

has demonstrated a steadfast devotion to the community through his work, often putting his own safety at risk in order to protect others. Sergeant Welsh also served his country and community as a member of the United States Coast Guard Reserve for over 20 years.

As a pillar of Springfield Township, Sergeant Welsh has rightly been nominated as Officer of the Year as part of the 25th Annual Springfield Loyalty Day.

I thank Sergeant Welsh for his service.

30 YEARS OF SERVICE—REVEREND
ANZALONE

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reverend Alan Anzalone, born in Kansas City and raised in Deepwater, Missouri. Alan has dedicated 30 years of service to Brownington Baptist Church.

From an early age, Alan committed himself to bettering his community, helping those in need and setting an example for his peers through excelling in academics, athletics and school spirit. At age 17, Alan answered his calling from God and became Pastor of his church. Not only has he led followers to the Faith but he has also guided the renovation of the Church over the years to better suit the community's needs. I am honored to share my gratitude and respect for Reverend Alan Anzalone, and his generosity and service are an inspiration to us all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE JOHNSON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, on April 20, I attended a meeting at the White House to discuss important issues and policy to my home state with President Donald Trump.

Because of this meeting I missed Roll Call vote 236 on H.J. Res. 99—Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes.

Had I been present, I would have voted "Yea" on passage.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JOHN
FRANCIS GIONFRIDDO

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. John Francis Gionfriddo on his graduation from George Mason University and wish him well as he begins the next chapter of his life.

Mr. Gionfriddo was born February 9, 1993 in Fairfax, Virginia to his parents Elizabeth and Joseph Gionfriddo. John was born with a congenital heart defect, and when he was just

three weeks old underwent heart surgery. While doctors were able to repair his heart, John suffered complications after surgery. Since he was young, John has never been intimidated by imposed limitations with regards to his disability and has pursued friendships, work, and schooling without hesitation.

In 1997, John became a big brother to his brother Andrew, and a few years later, his youngest brother, Frank. In 2008, the Gionfriddo family relocated to England where John began high school at the International Community School in London. While living abroad, John enjoyed traveling throughout Europe with his parents and brothers. In 2011, the Gionfriddo family returned to the United States where John attended Herndon High School. Eager to gain professional experience, John began an internship at Dranesville Elementary School as an Assistant to the Librarian, a position he proudly holds to this day.

In 2013, John graduated from Herndon High School and enrolled in the George Mason University Learning into Future Environments (LIFE) Program, a postsecondary education program for young adults with intellectual disabilities. John was extremely active on campus, joining the Special Olympics Basketball Team and serving as a Member of the Best Buddies Program.

Dedicated to expanding his professional skills, John participated in the Congressional Internship Program for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities, and as a result, joined my team in September 2015 where he spent three semesters as a Congressional Intern in my Washington, D.C. Office. In this role, John was responsible for supply inventory, organizing and assigning mail, and assisting staff with day-to-day projects. John's eagerness to help others, dedication to his work, and positive outlook on life were invaluable to my team.

In his free time, John enjoys walking the family dog, Lily, listening to a variety of music, spending time at the family cabin in Pennsylvania, drinking coffee and eating out with family and friends. Throughout his life, John has been dedicated to helping others. In 2014, he was awarded the Jeff Watkins Volunteer of the Summer Award for his work with Fairfax County's Summer Therapeutic Recreation Program. He also serves on the advisory board for The Institute on Disability (IOD) at the University of New Hampshire's film project, "Intelligent Lives".

On May 20, 2017, John will graduate from the George Mason University LIFE Program, an incredible accomplishment. Following graduation, John will begin an exciting career helping others at SourceAmerica, a company dedicated to creating jobs for individuals with disabilities. While we are disappointed Mr. Gionfriddo's time with our office has come to an end, we are excited as he begins this next chapter in his life.

While Mr. Gionfriddo may have joined my office to gain work experience and learn about government, it was truly John who taught my team about compassion, dedication, and what it means to help others. The sky is the limit for John, and I cannot wait to see what he accomplishes in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Mr. John Francis Gionfriddo on his college graduation and wishing him well as he embarks on the next chapter of his life.

TRIBUTE TO JANET AND RICHARD
MOORE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Janet and Richard Moore of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on April 2, 1967.

Janet and Richard's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, April 28, 2017, I was not present for roll call votes 235, 236 and 237. Had I been present for these votes, I would have voted: Nay on roll call vote 235; Yea on roll call vote 236; and Yea on roll call vote 237.

TRIBUTE TO MARK BRANDENBURG

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mark Brandenburg of Council Bluffs, Iowa, for being inducted into the Thomas Jefferson High School Hall of Fame. Mark is a 1973 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School in Council Bluffs.

Mark attended Iowa Western Community College and received a degree in mathematics. After graduation, he moved on to earn a bachelor's degree in Management and Human Resources from Bellevue University. Mark's career began at the Omaha Public Power District but he was just getting started. He was eventually elected to the Council Bluffs Community School District Board, served two terms as a State Representative in the Iowa House of Representatives, and currently serves as the Pottawattamie County Recorder. Mark is active in the Council Bluffs community and has worked with the Iowa Western Community College Alumni Association, the Union Pacific Railroad Museum Board, the Senior Center Board, and the Heartland Chapter of the American Red Cross.