

HONORING FORMER CERES POLICE CHIEF GAIL W. "PETE" PETERSON

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 17, 2015*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life of a leader in the Ceres community, former Ceres Police Chief Gail W. "Pete" Peterson. The beloved father, son and husband died peacefully at the age of 77 after a courageous eight month battle with bladder cancer.

Pete was born on November 28, 1937 to Milburn and Lucille Peterson in the charming town of Panton, Illinois. In his adult years, Pete found his calling in law enforcement when he became a reserve officer for the Newport Beach Police Department. Following his service in Newport Beach, he moved to the Laguna Beach department and then on to the City of Orange, known as a "major city with small-town ambiance."

During Pete's time at the Orange Police Department, he took many different positions. Initially, he started as a patrolman, but was quickly promoted to the first accident investigation officer. Not one to rest on his laurels, he became a motorcycle officer and continued to further his career by being promoted from Sergeant to Lieutenant. From there, Pete migrated to Idaho where he became the Chief of Police for the Moscow Police Department.

Chief Peterson began his distinguished career with the Ceres Department of Public Safety on June 30, 1983 where he spent sixteen years of his life being a local hero. Pete was involved in integrating the Ceres Police Department headquarters and the Ceres Fire Department into one department of Public Safety. He introduced new technology and instrumental programs into the police department such as mobile data terminals, the canine unit and a motorcycle unit which the department still utilizes today.

Admired by each member of the public safety family, Chief Peterson is fondly remembered for positively impacting the lives of his fellow officers by his concern, dedication and leadership. To honor him, his name will be put on the new Ceres Police Department building where his commitment to serving the Ceres community can be forever acknowledged.

Believing that community involvement is important, Chief Peterson was an active member of the Rotary Club of Ceres and the Ceres Lions Club. In addition, he was also the former president of the Stanislaus County Peace Officer Association.

After retiring in 1999, Pete and his loving wife of 27 years, Karen Peterson, spent time at their vacation homes but made their residence in Modesto, California. Together they have a large, loving family who were there at every opportunity to lend their love and moral support. Pete is survived by his daughter, Lisa Kermode and sons: Brett Peterson, Jeff Peterson, Steve Peterson, Ken Katz, Kim Katz, Khris Katz, and Kurt Katz as well as his grandchildren, Jeff Cravens, Jesse Peterson, Shaun Peterson, Tanner Peterson, Matthew Peterson, Jordan Katz, Rebecca Hailstones, Kelly Kermode, Abigale Kermode, Chelsea Hanneyer, Jo Lynn Peterson, Hannah Peterson, Erika Webber, Brittaney Da Branca, Kendra Katz, Tara Katz and six great grand-

children. Pete is preceded in death by his parents and oldest son, Chris Peterson.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and recognizing Gail W. "Pete" Peterson for his unwavering dedication to the Ceres Department of Public Safety and the community at large. He was a true hero to his family, fellow officers and the City of Ceres; he will be deeply missed by many. God bless him always.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PETER WELCH**

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 17, 2015*

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I would have voted 'Aye' on the Schiff of California Amendment No. 6 to H.R. 2596.

REMEMBERING JOAN MARIE DONNELLY

**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 17, 2015*

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, on July 16, 2010 at 2:45 p.m., an email was sent to proud grandparents to announce the birth of their seventeenth grandchild, born earlier that day, "Mom and baby boy are both doing well". Joan Marie Donnelly had given birth to her son, Max. Her parents, Bob and Rose Mary Donnelly, were overjoyed and her husband and daughter, Todd and Sofie Marie, were preparing for little Max's homecoming. What a spectacular moment in a family's life. Unfortunately, this abundance of happiness soon turned into tragedy. Joan suffered from eclampsia and died at their home just days after giving birth on August 6, 2010.

Worldwide, preeclampsia and other hypertensive disorders of pregnancy are a leading cause of maternal and infant illness and death. Thousands of women and babies die or get very sick each year from preeclampsia, a life-threatening disorder that occurs only during pregnancy and the postpartum period. Eclampsia is a variant of preeclampsia that causes seizures to occur. For Joan, this tragedy could have been prevented, but instead Joan succumbed to a perfect storm of neglected symptoms.

"The Donnelly Clan", a Catholic, Irish and Italian Family from West Virginia included Bob, Rose Mary and their nine children. Joan was their eighth child, born on May 24, 1967. Joan had a wonderful smile and a laugh that was contagious and she had dreams to travel, start a career, fall in love, have children, save animals, and help her family. Her dreams came true when she moved to Florida and started her 22-year career with Walt Disney World. She met Todd in 2001 when the two became good friends while traveling. They were married in Florence, Italy in 2006.

Joan had three pregnancies with two births as did her youngest sister, Mia. Their mother similarly had twelve pregnancies with nine births. These three women were each diagnosed with preeclampsia, are diabetic, and suffered miscarriages. The death of a child is one of the hardest obstacles in life. The pain

of having your child go before you is unspeakable.

Joan's life was celebrated at her funeral mass on August 12, 2010 with over 300 mourners. Joan will be remembered, not by her death, but by how she lived her life.

Joan's family has hope that changes can be made to federal law in honor of Joan to save women who are at high risk of preeclampsia from suffering as she did. The family advocates for a number of reforms to prevent eclampsia including better screening during pregnancy; proper testing; more education for patients and doctors on preeclampsia and eclampsia; and longer hospital stays. Joan's family will continue to educate the public about preeclampsia and eclampsia by talking about Joan to all that will listen so that her untimely death is not in vain.

RECOGNIZING KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 17, 2015*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to Kiwanis International on the 100th anniversary of a global service organization of more than 600,000 members. Kiwanis club members contribute to their communities in countless ways through service projects and fundraising. Along with the recognition of this milestone day, Kiwanis clubs in Bucks County have carried on the Kiwanis mission of changing the world, one child and one community at a time. Each year, Kiwanis raises more than (U.S.) \$100 million and acquires 18.5 million volunteer hours toward strengthening their communities and serving children. In addition to its community work, The Eliminate Project is a notable Kiwanis campaign that focuses on saving and protecting millions of mothers and their future children. In partnership with UNICEF, the clubs are working to eliminate a disease that kills one baby every 11 minutes and has pledged to raise (U.S.) \$110 million toward this life-saving goal. Again, congratulations for 100 years of dedicated service to the worldwide and local communities and best wishes for future success.

HONORING CINDY HALEY

**HON. JASON SMITH**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 17, 2015*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cindy Haley on her 20th anniversary working at the Texas County Food Pantry in Houston, Missouri. The food pantry assists those in the community in need of food, clothing, health care, and shelter.

Mrs. Haley began her work at the food pantry in May of 1995 and has set a wonderful example of hard work and selflessness. Today she serves as the food pantry's patient advocate, bookkeeper and grant writer and has helped bring more than 3 million dollars to Texas County over the past two decades. The food pantry will be celebrating with a party for Mrs. Haley on June 17th.