

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.

**MICHELLE ESTRADA RECEIVES
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE-EDUCATION
AWARD FROM THE VVC
FOUNDATION**

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of Michelle Estrada who will be presented the Distinguished Service-Education Award from the Victor Valley College Foundation on February 25, 2017.

Michelle Estrada was nominated for this award because of her dedication to her students and staff at Hesperia High School. Ms. Estrada provides a one of a kind Early College Academy that allows students to receive college credit while attending Hesperia High School. The Early College Academy provides students with technical skills that enable them to become specialists before they graduate. Ms. Estrada is passionate about helping students who lack the support to succeed and is a pillar at Hesperia High School for students to strive towards success.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I would like to thank Michelle Estrada for her tireless work and dedication to the students of Victor Valley. I congratulate Michelle Estrada on receiving the Distinguished Service-Education Award from the Victor Valley College Foundation.

**IN RECOGNITION OF THE 26TH
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS**

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our heroes in blue who serve and protect the North Texas community. The exemplary members of our law enforcement put their lives on the line daily to ensure the safety of our citizens and deserve all of the respect and honor that our nation has to offer.

With 135 law enforcement officers lost in 2016 alone, the sacrifices made by these selfless men and women to ensure our safety are more apparent now than ever before. These tragic losses were felt even closer to home when five officers were lost in Dallas just six months ago.

I want to express my sincerest gratitude to Police Chiefs Reim, Tackett, Bruce, Wilson, Hargis, Carolla, Kerbow, Perdue, Kowalski, Amyx, Coulon, Watson, Sadler, Johnson, Reynolds, Pauley, Payne, Harrison, Henley, Brooks, Edland, Genova, Howell, Blount, Walthall, Patrick, Fitzgerald, Fowler and

Kancel; to Denton County Constable Hammons, Truitt, Raburn, Burch and Boydston; and Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn and Denton County Sheriff Tracy Murphee.

The leadership exhibited by these law enforcement officers and their service to the 26th District of Texas is invaluable and it is my privilege to recognize such an outstanding group.

REV. PATRICIA BRUGER

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the outstanding achievements of Rev. Patricia Brugger, her contributions to CUMAC and all those in need.

Patricia has a Master of Divinity degree with over 25 years of experience in social and civic ministries. She is an ordained Elder of The United Methodist Church, a certified Mentor for the Board of Ordained Ministry, a certified counselor for the Clergy Partnership on Domestic Violence, and a member of the Bishop's Task Force on Urban Minorities.

Prior to attending seminary and coming to CUMAC, Patricia worked for the Girl Scouts of America and was a public school teacher. She is a committed social servant dedicated to the eradication of hunger and poverty through direct source and broad advocacy efforts. She was a founding member of, and remains active in the Emergency Food Coalition of Passaic County (newly operating as a CUMAC program), the NJ statewide Anti-Hunger Coalition, and the Paterson Alliance. Pat has been a leading voice for her community, advocating for hunger to be addressed in the state budget, as well as rallying support for SNAP benefits and Breakfast after the Bell, to feed hungry students so that they can have a proper education.

Patricia has been the Executive Director of CUMAC for over 26 years. She has led the organization through a tremendous period of growth from operating out of an abandoned church to purchasing its own 28,000 square foot facility and from a small food pantry to a multiservice agency serving over 40,000 people in need every year, providing food assistance, disaster relief, job training, supportive housing, and hope to a community facing pervasive poverty.

Patricia's forward-thinking and leadership abilities has encouraged and inspired staff and volunteers to partake in CUMAC's mission of taking care of others. She has raised awareness about pervasive poverty through this organization, and strives to fulfill the needs of people who do not have the adequate resources to function in their daily lives. She has worked closely with other feeding programs throughout Passaic County and northern New Jersey to bring about change in the community, and to assist in eradicating poverty.

Through a lifetime of service and leadership, she has aided, encouraged and inspired many. Her vision and strength have had a profound impact on the movement to fight hun-

ger, poverty and injustice in Passaic County and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, family and friends, all those whose lives she has touched, and me, in recognizing the work of Rev. Patricia Brugger and her strong desire to help those in need across the world.

**IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL
JAMES J. KEEFE**

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Colonel James J. Keefe on his promotion to the rank of Brigadier General and his assignment as Assistant Adjutant General for Air at the Massachusetts Air National Guard at the Joint Force Headquarters at Hansom Air Force Base. He has dedicated his life to the defense of our country and I would like to take the time to express my gratitude to him.

Jim Keefe has been a constituent of mine throughout my tenure in Congress as a resident of Northampton and Southhampton, Massachusetts. He graduated from Norwich University in Vermont and was commissioned into the United States Air Force in 1987. During his time in the active Air Force, Colonel Keefe proved to be an effective F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot and instructor at bases in Florida, Georgia, and Washington, DC. In May of 1999, Colonel Keefe returned home and joined the Massachusetts Air National Guard at Barnes Air National Guard Base in Westfield, Massachusetts. In the course of his service, Colonel Keefe has flown in over 3400 flying hours, as well as 330 hours of combat in missions Operation Southern Watch, Operation Northern Watch, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Noble Eagle. In addition to his pilot duties, Colonel Keefe has served as Flight Commander, Squadron Commander, and Vice Commander at the 104th Fighter Wing. Since 2013, he has faithfully served as Wing Commander of the 104th, where he is charged with directing over a thousand military and civilian personnel in support of the wing's mission to defend against any air threat to the homeland.

Throughout his career, Colonel Keefe has been recognized many times for outstanding service to this nation. These awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Combat Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon, and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal to just name a few. Needless to say, Colonel Keefe has been an asset to the Air Force and the Air National Guard for decades.

Mr. Speaker, as Colonel Keefe moves onto the next step in his career and continues to serve the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and his country, I want to thank him for his service. Barnes Air National Guard Base has been the example all Air National Guard bases look to in terms of excellence. That is partly in part to the exemplary leadership that Colonel Keefe has brought to Barnes. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.