

the years ahead as we continue to mourn this devastating loss.

I will continue your fight, Travon.

I will continue to demand Congress pass common sense gun reform.

RECOGNIZING DAN HAYES ON RECEIVING THE NATIONAL BEER WHOLESALERS ASSOCIATION EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

HON. DARIN LaHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2016

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor Dan Hayes, of Brewers Distributing Company, in Peoria, for receiving the National Beer Wholesalers Association Employee Spotlight.

Dan joined the Brewers Distributing Company in 2002 as a warehouse relief driver. Since then, he has become the Director of Operations and a company-wide leader, implementing new and innovative ideas to further advance and grow the company's success. He is responsible for developing the Brewers Distributing Company's employee engagement group, known as Brewers In Motion, which works to further staff and employer relations. Dan is also a member of the Brewers Distributing Company's Strategic Planning Committee, where he has been instrumental in working to develop strategies to ensure the company's continued success in the future.

His leadership is worthy of recognition, and he is most deserving of the National Beer Wholesalers Association Employee Spotlight. Our community has greatly benefitted from his fourteen years of service to the Peoria region. In Illinois alone, beer distributors provide \$7.6 million dollars in economic development and charity support, and a combined total of \$3 billion in total economic impact. It is through the hard work and leadership of exceptional employees and individuals, like Dan, that the beer industry continues to flourish and contribute to our community.

I commend Dan on his service and hard work that has led him to receive the National Beer Wholesalers Association Employee Spotlight. I want to thank Dan Hayes for his service to Central Illinois, and congratulate him on this most deserved recognition.

RECOGNIZING THE FORT WORTH ASSEMBLY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2016

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Fort Worth Assembly in celebration of its 75th anniversary and its history of ushering accomplished young women into society and womanhood.

First organized by Mrs. Lottie Mae Hamilton in 1941, the Fort Worth Assembly has fostered an organization that helps guide young African American women to a path of excellence within the Fort Worth community.

Since the initial presentation of 22 college trained women to society during the first Fort

Worth Assembly Debutante Ball on November 28, 1941, the organization has grown to present more than 800 young women to society during their annual holiday event. The Fort Worth Assembly has introduced young women who have gone on to impact the community, world, and future generations in various fields, including the arts, sciences, and legal professions.

Along with the annual presentation, the Fort Worth Assembly continues to promote and instill exemplary values to young women at an early age through the formation of the Les Petite Cygnes, or the Little Swans, and the Junior Debutante groups.

Thanks to the leadership of the past presidents, Mrs. Lottie M. Hamilton, Mrs. Beulah Yerwood, Mrs. Kathryn Glaze, Mrs. Mildred Scott, Mrs. Sophia Thomas, Mrs. Thelma Pennigar, Mrs. Hester McDaniel, Mrs. Mildred Sims and Mrs. Bonnie Winkfield, and current president, legacy debutante Mrs. Charlece Thomas James, the Fort Worth Assembly has continued to thrive.

The work and dedication of the 25 founding women and the past presidents will be recognized on December 17th as the organization marks its 75th Fort Worth Assembly Debutante Ball Presentation, which will introduce another class of outstanding young women to society.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE BETTY BOUKUS

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2016

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Connecticut State Representative Betty Boukus, a beloved public servant who worked tirelessly on behalf of Connecticut families. Betty passed away on Friday at the age of 73. She leaves behind her husband, Gary, of more than 50 years, one son, four grandchildren, and countless friends who cherished her as an incomparable community leader and exemplary human being. I am proud to count myself among them.

Betty was elected to the General Assembly in 1994, immediately distinguishing herself as a fierce champion for the people of her beloved Plainville and New Britain. She enthusiastically immersed herself in her role on the Bonding Subcommittee, working diligently to ensure taxpayer dollars were directed to those projects that would do the most public good. Betty's efforts helped turn important initiatives to expand our state's flagship university and create new local open spaces from idea into reality. She was truly a ground-up legislator, bringing kids and families who felt left out of the political system back into the process of governing. Betty gave them a voice, helped them advocate for their needs, and restored their faith in democracy.

In her spare time, Betty organized an annual Secret Santa program to collect gifts for local veterans. That's just who Betty was. She always put people—and never politics—first. She didn't lob insults or take cheap shots. Whether you were a Democrat or Republican, you could count on her to greet you with a warm laugh and a big hug. A teacher by train-

ing and by nature, Betty went out of her way to serve as a mentor to her colleagues in the General Assembly. She was extraordinarily generous with her time and counsel. In giving advice, she mastered the difficult art of being both truthful and kind. Her wisdom and her example made me a better public servant and a better person.

Even as her health declined, Betty was determined to serve her neighbors to the very end, guided by the principles that had made her a leader in her community for decades: integrity, optimism, and a commitment to helping as many people as she could. Betty's loss leaves a hole in our hearts, but we take solace in the knowledge that the lasting good she fought for throughout her career will always be with us.

HONORING THE EIGHTH SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS BAN KI-MOON

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2016

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Ban Ki-moon, the Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN).

As we come to the end of Ban Ki-moon's second consecutive term as the Secretary-General, I want to recognize his hard work, dedication, and commitment to improving the lives of others around the world. As Secretary-General he successfully guided the UN as it worked to resolve conflicts and advance a wide range of development issues that have had a positive impact on vulnerable people across the globe.

Secretary-General Ban has worked as an advocate for women's empowerment, successfully supporting the establishment of UN Women—the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. UN Women leverages resources to build on the important work of four previously distinct parts of the UN system. UN Women works to empower women and girls by eliminating discrimination and advancing gender equality—goals consistent with the UN agenda Secretary-General Ban has championed. Mr. Ban has been a strong advocate for women's rights and gender equality, having spearheaded campaigns like "Unite to End Violence against Women", and increasing the number of women holding senior management positions by approximately 40 percent.

During his time as Secretary-General Mr. Ban advocated for the advancement of sustainable development across the globe. One of his most prominent initiatives, the 2007 Climate Change Summit at the Bali International Conference Centre, brought together representatives from over 180 countries to adopt the Bali Road Map, which laid the foundation for the beginnings of a global climate agreement.

Finally, Mr. Ban's tireless efforts to support nations in crisis or experiencing instability cannot be understated. He has worked to strengthen humanitarian efforts, especially after disasters in Myanmar in 2008 and Pakistan and Haiti in 2010. Mr. Ban has given a voice to the most poverty-struck and vulnerable populations in the world, including the