

HONORING ALEX ARGYLE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alex Argyle. Alex is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 125, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Alex has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM G. DRESSSEL, JR.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of William G. Dressel, Jr. as he prepares to retire as Executive Director of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities this year. Mr. Dressel has dedicated 41 years to the League and his achievements are to be celebrated.

Joining the New Jersey State League of Municipalities staff in 1974, Mr. Dressel held various positions in the organization until being selected to serve as Executive Director in 1995. As Executive Director, Mr. Dressel has overseen a twenty member staff, an operating budget of over \$3 million and five full-time lobbyists. In addition to his tenure at the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, Mr. Dressel served on the National League of Cities Executive Board for two years.

Mr. Dressel has been an effective voice for New Jersey's municipalities and his commitment to government is evident. He has fought on behalf of local government and helped advance their goals and meet their needs. Under his leadership, the League has grown, with all 565 New Jersey municipalities participating in the volunteer association for the past five years. Additionally, the League's Annual Conference is the largest of its kind, with nearly 20,000 attendees each year.

Mr. Dressel holds a Masters Degree in Public Administration from West Virginia University and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and Social Science from Elon College. He has been recognized over the years for his outstanding service, receiving the John G. Stutz Award for 25 Years of State League Service by the National League of Cities, the Rutgers Award for Public Service to New Jersey for Excellence in promoting and supporting municipal government and Preservation New Jersey's Sarah P. Fiske Award for

his efforts to rehabilitate the Ferdinand W. Roebing Sr. Mansion as the League of Municipality's headquarters.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating William Dressel, Jr. on his retirement and thanking him for his service to New Jersey. Mr. Dressel's commitment to the betterment of our communities is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

CELEBRATING THE 67TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 67th anniversary of Israeli Independence, Yom Ha'atzmaut. The story of Israel is one of a country that for 67 years has defied all odds and a long list of existential threats not only to exist but to thrive as a powerhouse of innovation and national resilience.

Every year, the celebration of the birth of the Jewish state comes on the heels of Israel's Memorial Day, Yom Ha'zikaron. The sirens that ring throughout the country to mark the day of remembrance serve as a stark reminder of the ultimate price its citizens have paid to make the State of Israel possible.

The special relationship between our two countries spans all of Israel's 67 years, beginning the moment that President Harry Truman famously recognized the State of Israel only 11 minutes after its declaration of statehood on May 14, 1948.

Since that time, Israel has served as a bright beacon of democracy and human rights in a region scarce with both. As terrorist groups like ISIS spread their brutality, a civil war rages in Syria that has claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands of civilians, and a regime in Iran calls for the annihilation of Israel as it pursues a nuclear program, we are reminded of the importance of our alliance and shared values. On this day, we must reaffirm our steadfast commitment to the State of Israel and our shared goals of democracy, peace, security, and prosperity.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the people and leaders of Israel chag sameach and a happy 67th Independence Day.

HONORING SETH ARGYLE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Seth Argyle. Seth is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 125, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Seth has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Seth has been involved with

scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Seth has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

NATIONAL DISTINCTION

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the City of Meadows Place and their fire department on receiving the rare national distinction of a PPC top ranking of 1. Out of the 48,000 other communities that were evaluated, only 80 out of the entire nation have received such an incredible ranking from the Insurance Services Office (ISO).

The ISO utilizes a classification system to rank cities on their Fire Department's ability to protect their communities from fire-related incidents. The system evaluates fire alarm facilities, fire suppression equipment, and other fire department procedures. This comprehensive evaluation method demonstrates that it takes both exemplary city leadership and a dedicated Fire Department to achieve a ranking of this superior level. The leadership and Fire Department of the City of Meadows Place have truly prioritized the safety and welfare of their citizens.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the City of Meadows Place and its Fire Department on receiving the highest rank from the ISO. We know that you will continue to set an example in excellence, and we thank you for your service.

IN HONOR OF THOMAS A. BEATON

HON. BRUCE POLIQUIN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mr. POLIQUIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise along with my colleague Mr. MOULTON of Massachusetts to commemorate Thomas A. Beaton, Phillips Academy Andover Class of 1973, as he completes his service as the President of the Phillips Academy Alumni Council. I want to celebrate Tom as a role model that embodies our school's "non sibi" motto, which translates to "not for self."

An energetic volunteer and philanthropic supporter of Andover, Tom has served as a member of the Alumni Council since 2004, during which time he twice co-chaired the Non Sibi Committee and the Mentoring Committee. Mr. Beaton also cofounded the Andover and the Military Committee, among other activities.

Today, we want to celebrate the fact that, in 2007, Tom pioneered Non Sibi Day, Andover's worldwide service effort in which alumni, parents, faculty and students participate. Under Tom's leadership and steadfast support, Non Sibi Day has evolved into what is now known