

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF CAROL HUTCHINS RECEIVING THE ATHENA INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize University of Michigan Head Softball Coach Carol Hutchins for receiving the ATHENA International Leadership Award. Coach Hutchins has had a distinguished career and helped the University of Michigan softball team achieve success on and off the field.

Coach Hutchins joined the University of Michigan softball program in 1983 as an Assistant Coach and became Head Coach in 1985. During her tenure, the Wolverines have become one of the premier softball programs in the country and have reached the Women's College World Series in 12 of the last 22 seasons. In addition, Coach Hutchins has won over 1,400 career victories with the team, more than any other coach in Michigan athletics history. In recognition for her teams' stellar performance, Hutchins has earned 16 Big Ten Conference Coach of the Year honors, 9 National Fastpitch Softball Association Regional Coach of the Year awards, and was inducted into the NFCA Hall of Fame in 2006. Hutchins' teams have also excelled academically, with the team achieving 100% graduation rate and 135 student-athletes earns Academic All-Big Ten honors.

Coach Hutchins has also distinguished herself through her service to the Ann Arbor community. In 2010, she founded the Michigan Softball Academy, a one-night on-field clinic for adults that raises funds for the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer initiative. To date, Coach Hutchins and the Michigan Softball Academy have raised nearly \$750,000 for the organization. This level of support underscores her commitment to helping those in need. In addition, Coach Hutchins has been a fierce advocate for Title IX and works to support LGBTQ equality as well.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Carol Hutchins for receiving the ATHENA International Leadership Award. She is more than deserving of such an honor, and it is my hope that she continues to excel on the field and in the community.

RECOGNIZING SCOTT GRAVES, STAFF DIRECTOR OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

HON. RALPH LEE ABRAHAM

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Scott Graves, the outgoing Staff Di-

rector of the House Committee on Agriculture. You have heard a lot of fine things about Scott today, and all of them are deserved. Instead of talking about what Scott has done for the members of the Ag Committee, or the greater agricultural sector, which would keep me here into next week, I would like to recognize Scott for what he has meant to my staff and to me.

When I arrived here some two years ago I knew a fair bit about farming. I've been growing rice, corn and soybeans in the fertile lands of Northeast Louisiana most of my life. Scott has helped me take that experience and apply it to crafting our Nation's agriculture policies. Policies that help farmers and producers grow the finest commodities in the world and deliver them to dinner tables across the planet. Scott and his staff have been instrumental in helping my staff and I understand the finer intricacies of these policies and practices. They have gone to great lengths to help me, and all the members of the Committee, work to make sure the American farmer can not only endure, but prosper.

Scott has spent 12 years working on Ag policy on the Hill, and his absence over at 1301 Longworth will be profoundly felt by many, myself included.

RECOGNIZING NORTHWEST INDIANA'S NEWLY NATURALIZED CITIZENS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate thirty individuals who will take their oath of citizenship on Friday, February 3, 2017. This memorable occasion, presided over by Magistrate Judge Paul R. Cherry, will be held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On February 3, 2017, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Maria Alvarado, Maria Angeles Avalos, Martha Patricia Bello, Esteban Campos, Grace Carrillo, Erick Chay, Maribel Galicia, Jose Dolores Garcia, Jessica Elizabeth Hopkins, Maria Dolores Ibarra, Kristina Kiselinnova, Brenda Melina Larson, John Richard Latka, Judith Love, Ivica Jovan Markovic,

Matilde Martinez, Ivan de Jesus Martinez Desiderio, Hector Gabriel Martiniez, Janice Uyen Nguyen, Adrian Nunez, Blagoja Petkovski, Lidia Esther Guevara Galindo, Yolanda Ramirez, Simona Simental, Fellisia Suboh, Jeidi Torres, Jonathan Treto, Luz Valdez, Froylan Vega, and Enrique Vilches.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country “. . . of the people, by the people, and for the people.” They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who will become citizens of the United States of America on February 3, 2017. They, too, will be American citizens, and they, too, are guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

100TH BIRTHDAY OF MICHELENA “MINNIE” CUCCHIA

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th Birthday of Staten Island's Michelena Cucchia.

