

TRIBUTE TO THE GIRLS' VARSITY
SOFTBALL TEAM OF VALOR
CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Girls' Varsity Softball team of Valor Christian High School in Highlands Ranch, Colorado on winning the 2015 Colorado 4A State Championship game on October 25, 2015.

The students and staff who were a part of the title winning Eagle team deserve to be honored for finishing what had already been a fantastic season by winning the State Championship for the second time in two years. Recording 15 shutouts from their 23 victories, and outscoring their opponents 285–29 helps to illustrate just how dominant the Valor Christian Eagles were this past season.

Throughout their performances in the State Championships, the girls of Valor Christian High School's softball team proved that hard work, dedication, and perseverance is the perfect recipe for champions. The team was led to the championship title through the tireless leadership of their head coach, Dave Atencio, and his commendable staff.

I also congratulate the teachers and parents of this great team. The faculty who supported the Eagles throughout the season must be recognized. No team, no matter how talented and committed, can rise to the level of State Champions without exceptional support and guidance from their teachers and parents.

It is with great pride that I join with the families of Highlands Ranch, Colorado, in congratulating the Valor Christian Eagles on their second straight State Championship.

HONORING ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF
JOHN IZAK OF THE NOTTINGHAM
FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Assistant Fire Chief John Izak of the Nottingham Fire Dept. for the swift action that saved the life of a 14-year-old boy who had collapsed on the soccer field. A trained first responder, Mr. Izak, was able to do the right thing at the right time. He assessed the patient, called 911, provided CPR and helped other responders with defibrillation that restarted the heart of Trevor Newhouse.

All of these vital steps led to Trevor's quick diagnosis, treatment and recovery. The Newhouse family, and the entire 8th Congressional District, would like to thank Assistant Chief Izak for his life-saving work and dedication to our community. The greater community also acknowledges all of the first responders who helped in this incident. We appreciate your 24-7 commitment to the residents of Bucks County.

John Izak's selflessness and quick thinking saved a young life. He has set a powerful example for others to follow.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL
SALAZAR

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Michael Salazar for his six years of service on the San Bruno City Council, the last year as Vice Mayor. I came to know Michael during his first year on the council when a horrendous tragedy killed eight residents and destroyed a neighborhood in the city he represented. Michael rose to the unthinkable challenges related to the PG&E gas pipeline explosion of 2010 and helped guide the city through the aftermath.

Michael served on the council subcommittee on schools, on the subcommittee on utilities and garbage, and he represented San Bruno on the county's Peninsula Clean Energy Advisory Board. He also served on the council committee known as Project Pride. The committee's goal is to instill in San Bruno residents a feeling of pride about the community by increasing communication between ever-larger numbers of San Bruno residents. San Bruno is a wonderful community, and the city's focus on community spirit is an important objective of the council.

During his time on the council, Michael Salazar was also instrumental in establishing the guidelines for the San Bruno Community Foundation, a non-profit created by the City Council to manage a \$70 million restitution fund to benefit the entire San Bruno community after the PG&E explosion. Establishing this independent non-profit allows the city to engage very large numbers of residents in setting goals and building more community benefits that will last for decades. Michael has encouraged residents to let their voices be heard before the board of the nonprofit, and to actively engage in helping to set priorities.

On every issue that came before the council, Michael showed deep understanding and commitment to the best possible outcome. Councilman Salazar works in technology, biotechnology and finance, and has done so for over two decades. The council and the residents benefited greatly from his years of experience in the private sector. He was exhaustive in his examination of the city's budgets, and encouraged city staff to explore new ways to deliver city services.

There have been many difficult issues confronted in the remarkable community of San Bruno during the time that Michael served on the council. These include but are not limited to downtown height limits, grade separating Caltrain, dealing with the aftermath of the 2010 gas pipeline explosion, reducing city expenditures during the recession, and identifying priorities and funding mechanisms for the replacement of aging public infrastructure. Michael was unfailingly respectful towards his colleagues and the public during these long conversations.

