

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RIVIERA THEATRE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Riviera Theatre, a historical landmark in North Tonawanda, New York. This past December, the Riviera celebrated 90 years of bringing a multitude of performing arts, including live concerts, theatre, dance shows, and movies to Western New York.

Originally known as the Twin Cities Rivera, the theatre was built during the year 1926, by the Yellen Family. The architects Leon H. Lempart and Son drew the plans, which were patterned after the Italian Renaissance. The theatre changed multiple times over the years but is currently owned and run by Riviera Theatre and Organ Preservation Society.

Opening night was December 30, 1926, a gala event, which featured the movies "Upstage" starring Norma Shearer, "The Mona Lisa", in Technicolor, a short comedy, and the newsreel. Organist Fred Meyer accompanied the films and soloed at the Mighty Wurlitzer organ.

Perhaps the Riviera is best known for housing a Wurlitzer Theatre organ, made nearby at the Rudolph Wurlitzer Company of North Tonawanda. In 2008, the organ was re-voiced and restored to nearly original condition, providing a new symphonic sound for concerts and events. The Riviera's Mighty Wurlitzer has provided more entertainment consistently in its original setting than most other theatre organs, nationwide. Many of the top name artists in the country have performed here in hundreds of concerts over the past 35 years.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Riviera Theatre is currently in the planning stages of an Expansion and Development Project (Set The Stage) that will add 23,000 square feet of new space including a black box theatre, a new lobby and new modern amenities for their patrons and performers. It is estimated when completed an additional 50,000 visitors will attend annually.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments today to recognize the heritage of the Riviera Theatre and to celebrate its 90th Anniversary. I wish them well in their continuing expansion as the Buffalo community is fortunate to have a building with such a historical background and which promotes performing arts.

TRANS TOWN HALL

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, recently, I sat down with a number of activists in Minnesota

to talk about how LGBTQ folks, and especially trans people, are fighting for basic economic rights in a world that belittles, excludes, and dehumanizes them.

The transgender community is more visible than ever. Leaders like Laverne Cox, Caitlyn Jenner, and Janet Mock have become icons for the future of the LGBTQ movement. And in my hometown of Minneapolis, my dear friend Andrea Jenkins just received the democratic endorsement for City Council. She will be the first out trans person to hold office in Minnesota.

But this increased visibility hasn't improved the lives of all transgender people.

Compared to other states, Minnesota's transgender community is a lot safer and healthier. But that's not saying much. Nationwide, violence against trans people—and trans women in particular—is at an all-time high. Even in deeply progressive Minneapolis, my constituent CeCe McDonald was attacked outside a bar and imprisoned in a men's prison for 19 months for defending herself.

This sort of violence has far-reaching repercussions—high unemployment, difficulty accessing lifesaving healthcare, housing instability, and educational barriers. And we need to stop thinking of these injustices as separate from our economic lives.

To get a better understanding about how trans folks are living in the 21st century, I attended Minnesota's LGBTQ Lobby Day in April and hosted a town hall forum. I'll tell you—it's not easy. It takes a lot of courage to hold space for your truth. My friend Kye kicked off the testimony with a story about how important simply accepting people's identities are:

For many young trans people, growing up and going through elementary school, junior high, high school, and even college can be extremely difficult. And these folks don't always have the support system they need. Many talked about the deep opposition they faced from their families.

But it doesn't end there. There's difficulty finding work too. And even when trans people do find work, they can be subjected to cruel behavior from customers and even their own colleagues.

Now most American get their health insurance through their employers. But there are no protections to ensure that trans people can have the medically necessary care covered. This extends to our service members too. But there are also issues of racism and people being excluded because of their disabilities.

Listening to these very real struggles, I get upset thinking about how much time we have to spend convincing others to treat trans people as equals. It's clear we still have a lot of work to do, including in places that are seen as more tolerant to the LGBTQ community. I don't always know the right words, and I don't always get everything right when talking about this issue. And that's okay—I'm not trans. I do not have that experience. What's important is that I listen, that I hear and accept what my trans friends and colleagues are telling me.

And that I do the work they ask me to do. That is how you build a movement of generosity and inclusion.

Thanks to OutFront Minnesota and the Minnesota Transgender Health Coalition for their help coordinating this town hall. But more importantly, thank you to those who shared their stories.

The following are excerpts from various LGBTQ activists I recently invited to a town hall forum:

Kye Allums: I was a sophomore in High School. I was unaware of all things transgender and had no words to describe who I was. Constantly fighting with my mom to prove I liked who I liked, and that I would rather wear basketball shorts instead of a dress. I was invisible; never validated or affirmed. My mom let it be known that she was the one who defined me. I was her daughter; I was her girl. Until one day I went with her to meet a friend. We walked up to his office and he asked my mom, "Is this your son? He's a lot taller than I remember." In my mind I was like, "Yes!" Before my mom could say anything, I quickly replied, "Yup that's me. I'm her son." That moment, I was seen; I was seen by somebody, and that somebody was Congressman Keith Ellison.