Michelena, or Minnie, as she is known to her friends and family, was born on January 21, 1917, in Manhattan to Charles and Grace Sciascia. After moving to Staten Island in 1932, Minnie met the love of her life, Salvatore “Sam” Cucchia. On December 19, 1936, Minnie and Sam were married at St. Joseph's Church. Afterward, they moved to a home in New Dorp on Staten Island to raise their daughters, Angela and Grace, and their son, Steve.

At the age of 100 years young, Minnie Cucchia is still active. With six grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren, she certainly enjoys spending time with the many members of her family. Moreover, she continues to partake in her favorite hobbies, such as crocheting blankets, hats, and scarves for babies that she then donates to a local hospital. To this day, Minnie still lives in the house in New Dorp where she and Sam raised their wonderful children. She truly is a lifelong Staten Islander.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Minnie Cucchia a very happy 100th birthday. I applaud the tremendous life she has led. I am proud to call her

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

one of my constituents, as she embodies the very essence of the American spirit.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, on January 3 to January 6, January 9 to January 10, and on January 13, 2017, circumstances beyond my control necessitated my absence from the House and I, therefore, missed votes. I expect my absence to continue through February 3, 2017 and therefore am requesting a leave of absence from the House.

CONGRATULATING MR. AND MRS. BRADLEY AND KATHERINE MORROW UPON THE BIRTH OF THEIR SON, FINNEGAN FOX MORROW

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor constituents of mine, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley and Katherine Morrow, on the birth of their son, Finnegan Fox Morrow. Bradley and Katherine are residents of Jefferson City, Missouri and welcome their new son into their family along with older brother Bennett.

Bradley and Katherine were married on September 15, 2012 and Finnegan was born on September 15, 2016, which made for a wonderful 4th wedding anniversary present. Bradley works for Division of Professional Registration with the State of Missouri and Katherine is a marketing designer for a Jefferson City magazine.

Many family members have been excited to welcome Finnegan, including maternal grandparents Milton and Cherie Barr, paternal grandparents Sally, Michael and Elizabeth Morrow, and paternal great-grandparent Joseph Morrow.

I ask you to join me in congratulating the Morrow family on this new addition to their family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for roll call votes 66 and 67 on Monday, January 30, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted "Yea" on roll call votes 66 and 67.

TRIBUTE TO ABBY BERNSTEIN

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Abby Bernstein, a passionate advo-

cate for the rights of the aviation safety inspector and technician workforce of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Abby is retiring from the Professional Aviation Safety Specialists (PASS) union this month after 33 years of service. I am confident that and all of my colleagues who have worked with her, will miss her wise advocacy and kind demeanor.

Abby's career with PASS began in 1984, when she was the union's first, and only, employee. She remained PASS's only employee and ran the union's legislative and membership departments singlehandedly for many years thereafter. Throughout her career, Abby has fought to ensure safety inspectors and technicians are able to do their important work on behalf of the American people in keeping our aviation system running safely and smoothly.

For years, Abby has fought tirelessly for increased aviation safety inspector staffing and improved FAA oversight of the aviation system, and I hope she will retire knowing that the flying public is safer as a result of her work. She was pivotal in joining my colleagues and me in key legislative efforts at various points in the 2000s to improve the FAA's oversight of maintenance, repair, and overhaul work performed on U.S. airlines' fleets at foreign repair stations. She also worked relentlessly to preserve the inspector workforce from unnecessary delegations of authority to the private sector.

Not only has Abby worked to improve aviation safety, but she has also vigorously protected the rights and interests of PASS's members at every turn. When Congress exempted FAA employees from Federal personnel and procurement rules in 1996, Abby fought hard, and successfully, to preserve the rights of FAA employees to organize and to bargain collectively. From the 1990s to today, Abby has been a key ally in efforts to prevent the privatization of FAA air traffic control jobs. She has remained steadfast in her belief that the employees who safeguard the safety and efficiency of the aviation system must remain Federal employees. I would be remiss if I did not note, in particular, Abby's invaluable assistance in the last Congress to counteract, once again, ill-advised efforts to privatize the air traffic control system.

