

HONORING MS. JENNIFER ELLISON

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jennifer Ellison, who is being honored today by the Napa County Office of Education as a 2017 Napa County Teacher of the Year.

Ms. Ellison, a Napa native, completed both her Bachelor of Arts and teaching credential at the California State University, Chico. Ms. Ellison then moved back to Napa, where she has taught students from the 2nd grade through the 9th grade at Vacaville Christian High School, Fairfield Christian School, and Phillips Elementary School over the past twenty years.

Ms. Ellison brings an enthusiasm for teaching and a dedication to her students to her classroom. Ms. Ellison often works with dual language learners and students from low income families, but she takes the time to ensure each student has access to the resources and instruction they need to succeed. In her classroom, students have the ability to explore, learn, and grow. Ms. Ellison works hard to ensure that each student is empowered to achieve their dreams.

Outside the classroom, Ms. Ellison coaches Junior Varsity Volleyball and high school Speech and Debate. Even with her busy teaching schedule, Ms. Ellison has found time to serve as a Sunday school teacher and youth group leader.

Mr. Speaker, Jennifer Ellison has dedicated her time and talents to inspiring students in our community to learn and strive for excellence for 20 years. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

## TRIBUTE TO CATHY LACY

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize philanthropist and community volunteer Cathy Lacy for being named a 2016 Women of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

For 17 years, the *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of women who have made a significant difference in business, civic and philanthropic endeavors throughout the Greater Des Moines Area. Ms. Lacy has devoted her life to confronting challenges which many others might avoid. She has spent countless hours on various boards while blazing a trail for others to follow. She was selected for the chosen field of expertise, the lasting impact on the community, involvement with civic or non-profit organization and being seen as a role model because of her lofty achievements and high ethical standards.

Cathy Lacy has the determination and drive to be successful in anything she does, and her exemplary work with countless national, state and local projects for philanthropic causes throughout Des Moines and all of Iowa is widespread. In all aspects of her life, Cathy

Lacy is an example of hard work and service who makes Iowans proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Cathy Lacy in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Cathy Lacy on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing Ms. Lacy a long and successful career.

## IN RECOGNITION OF DENICE SEALS

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2016*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Denice Seals as CEO of the West Sacramento Chamber of Commerce. As her family, friends, and colleagues gather to celebrate her long list of accomplishments, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this unique individual who has served and contributed so much to the city of West Sacramento.

After 10 years as a member of the board of the West Sacramento Chamber of Commerce, Denice was named Board President/CEO in 2008. As Chamber of Commerce CEO, she boosted Chamber membership and helped recruit several businesses to West Sacramento, including Shimei and Nippon Shokken U.S.A. Denice also sought to fulfill social needs in the community, striving to align goals of economic development with cultivation of West Sacramento as a vibrant cultural hub. She spearheaded efforts to promote West Sacramento as one of the United States' premier Farm-to-Fork cities. Denice helped launch the superbly popular West Sacramento Farmers Markets, showcasing locally grown produce from around the Sacramento Valley. She followed up on that success by hosting monthly Dig In dinners at the farmers market where farmers, chefs, local leaders, and residents come together to share a delicious meal and conversation.

Denice has also promoted art within West Sacramento, including one of the city's newest and most unique structures, known as The Barn, which is a social space as well as work of art. The Barn helps bookend West Sacramento's River Walk Promenade, and once fully open, it will be a tremendous asset to our community. The dedication Denice has demonstrated to making West Sacramento a wonderful place to live, work, and play has been nothing short of exemplary.

As Denice likes to say about West Sacramento, "we don't do boring." Neither does she.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to exceptional community member Denice Seals as her community celebrates her service to the City of West Sacramento. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring her outstanding work and wishing her the best in retirement.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2016*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate South Los Angeles' Thomas Jefferson High School on 100 years of educating and enriching the bright young minds of our community.

Jefferson High opened in 1916, making it the fourth oldest public high school in the Los Angeles Unified School District. Many of America's most brilliant and accomplished artists, athletes, and public officials have passed through its doors as students, including:

Diplomat Ralph Bunche, a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Dorothy Dandridge, the first African-American to receive an Academy Award nomination for Best Actress.

Famed choreographer Alvin Ailey. Iconic singers such as Etta James and Barry White.

Innumerable jazz musicians, including the great saxophonist Dexter Gordon.

Emmett Ashford, Major League Baseball's first African-American umpire.

Olympic gold medalists like runner Mal Whitfield and high jumper Charles Dumas.

And a distinguished member of this very chamber, the late Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins.

As is evident by the alumni just mentioned, Jefferson High School's tradition of excellence is reflected in its many distinguished graduates—men and women whose years at Jefferson influenced their special interest in contributing to the improvement of our global community. Guided by these alumni's footsteps, each new class of Jefferson students pursues greatness in the classroom, in the community, and on the field.

Jefferson High is also notable as an architectural landmark. After the Long Beach earthquake of 1933, the architect Stiles O. Clements rebuilt the campus in a beautiful Streamline Moderne style. The resulting school has become a local artistic treasure.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Thomas Jefferson High School on its 100th anniversary, and salute the generations of students, teachers, and staff who have sustained it through the decades. Jefferson High has become an esteemed South L.A. institution, and I am confident that its future graduates will only add to the school's magnificent legacy.

## HOUSE APPROVES OPIOID CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2016*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, the House voted to pass our Conference Committee's work on S. 524, the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act.

I was extremely pleased to have the opportunity to be on this Committee and serve as a voice for so many grieving parents, loved