

of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theatre to the African Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorials. I am proud to submit the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude.

John A. Andersen, Thomas L. Bajt, Floyd Seine, Gerald Allen Bendle, Richard T. Blaskie, Louis Bommelle, Sarkis Boyajian, Robert P. Campbell, Manuel A. Ceralde, Rudolph F. Chavez Sr., Mark L. Dames, Edward G. Dasbach, Frank J. DePaul, Charles F. Dickason Jr., Jessie B. Dodd, Ronald C. Donner, Richard C. Druse, John R. Durrbeck, William R. Elliott, William P. Erzig, Charles Felski, Harold P. Fleig, William J. Ganson, Salvador T. Garcia, Robert A. Garritano, Edward J. Gawel, Charles T. Germann, Robert A. Green, John Grzywa, Pleze Haynes, Robert M. Healy, Steve J. Horgash, James L. Hubbs, Donald T. Humphrey, Clarence A. Jannush, George Jasencak, Robert J. Jaskula, Ralph S. Jensen, Andrew E. Joseph, John J. Kanya, Michael J. Kidney Jr., Donald E. Klein, Gene R. Krohn, Donald P. Kuech, Joseph T. Lakatos, Frank Laos Jr., Tony Lara, Kenneth W. Larsen, Albert L. Lemak, Robert G. Lemke, John M. Ley, Harlan M. Lunde, Arthur R. Manson, Gerald L. Martin, Glenn J. Masek, James R. Matela, William McNutt, Robert T. McPeck, Edward F. Meier, Robert J. Moore, Joseph J. Muren, Richard E. Nelson, Carl J. Noto, Stuart L. Novy, William F. O'Brien, Daniel D. Ogilvie, Thomas P. Oker, Anthony P. Oleynichak, Charles E. Olson, Henry F. Osters, Raymond J. Paluch, Vernon Mitchell Penland, Joseph A. Pisarczyk, Myron J. Rasmussen, Ricardo E. Reyna, James W. Riordan, John B. Ritzema, Paul William Rodewald, Ramon M. Rodriguez, William L. Rogers, Paul E. Rueff, Robert M. Schiavone, Raymond G. Schmid, Roy E. Schroeder Sr., Lawrence W. Schweik, Henry C. Schwenk, John M. Sherly, Richard S. Simester, Edmond J. Sinnema, Donald David Slovin, Ronald C. Smith, Robert H. Sroka, Robert Stanbery, Creighton Styler, Bruce M. Sublette, Andrew Szocka, Myles N. Tlusty, John Torchalski, Thomas J. Vanek, Sherman Vaughn, Gerald G. Veglia, Arthur T. Vos, Daniel R. Walsh Sr., Philip Warren, Clarence W. Young, James J. Zalusky.

MEDIA DOWNPLAYS "RANSOM PAYMENT" TO IRAN

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last month the Wall Street Journal reported that the Obama administration secretly sent \$400 million in cash to Iran on the same day four American hostages detained in Tehran were released.

The president should admit that the ransom payment to the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism was bad policy and endangers the lives of Americans at home and abroad.

The spokesman for the State Department even admitted that the payment was "leverage," which sounds like he's trying to find a nice word for "ransom."

The media also has not been forthcoming. The Media Research Center found that the Big Three networks devoted ten times more coverage to Olympic swimmer Ryan Lochte's alleged robbery in Brazil than to the \$400 million cash payment to Iran.

It's not a surprise why three-quarters of Americans feel the news media are biased in their reporting.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DOUGLASS SCHOOL'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Douglass School, of Leesburg, Virginia, on their 75th anniversary. This is an important milestone for this wonderful school in my District. The Douglass School celebrated this anniversary in Loudoun County last month on the 13th of August, and it is my pleasure to briefly highlight the impact this school has had on my constituents.

The Douglass School has had a terrific history of success since first opening its doors in 1941. Named after Fredrick Douglass, the famous African-American anti-slavery leader, the Douglass School has stood as a pillar of education for those it serves. Before its founding, African-American families needed a place to educate their children. These parents worked tirelessly to raise the four thousand dollars necessary to purchase the land for building the school. Since the school was desegregated in 1968, it has provided high quality education to students from every race, background, and creed. Equipped with top tier teachers and staff, this school has produced countless student success stories.