In my own work with Abby on important issues of aviation safety and policy, I have come to know her as a thoughtful, inquisitive, and intellectually curious advocate. In fact, she has such a strong desire to learn and expand her horizons that, having graduated from the University of Maryland in 1981 with a bachelor's degree in management and consumer studies, she returned to her alma mater and obtained a second degree eight years later in computer and information sciences.

Abby's retirement will mark the end of an era for PASS and, indeed, for all of us who have collaborated with her over the years in pursuit of a safer, better aviation system. Although we will miss her, I hope my colleagues will join me in helping send Abby into retirement with all of our very best wishes and most of all, with tremendous thanks for a job well done.

DECLARATION OF FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2017, AS HARMONY HOUSE DAY

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harmony House of Springfield, Missouri, for all the work the organization does on behalf of survivors of domestic violence and declare that Friday, February 10, 2017, be Harmony House Day.

Since 1976, Harmony House has been an active force for good in the Springfield-Greene County community. What started out as an all-volunteer grassroots network sheltering survivors of abuse in their own homes, has over the past 41 years answered more than 76,000 SAFEline calls, served over 450,000 meals and provided over 408,000 safe bed nights to more than 16,000 women and children from around Greene County, Missouri.

February 10, 2017, will mark the beginning of a new era for Harmony House. Going forward, Harmony House will continue to serve those in need and continue to change lives but in a new location with both enhanced and expanded capabilities. Harmony House's empowering work, as the only domestic violence shelter in the area, will reach more people and help more families operating from a newly renovated, top of the line, facility.

I am honored to recognize Harmony House and commend the organization for its service and hard work over the years. On behalf of Missouri's Seventh Congressional District, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring Harmony House and observing Friday, February 10, 2017, as Harmony House Day.

HONORING THE WALKER COMPANY

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a very special group of Kentuckians. They are the Walker family; Arthur, Sr. (Deceased), Arthur, Jr., Art III and Bryce Walker. They make up the Walker Company, which was created in 1933 and whose corporate office is located in Montgomery County, Kentucky.

The Walker Company has been chosen by Gateway Area Development District to receive the Regional Outstanding Business for 2016 Award. They have been a major employer over the years, employing hundreds of people and enabling them to provide a good living for their families.

The Walker family has made many philanthropic contributions, mostly anonymously, to needy projects over the years, including GED programs, scholarships for students, and the recent BuildSmart Campaign of the MCTC new Rowan Campus. The Walkers were instrumental in the location of the Maysville Community Technical College Satellite location in Mt. Sterling.

The Walkers support recreation and sports in many ways. They have been involved since the beginning with Easy Walker Park in Montgomery County, where thousands of children

across many states have enjoyed the park facilities. They also worked with Menifee County on their new Little League Baseball field, where 70 children play every day for most of the year.

Disaster assistance is no stranger to the Walkers. If a major event happens in a surrounding county, they drop everything and will even pull off of a job and bring their equipment and operators to help open roads, clear debris, just to help their neighbors. Morgan and Menifee Counties can both attest to this when the tornadoes hit in 2012.

The Walkers give of their time to serve on boards on the local, state and federal level and share their business expertise and professional engineering experience with others. The Walker Company members continue to be remembered for their generosity and I am honored to recognize them before the United States House of Representatives.

IN HONOR OF JOHN W. WIESNER

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of John W. Wiesner. On January 26, 2017, the Wiesner family lost a father, a grandfather and a great-grandfather, and our district lost an icon. Those who knew John W. Wiesner are better people today thanks to his wise counsel. His philanthropy, business, faith, and family are all admirable examples of what to aspire to because John made the most of his 88 years.

While known locally as the chairman and CEO of the Wiesner auto dealerships, John's story is admirable. Born in Richmond on November 13, 1928, John was raised in Hempstead where he met and married his childhood sweetheart, Elizabeth. Shortly after, they started a family and built an automotive empire. A graduate of Southern Methodist University and member of the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity, John went from working in his father-in-law's Sorsby Motor Company to later purchasing it in 1954. John and Elizabeth moved to Conroe in the 1970's and purchased the Buick Pontiac Dealership. Throughout the last few decades, the Wiesner dealerships continued to expand, employing over 500 people in Conroe, Huntsville, Tomball and Rosenberg.

