

NICOLE WICKERSHEIM

**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 Nicole Wickersheim for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Nicole Wickersheim is a 12th grader at Adams City High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Nicole Wickersheim 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 Nicole Wickersheim 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 2017 TOWN OF  
HERNDON POLICE DEPARTMENT  
VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce.

This is the 39th Annual Valor Awards sponsored by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce. This event honors the remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety officers. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will present 125 awards to recognize extraordinary actions above and beyond the call of duty in a variety of categories including the Lifesaving Certificate, the Certificate of Valor, and the Bronze and Silver Medals of Valor.

Five members of the Town of Herndon Police Department are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I include in the RECORD the names of the following Valor Award Recipients:

## CERTIFICATE OF VALOR

Corporal Damien Austin  
Senior Police Officer Ronald Eicke

## LIFESAVING AWARD

Corporal Andrew Perry  
Private First Class Chad Findley  
Private First Class Davin Royal

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2017 Valor Award Recipients, and thank all of the men and women who serve in the Town of Herndon Police Department. Their efforts, made on

behalf of the citizens of our community, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

## HONORING ADAMANTIA KLOTSA

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Florida's Consul General of the Hellenic Republic, Ms. Adamantia Klotsa, a model foreign representative and distinguished member of the Greek community in my district.

Ms. Klotsa was recently honored by the Federation of Hellenic American Educators for her "continuous effort to execute professional and outstanding duties towards the language, the culture and services for the Greek community of Florida."

Before her diplomatic mission in Tampa, Ms. Adamantia Klotsa was born in Athens. She holds B.A.s in both Archeology and Law as well as an M.A. in Prehistoric Archeology from the University of Athens. Ms. Klotsa entered the Diplomatic Service of the Hellenic Republic in 1998. In the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic, she served in the Office of the Secretary General, the NATO Department, and the Personnel Department. As the co-Chair of the Hellenic Caucus and the Congressional Hellenic-Israeli Alliance and a former member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, I deeply appreciate the hard work and consummate professionalism displayed daily by our foreign diplomats, especially Ms. Klotsa.

As a proud Greek-American, I am thankful that Ms. Klotsa in her official capacity has encouraged Greek-Americans fully appreciate the diversity of their heritage. As a young boy, my grandparents, parents, aunts and uncles instilled in me an appreciation for our beautiful culture, which focuses on family, community, and faith, and it is with great pride, that I continue to uphold these values today.

Ms. Klotsa's current diplomatic mission in Tampa has also served to reinforce Florida's possession of remarkable Greek cultural treasures like Tarpon Springs in my district, home to the largest Epiphany celebration in the Western Hemisphere and world renowned Sponge Docks, and St. Augustine which boasts the earliest colonization of Greeks in the New World. Additionally, she recently introduced the application of a Sisters City relationship with the city of St. Augustine and Koroni, Greece. Initiatives like these will continue to contribute to the rich cultural and economic success in Florida's Twelfth Congressional District for years to come.

I commend the Federation of Hellenic American Educators for recognizing the contributions of Ms. Klotsa, and I hope every foreign diplomat can learn from and emulate the dedication of this Greek public servant to peace and prosperity between our nations.

HONORING DR. MARY M. WHITE

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable woman, Dr. Mary M. White, who is a pioneer and innovator in the academic, entrepreneurial and service communities.

Dr. Mary M. White is the Inaugural Chairperson of the Department of Entrepreneurship and Professional Development in the College of Business at Jackson State University. She spearheaded the creation of a new BBA Degree in Entrepreneurship in 2005. Upon obtaining IHL Board approval, this degree program became the first of its kind in the state of Mississippi and among HBCUs. She is a Fulbright Fellow and Sam Walton Fellow, recognized as one of America's leading educators and has been a Price-Babson and LLEP Fellow in Entrepreneurship as well.

Dr. White's commitment to entrepreneurship led her to co-author the book, "The Engrossed Entrepreneurial Campus: What Our Economy and Our Academy Needs Now." Dr. White's passion for entrepreneurship and business extends internationally to South Africa, Nigeria, Puerto Rico, Romania, India, and France and throughout the United States by providing guidance on entrepreneurship as a means to enhance economic development.

Dr. White represents Jackson State University on the Women Owned & Managed Enterprise Network National Advisory Council (W.O.M.E.N) with Morgan State University, HBCU/Babson Entrepreneurship and Engineering consortium, Capitol City Convention Center Procurement Outreach Advisory Board and the Mississippi Entrepreneurial Alliance.

Dr. White's an active board member of the Community Financial Services Association (CFSA), Minority Serving Institutions Research Partnership Consortium (Vice President), Society for Financial Education and Professional Development, Katherine Murriel Education Foundation and Clinton Alumnae Delta Enterprise Foundation. She has successfully directed the 2009 Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW), 2005 Women of Color Entrepreneurs Conference and the 2004 Minority Serving Institutions Conference. In 2006, Dr. White secured funding for the Business Entrepreneurial Scholars Program and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Small Farmers Training Initiative. She also directs the SIFE "I Choose" grant, guiding at-risk high school students in entrepreneurship and free enterprise.

