

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful community, I am pleased to congratulate Mr. Hunter Walker on his well-earned retirement. My wife Vicki and I wish him; his wife, Pam; daughter, Sarah; and son, John all the best for continued success.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, INC.

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2015

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc. (CAPSLO) on their 50th anniversary and to highlight its vital role serving our local community.

CAPSLO was established on December 8, 1965. It was created as San Luis Obispo County's official Community Action Agency to eliminate the causes of poverty by empowering low-income individuals and families to achieve self-sufficiency through a wide array of community-based collaborations and programs.

Over the years, it has touched and inspired so many working families through strong partnerships with volunteers, county government, city government, the private sector, and low-income populations throughout the San Luis Obispo community.

Through these partnerships, CAPSLO has worked tirelessly to implement successful programs, such as Early Head Start, Head Start, Migrant and Seasonal Head Start, Supportive Service for Veterans and Families, Homeless Services, and Parent Education and Child Abuse Prevention Services. These programs address the needs of our community by directly combatting poverty and have directly improved the quality of life of local families, strengthened the community, and improved the safety of San Luis Obispo County.

I am pleased to recognize CAPSLO on its 50th anniversary for its leadership and wish the organization luck in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF JUDY WALDEN SCARAFILE

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of Judy Walden Scarafile on the occasion of her retirement as President of the Cape Cod Baseball League. Judy has served this organization honorably for 45 years, including the last 24 as President.

The Cape Cod Baseball League has been an integral and historic component of Massachusetts culture—having been embraced by Cape Cod residents, visitors, and baseball fans alike as a favorite summer pastime since its establishment in 1885. The continued success of the League and that of its individual players—through both collegiate, minor and major league careers—is testament to the

dedication and comradery of its leadership. Judy Scarafile embodies the best of the League and the best of the game of baseball; she is a savvy businesswoman, a respected leader, and a pioneer for women working in sports administration.

Judy's tenure would not have been achieved without her tireless commitment to CCBL, its players, and its fans. She first joined the League in 1970, when longtime head of Public Relations for the Red Sox, Dick Bresciani, her mentor, hired her as an official scorer. For over four decades, Judy's love for baseball and dedication to the League led her to rise through the ranks—from publicity assistant to, since 1991, CCBL's first female president.

As President, Judy Scarafile elevated the Cape Cod Baseball League to unprecedented heights. According to the CCBL Commissioner, her leadership helped the League grow "from little backyard local teams to an international power in terms of collegiate summer baseball." Well over one thousand players trained, coached, and supported by the League have gone on to lasting careers in baseball.

In 2003, the Cape Cod Baseball League honored Judy's achievements by inducting her into the League's Hall of Fame. She is also celebrated among other pioneering females in the game of baseball by the National Baseball Hall of Fame's "Diamond Dreams" exhibit. Among her many other honors and accolades, Judy has also been named the Hyannis Area Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year, presented with the Clara Barton Award by the American Red Cross, and received USA Baseball's Woman of the Year Award.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me great pride to recognize the retirement of Judy Walden Scarafile from her position as President of the Cape Cod Baseball League. Judy has served the many players who pass through the Cape League—and the game of baseball. Though she will be sorely missed, I thank her for her devotion and wish her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF DAVID L. KOLBE

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2015

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend David L. Kolbe of Howard, Ohio for his induction into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame this year. A veteran of the Vietnam War and former fire fighter, David has dedicated his life to both those he served with and served for, returning to Ohio to start a career in public service.

Kolbe was elected Damascus Township Trustee at the age of 33 and later served as Henry County Commissioner for four years, where he helped secure funding for the Henry County Veterans Memorial in 1989. Later, Kolbe helped elect President Bill Clinton in 1992 as Northwest Ohio coordinator for the Ohio Democratic Party.

As a union ironworker by trade, Kolbe has supported unions throughout his life, serving as Political and Legislative Director for the Ohio AFL-CIO in 1994 where he championed

reform on issues from campaign finance reform to prescription drug pricing. He also excelled in the realm of community service, working with the United Way and the Red Cross State Council during his time with the AFL-CIO, later earning an appointment by Governor Bob Taft to the State Community Service Council.