A consummate gentleman, John leaves a legacy to be proud of with his son, Don, his six grandchildren and great-grandchild. However, because John did not showcase his good deeds, the full extent of his philanthropy may never be known.

As a Mason, a Shriner, a Paul Harris Fellow, Sam Walton Business Leader, Time Magazine Quality Dealer, Man of the Year, and Key Man—just to name a few of his many accolades—family, faith, and doing business the right way mattered the most to my friend.

Since 1974, Don Wiesner has been working alongside his father who was proud to welcome the 4th generation to serve in the family business. It is no surprise that the Houston Business Journal acknowledged the Wiesners as a top 10 Family Owned Business in Houston.

John's community spirit lives on in his dedication to the First United Methodist Church in Conroe and numerous boards and organizations from the YMCA, County Fairs, the Appraisal District, Youth Services, Economic Development, Chambers, Rotary, the Salvation Army, American Heart Association, Junior League, the performing arts, scholarships, the American Cancer Society, Boy Scouts, Crime Stoppers, Montgomery County Performing Arts, National Dealer Council, Houston Automotive Dealers Association, GMAC Dealer Advisory Board, Texas Automobile Dealers Association, Pontiac-GMC Division Dealer Council, South Central Region Dealer Council, Nations Bank Conroe, Conroe Symphony Orchestra, and more.

When I served as a local chamber executive, I had the privilege of working alongside John on key projects such as the creation of the North Harris Montgomery Community College (now Lone Star College System). This is just one example of how John's involvement helped make our community a better place. John and Elizabeth, their sons Howell and John III, are together again in the loving arms of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

IN RECOGNITION OF EMILY TORRANCE RECEIVING THE ATHENA YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Emily Torrance for receiving the ATHENA Youth Leadership Award in recognition of her public service to better the Ann Arbor community. Emily's advocacy on behalf of less fortunate in the Ann Arbor community has helped improve the lives of the homeless.

Ms. Torrance has distinguished herself with her volunteer and philanthropic achievements that have achieved concrete results on behalf of Ann Arbor's homeless population. As a sixth grader, Ms. Torrance started S4 the Homeless after an encounter with homeless people on a cold day. In order to provide resources for those in need, Ms. Torrance hand knit and sold scarves. With the profits from these sales, she began bulk purchasing sub-zero sleeping bags at discounted rates. She was able to contact social services and work with these organizations to distribute the sleeping bags to help those in need. These provided shelter and warmth during the cold winter months in southeast Michigan. Ms. Torrance has since pivoted the organization's direction to sell services and better provide for the needs of the homeless.

Ms. Torrance is now in 9th grade but continues her work to provide aid to those in need through S4 the Homeless. She advocates for the homeless through her school and in the community at large, and her efforts are instrumental to raising awareness and driving action to better provide for these individuals. Emily has motivated others to be more active within their communities, and it is inspiring to see her begin the journey of public service at such a young age. It is my hope that Ms. Torrance continues to serve her community in new and innovative ways in the years ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Emily Torrance for her years of service to the Ann Arbor community through S4 the Homeless. Ms. Torrance's advocacy on behalf of those less fortunate is inspiring and worthy of commendation.

STOP, OBSERVE, ASK AND RESPOND (SOAR) TO HEALTH WELLNESS ACT

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, today during National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, I introduced the Stop, Observe, Ask and Respond (SOAR) to Health and Wellness Act along with my colleagues Representatives ADAM KINZINGER, TONY CÁRDENAS and ANN WAGNER. It is a companion to S. 1446, which was introduced by Senators HEIDI HEITKAMP and SUSAN COLLINS. This bipartisan bill supports efforts underway at the Department of Health and Human Services to combat human trafficking by directing the Secretary to establish a pilot program to be known as 'Stop, Observe, Ask and Respond to Health and Wellness Training' to provide training on human trafficking to health care providers at all levels.

Human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery that uses force, fraud or coercion to lure millions of men, women and children in countries around the world annually, including here in the United States. Human trafficking includes both sex and labor trafficking, and generates billions of dollars in profits each year, making it the second most profitable form of transnational crime behind drug trafficking.

