

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

JORDYN ASHBURN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jordyn Ashburn for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Jordyn Ashburn is a 9th grader at Mapleton Early College High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jordyn Ashburn is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives. I extend my deepest congratulations to Jordyn Ashburn for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE VFW POST 7327 AMERICANISM AWARDS RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7327 in Springfield, Virginia and the winners of its 2017 Americanism Awards.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) traces its beginnings to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish-American War established local organizations to bring awareness to their service and to advocate for veterans retirement benefits and improved medical care. Annually, the nearly 2 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliaries contribute more than 8.6 million hours of volunteerism in the community, including participation in Make a Difference Day and National Volunteer Week.

With approximately 600 Comrades and 150 Ladies Auxiliary members, the Springfield VFW Post 7327 stands out for the depth of its commitment to our community. Often called "The Friendliest VFW Post in Virginia," Post 7327 has one of the most aggressive Adopt-a-Unit programs in the entire VFW organization to support our service members stationed overseas. VFW Post 7327 visits the VA hospital at least quarterly, bringing along goodie bags for our Wounded Warriors. Each Thanksgiving and Christmas, VFW Post 7327 adopts military families in need through the USO and provides them with meal baskets for each holi-

day, gifts for children, commissary cards for the parents, and a Christmas party where the children can meet Santa and receive a gift-filled stocking. The Ladies Auxiliary members collect, sort, and distribute more than 2,000 pieces of clothing each month to various charitable organizations.

VFW Post 7327 is a strong supporter of local youth organizations, including the Boys Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Little League Baseball, that contribute greatly to the education and well-being of our children.

Each year, VFW Post 7327 bestows awards to local students who have submitted outstanding essays on a theme and to local teachers and public safety officers in recognition of their extraordinary actions and dedication. I am honored to include in the RECORD the names of this year's honorees:

PATRIOT'S PEN

- 1st Place: Alexia M. de Costa
- 2nd Place: Austin Matthew Lathrop
- 3rd Place: Serina Ahmed

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

- 1st Place: Timothy A. Withington
- 2nd Place: Jenna L. C. Huber
- 3rd Place: Sean M. Franklin

TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

- Elementary: Joash Chung
- Middle School: Cindy Downing

PUBLIC SAFETY AWARDS

- Assistant Chief Gary E. Gaal
- Police Officer First Class Christopher Cosgriff
- Lieutenant Justin Palenscar

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking VFW Post 7327 for its continued efforts on behalf of our community and in congratulating the honorees of the 2017 Americanism Awards.

IN MEMORY OF REVEREND RICHARD KEVIN BARNARD

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Reverend Richard Kevin Barnard, who passed on March 18, 2017. Reverend Barnard has served as a minister in the Reformed Episcopal Church since July of 1989. Prior to that, he served 18 years at The Chapel of the Cross in Dallas, Texas and most recently at Christ Church Anglican Ft. Worth.

Before coming to The Chapel, Reverend Barnard was Director of Communications for the International Bible Society, which was then located in East Brunswick, New Jersey. In that capacity he was a regular participant in the monthly White House Forum for Religious Organizations during the Reagan Administration

and represented the Bible Society at public and private events, traveling to Central America, Europe, Africa and Asia.

At my invitation on July 26, 2006, Reverend Barnard served as Chaplin of the Day for the United States House of Representatives.

Reverend Barnard's gracious presence and true dedication to the work and word of Christ has been an instrumental part of my life. He encouraged his congregation to remain faithful to pursuing our walk with Christ daily.

HONORING STUDENTS WHO RAISE MONEY FOR LEUKEMIA AND LYMPHOMA

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to recognize a few high school students from San Antonio and the surrounding area who raised over \$500,000 in 7 weeks while campaigning for the Students of the Year title, a campaign launched by The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

Ella Behnke, 16, a senior at Alamo Heights High School, raised over \$334,000 in 7 weeks to become The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's "2017 Student of the Year." Ella was diagnosed with non-Hodgkins Lymphoblastic Lymphoma at the age of 2. She has been in remission for several years now.

P.J. O'Toole, 15, a freshman at Smithson Valley High School in Spring Branch, Texas, raised over \$50,000 during the 7-week campaign, becoming the "2017 Student of the Year Runner Up." P.J. was the only freshman to run in the campaign against 11 upper classmen.

P.J. is also a leukemia survivor. At the age of 6, he was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML). With only a 70 percent chance of survival, today P.J. is in remission.

Raising over \$50,000 each means that both Ella Behnke and P.J. O'Toole will have the opportunity to name an LLS research grant in honor of whomever they choose.

For the South Central Texas Chapter—San Antonio Inaugural Campaign, 12 candidates raised an outstanding \$502,000 this year.

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Students of the Year campaign is a fundraising competition in communities across the United States in which participants vie for the title of Student of the Year. They raise funds for blood cancer research in honor of local children who are blood cancer survivors.

In appreciation of all they have done, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking them for their efforts to advance the treatment of Leukemia and Lymphoma.

● 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.