

TRIBUTE TO NORMA AND JACK
POPE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Norma and Jack Pope of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married May 26, 1956 at St. John Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Norma and Jack's lifelong commitment to each other and their children, Scott and Julie, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Norma and Jack on this momentous occasion.

MINNESOTA MOURNS FOR JACOB
WETTERLING

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, on October 22, 1989 a heinous, evil crime was committed against a young boy. For nearly twenty-seven years that unsolved crime devastated a family, terrorized a community, and has haunted the people of Minnesota.

The young boy was eleven-year-old Jacob Wetterling of St. Joseph, MN and this week we finally learned the truth. Jacob was abducted and murdered by a sexual predator who is presently facing federal child pornography charges.

For twenty-seven years the disappearance and uncertainty of Jacob's whereabouts unleashed a mix of emotions—grief, anger, sadness, but always there was hope. Jacob's mother and father—Patty and Jerry Wetterling—never gave up hope. They inspired hope and compassion from the unimaginable pain of losing their son. Patty's advocacy on behalf of missing and exploited children has made her a national expert and a leading national voice for laws and policies that keep children safe. Not only has she dedicated her life to bringing Jacob home, but she has made protecting families and children her mission. Patty is a woman with incredible courage, strength, and determination whom I admire and respect.

In 1989, Jacob's disappearance transfixed Minnesota. My own household was no different. My son was Jacob's age and my daughter a few years younger. We all wanted to see Jacob come home. I feared for my children's safety. Parents were afraid and so were children all across Minnesota.

It is with much sadness and grief that we now know that Jacob was murdered soon after he was abducted. His remains have been

found. The truth has been revealed. And, the Wetterling family can bring their son home and mourn for him with all the love, dignity and respect that Jacob deserves.

May Jacob now rest in peace and may the prayers of all Minnesotans give the Wetterling family comfort during this difficult and sad time. And, this October 22nd, as I have every year since his disappearance, I leave a light on to remember Jacob and all the children who are still missing.

IMPROVED EMPLOYMENT OUT-
COMES FOR FOSTER YOUTH ACT
OF 2016

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, along with my colleagues Mr. REICHERT, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. REED, I am proud to introduce today the Improving Employment Outcomes for Foster Youth Act, which provides federal tax incentives to private sector employers that hire youth transitioning from the foster care system to independence.

The outcomes for transition age foster youth in this coup are heartbreaking: half are unemployed at age 24; half will spend time in a homeless shelter; and 70 percent will be reliant on government assistance after emancipating from foster care. The federal government has both an economic and moral interest in improving outcomes for these youth.

In 2008, we passed the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act, which recognized the challenges faced by youth transitioning out of foster care and enables them to continue to receive supports and services until they turn 21. In passing that bill our goal was not to extend dependency on the foster care system, but rather to use the additional time spent in extended foster care to help them become independent. While extended foster care is providing a critical lifeline for thousands of youth across the country, more needs to be done to help these youth connect with career opportunities and attain self-sufficiency.

A key strategy will be engaging the private sector in this effort. There is a developing partnership in California between the nonprofit iFoster, public child welfare agencies, community-based organizations, and the grocery industry to create an employment pipeline for foster youth that is already demonstrating great success in preparing foster youth for competitive work, and supporting them on the job to ensure retention and promotion. The Improving Employment Outcomes for Foster Youth Act will make transition age foster youth categorically eligible for the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC), an existing federal credit that provides incentives to businesses to hire employees from certain populations with specific employment challenges. In doing so, this bill will help encourage other sectors to follow the grocery industry's lead in hiring and investing in our nation's foster youth and starting them on a successful career path.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to advance this important legislation.

HONORING OLYMPIC GOLD
MEDALIST KELSI WORRELL

HON. THOMAS MacARTHUR

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Olympic gold medalist Kelsi Worrell, of the Third Congressional District, in her recent accomplishments at the 2016 Summer Olympic Games in Rio, and to commend her for her outstanding dedication to the sport of swimming.