Recognizing the key indicators of human trafficking is the first step in identifying victims, providing life-saving help and bringing traffickers to justice. Human trafficking, however, is a hidden crime and victims rarely seek help because of cultural barriers or out of fear of their traffickers or law enforcement.

While victims are often difficult to identify, a reported 68 percent of trafficking victims end up in a health care setting at some point while being exploited, including in clinics, emergency rooms and doctor's offices. Despite this, out of more than 5,680 hospitals in the country, only 60 have been identified as having a plan for treating patients who are victims of trafficking and 95 percent of emergency room personnel are not trained to treat trafficking victims.

Our bill aims to ensure health care professionals are trained to identify and assist victims of human trafficking, and help close the gap in health care settings without plans for treating trafficking victims. I want to urge my colleagues to pass this important legislation so that health care professionals can better identify trafficking victims, provide victim centered care and help bring perpetrators of human trafficking to justice with the help of law enforcement as well as social and victims service agencies and organizations.

HONORING THE PRINCE HALL UNIVERSAL LODGE NUMBER 1 OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 172 years of service of the Prince Hall Universal Lodge Number 1 of Alexandria, Virginia. The Prince Hall Free Masonry began in Alexandria in 1845. Over the past 172 years, Universal Lodge Number 1 has worked on significant issues such as slavery, education and schools, church buildings, and the general welfare of African Americans. I greatly commend their many years of service to the Alexandria community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote numbers 66 and 67. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye on both.

IN HONOR OF SCOTT GRAVES

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Mr. Scott Graves the pride of Bronte, Texas. For more than 12 years, Scott has been a leader in the field of agriculture policy and helped shape a better vision and future for our nation.

Since coming to work as an intern on Capitol Hill, Scott has demonstrated his ability to master complex policy issues and work with members and staff to craft unique solutions. He continually equips members of the House Committee on Agriculture, and the Republican Conference as a whole, with the knowledge and resources we need to serve the American public. His leadership of the Agriculture Committee has positioned them for tremendous success as they begin to reauthorize the Farm Bill this Congress.

I have known Scott for many years and have always known that he was someone I could count on to get the job done. Scott and I worked together for two years and he succeeded me as Chief of Staff to Mr. CONAWAY from Texas. I think fondly on the time we spent together and am proud of what we accomplished. I am even more proud of the character of the husband, father, and colleague I now simply call friend.

Personally and professionally Scott is fun to be around, and he makes everyone around him better. There is no doubt that Scott will be sincerely missed, but I am excited for what the future holds for this extraordinary public servant.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in recognizing the impressive career of Mr. Scott

Graves and wishing him well as he, Haley, and Bronte begin the next chapter of their lives.

HONORING STEPHEN B. HOVEN UPON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 19 YEARS OF SERVICE TO SSM HEALTH

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Mr. Stephen B. Hoven, on his retirement from SSM Health as the Vice President of Public Affairs following 19 years of service.

In August 1997, Mr. Hoven joined SSM Health, founded by the Franciscan Sisters of St. Mary, as the Vice President of Public Affairs. In this position Mr. Hoven provided leadership in multiple external markets. He has also collaborated with public policy leaders in municipal affairs, and local, state and federal governments which have positively benefitted SSM Health. Additionally, Mr. Hoven has coordinated civic and community events throughout Missouri. Mr. Hoven has helped further SSM Health's vision and mission throughout the communities they serve during his 19 years of service. The passion Mr. Hoven has shown for his job, the people who work at SSM, those they serve and his country has been a true asset to SSM.

Mr. Hoven began his career in public affairs in 1982 as the Manager of Public Affairs for Ozark Air Lines in St. Louis during which time he oversaw the coordination of state legislation in 25 states. Additionally, as Manager of Public Affairs, he managed civic affairs for 65 cities and handled the corporate charitable program. In 1986 he moved to the St. Louis Regional Commerce and Growth Association. From 1986 to 1990 he was the Administrative Assistant to the president of that association. Then from 1990 to 1994 he was Vice President of Government Affairs and Transportation. In 1994 Mr. Hoven stepped into the role of Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of a 4,000 member chamber of commerce. This chamber of commerce was committed to increasing their regional cooperation and also expanding their economic growth opportunities in the St. Louis region.

