

RECOGNIZING DR. SEONG-HWAN KIM UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Dr. Seong-Hwan Kim on the occasion of his retirement from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture after 43 years of dedicated service. Dr. Kim's countless contributions to preserving and fortifying the agriculture, landscape, and environment in my district and state have enabled all Pennsylvanians to enjoy a pristine natural landscape and reliable food supply for years to come. His selfless donation of time to students in my district has fostered excitement in education and laid the foundation for the next generation of scientific breakthroughs.

Dr. Kim has dedicated his life's work to botany and plant pathology, having started as a research assistant in 1965 performing fungicide evaluation at the University of Delaware. Since then, he has gone on to become an adjunct professor at The Pennsylvania State University where he works in the Department of Plant Pathology helping mold the next generation of great scientists. Dr. Kim's profound effects on the plant biology community have not gone without recognition. As a member of the American Phytopathological Society since 1965, he has received the Distinguished Service Award and held numerous advisory and chairmanship positions within the organization.

Beyond his formal positions in academia, Dr. Kim has always understood the value of community engagement. High school, undergraduate, and post-graduate students in Dauphin County have all benefited from his selfless role as a mentor and advisor in various fields of study. He has also served as an interpreter for hospitals, emergency responders, and international professional exchange programs over the years in my district and beyond. Whether volunteering in his local congregation or spending valuable time with his family, Dr. Kim's values and principles permeate all aspects of his life.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Dr. Seong-Hwan Kim for his tireless dedication and scientific excellence with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Dr. Kim's career achievements have helped shaped regulatory plant pathology into a science-based discipline that forged the foundations of nationally and internationally recognized programs. It is with gratitude and appreciation that I recognize Dr. Kim on the occasion of his retirement and wish him all the best in his next endeavor.

HONORING MR. PATRICK GARCIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Patrick Garcia, who has served the citizens of Sonoma County

with distinction in various volunteer efforts since he moved to the county in 1971.

Every December, the town of Sonoma selects an Alcalde, or honorary mayor, for the year. For 2016, the city has chosen Mr. Garcia for his unflinching efforts to improve the lives of those around him, particularly those who are less fortunate. Mr. Garcia has a long list of achievements in the community. In 1972, just a year after moving to Sonoma County, he established a tutoring and mentoring program for the children of migrant farmworkers, which he operated out of an office at Sonoma State University.

Mr. Garcia also championed and helped establish a low-income housing project in Sonoma County in 1979 that was the first of its kind. The project was funded two years later by Burbank Housing, and in 1985 residents moved into 12 new homes. More recently, Mr. Garcia served as the director of the local State Historical Parks Association. He can also be found on occasion at the Basque Bakery, giving away free bread to those less fortunate in the community.

Throughout his life, Mr. Garcia has been known for aiming high and getting it done. These attributes, when paired with Mr. Garcia's passion for charity work, have made him a highly effective force for good in Sonoma County.

Mr. Garcia's charitable spirit, tireless attitude, and love for his community are all traits to be admired. Mr. Speaker, Patrick Garcia has served the Sonoma County community with dedication and compassion for over thirty years, and it is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING JANE GOLDEN

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of outstanding contributions to the arts, Jane Golden, founder and executive director of the City of Philadelphia's Mural Arts Program is this year's recipient of the Pearl S. Buck International 2016 Woman of Influence Award. Established in 1978, the award honors women who, like Pearl Buck, the Nobel and Pulitzer prize-winning author and humanitarian, distinguished themselves in their career, devotion to family and pursuit of humanitarian goals. Inspired by her example and direction, the city's Mural Arts Program created more than 3,800 works of public art through collaborations with community and city agencies, non-profit organizations, schools, the private sector and philanthropies. Known nationally and internationally as an expert on urban transportation through art, Jane Golden is recognized for overseeing award-winning public art projects. She developed innovative and rigorous programs in youth art, education, restorative justice and behavioral health that have made it possible for thousands to experience the power of art. Heartiest congratulations to Jane Golden upon receipt of this prestigious award and for a distinguished career and the creative vision and spirit that made it possible.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the Illinois Association of REALTORS on their 100-year anniversary of steadfast advocacy for the real estate industry and homeowners of Illinois.

The Illinois Association of REALTORS was founded in 1916 under the principle, as declared in their mission statement, "To concern itself in all matters for the betterment and protection of real estate interests." Today, Illinois REALTORS has grown to become one of the largest trade associations in the state of Illinois representing more than 44,000 realtors. The association has significantly shaped the state's real estate industry with grassroots advocacy efforts such as the "RVOICE" program, fighting local mandates, and lobbying state legislative proposals that encourage and protect homeownership.

Their leadership and advocacy throughout Illinois has grown and become a model for other REALTOR associations in the country. Illinois REALTORS is the first to centralize the Local Governmental Affairs Director program under the state association providing professional development and resources to ensure statewide coverage. Among other accomplishments, Illinois REALTORS is credited with advocating for the first real estate license law that went into effect in 1922 and the Association continues to shape the law to best uphold industry professionalism.

The Illinois Association of REALTORS has become an important resource for realtors throughout the state of Illinois and the communities they serve. I extend my sincere congratulations to the Illinois Association of REALTORS for their outstanding accomplishments and contributions to Illinois. I hope the organization continues to grow and prosper for the next 100 years.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE NORMAN MINETA, RECIPIENT OF THE TOMODACHI AWARD

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Norman Mineta—former U.S. Secretary of Commerce and Transportation—for being honored with the prestigious Tomodachi Award from the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Washington in recognition of his lifelong dedication to growing and supporting the Japanese-American community.

The Japanese word "Tomodachi" translates to "friend" in English, therefore it is fitting that the award seeks to recognize individuals or groups who have, through their work, demonstrated a commitment to celebrate Japanese and Japanese-American culture and to strengthen cultural ties between the United States and Japan.