Coming from a family of educators, I understand how important a strong education is to the future of our nation. It is schools like the Douglass School that will continue to help shape the United States' role in the ever-changing global economy, while also producing many of our nation's future leaders. Over the years, the faculty has shown an impressive dedication not only to its students, but to the Loudoun community as a whole. The success of this school is a tremendous accomplishment that should make past and present faculty proud.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Douglass School for 75 years of serving children and their families. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

OSCAR REISS, PH.D.

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Oscar Reiss,

Ph.D. and World War II Army veteran for his service to our country.

Dr. Reiss served in the United States Army from January 1944 to 1947. During his time he was assigned as a replacement to the 79th Infantry, 315th Division B Company, in Alsace, France, guarding the right flank during the Battle of the Bulge. His company was transported to a small town in the Netherlands, near the German border to practice crossing the Rhine in confiscated German boats. In 1945, he was wounded by shrapnel and taken to a hospital in Liege, Belgium. He was later awarded the Purple Heart for these injuries. His awards and decorations include the Silver Star Medal, the Purple Heart Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal (with 2 bronze service stars), World War II Victory Medal, the Army of Occupation of Germany Medal, and the Honorable Service Lapel WWII pin.

In 1947, after being discharged from the U.S. Army he returned to the U.S. and was accepted to the University of Chicago chemistry program, beginning his long career in medical research. Dr. Reiss received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and continued his postdoctoral fellowship with the American Heart Association's Department of Cardiology. Dr. Reiss's decades long service in environmental biochemistry and medicine culminated in 1991. During his distinguished career he served as a lecturer in various courses on environmental and dental biochemistry at the University of Colorado Medical School and taught foreign seminars, most notably in Germany, France and Bulgaria. Through his courageous service in the military and medical fields, Dr. Reiss charted the path for future generations in this country.

I extend my deepest appreciation to Dr. Reiss for his dedication, integrity and outstanding service to the United States of America.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF COKE HALLOWELL

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend Ms. Coke Hallowell in honor of the outstanding contributions she has made to the arts community and the entire San Joaquin Valley. Coke is being honored by the Fresno Arts Council in appreciation of her tireless efforts on behalf of the Valley. Her commitment and dedication to her community deserve to be commended.

Coke's career began by teaching remedial reading for ten years at Sanger Unified School District. Later she was elected and served two terms on the State Center Community College District and continued her educational leadership by going on to serve on the State Center Foundation for seventeen years. Coke has been very active in various community organizations such as, the National Parks Conservation Association, the Fresno Arts Council, the U.C. Merced Foundation, the Downtown Fresno Coalition and Revive the San Joaquin. Coke presently serves on the boards of the Planning and Conservation League Foundation and the California Council of Land Trusts.

Coke has strong roots in San Joaquin Valley and is the founding member of the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, and she has served as President of Board of Directors for twenty years. Most recently Coke was elected Chairman of the new San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust Board.

In addition to all her career accomplishments she also has numerous awards including the YWCA Business and Professional Women of the Year, the Fresno Arts Council Horizon Award, and the NSFRE Outstanding Philanthropist and Volunteer Fund Raiser. In 2002, she received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from California State University Fresno, and in 2005 she was selected by the Jefferson Awards Board to receive the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis Award for "Outstanding Community Service Benefiting Local Communities."

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me as we honor and celebrate Coke Hallowell for her dedication to the arts, her community, and education. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work with Coke and witness firsthand her giving spirit and commitment to causes near to her heart. She is a true steward of the San Joaquin Valley and we are grateful for her service and the lasting impact of her efforts in the Valley.

TRIBUTE TO EILEEN WIXTED

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Eileen Wixted, Owner and Principal for Wixted & Company for being named a 2016 Women of Influence honoree as CAPTRUST Woman Business Owner of the Year 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. Wixted has devoted her life to doing so many 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 nonprofit organization and being seen as a role model because of her lofty achievements and high ethical standards.

Eileen Wixted has the determination and drive to be successful in anything she does. She is nationally recognized as an expert in strategic communication and crisis management. For over 20 years, Ms. Wixted has actively assisted clients manage potentially brand-damaging issues and prepared them for the media, shareholder meeting and government investigations. In all aspects of her life Eileen Wixted is an example of hard work and service who makes Iowans proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Eileen Wixted 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 Eileen Wixted on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing Ms. Wixted a long and successful career.