Mr. Hoven has volunteered many hours throughout his professional career to numerous civic and charitable organizations, including the boards of the Museum of Transportation, the Japan-American Society, the American Cancer Society, the Leadership Council of Southwestern Illinois, the Boys and Girls Town of Missouri, the Associated Industries of Missouri, the St. Louis Sports Commission and the St. Louis Regional Commerce and Growth Association's Public Policy Council. Each one of these groups has been positively impacted by Mr. Hoven's service.

With this retirement Mr. Hoven will now be able to spend more time with his wife Jill, and they look forward to spending more time with their beloved dogs. Mr. and Mrs. Hoven are planning to live part of the year in Colorado and will be RV traveling as well, but will still be a regular presence in their Warren County home in Missouri's 3rd District.

I ask you in joining me in recognizing Mr. Steve Hoven on his retirement. The commitment he has shown to the SSM Health and his community is a commendable accomplishment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding missed votes on Monday, January 30, 2017. Had I been present for roll call vote number 66, H.R. 374, To remove the sunset provision of section 203 of Public Law 105-384, and for other purposes, I would have voted "yea." Had I been present for roll call vote number 67, H.R. 538, the Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act of 2017, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on Monday, January 30, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 66 and Yea on Roll Call No. 67.

TRIBUTE TO ALL-TIME SCORING LEADER FOR MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TORI JANKOSKA

HON. JOHN R. MOOLENAAR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, today, I, along with Representative BISHOP pay tribute to Tori Jankoska, the all-time scoring leader for Michigan State University Women's Basketball.

Tori was born and raised in Freeland, where she grew up with a passion for competition. As a young girl, Tori was unable to compete with her peers. She grew up with asthma and other illnesses that kept her from playing with the other kids. Through her own perseverance, she was able to play with her siblings and her passion for sports started to grow. As a student at Freeland High School, Tori raised the bar for her own team and her competitors. It wasn't long before her talent was noticed by the coaches at MSU.

When starting her basketball career at MSU, Tori knew that was where she wanted to be. She also knew that she had a chance to do something great. Regarded by her coaches as having the highest basketball IQ on the court, Tori has proven her acumen time and again. Now, as the all-time point leader for MSU, she has written her own legacy into the record book as one of the best college women's basketball players of all time.

Tori has overcome obstacles and excelled at the highest level of competition. On behalf

of the Fourth & Eighth Congressional Districts of Michigan, we are honored today to recognize Tori Jankoska for her lifetime of work on and off the court and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANA SKIDMORE OF TWOFOOT CREATIVE FOR RECEIVING THE ATHENA ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ana Skidmore, entrepreneur and founder of TwoFoot Creative, for receiving the ATHENA Organizational Leadership Award. Ana has achieved business success through her hard work and vision in founding TwoFoot Creative, a wedding and event planning organization that has successfully served the community for 10 years.

Founded in 2007 by Ms. Skidmore, TwoFoot Creative has established a reputation as a premier wedding and planning organization that effectively serves its clients. The organization offers full service wedding planning services, including negotiating contracts, invitation design and comprehensive scheduling of the wedding week for clients. TwoFoot Creative has received many accolades for its outstanding service, including being named a Knot "Best Of" wedding planning company for seven years in a row. In addition, colleagues have named TwoFoot as having the "Best Team" at the wedding industry's Event Professionals in Class Awards that are held annually in Metro Detroit. These awards and distinctions speak to the high quality of work and effective service that the organization provides to its clients.

The success and acclaim of TwoFoot Creative speaks to the vision and tireless efforts of Ms. Skidmore and the other team members. Starting a successful company requires a unique combination of entrepreneurial spirit, vision and leadership that few possess. Having created an award-winning organization that consistently wins praise from its clients and other industry professionals, Ms. Skidmore has proven to exemplify these values. I am proud to recognize Ms. Skidmore and TwoFoot Creative for their success, and it is my hope that they continue to grow and serve the community in the coming years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ana Skidmore for her outstanding entrepreneurial success. The acclaim and business success of TwoFoot are inspiring and deserving of the ATHENA Organizational Leadership Award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 68.

