

Rankin was on the frontlines of the national suffrage fight and advocated relentlessly for the creation of a Committee on Woman Suffrage, serving on that committee once it was created. Casting an “aye” vote for the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, Rankin was the only woman who ever voted to give women the right to vote.

Rankin is just one of many shining examples of women knocking down barriers. I believe the history of outstanding women and many others should be shared with all Americans to uplift and inspire them. I would like to share several outstanding women from Texas who have been several “firsts,” but certainly not “lasts” of their time.

Lera Millard Thomas was the first woman elected to Congress from the state of Texas. When her husband died in February of 1966, a special election was called in March and she was elected as a Democrat to succeed her husband. Thomas served on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee where she helped to expand the Houston Ship Channel, one of the country’s busiest seaports. She chose not to run for reelection and instead dedicated her time to members of the armed services in Vietnam as a special liaison to the Houston Chronicle.

Barbara Jordan was the first black woman elected to Congress and the first woman to represent Texas in her own right in the House of Representatives. Jordan was the first black woman to serve in the Texas State Senate and stayed there for eight years. Elected to the House in 1972, she served until 1979 and gained national praise for her legislative prowess and for her rhetoric and high morals. After retirement, Jordan returned to her former profession of teaching.

Unfortunately, in Texas, the number of women in Congress is historically very low. Currently, there are three women members; myself, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE, and Congresswoman KAY GRANGER. In the Senate, former Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison was the first and only woman to represent Texas. In 2017, this is unacceptable. When Jeannette Rankin said that she would not be the last woman in Congress, I believe that she imagined a Congress much different from this one, a Congress that mirrored our society.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
DAILY CARDINAL NEWSPAPER

**HON. MARK POCAN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 125th anniversary of The Daily Cardinal newspaper serving the University of Wisconsin-Madison Campus since its debut on April 4, 1892.

This distinguished student newspaper has been a valued staple on the University of Wisconsin-campus since it was founded by two natives of Monroe Wisconsin, who originally distributed the newspaper on horseback. One of its founders, William Wesley Young, was the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s first journalism graduate. In fact, the current home of UW-Madison’s School of Journalism in Vilas Hall is built on the site of former Cardinal offices.

Thousands of students used the Daily Cardinal to pursue investigative journalism, expose corruption and develop photographic and storytelling skills. Alumni of the paper have subsequently become not only leaders in journalism, but also in politics, business, law, and medicine. Some of these students have even subsequently gone on to win Pulitzer Prizes, Emmys, Peabody awards, and Nobel prizes.

As one of the oldest college student newspapers in the United States, The Daily Cardinal has survived and thrived through decades of change at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Its editorial board has proudly been on the forefront of advocating for important issues and advancing progressive stances from women’s suffrage to civil rights to marriage equality, while also fighting injustice and racism.

Today, it is my honor to commend The Daily Cardinal staff, advisors, and distinguished alumni for all they have accomplished at this venerable student newspaper for the past 125 years.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the 125th anniversary of The Daily Cardinal.

RECOGNIZING THE SUNY PLATTSBURGH WOMEN’S HOCKEY TEAM

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and skill of the SUNY Plattsburgh Women’s Hockey Team, who just ended their already impressive season by winning the NCAA Division III championship.

Led by Coach Kevin Houle, the Cardinals are the first team in Division III history to win four consecutive national championships. Seniors Jordan Lipson, Katelyn Turk, Julia Duquette, Melissa Ames, Erin Brand and Camille Leonard close out their collegiate careers with an impressive four year record of 111–5–4.

Additionally, Erin Brand was honored as the Most Outstanding Player at the NCAA Division III Championship with Camille Leonard and Melissa Sheeren also earning a spot on the All-Tournament Team. Leonard, the team’s goaltender, ends her career with the most victories in NCAA Division III history, as well as the highest save percentage and the second most shutouts.

In New York’s 21st District, we are incredibly proud of these women and their incredible achievements. I would like to congratulate the SUNY Plattsburgh Cardinals on their victory and hope that their hard work and dedication serve as an inspiration for generations to come.

NEYRA VALDEZ

**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 Neyra Valdez for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Neyra Valdez is a 12th grader at Hinkley High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Neyra Valdez 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 Neyra Valdez 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 FAIRFAX COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE 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.

Fourteen members of the Fairfax County Sheriff’s Office 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

Second Lieutenant Michael T. Withrow, Sergeant Nathan Cable, Sergeant Oliver Yard Master Deputy Sheriff Clifton Cooley, Master Deputy Sheriff Patrick McPartlin, Master Deputy Sheriff Jeffery Waple, Private First Class Jonathan Perryman, Private First Class Joshua Silver.

LIFESAVING AWARD

Master Deputy Sheriff Edward S. Fircetz, Master Deputy Sheriff Daniel Fyock, Master Deputy Sheriff Robert Knapp, Private First Class Daniel Boring, Private First Class Heather Trijo, Deputy James Grosser.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2017 Valor Award Recipients, and thank all of the men and women who serve in the Fairfax County Sheriff’s Office. 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 MITCH LASGOITY FOR  
BEING NAMED THE 2017 SENIOR  
FARMER OF THE YEAR

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Mitch Lasgoity, of Madera, California for being recognized as the 2017 Senior Farmer of the Year by the Madera District Chamber of Commerce. Receiving such an honor is well deserved by this hard working and humble man.