Aaron Dotta: I am a co-president of the GSA at St. Paul Academy, which is a private school in St Paul. Something I want to point out is, because our parents have resources to send us to a private school, we are able to be educated in a community that supports us, and we are able to be GSA presidents and we are able to push for things such as gender neutral bathrooms, which we now have in our school. What we wanted to say is, this privilege of being able to push for equality and have our identities be recognized, should not be limited to private schools. Students at all schools, including public schools, should be able have their own GSAs and their identities recognized by their administration, teachers and peers. Also as gender queer youth, we do face a lot of hardship when it comes to choosing colleges, when it comes to trying to finding summer jobs. We have to think about what names we put on our applications, and resumes. Looking at schools where we will hopefully be able to spend four years and get a college degree, we have to carefully think about what places in the country and what schools will be friendly to our identities, so that we can focus on getting an education without having to worry about our indent threatening our safety and our mental health.

Leo Bukovsan: Most of my college decision making was based on where I wouldn't get kicked out of school. As a female to male transgender person, figuring out where I could be housed, where I could be safe, basically, and that really was tough, making those decisions. Because I'm in a privileged situation where I can choose where I go to college pretty well, based on all those kinds of things, I still have to make sure that I'm going to be safe.

Zaylore Stout: I live in St Louis Park. I'm a board member for RECLAIM!, which provides mental health services to transgender and gender non-conforming youth. Locally, I'm a member of the Allies of St Louis Park, which is an advocacy group that started right after the election, in regards to working towards progressive issues. Today I'm

• 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.

here representing as well the St Louis Park GSA group. The focus here is a student-led initiative to try to get the St Louis Park school board to pass a gender inclusion policy. Now the school board has been working on this. They came up with a draft policy that's been enhanced since October of last year, but they stalled. They stalled because of the Gavin Grimm case in front of the Supreme Court. They also stalled because of the Virginia-Minnesota case, as well. Part of the issue was that they're currently in the midst of looking for a new super intendant, but students need protection. There's current no policy on the books in regards to whether the transgender and gender non-conforming students can use whatever restroom facilities it is they need. There is no protection for them in regards to faculty members or staff outing them to other students, to staff members or to the parents. There are great model policies that are out there, but the schools locally need to be able to pass these policies on their own. It's my understanding that the Minnesota Department of Education, as well the district attorney has advised the school boards to hold off, in regards to passing these policies because of the Virginia-Minnesota case. But the plaintiffs have pulled back in regards to that action, so there's not holding the local school boards in regards to passing these types of initiatives.

Jannifer Halpaus: My child is transgender. He's a sophomore. He came out 2 years ago, so it's been a learning experience. And in this experience, I have encountered multiple phone calls from the school district because my child is trans. Because he wants to use a certain bathroom, because he wants to use a certain locker room and he won't use the one they tell him to. On a state level, leadership should pass gender inclusion policies or gender affirming policies for all the schools in Minnesota, so we can end the problems we are having. My child is being pulled out of classes. He's being sat down with principals, and district employees, such as Title IX coordinators, upper level employees, the superintendent. As a child, I did not know my principals; I did not know my superintendents, personally. I think my child should have that experience if he chooses. He should be able to attend schools as a boy, and be one of the guys. My child has recently been hospitalized three separate times in a psych ward. Since things were brought to the school board's attention, he successfully joined the boy's swim team. The staff supported him. With three swim meets left in the season, the school board contacted the principal, who contacted me to say, "Your son cannot change in that locker room anymore." Three hours later they rescinded that, but then instead of being allowed to take phy-ed like his peers, he was told, "We will give you a phy-ed credit for having participated in the swim team, in lieu of you not being in these locker rooms." My child is female to male transgender, and many times when groups speak, they are not speaking about my child. They are speaking about male to female transgender. My child has problems with self-harm, suicide ideation, high level of anxiety, and addiction. And I can't believe that none of these has been part of why.

Dave Edwards: I am a board member at Transforming Families Minnesota it's a peer group and community organization that supports families with gender diverse youth. I appreciate you being here today and focusing on future outcomes for trans people, because that's where my daughter will be not that long from now. I love the focus on the future; I think that always has to include our youth's experiences in public schools. We can't expect our landlords to rent to a trans

person when they watch their high school principal tell a trans student where they can and can't use the restroom. We can't expect managers make hiring decisions equitable if they have watched their teachers minimize or diminish the discrimination that their trans classmates faced. I'm glad we brought up the gender inclusion policy; I worked with Minnesota Department of Education create the Model Policy. It has been completed and sitting since October and needs to come out and be available to schools before the 2017-2018 school year.