IN RECOGNITION OF KELLER HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL WINNING THE 6A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Keller High School softball team, winners of the Texas UIL state championship in the 6A conference. The Indians defeated Pearland High School on June 4th with a final score of 5–0. This is the third state championship in the school's history. Keller ISD Athletics Hall of Fame teams also took home the state championship title in both 2003 and 2005.

Bryan Poehler, head coach of the Indians, was named 2016 All-Area Softball "Coach of the Year" by the *Dallas Morning News*. All spring, Coach Poehler pushed his team to prepare for the anticipated difficult season ahead. The advancements made in practice and during the course of competition resulted in players being recognized for their achievements at both the district and state levels.

Kaylee Rodgers, senior pitcher for the Keller Indians, was awarded numerous accolades throughout the season. She was recognized as a 1st team All-American pitcher, UIL State All-Tournament pitcher, *Dallas Morning News* All-Area pitcher of the year, Texas Girls Coaches Association All-State pitcher, and was named MVP of the state game after pitching a shut-out. In addition, Kaylee's teammate, senior catcher Shelby Henderson, was chosen as a 2nd team All-American for the 2015–2016 season, 1st team for the *Dallas Morning News* All-Area Team, and was awarded UIL State All-Tournament catcher. Other accolades granted to individual players included 2nd basewoman Camryn Woodall receiving the title as a 1st team All-American for the 2015–2016 season, UIL State All-Tournament 2nd basewoman, and 1st team *Dallas Morning News* All-Area Team. Additionally, Amanda Desario was awarded UIL State All-Tournament outfielder and 1st team *Dallas Morning News* All-Area Team.

Congratulations to the Keller Indian Softball team! The Indians were able ambassadors for Keller High School and effectively advanced the athletic achievements of Keller ISD. It is my privilege to represent such an outstanding group of student athletes in the U.S. House of Representatives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to have my votes recorded on the House floor on

Tuesday, September 6, 2016. Weather across the Midwest delayed my flight to Washington, DC until after votes had been called. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 5578 and H.R. 3881.

LOOKING BACK OVER THE PAST 13 YEARS OF THE CATALINA ISLAND CONSERVANCY

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, as Dr. Ann M. Muscat retired on June 25, 2016 as president and CEO of the Catalina Island Conservancy, it is important to step back and look over her successful tenure. She has served as president and CEO for more than 13 years—the second longest tenure of any previous Conservancy president.

"Ann and the Conservancy have achieved a lot," said Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe. "I've had the great pleasure of working with Ann and her team, all of them consummate professionals who are dedicated to getting things done."

"Under Ann's leadership, the Conservancy has become a living laboratory of innovation in conservation, education and financial sustainability for nonprofit organizations," said Catalina Island Conservancy Board of Directors Chair Stephen Chazen, PhD. "The Conservancy has significantly improved the Island's ecological health, greatly increased access to Catalina's wildlands and expanded and enhanced its educational programs to better serve students living in Avalon and visitors from the mainland."

Here is a look back at how the Conservancy and its stewardship of Catalina Island have flourished since Muscat joined the organization in 2003:

During Ann's 13-year tenure, and through its Catalina Habitat Improvement and Restoration Program (CHIRP), the Conservancy staff has completed vegetation mapping of the entire Island, including non-native and invasive plant species. It has controlled and eradicated numerous invasive plant species that were eliminating native and rare biodiversity. It also expanded the native plant nursery's scope to include landscaping initiatives on the Island, along with restoration, and significantly expanded the native seed collection.

The Conservancy has been a leader in removing non-native and highly destructive animal species from the Island, leading to the re-discovery of native plants previously believed to be extinct. It also brought the Catalina Island fox back from the brink of extinction and supported the successful recovery of the bald eagle.

Its wildlife biologists have implemented innovative social (repatiation) and scientific methodologies (contraception) for managing the bison herd. They also have conducted bird and small mammal surveys, discovering nesting sea birds on cliffs and nearby rocks, and implementing protective measures for bat populations.

In addition, the Conservancy has pursued research partnerships with universities and museums from across the country, including a multi-institution collaboration that resulted in a