Throughout his life, helping veterans find employment has been David's core focus as a public servant. He has recently worked closely with Helmets to Hardhats, a non-profit organization that helps connect recently returned veterans to employment in the construction industry. In his current role as political and legislative director for the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers, David builds upon his forty year membership in the Iron Workers Local 55 union by serving on the Union Veterans Council executive committee, which he helped found in 2009.

David was nominated for induction into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame by Bob Kane of McClure, Ohio and was inducted on November 5, 2015 at the Lincoln Theater in Columbus, alongside eighteen other distinguished veterans. As a Hall of Fame member, David joins the ranks of an impressive list of distinguished Ohioans, including astronauts, police officers, Medal of Honor Recipients, and former Presidents of the United States.

I could not be prouder of the work David Kolbe has done for veterans in the state of Ohio. I see his career of service as an inspiration. I hope you will all join me in congratulating David and his family for being recognized with this great honor.

HONORING VIRGINIA TECH'S COACH FRANK BEAMER

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2015

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Virginia Tech's Coach Frank Beamer, who after 29 years, will retire at the end of this season as a football coach, mentor, friend and role model on and off the field.

Beamer was a three-year starting cornerback for the Hokies and after taking over as the Hokies' head coach in 1987, he built the football program at his alma mater into a national power.

Coach Beamer stands as the winningest active Division I football coach and the sixth all time with 279 career wins.

During his 29 years at Virginia Tech, he has 237 victories and has guided the Hokies to four ACC titles, three Big East championships, six appearances in BCS bowl games, and has posted 13 seasons with 10 or more wins.

At the end of this month, Virginia Tech will play in a bowl game for the 23rd consecutive year under Beamer's lead, the longest current streak in college football recognized by the NCAA.

Beamer has been the face of the Hokie football team and the Virginia Tech community as a whole for so many years. He will certainly be missed.

Thank you, Coach Beamer, for all that you have contributed to Virginia Tech, Blacksburg and the game of college football.

IN COMMEMORATION OF IVADALE
MARIE FOULKES FOSTER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2015

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a truly remarkable woman. Ivadale Foster passed away on November 14 in her hometown of Danville, Illinois, at the age of 93. Mrs. Foster was a pillar of the community, who dedicated her life to helping others. Her list of accomplishments and memberships on various community organizations is extraordinary. In 1964 Mrs. Foster was recognized as one of Danville's outstanding women and was named volunteer of the year in 1993. She was the first and only African American woman to serve on the Vermilion County Board, a position she held for three decades. She was active in the Laura Lee Fellowship House, American Legion Post 736 Auxiliary, and the Danville Public Schools, to name just a few of the organizations on which she served.

Her list of accomplishments could fill pages, and because of that record of service, the City of Danville and Vermilion County has lost a leader, a trailblazer, and an icon. Ivadale Foster embodied what is good and just in America, and her legacy of community service will touch future generations.

My sincere condolences go out to the family of Mrs. Foster, as we all mourn her passing.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF TAMPA LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2015

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the 75th anniversary of Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind. Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind has been serving individuals who are blind or visually impaired since 1940. Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind is dedicated to their mission to maximize independence and provide employment opportunities for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

On-site comprehensive rehabilitation services are provided in their two locations in Florida: Tampa and Winter Haven. The training programs are designed to help individuals who have recently lost part or all of their vision gain the skills needed to perform daily tasks and maintain employment.

Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind opened its first Winter Haven facility in 1993 to provide rehabilitation programs to residents in Polk, Hardee, and Highlands counties. In 1995, the Winter Haven facility opened its Low Vision Clinic for individuals who have some remaining vision. At the Low Vision Clinic, an optometrist specialized in low vision, works to improve visual functioning through the utilization of low vision aids, visual rehabilitation techniques, or specialized training.

Over the past 75 years, Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind has enriched the lives of individuals by providing them with the opportunity to

gain greater independence and quality of life, and enjoy and benefit from participation in their communities. On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I applaud the efforts of those involved and the investments they are making in the lives of individuals with vision loss to provide them with job training, work experience and other tools necessary to lead independent, successful lives. I wish Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind many more years of quality service to our community.