San Bruno is a city that pays special attention to children, and it has many active houses of worship. Michael coached several youth sports leagues, such as Tee Ball, Jr. Giants Baseball and AYSO Soccer. He has been very active in the schools and at Saint Robert's Catholic Church where he serves as a Eucharistic minister, helped with a children's liturgy

group and served as a member of the social concerns committee. As a longtime board member of St. Robert's and chairman of the parish festival, he volunteered many hours of his time. He also regularly participates in San Bruno's Building Together projects and the annual Clean Sweep event.

Michael was born in San Francisco and holds a Bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering from California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Rochester, New York.

Michael and his wife, Sandra, have been married for 18 years and have two sons, Michael and Nicholas.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor my good friend and colleague Michael Salazar. I deeply admire and respect him for his integrity, diligence and commitment to others. As an unfailingly polite voice during times of challenge, he set the gold standard for patience when tried by circumstance. He will be missed but fondly remembered as he begins a new life of private endeavor after his distinguished years in service to his outstanding community of San Bruno.

SENSE OF CONGRESS ON ENSURING
PROMPT PAYMENT OF DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED
BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, small businesses owned by disadvantaged minorities (DBEs) are significantly affected when they are not promptly paid for the work that they do. Lack of prompt payment constitutes a very real barrier to the ability of DBEs to compete in the marketplace. Non-DBE small businesses are also affected by late payment problems.

That is the reason the Department issued its Prompt Payment regulation in the first place.

Under this regulation, "Payment is required only for satisfactory completion of the subcontractor's work." So we are not talking about cases where the prime and subcontractor have a disagreement about the work that was done.

In a recent briefing to my office, the Department of Transportation Inspector General cited the case of a DBE from Florida that got certified as a DBE, bid and won work on an airport project, and satisfactorily completed the work. However, she didn't get paid in a timely manner and eventually was sued by her suppliers who she couldn't pay.

A prompt payment requirement for all subcontractors is a race-neutral measure that assists all subcontractors if they are complied with. However, the concern is that they are not and small disadvantaged businesses which have small margins already, are further squeezed when they aren't paid in a timely manner for work already performed.

In its recent report, the Department of Transportation's Inspector General reaffirmed that failure to promptly pay DBEs continues to be a major barrier and obstacle for these small businesses in the transportation arena.

According to that report, “for several firms we interviewed, payment delays caused cash flow problems, prevented them from paying subcontractors and suppliers, and subjected them to costly lawsuits.”

That report further noted oversight weaknesses of prompt payment issues raised by DBEs to the FAA. This is not just an FAA issue. Those same concerns are applicable across the Department.

Despite progress in this area, major barriers impede the success of new and existing disadvantaged firms. One of those is delayed payments. If these small businesses don't get paid on time, their likelihood of remaining a viable business drastically decreases.

That is why I am grateful for the inclusion of my amendment to H.R. 22 calling on the Department of Transportation to enforce its current rules better. With that bill now law, I urge the Department to make this a priority and to strengthen efforts to make sure that these small businesses get paid on time for doing the quality work they contracted to do.

TRIBUTE TO HEATHER MCKAY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Heather McKay of Atlantic, Iowa, for being selected as the Administrator of the Year by the Iowa Press Association. This award is given to administrators for their dedication and commitment to journalism education in their schools or school districts.

Heather has a background in journalism education and understands the importance that it plays in our society today. She was an English and Journalism teacher at Atlantic High School before becoming the school principal. Throughout Heather's career she has always strived for the best from herself and especially for her students. She is devoted to helping her Atlantic High School students grow and learn so that they have the opportunity to be successful in all they pursue.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Heather for earning this award. She is a shining example of how hard work and dedication can affect the future of our youth. I urge my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Heather and wishing her nothing but continued success.