INTRODUCTION OF THE JOINT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE FINAL RULE OF THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE RELATING TO MITIGATION POLICY

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation disapproving of the Compensatory Mitigation Policy (CMP) rule finalized in the final days of the Obama administration. On December 23, 2016, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) released its final Endangered Species Act (ESA) CMP, which violates existing environmental law and puts future economic development across the country at risk. This rule establishes policies that are a significant departure from existing practices regarding compensatory mitigation and limits private-sector, voluntary involvement in developing compensatory mitigation plans. My legislation utilizes the Congressional Review Act to block this dangerous rule and will prevent the potential catastrophic impacts it would have on our nation's economy.

The CMP exceeds USFWS' statutory authority by adopting the mitigation goals of "net conservation gain" and "no net loss," which are not grounded in federal statute. This directive is a significant departure from existing practice and runs counter to current law. The policy will lead to an extensive, time-consuming valuation process in which development projects are required to initiate an assessment process, as well as undertake advance mitigation that could tie up many economic projects in burdensome, costly procedures.

This overbroad policy could jeopardize an extensive range of economic development activities in every corner of the U.S., while also impacting a wide-range of industries, including: agriculture, forestry, mining, natural resource development, energy production, conservation projects, and building and road construction. The final CMP will also have significant strategic, legal, and financial implications for development projects large and small, while ensnaring future economic growth in a maze of permitting setbacks and bureaucratic red-tape.

We must protect our country's economic future and ensure burdensome rules and regulations promulgated by a bloated bureaucracy do not threaten desperately needed job creation and economic growth. The integrity of the law is threatened by misguided federal policies like the USFWS's CMP rule, and I urge all members to join me in supporting this legislation to block yet another oppressive and overreaching regulation promulgated by the previous administration.

RECOGNIZING SCOTT GRAVES

HON. DAVID ROUZER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, Scott Graves will soon be leaving his post as staff director

for the House Agriculture Committee to pursue new opportunities, and it is my privilege to recognize his many contributions over the years to farm and ranch families all across America.

Scott has served as a trusted advisor to Chairman MIKE CONAWAY for nearly twelve years. His start as an intern is a familiar one to many Capitol Hill staffers. In Scott's case, he started out as an intern for the House Agriculture Committee in January 2005. It was at that time when I first met Scott. I was a staffer myself back in 2005, working for U.S. Senator Elizabeth Dole.

Scott's knowledge, sound judgment and strong work ethic eventually elevated him to staff director of the Committee where he has led efforts to increase innovation in agriculture, improve markets, strengthen our farm economy, reform the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, repeal the Country of Origin of Labelling law and much more. Without question, Scott has been a vital contributor to the many legislative successes of the House Agriculture Committee.

There's no doubt Scott will continue to have great success in his new endeavors. On behalf of the fine farm families and consumers all across North Carolina, thank you, Scott, for your hard work and dedication to America's farm and ranch families and our rural communities. You will certainly be missed.

HONORING BRUCE DEPUYT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Bruce DePuyt, who will be leaving NewsChannel 8 this week after over two decades of outstanding journalism and service to Washington, D.C. and the national capital region.

For 23 years, Washingtonians have turned to Bruce for insight and in-depth reporting on local and national news. Bruce had a talent for bringing local and regional voices together—from elected officials and police chiefs to community leaders—to speak and inform D.C. and area residents on a host of topics important to this region and the nation. Even before arriving at NewsChannel 8, however, people could turn to Bruce for trusted journalism wherever he was reporting.

A graduate of the University of Maryland in 1984, Bruce got an early start in journalism as a college radio station student-host calling women's basketball. After graduating, he went on to work as a reporter and anchor at WVIR in Charlottesville, Virginia, and produced an award-winning weekly talk show, "21 This Week," on Cable News 2 in Montgomery County, Maryland, where he won a Cable Ace award. In 1993, Bruce joined the team at NewsChannel 8, where he has been ever since.