HONORING 50 YEARS OF UNC HIGHWAY SAFETY RESEARCH CENTER EFFORTS TO IMPROVE SAFETY

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2015

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50th anniversary of the University of North Carolina (UNC) Highway Safety Research Center. The Center's mission is to improve the safety, security, access and efficiency of all surface transportation modes by conducting interdisciplinary research and disseminating information. Located on the UNC campus at Chapel Hill, which is in my district, the Center is overseen by the Vice President for Research for the North Carolina University System and the Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus.

The UNC Highway Safety Research Center was formed by the North Carolina State Legislature in 1965 at a time when the public was calling for enhanced highway and vehicle safety and injury prevention. Established during former Governor Dan K. Moore's tenure, the Center began operations in 1966 under the direction of Dr. B.J. Campbell. I'd like to recognize the Center's current leadership, including David Harkey, Director of the Highway Safety Research Center; Lauren Marchetti, Director of the National Center for Safe Routes to School; Charles Zegeer, Director of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center; and Robert Foss, Director of the Center for the Study of Young Drivers.

The Center's cross-discipline research—from social and behavioral sciences to engineering and planning—addresses the diverse challenges we face in building safer roads and highways. Research topics include animal-vehicle crash information, bicycle & pedestrian safety and access, child passenger safety, distracted and drowsy driving, motorcycle safety, occupant protection, the safety of older and younger drivers, school travel, traffic operations, and roadway design.

Over its 50-year history, the Center has worked with various partner agencies in North Carolina on identifying road safety challenges, developing and implementing strategies, and evaluating the effectiveness of programs and interventions. Partners in North Carolina include the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), the Governor's Highway Safety Program, the State Highway Patrol, and many others. In recent years, the Center worked closely with NCDOT to train State professionals on the concept of complete streets, develop and implement the 'Watch for Me' pedestrian and bicycle safety program, and develop the 2014 Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

The nationally renowned investigators at the center have also translated their results into programs and policies that have been implemented in North Carolina, saving countless lives and injuries. The Center's staff has also trained thousands of safety professionals, and have served as a resource for the public and the media on how to communicate safety messages and provide an impartial voice on timely road safety topics.

For 50 years, the Highway Safety Research Center has been a leading research institute that has helped shape the field of transportation safety. We are fortunate that this world-class highway safety research center calls North Carolina home. Again, I want to congratulate the Center on celebrating 50 years of service to the cause of highway safety and road users everywhere. I look forward to their continued work over the coming decades.

ADDRESSING GUN VIOLENCE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2015

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I am sick and tired of people talking about gun violence as if it is just another headline or topic of the day. While we tend to discuss gun violence because it occurs so frequently in our country, another debate is not enough.

How many Americans do we have to bury before gun violence stops? What will it take for every Member of this House to consider gun safety laws? And, when will we stop talking about the lives lost and take real action to save our constituents before their names are called before a moment of silence?

It is clear that there is a culture of violence pervading our society. It is crippling us at our core: tearing families apart and hurting communities. Perpetrators are cutting off generations at the head and ending lives way too soon.

Gun violence is a crisis of murder. We need to call it what it is. We must figure out how to stop people from killing other people and get guns out of the hands of those that do not need them.

Proponents of gun rights say that there is an absolute right to bear arms. I disagree. All rights are subject to reasonable restrictions. But what is absolute, is that Americans have the right to leave their homes without being shot. All Americans deserve to live free from fear.

But, every day Congress does not act, we lose more innocent children, men and women. Every day we do nothing, we forfeit more lives.

I call on my colleagues in Congress to pass comprehensive, national gun policies that eliminate loopholes, ban assault weapons, and place limits on high-capacity magazines. Several bills have been introduced in the House this year. I have co-sponsored many. Yet, none have made it to the House Floor.

This is unacceptable. We have to protect the lives of our constituents.

It saddens me that we are still just talking about gun safety. We did the same after Sandy Hook and Newtown. We reacted similarly following Aurora, Charleston, Oregon,