

over 65 million individuals displaced from their homes by conflict and persecution in 2015.

I thank Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for his service, spending his days advocating on behalf of the least among us. His tenure as Secretary-General of the United Nations has delivered significant advances in peace and human rights around the world.

CONGRESSMAN JIM McDERMOTT

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 12, 2016*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and colleague, Representative JIM McDERMOTT, from Washington's 7th District.

I have had the honor and privilege of working alongside Representative McDERMOTT for the past 17 years. As co-chairs of the Congressional HIV/AIDS Caucus, Congressman McDERMOTT has led the charge to wipe out HIV/AIDS around the world.

Congressman McDERMOTT and I also sat on the Budget Committee together where he was a continual guiding voice for our committee. From health care to education, he ensured that our budget reflected our moral values as a nation.

During his time representing the people of Washington's 7th District, Congressman McDERMOTT has dedicated his efforts towards finding solutions to our nation's most pressing issues, as well as remaining deeply connected to his district.

He has helped lead the fight on this very floor to guarantee all Americans comprehensive and affordable health care coverage and has supported me in pushing for peaceful solutions to conflicts around the world.

Congressman McDERMOTT has never stopped working to ensure that the American Dream is in reach for all.

I want to thank Representative McDERMOTT for his dedication to serving the people of Washington and our nation.

I am so honored and thankful to have had his friendship and his support throughout the years.

He leaves behind an incredible legacy and I wish him the very best and continued success.

IN MEMORIAM: RICK LAVIS, FEBRUARY 1, 1940–NOVEMBER 26, 2016

**HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 12, 2016*

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Rick Lavis, a tireless and respected voice for Arizona agriculture.

Rick, a native Arizonan who grew up in downtown Phoenix, was called to public service early in his life. He served as an aide to U.S. Senator Paul Fannin (R-AZ) before working at the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Rick returned to Phoenix in 1980 to advocate for Arizona's cotton growers and the broader agricultural community. As the Arizona Cotton Growers Association's top staffer,

Rick worked tirelessly to pass the Groundwater Management Act of 1980, landmark legislation that still governs Arizona water today. Rick served Arizona as an expert in water, air quality, the environment, and the cotton industry.

Rick is survived by his wife, Marti, two sons, Danny and Ben, and two grandchildren, Addison and Nicholas. I was fortunate to have worked with Rick both during my time in the Arizona Legislature and when I came to Congress, and I am honored to call him a friend. I am thankful for Rick's dedication to service and appreciate his determination and willingness to make our state and country a better place for all Arizonans.

Please join me in honoring his memory.

IN HONOR OF THE WINGATE  
UNIVERSITY MEN'S SOCCER TEAM

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 12, 2016*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Wingate University men's soccer team and congratulate them on their first ever national championship. The Bulldogs earned their first national title in school history by defeating the University of Charleston in the NCAA Division II national title game on December 3, 2016.

Led by head coach Gary Hamill, Wingate finished the regular season with a perfect 14–0 record. After suffering a minor setback in the South Atlantic Conference tournament, the team rebounded by storming through the NCAA tournament on the way to the title. Through the five games of the tournament, the Bulldogs did not concede a single goal, which included denying both the first and second ranked offenses in the country anything more than a few attempts on goal. The team finished the year with a nation's best 0.40 goals-against average, proving that defense really does win championships.

Wingate had a total of five players named to the All-Tournament team including Jon Ander and Alex Nelson who were named Most Outstanding Offensive Player and Most Outstanding Defensive Player respectively. It brings me great pride to be able to recognize these extraordinary young men as well as all of the coaches and support staff that made this accomplishment possible. The hard work and dedication exhibited by each member of the team during the season will continue to serve them well in life. They are a source of pride to both the university as well as the surrounding community. I wish them well in all of their endeavors and look forward to hearing of their continued success in the future.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating the Wingate University men's soccer team on their well-deserved national title.

IN HONOR OF OUR FALLEN LAW  
ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 12, 2016*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay trib-

ute to the fallen law enforcement officers of Georgia's Second Congressional District. The last few weeks have been especially difficult in Middle and Southwest Georgia as we have lost four officers to senseless violence.

On Wednesday, December 7, 2016, Officer Nicholas Smarr of the Americus Police Department responded to a domestic disturbance at an apartment home in Americus, Georgia. While Officer Smarr was awaiting backup from another Americus officer, his friend Officer Jody Smith of the Georgia Southwestern State University Department of Public Safety heard the radio call and responded to assist. As the officers attempted to pursue the suspect, who had fled, the suspect opened fire on the officers.

Both officers were struck by bullets. In spite of being wounded, Officer Smarr ran to Officer Smith, turned him over from his face-down position, and began to perform CPR. While trying to save Officer Smith's life, Officer Smarr died from his injuries. When backup officers arrived, they found Officer Smarr slumped over Officer Smith. Nick Smarr and Jody Smith were lifelong best friends.

On Thursday, December 8, 2016, Officer Smith succumbed to his injuries and passed away. The Americus Police Department and the Georgia Southwestern State University Department of Public Safety are each mourning the loss of one of their own. The Americus community as a whole is grieving over this terrible tragedy.

This incident brings to mind another senseless tragedy that happened in the Second Congressional District not long ago. On Sunday, November 6, 2016, Sergeant Patrick Sondon and Deputy Daryl Smallwood of the Peach County Sheriff's Office were responding to a dispute between neighbors when a suspect opened fire on them. Deputy Sondon was killed and Deputy Smallwood passed away from his injuries two days later.

Each of these four brave men loved, and in return, were deeply loved. They were sons, brothers, husbands, fathers, significant others, and friends. What is more important, they were law enforcement officers and they put their lives on the line every day to protect our communities.

Sergeant Patrick Sondon served our nation in the U.S. Air Force. He had been with the Peach County Sheriff's Office for 13 years, after having served the Fort Valley and Byron Police Departments. He had a pilot's license and enjoyed flying and driving charter buses.

Deputy Daryl Smallwood served our nation in the U.S. Marine Corps. He worked as a jailer before becoming a mandated officer in 2005 and served the Crisp County Sheriff's Department before joining the Peach County Sheriff's Office. He enjoyed listening to music and riding his Harley motorcycle.

Officer Nicholas "Nick" Ryan Smarr graduated from the Police Academy in Forsyth, Georgia. He served as a Corrections Officer in Telfair County, a Police Officer in McRae and Vienna, and a Deputy with the Sumter County Sheriff's Department before joining the Americus Police Department. He was an Atlanta Falcons fan and loved watching movies and spending time with his friends, which included Officer Jody Smith.

Public Safety Officer Jody Smith graduated from Americus-Sumter County High School in 2009, along with his friend, Officer Nick Smarr. In 2012, he graduated from the Georgia Public