Bruce's career at NewsChannel 8 has been marked by smart commentary, excellent reporting, and penetrating questioning. In 2013, he was named the Best TV Personality by the Washington Blade magazine, and Washington City Paper readers named him the Best Newsmaker in 2010. For his brilliant reporting, Bruce was also awarded the Cronkite Award

by the University of Southern California's Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism. Since 2002, Bruce has been the host of Newstalk, a daily mid-morning news show, where he has hosted more than 11,000 guests over 3,300 episodes. Bruce continues to be an active and beloved member of both his community and his church, the All Souls Unitarian Church, where he was a former trustee. For his work, Bruce was given the Pillar of Faith Award by the Howard University School of Divinity.

Mr. Speaker, Members of Congress are familiar with Bruce's excellence here on television. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Bruce DePuyt for 23 years of extraordinary work and service as news anchor and reporter with NewsChannel 8 and as a favorite of the national capital region.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, January 30, 2017, I was not present for votes due to illness. Had I been present, on Roll Call vote 66, I would have voted YES, and on Roll Call vote 67, I would have voted YES.

IN RECOGNITION OF SUE SCHOONER OF GIRLS' GROUP FOR RECEIVING THE ATHENA ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sue Schooner, founder of Girls' Group, for receiving the ATHENA Organizational Leadership Award. Sue has leveraged her background in management to create a first-class organization that helps girls in need.

Ms. Schooner founded Girls Group in 2003 to provide support for young women to achieve self-sufficiency by becoming first-generation college graduates. The group supports

approximately 300 middle school through college age girls through a variety of programs. These include in-school programs in participating middle and high schools that promote academic and college planning, as well as one-on-one mentoring and homework support groups to provide further academic assistance. Girls Group also offers College Prep tours to historically black colleges and universities as well as other colleges in the Midwest. This comprehensive offering has been integral to providing young women with access to opportunities and establishing support networks to help them succeed academically and professionally.

The growth and success of Girls Group is a testament to Ms. Schooner's hard work and dedication to the organization. Through the work of Girls Group staff and volunteers, hundreds of young women have been empowered to pursue their dreams. The group has also played a pivotal role in helping the girls' emotional and life skills development, and the record of success in improving these girls' lives speaks to the impact that Girls Group has had. The organization and staff continue to inspire, and it is my hope that the organization continues to be a positive force in the community in the years ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Sue Schooner for her work with Girls Group. The group has enabled young women in southeast Michigan to achieve their academic and life goals through its multifaceted academic and support programs.

CELEBRATING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF MR. CHESTER ZAWADSKI OF PACIFIC, MISSOURI

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Mr. Chester Zawadski, who celebrated his 80th birthday in November 2016. His family is looking forward to celebrating this momentous occasion with him in February of this year.

Mr. Zawadski bravely served our nation in the Army during the Korean War. His years of service included time at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri and also in Germany.

Hammond, Indiana is where Mr. Zawadski was born and raised. He and his wife Beverly lived in Indiana until his retirement from serving as a Lake County Probation Officer in 2009. At the time of his retirement Mr. and Mrs. Zawadski moved to Pacific, Missouri to live closer to their grandchildren. Chester and Beverly were married for 40 years until her passing.

Throughout his life Mr. Zawadski has enjoyed staying up to date on current political events, spending time with his grandchildren, raising chickens and reading. He has also been involved with Toastmasters and the Knights of Columbus.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Mr. Chester Zawadski on the celebration of his 80th birthday.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S DISGRACEFUL EXECUTIVE ORDER

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in opposition to President Trump's disgraceful Executive Order indefinitely suspending the settlement of Syrian refugees and banning anyone from six other Muslim-majority countries from coming to America. This ill-conceived and unconstitutional action is immoral, un-American, and a threat to our national security.

The refugees President Trump is turning away are in desperate circumstances. Like the millions of American Immigrants who came before them, they are searching for a better future for themselves and their families. By banning their entry, the Trump Administration dishonors the commitment we made to countless women and children from Syria who have successfully complied with our strict vetting process. This irresponsible executive order does little to protect us from terrorism, but it does institutionalize a prejudice against Muslims. Moreover, it makes us more susceptible to home-grown terrorism. In a nation founded by immigrants, it is our duty as Americans to call upon President Trump to rescind this executive order.