Kelsi, who is a resident of Westampton, worked diligently to help the United States Women's Swim Team win a gold medal in the women's 4x100m medley relay. In addition to her great accomplishment at the Summer Olympic Games, Kelsi has continued to be a role model for so many young children with aspirations of greatness. Her hard work and determination has instilled a great sense of pride within the local communities of South Jersey. Her achievements exhibit the great pride with which Kelsi represents herself and the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, the people of New Jersey's Third Congressional District are tremendously honored to have Olympic gold medalist Kelsi Worrell as a member of their community, who has shown a desire to represent her nation with great honor and has worked continuously to do so to the best of her ability. I am honored to recognize her accomplishment and dedication to her sport, before the United States House of Representatives.

DAN PIKE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dan Pike for receiving the West Chamber's 2016 Jefferson County Hall of Fame Award.

An active Colorado conservationist, Dan began advocating for the environment in 1976 when he opened an office for the Nature Conservancy and drafted the first ever Colorado conservation easement. Since then, Dan has continued to defend the environment as a founding member of both the Mountain Area Land Trust in Evergreen and Gunnison Ranchland Conservation Legacy and as retired president of Colorado Open Lands. Under Dan's leadership, Colorado Open Lands has made vast contributions to the protection of open space, preserving five thousand acres of Jefferson County land overall.

Dan's civic achievements include Vice Chair of the Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts, Chair and Founder of the Mountain Area Land Trust, and a legislative member of the Colorado Conservation Easement Tax Credit Task Force. In 2015, Dan received the Friend of Open Space Award from the Palmer Land Trust for his recent efforts to protect southern Colorado. Recently, Dan has been working on the Jeffco Vision 2020 plan as well as coaching youth sports.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dan Pike for this well-deserved recognition by the West Chamber.

IN HONOR OF MARGARET MORTON

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the tremendous work of my constituent Margaret Morton, a 2016 honoree at the Loudoun Laurels Gala. Ms. Morton exemplifies the very best of the traditions of public service, stewardship, and personal contributions to the life and history of Loudoun County. Her dedication to a high standard of conduct allowed her to remain honest and loyal while making a positive impact in the journalistic community.

Margaret Morton is a graduate of Edinburgh University in Scotland. She left her home in Britain to come to America in 1966. Twenty-six years later she entered the world of journalism when she joined the staff of Leesburg Today. Last year, she became a founding member of the writing staff of Loudoun Now, recently judged to be Loudoun County's best new business.

Ms. Morton has nearly a quarter century of experience, granting her the skills and style to serve Loudoun. Her writing illustrates both her intelligence and her deep understanding of the community she loves, and is similarly reflected in her meritorious career. Currently, Ms. Morton is the Dean of the Loudoun County Press Corps.

Serving on Loudoun County's first Historic Review Board, Ms. Morton is an active preservationist. She is an avid supporter of numerous community charitable activities, for which we readily commend her.

Mr. Speaker, I now ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Margaret Morton for the outstanding services she provided to our great Commonwealth throughout her long-lasting career. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO PATTY AND JIM COWNIE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Patty and Jim Cownie for being awarded the 2016 Robert D. Ray Pillar of Character Award, presented by the Robert D. and Billie Ray Center at Drake University. They were presented with the honor during the annual Ray Center's Iowa Character Awards in Altoona, Iowa.

Each year, a selection committee of 50 members selects recipients who have exemplified a life filled with volunteerism and sacrifice. The Cownies embody each of those qualities. Ever since the Ray Center opened its doors as Character Counts back in 1997, Patty and Jim Cownie have given their time and resources to make sure it was a total success.

Patty Cownie has always displayed a commitment to volunteerism throughout her life. From 1999 to 2014 she served on the Drake University Board of Trustees and now dedicates her time and expertise to the Iowa Board of Regents. She has also contributed

her time to organizations such as the Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation, Meals from the Heartland and Bravo! Greater Des Moines.

