

strategy can help guide this technology to meet goals of sustainability, equity, and economic growth.

Likewise, had I been present for the vote on H. Res. 835, a resolution expressing support for a national policy for technology to promote consumer access to financial tools and online commerce (Roll Call Number 497), I would have voted "aye." With nearly a third of the U.S. population underbanked or unbanked, it is critical that we focus emerging technology development to provide additional support, financial tools, and security to consumers.

#### RECOGNIZING RON O'CONNER'S RETIREMENT FROM FARM CREDIT OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

**HON. DENNIS A. ROSS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2016*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the career and retirement of my good friend Ron O'Conner of Florida Farm Credit in Lakeland, Florida.

Ron is a native Floridian and a University of Florida graduate. He began his career at Farm Credit of Central Florida in 1987 as Marketing Manager. During his time at Farm Credit, he and the marketing department earned many outstanding achievement awards.

Ron is an exceptional representative of the Farm Credit system. Currently, he chairs Farm Credit of Florida's statewide marketing committee, providing maximum exposure for Farm Credit of Florida's most important agriculture events.

Farm Credit of Central Florida's mission is to provide reliable, consistent credit and financial services to the agricultural and rural communities of Central Florida. Ron is dedicated to this mission, and to the people and business of agriculture—the heart and lifeblood of the United States.

Everyone knows Ron can be found at every agricultural event throughout the 15th District of Florida, documenting everything with his camera.

Ron's service and excellence has helped make Florida Farm Credit the largest single lender to agriculture in my home State of Florida.

Not only is Ron known as a diligent and valuable representative of Farm Credit, but also as a man of great integrity. I am proud to call Ron my friend.

Best wishes for an enjoyable retirement.

#### RECOGNIZING NEW LENOX'S PROUD AMERICAN DAYS MILITARY TRIBUTE

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2016*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight New Lenox's annual military tribute during Proud American Days. Since 1984, the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce has been steadfastly dedicated to the commitments and sacrifices of our nation's service members. What started out as a small gathering is now

one of the largest programs attended in the area.

New Lenox's motto reads, "The Home of Proud Americans" and they certainly live up to that slogan. On Sunday, July 31, 2016, more than two hundred people, including veterans, paid homage to those who have sacrificed so much to protect our great nation. These brave Americans endured so much so that we can enjoy the freedoms we have today and for that, we owe them our eternal gratitude.

During the tribute this year, the following veterans were recognized:

Machinist's Mate Second Class Robert Beazley, United States Navy

Master Sergeant Edward Dima, United States Air Force

Gunner's Mate Third Class Leonard Kapocius, United States Navy

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to submit these names for all to see, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring all of our nation's veterans.

#### TRIBUTE TO LYNETTA BLEEKER

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Lynetta Bleeker, a middle school teacher at Parkview Middle School in Ankeny, Iowa. On Thursday, September 8, 2016, Lynetta was a recipient of The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching at a ceremony in Washington, D.C.

The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) are the highest honors bestowed upon K–12 mathematics and science teachers by the federal government. Established by Congress in 1983, the PAEMST program has been a benchmark that all teachers strive to achieve. Ms. Bleeker's dedication to her students and steadfastness in her commitment to excellence has not gone unnoticed. I am honored to recognize her as one of this year's recipients.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Lynetta Bleeker for receiving this award and for providing the youth in Iowa's 3rd Congressional District the education that they will need to be successful in the future. I am proud to represent her, her fellow teachers and students in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Lynetta Bleeker and wishing her well and continued success in the future.

#### TRIBUTE TO LINDA RAWL SHEALY

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2016*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, September 10, 2016, a memorial service was conducted for Linda Rawl Shealy by Dr. Mark S. Bredholt. Eulogies were provided by former Columbia television news anchor Cheryl Irwin and myself I was honored to provide the following tribute:

Family and friends of Linda Rawl Shealy, this is a loving service honoring a dear lady, but, additionally, it is fitting for me to participate as this is also a reunion of former staff members of my predecessor, the late Congressman Floyd Spence, who was a Patriot, Statesman and Southern Gentleman.

Congressman Spence was a good judge of character and integrity, selecting talented young people for his staff. Especially extraordinary was Chief of Staff Craig Metz, along with District Director Sammy Hendrix. Sammy was perceptive enough to recommend his fellow Lexington High School classmate, Linda Rawl Shealy, to the Congressman.

In 1984, Congressman Spence was the Ranking Member of the House Ethics Committee and Linda Shealy was selected to be a Staff Assistant for the Committee—a tough job for a Committee which is Solomonic as issues were presented equivalent to counting the number of angels who danced on a pin.

She served with young attorneys Mark Elam and John Hoefer, who were counsels to the committee, fresh out of law school, and today are among the most highly respected attorneys of Charleston and Columbia, with Mark as Director of State and Local Relations for Boeing and John as a Partner in the law firm of Willoughby and Hoefer.

In 1995, Linda shifted to become Special Assistant to Floyd Spence as he was elected Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, where she faithfully served dependably and loyally until his death on August 16, 2016.

I was grateful that Linda led transition efforts for the Second Congressional District Office upon my election on December 18, 2001, and, in June 2002, she was selected as the second staff member of the House Office of Emergency Planning. This important office was established following the September 11th attacks by Islamic Terrorists.

Current Director Joe Lowry praised Linda as the "First Lady of the Emergency Planning Office," through her retirement in January 2014, as the longest serving employee of the Office.

Linda's achievements reflected well on her heritage with the Rawl Family being among the earliest German-Swiss families to settle here in the Saxe Gotha Region.

Welcoming attendees were other original families of Shealy, Addy, Meetze, and Price, who established a positive community where they are a tiny percentage of Lexington County, one of America's fastest growing, with transplants from the Northeast and Midwest along with worldwide residents. It was also fitting to be at the Caughman-Harman Funeral Home, established by original families Virl and Steve Caughman with Daisy Wilson and Harry Harman.

As we reflect on the dedicated life of Linda Rawl Shealy, it can clearly be established that she made a positive difference for a better community and nation.

#### IN HONOR OF THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF FANNIE TAYLOR

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2016*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Fannie Taylor.

Mrs. Taylor was born on January 11, 1926 in Lee County, Alabama.

She joined Ferguson Chapel C.M.E. Church at the age of nine years old. She has served