños festival.

Since 1925, Día del niño, or the Day of the Child, has been celebrated throughout Latin America. In 2001, the City of Aurora's Hispanic Heritage Advisory Board started the annual tradition of celebrating el Día de los Niños, a festival recognizing children and their importance in society.

The Aurora Hispanic Heritage Advisory Board, along with local school districts, uses the festival to promote learning among children through literacy programs, educational activities, and live entertainment. El Día de los Niños is a celebration of our community's diverse heritage, as well as a celebration of the bright future that lies ahead for these children.

I would like to thank the Aurora Hispanic Heritage Advisory Board for their commitment to promoting literacy for children and diversity in our community through el Día de los Niños.

JAKE FETTIG

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jake Fettig on his honorable mention in the C-SPAN StudentCam competition.

This nationwide competition is an opportunity to encourage students to learn more about the three branches of government by telling a story or demonstrating a policy or law that affected them or their community. Jake and his project, 'Should Space Exploration and Travel be Publicly Funded?', was picked out of 2,280 entries nationwide and 5,000 participants.

Congratulations to Jake on this tremendous accomplishment and well-deserved prize. Thank you for your interest and participation in our community, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAN MATEO PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 90th anniversary of San Mateo Park Elementary School, the oldest continuing elementary school in the San Mateo-Foster City School District.

Park School has educated over 20,000 students and serves a diverse student body. The school community can only be characterized as open, enriching and striving for excellence. The comprehensive curriculum aims at supporting each student to reach his or her fullest potential.

All students, those with exceptional abilities to those with exceptional needs, are prepared to become responsible, ethical citizens and leaders of the future. They are taught to develop critical and creative thinking, problem solving and good communication in a safe environment that encourages risk taking and self-reliance.

To create such an environment, Park School relies on very talented and dedicated teachers and staff. Teachers are fully credentialed and many of them bring more than 10 years of experience to the classroom. Some of them hold advanced degrees in music, special education, administration or counseling. They speak multiple languages and have interests ranging from scuba diving to gardening. Staff members are trained in CELDT, Early Literacy Training, NOYCE training, Math Lesson Study and Art. Put succinctly, the staff is as diverse and interesting as the student body, a perfect dynamic to build an environment that fosters a love of life-long learning and a deep sense of community.

Park School has led the school district in initiatives that support literary skills for below-level readers through its Panther Reading program. The program was created by teachers and parents in 2013. It was so successful that the district quickly embraced it and rolled it out to other schools.

Park School had modest beginnings. It started out as a firehouse on the corner of Clark Drive and Crescent Avenue that was remodeled into a two-room school in 1925. The small school soon couldn't meet demands and a new school with five classrooms and an auditorium was built and opened for 150 students in April 1929. Within a year, a cafeteria was added, a playground installed, a library organized and more land was purchased for additional expansion. In 1966, plans were made for a new school to be built on Clark and Crescent, the location where Park School remains to this day. The new school had a pod arrangement with the library in the center and rooms for individual, group and total class instruction around it. It opened in 1969. Everyone at Park School will tell you that change is constant. Over the years, a computer lab, a speech therapy room and a school child care were added. A large group instruction building opened in 1999 offering students a place for performing arts, physical education and leadership skills. The physical landscape of Park School continues to change and adapt, always keeping a focus on providing the most excellent education opportunities for the students.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House of Representatives rise with me to recognize the great and lasting contributions that a small elementary school in San Mateo, California has made to the community. Park School has given thousands of children the foundation for successful careers and lives as responsible and productive citizens. Park School is a shining example of what a school can be.

IMPRESSIVE LIST OF VICTORIES

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the outstanding members of the

CRyptonite Robotics Team 624 of Cinco Ranch High School on their victory at the highly-competitive Utah Regional Robotics Tournament.

The students worked together with faculty and other local mentors to design and construct a robot prototype. The machine was then tailored to accomplish specific tasks in a game during the competition. CRyptonite's robot performed flawlessly, and also won the Dallas Regional's Imagery Award, which honors outstanding visual aesthetic integration of the robot's overall engineering and the team's appearance. This exceptional team is adding yet another banner to an already impressive list of victories.

On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the CRyptonite Robotics Team 624 of Cinco Ranch High School on their victory at the Utah Regional Robotics Tournament. We know that you will continue to amaze us at the world championship, and we wish you the best of luck in the future.

OLIVIA BOHL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Olivia Bohl on her honorable mention in the C-SPAN StudentCam competition.

This nationwide competition is an opportunity to encourage students to learn more about the three branches of government by telling a story or demonstrating a policy or law that affected them or their community. Olivia and her project, 'Should Space Exploration and Travel be Publicly Funded?', was picked out of 2,280 entries nationwide and 5,000 participants.

Congratulations to Olivia on this tremendous accomplishment and well-deserved prize. Thank you for your interest and participation in our community, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF JACOB MILLER'S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and offer my personal congratulations to Jacob Miller, the first UMass Dartmouth student to be named as a Truman Scholar.

Founded by Congress in 1975, the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation provides scholarships to college juniors who demonstrate outstanding potential and who plan to pursue a career in public service.

A Fairhaven resident and a dual political science and English major, he will receive \$30,000 towards graduate school and the opportunity to prepare for a career in public service.

It comes as no surprise that Jacob has earned this distinction considering he has cho-

sen to spend his time giving back—from helping create a cultural district in downtown New Bedford to effectively advocating for lower health care costs for students.

Known for his civic engagement and service at UMass Dartmouth, he has worked on small business creation, workforce development programs, and registering hundreds to vote. He also serves as a student representative to the UMass Board of Trustees.

As someone who got his start in the Massachusetts State House at a young age, Jacob embodies what our country needs in its future leaders.

On behalf of Massachusetts' 9th Congressional District, I congratulate Jacob Miller. I look forward to seeing all that he accomplishes and I wish him all the very best in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, on April 28, 2015, I was unavoidably detained in my district and missed recorded votes #174–175. Had I been present, on Roll Call #174, H.R. 373—Good Samaritan Search and Recovery Act, I would have voted YEA, and on Roll Call #175, H.R. 1324—Arapaho National Forest Boundary Adjustment Act of 2015, I would have voted YEA.

RECOGNIZING AMBASSADOR WILLIAM GREEN MILLER

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a loyal patriot and statesman, Ambassador William Green Miller, for his longtime work and commitment to building a strong and resilient US-Ukraine relationship. This week, Ambassador Miller will be receiving the Alexander B. Chernyk Medal for outstanding leadership and deep commitment to US-Ukraine affairs, presented by my constituents in the Greater Philadelphia Area. As the Co-Chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, I would like to thank Ambassador Miller for his many years of service and dedication to this cause.

With an education from Williams College, Oxford and Harvard, Ambassador Miller entered the Foreign Service in 1959, serving five years in Iran before transitioning back to Washington as a line officer and in the office of Secretary of State Dean Rusk. In the years to follow, he served as a foreign policy and defense adviser to Senator John Sherman Cooper, and held the position of Associate Dean and Professor of International Politics of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. In 1986, Ambassador Miller returned to Washington as President of the American Committee on United States-Soviet Relations, where his position admitted him to travel frequently throughout the Soviet Union, obtaining direct knowledge of the monumental changes taking place in the region.