Recognized as one of the top businessmen in the State of Iowa, Jim Cownie has still found time to dedicate himself to causes and organizations of which he cares. Along with his wife, Patty, Jim has sacrificed his time and given his expertise to many charitable organizations throughout the state and continues to utilize his own resources to improve the lives of others.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Patty and Jim Cownie for receiving this esteemed designation. It is truly an honor to represent them in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them and in wishing them nothing but continued success.

HONORING ALICIA DICOCHEA**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alicia Dicochea. Alicia is known throughout Merced County for her dedication and service to her community. She is retiring this year after serving as one of the founding members of the Board of Directors of Golden Valley Health Centers since 1971. Alicia has gone above and beyond in the effort to make her community a better place, volunteering her time in health care, education and church.

Alicia was born in Cutler, California. She is the youngest of five siblings, born to parents who immigrated to the Central Valley from Mexico in the 1920s. From an early age she learned the meaning of hard work, working in the fields with her siblings in order to help support the family.

In 1947 Alicia married Jesus Dicochea. The young family, along with their children moved to Los Banos in 1965 in order to pursue work opportunities, where they have lived ever since.

Alicia's involvement with Golden Valley Health Centers began when it was just a single clinic for farm workers. Today the medical center has 25 clinics and serves Merced and Stanislaus counties. Alicia has been an advocate for health care for the Valley's underserved since the beginnings of her involvement with Golden Valley.

Alicia has also been an advocate in education. She made the decision to play an active role in her children's school from the day the first of her ten children began school. She was selected to be a part of a group of parents and UC Davis students to assess the needs of the community in order to properly use funding available to local students and families. She was involved in Merced College's Los Banos campus from its beginnings. She taught Spanish and advised on the curriculum for English as a Second Language students.

Her strong faith has led to a natural involvement with her church. Alicia served as a delegate for the Guadalupanas Society in Los Banos and served as secretary for District 7, which includes Los Banos, Dos Palos, and Atwater.

Alicia's service to her community knows no limits. She has served on the Los Banos Planning Commission and as a member of the National Board of National Association of Farmworkers Organization. During the holiday season, she participates in initiatives to feed the homeless.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Alicia Dicochea. Her forty-five years of service on the Board of Directors of Golden Valley Health Centers, in addition to the wonderful work she has done in the community, should be commended. Los Banos will be forever grateful for the impact she has made in the community.

REMEMBERING LESLIE WITT REICHENBACH

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of an important and respected member of the Chicago community, Ms. Leslie Witt Reichenbach.

For nearly 40 years, she woke up generations of Chicago's WXRT listeners on weekend mornings. A native Chicagoan, she earned a bachelor's degree in communications and environmental science from the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Shortly after, she began her radio career as a disc jockey at a progressive rock station in Massachusetts. With her growing enthusiasm for radio, she returned to Chicago to work at WXRT 93.1 FM in 1977. Leslie was also a news reporter for WBEZ, Chicago's Public Radio station in the 1980s, while still DJ'ing on weekend mornings at WXRT.

Leslie, often referred to as "the overnight angel," was known for her kind smile and her ability to connect with others. Her sense of wonder was the source of her ability to communicate about the music with conviction. Leslie's dedication helped mentor many new D.J.'s who preceded her radio shift.

Sadly, Leslie passed away on July 17th, 2016 at age 63 in Riverwoods, Illinois after her battle with ovarian cancer.

Leslie bravely fought her illness by listening to new albums, attending concerts, and practicing ballet. Leslie's top priority was always her family, and the love and support they provided her was the most important thing in her life. Leslie is survived by her husband, Chuck Reichenbach and their adult children Kay and Kurt.

Mr. Speaker, may God bless the Reichenbach family and the memory of a woman who was truly loved by her friends, her community, and her family.

IN MEMORY OF SERGEANT KENNETH D. JUMPER, SR.

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, South Carolina is paying positive tribute to the service of American Patriot Kenneth D.