Dr. White received the Doctor of Education at Northern Illinois University.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Mary M. White for her dedication to serving others.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MARTHA ROBY**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, April 3, 2017, I was absent because of travel delays due to weather related activities.

Had I been present, I would have voted the following on April 3, 2017:

Roll Call 209 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, H. Res. 92, Condemning North Korea's development of multiple intercontinental ballistic missiles, and for other purposes, I would have voted Aye.

Roll Call 210 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, H.R. 479, North Korea State Sponsor of Terrorism Designation Act of 2017, I would have voted Aye.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT PITTENGER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from votes on Tuesday, March 28. Had I been present, I would have opposed S.J. Res. 34, and voted NAY on Roll Call No. 202.

PERLA BARRÓN

**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 Perla Barrón for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Perla Barrón is a 12th grader at North Valley School for Young Adults and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Perla Barrón 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 Perla Barrón 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 2017 TOWN OF VIENNA POLICE DEPARTMENT VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

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safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will present 125 awards to recognize extraordinary actions above and beyond the call of duty in a variety of categories including the Lifesaving Certificate, the Certificate of Valor, and the Bronze and Silver Medals of Valor.

Five members of the Town of Vienna Police Department are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I include in the RECORD the names of the following Valor Award Recipients:

BRONZE MEDAL OF VALOR

Master Police Officer Neil Patrick Shaw  
Police Officer Andrew Slebonick

LIFESAVING AWARD

Sergeant Michael Reeves  
Master Police Officer Matthew Lyons  
Police Officer Gregory Hylinski

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2017 Valor Award Recipients, and thank all of the men and women who serve in the Town of Vienna Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of our community, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

RECOGNIZING ESTHER WARD'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. MARK WALKER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding constituent on her 100th birthday—Esther Ward of Randolph County.

I am pleased to share in the momentous celebration of her 100th birthday, and I am honored to acknowledge this joyous milestone, filled with memories and experiences. It is not only a time of happiness, but a time to reflect on the lives Esther has enriched. In particular, Esther continues to be a pillar of her church, Hopewell Friends Meeting of Asheboro. North Carolina has been truly fortunate to share in her long legacy of achievement.

I join with her family, friends, church and the Sixth District in congratulating Esther on this special occasion.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. ABRAHAM FISCHLER

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of my good friend and a most dedicated public servant, Dr. Abraham "Abe" Fischler, who, sadly, passed away on April 3, 2017. He was 89 years old.

For 22 years, Abe Fischler was President of Nova Southeastern University (NSU). There were only 17 students enrolled when Abe joined NSU. He became President in 1970 and oversaw NSU's growth into the large and well-respected institution that it is today.

Abe was born in Brooklyn on January 21, 1928. He was a member of the "Greatest

Generation," serving in the United States Navy during the Second World War. He married his beloved wife of 68 years, Shirley, in 1949 and in 1951, graduated with a degree in Biochemistry from the City College of New York, eventually earning a Doctorate in Education in 1959 from Columbia University.

Among the many innovations Dr. Fischler brought to NSU was the development of a long-distance learning program. Abe thought there should be a way for professionals who wanted to pursue advanced degrees to do so without having to leave their jobs. We didn't have the prevalence of internet technologies we do now at the time, so Abe would actually have the university fly adjunct instructors to various spots around the country to teach small groups of students outside of regular business hours. At the time, this was very unusual, but today, long distance education is both common and expected at most institutions of higher learning. Abe Fischler was one of the first to do it.

In 1992, Abe retired from NSU, but he did not spend his retirement idly watching the world go by. By 1994, he was back in the thick of it, and got elected to the Broward County School Board, where he would serve for four years. He continued to be involved in educational issues, as well as his involvement with Nova Southeastern as President Emeritus until his passing.

Dr. and Shirley Fischler have four children, four grandchildren and one great-grandson. My own son holds a Doctorate from, and is part of, the Nova Southeastern Family I am honored to have worked with Abe Fischler and to have represented him in Congress. He was a wonderful friend and will be dearly missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for roll call votes 209 and 210 Monday, April 3, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on roll call votes 209 and 210.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF JOHN WALLACE

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues, Mr. NUNES and Mr. VALADAO, to honor the life of one of Fresno's greatest journalists, John Wallace, who passed away on March 27, 2017 at the age of 71. John was a kind, generous, and humble man who kept the Valley informed on current events as a TV news anchor for more than 40 years.

Before his career as a TV anchor, John played baseball at the University of Arizona in the early 1960's, followed by his service in the United States Marine Corps. He began his broadcast and journalism career in 1969, joining the news staff at KYNO radio in Fresno. In