MEK IN IRAQ

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am very concerned that we are not doing enough to get the MEK out of Iraq. The MEK are Iranians stuck in a camp in Iraq because they oppose the Supreme Leader of Iran. The Iraqi government has capitulated time and again to the Supreme Leader by allowing armed militants to attack the MEK camp, even though the MEK voluntarily gave up their weapons

and have no way to defend themselves. Dozens have died in this inexcusable brutality. The MEK has given us valuable information about Iran's nuclear program and simply wants freedom for all Iranian people. The United States State Department has been dilatory in helping protect these Iranian dissidents. We need to do more to resettle the MEK in another country besides Iraq. They are not safe there.

And that's just the way it is.

IN RECOGNITION OF JEFFREY HAY'S TENURE AS PRESIDENT OF THE BRITISH-AMERICAN BUSINESS COUNCIL

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the successful tenure of Mr. Jeffrey Hay as President of the British-American Business Council of North Carolina (BABC-NC). For the past three years, Mr. Hay has provided exceptional leadership at the BABC-NC that has resulted in the reemergence of the BABC-NC as a premier chapter in the BABC and has strengthened the business relationship between North Carolina and the United Kingdom.

The BABC is a transatlantic business network designed to give companies and individuals access to partner organizations, both domestic and foreign, in order to strengthen and improve their own businesses. As President of the BABC-NC, Mr. Hay is responsible for ensuring North Carolina businesses and individuals reap the full rewards of being BABC members and expand their presence in North Carolina and the United Kingdom. As a result of his efforts, the BABC-NC has been able to reach more businesses in the state, greatly impacting our state's economy.

In addition to his business-related work within the BABC-NC, Mr. Hay's impact on our community can also be seen through his efforts to help our state's future business leaders. Mr. Hay was instrumental in raising the necessary funds to continue the annual British Studies Summer Program (BSSP), a program that sends a select group of students from the Charlotte area on a two-week travel and study experience to the United Kingdom. This program allows students to gain valuable educational and life experiences which will have a lasting impact on their careers. It is with this focus on enriching the lives of others, coupled with his keen legal and business insights, which made Mr. Hay so successful during his tenure as President of the BABC-NC.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Jeffrey Hay for his successful tenure as President of the British-American Business Council of North Carolina, and thanking him for his dedication to strengthening businesses across the state of North Carolina.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MAYOR JOHN C. ADDLEMAN

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mayor of Rolling Hills Estates, California, John C. Addleman, who is retiring on December 8, 2015, after 18 years of dedicated service on the City Council.

I want to commend Mayor Addleman for his commitment to our mutual constituents of Rolling Hills Estates, as well as residents of the entire Palos Verdes Peninsula and South Bay areas.

Mayor Addleman began his service to Rolling Hills Estates in 1994 by serving on the city's Planning Commission. He served three years on the Planning Commission prior to his election to the City Council in January 1997. Over the years he has served on the Budget and Audit Committee, Regional Law Enforcement Committee, Stable Concessionaire Search Committee, Economic Development Committee and Chamber Liaison, Traffic and Safety Committee Chair, L.A. County Sanitation Districts Board of Directors.

Mayor Addleman has also served on the Palos Verdes Peninsula Transit Authority as Chair, Vice Chair to the South Bay Cities Council of Governments Metro South Bay Governance Council, and as Finance Committee Chair and Executive Member to the Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Board. He has also served on the Executive Board of the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority and on the Transportation Committee of the Southern California Association of Governments.

Through his outstanding service to the community, Mayor Addleman has exemplified the best ideals of a public servant. I am proud to honor Mayor John C. Addleman of Rolling Hills Estates and thank him for his dedication to so many of the residents of the 33rd Congressional District.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I wish to clarify my position on Roll Call vote 665. On agreeing to the Conference Report to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, I voted Aye. I wish to explain further why I voted in favor of this reauthorization.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is a good fix to the monolithic standards of No Child Left Behind. Now we have an environment that lets teachers teach and students learn, while maintaining and enhancing the original civil rights intent of the original ESEA.

While ESSA is a significant improvement over current elementary and secondary education standards, I will not claim ESSA is a perfect bill—no bill can ever claim that title. In particular, I was disappointed that all AAPI students will continue to be categorized together as one group when student performance data is aggregated and reported. The