Mitch was born in Madera, California on April 11, 1930. His father, Jean Lasgoity immigrated to the United States from the Basque country of France, where he was a sheep herder. After settling in Madera, Jean married Jennie Ospital in 1928 and they started their sheep livestock business on the plot of land Jennie grew up on.

Growing up on this family farm business, Mitch learned from a very young age, the skills it would take to become a successful farmer. Even as a young boy, Mitch was trusted to help around the farm, from prepping chickens for dinner to raising hogs to sell to a meat company. As he got older, he became more involved in raising ewes into lambs, refining the skills needed in the sheep business. By the age of ten, Mitch could fully operate and drive a tractor and began doing summer work operating a grain harvester at the age of 15.

After graduating from Madera Union High School, Mitch went on to attend Santa Clara University, graduating with a degree in business in 1952. After college, Mitch partnered with his father in the sheep business. Later, at the age of 26, he bought the farm from his father and officially became self-employed.

In 1957, Mitch married Rosemary Mastrofina, who gave birth to their four children, Michel, Monica, James and John. While raising a family, Mitch was determined to expand and refine his business with the help and support of his wife, Rosemary. In no time, Mitch had an outfit of 5,000 ewes and expanded their grazing territory to Joe and Bob Heguy's ranch in Elko County, Nevada. In addition, Mitch partnered with Rosemary's uncle, Herb Buchenau, and together they created Copper Sheep Company in Ely, Nevada, where they had 10,000 ewes and 500 cows. Not stopping there, Mitch bought his first ranch, the Collins Ranch, in 1967 near Eastman Lake. Around this time he also began to farm a 320 acre ranch within Western Madera County. From then on, Mitch decided to expand his agriculture business to the best of his abilities. He has since diversified to producing almonds, grapes, wine and cattle. Now farming 3,500 acres, and owning a cattle operation which grazes over 33,000 acres, Mitch has shown what true hard work and dedication can achieve in the farming and agriculture industry.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating and honoring Mitch Lasgoity for this prestigious award as 2017 Senior Farmer of the Year. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor Mitch for his commitment to the farming industry and outstanding accomplishments. I ask that you join me in wishing Mr. Mitch Lasgoity continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RALPH LEE ABRAHAM**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, April 3, 2017 I was unavoidably detained on Roll Call Vote No. 209 and No. 210. Had I been present to vote I would have voted "AYE" on Roll Call No. 209, and "AYE" on Roll Call No. 210.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. EVAN H. JENKINS**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen travel delays, I was forced to miss Roll Call Vote Number 209. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 209.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TOM MARINO**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend votes during the week of March 15, 2017 due to inclement weather. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On March 15, 2017:

YEA for rollcall vote 159

YEA for rollcall vote 160

YEA for rollcall vote 161

On March 16, 2017:

YEA for rollcall vote 162

YEA for rollcall vote 163

YEA for rollcall vote 164

NAY for rollcall vote 165

NAY for rollcall vote 166

NAY for rollcall vote 167

YEA for rollcall vote 168

YEA for rollcall vote 169

On March 17, 2017:

YEA for rollcall vote 170

YEA for rollcall vote 171

YEA for rollcall vote 172

I was unable to attend votes during the week of March 27, 2017 due to a death in the family. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On March 27, 2017:

YEA for rollcall vote 195

YEA for rollcall vote 196

March 28, 2017:

YEA for rollcall vote 197

YEA for rollcall vote 198

YEA for rollcall vote 199

YEA for rollcall vote 200

YEA for rollcall vote 201

YEA for rollcall vote 202

On March 29, 2017:

YEA for rollcall vote 203

YEA for rollcall vote 204

NAY for rollcall vote 205

YEA for rollcall vote 206

On March 30, 2017:

NAY for rollcall vote 207

YEA for rollcall vote 208

HONORING TYRONE SURVILLION

**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 law enforcer Constable Tyrone Survillion.

Mr. Survillion's life began in Marks, MS, where he was born to Claudia M. Survillion and John H. Harris both of Marks, MS. Constable Survillion continued his residence and has resided there for forty-six plus years. He was a graduate of the Quitman County High School and he then attended Coahoma Junior College.

Tyrone Survillion has been in law enforcement since 1997 until the present. He started out as a dispatcher for the Quitman County Sheriff's Department, and later worked his way up to becoming a certified dispatcher in the year 1999. In 2008, Tyrone Survillion was elected for Constable in Quitman County until the present. He states: "Something that I love to do is working for people."

Mr. Survillion has been married to Sharon Survillion for twenty-four years. From that union came two daughters, Au'Kiona Tillman, Ty'shauna Survillion and two god daughters, Mar'Kayla and Maddison.

Constable Survillion's goal is to continue to serve and protect the citizens of Quitman County for many more years to come. Through God and determination, Constable Survillion will continue to make a difference in his community.

Mr. Speaker I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Constable Tyrone Survillion for his dedication of being an outstanding law enforcer.

PAOLA ANDUJAR

**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 Paola Andujar for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Paola Andujar is a 12th grader at Brighton High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Paola Andujar 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 Paola Andujar 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.