Danny Roman: A lot of the times people don't realize it but home life isn't very good either, along with school. It's kind of hard for me, I suppose, because I don't get all the support, but I get the support from friends and stuff and the school does supports me.

Dasia Timmerman: Growing up is really hard in this state. I came from the Montevideo, Fairmount, and Morris area, finally the Twin Cities, Bloomington, and Eden Prairie. I didn't get to come out. I tried in 1996; I couldn't find services and I was with a really belittling family, and I eventually disowned my dad because of all his hate. He would get red in the face, and looked like he was going to get violent.

Kaylee Jakubowski: It took me three years to come out to myself because it was terrifying. Once I finally did, soon after coming out to my parents, they told me (their exact words): not in this house. So, I was not allowed to come home. I got abandoned from all the financial stability that they offered. And I was kind of set out to figure it out myself there on out. I was going to university at Winona State at that time, and being very financial responsible, as I thought I was, I took out just enough money so that I can survive from beginning of fall semester to end of spring semester. What I didn't foresee was losing the financial stability for the summer. I had no other option but to take out a credit card in order to feed myself. I maxed out the credit card, fifteen hundred dollars throughout the summer, to survive. I took out even more loans to go back to school. Funny thing about signing up for student loans with your parents as co-signers is that once you have to pay them back, they assume that you're still under your parents' budget. So when they're making \$80,000 a year, I have to pay my loans as if I'm making \$80,000 a year. When in reality, after taxes, I'm making 18 to 19 thousand dollars a year. That is very difficult. Turns out to be six to eight hundred dollars a month, depending on whether or not I want to skip one. Getting through the day, day to day, is an incredible challenge.

Hayes McRoy: One of my groups I go to, a LGBTQ group, is losing some of its funding. It is a free group, but they supply snacks and activities. One time, there's a trans girl there who doesn't have any clothes because her family doesn't support her. And we went out, we got her some clothes so she can feel more comfortable. And a great resource like that is currently losing funding, and along with that there also homeless shelter for LGBT youth, which will take up 20-40 percent of homeless population, is also losing some funding. And that just seems very wrong to me.

Dasia: At first I got some part time jobs. I wasn't paid for three weeks because they had a problem with my preferred name versus my legal name. I've since changed my legal name, all my documents, but I'm starting my own business to escape transphobia. I am house cleaner and I am good at it. It's awesome.

Kaylee: I tried to get a job [after my parents cut me off], but that posed to be another difficult challenge. There's nothing I can do legally about the hiring discrimina-

tion that I faced. Because the evidence is seeing the hiring professional come out with all this little books, looking over the papers as he was going to ask me questions about [my application]. Looking up and seeing who I am, and then losing all that energy and giving me half of an interview because he didn't want to. There's nothing I can prove there, but it's everything that I feel to know that I was not allowed to get a job in that establishment. I went back to school at this time. Tried to get a job on top of school and ended up working at McDonalds because they're very easy to get a job with. I worked there for seven months until it culminated on me that all the bullying I was getting from co-workers and customers was too taxing on my mental health. The entire last week that I worked at McDonalds, I remember just crying in the washroom because there nothing else to do. This is not a way that anyone deserves to make money. To make \$7.25 an hour to try to feed themselves.

Zaylore: As a labor and employment law attorney, I still see discrimination cases and handle discrimination cases from individuals within the LGBTQ community. Whether it's employers not providing reasonable accommodations to individuals who are HIV positive, or terminating employees once they find they are HIV positive, or outing transgender employees at their facilities. And when they report to HR, they end up getting retaliated against in regards to that. So this is still an issue, even though we have laws on book protecting individual. We still need the support from our local officials regards to making this type of things get addressed and taken care of.

Emily Ott: My specific concern is the First Amendment Defense Act and the similar bills that are popping up around the United States, one of which is here in Minnesota. I feel that these bills set a dangerous precedent. These bills will allow blatant and open discrimination against members of our community based solely on individuals saying, "I have a religious objection to who you are," or to how you live your life, or who you love. I cannot think of anything more potentially damaging to the concept of American liberty and freedom and justice for all people than these bills. It sets a dangerous precedent for future minority groups that might also run afoul. For example, what about Wiccan people? Do I throw them out of my business because I don't agree with their philosophies and their religious beliefs, and they're objectionable to me? Do I refuse service as a medical provider to somebody because, "I'm sorry but I can't treat your child you're a lesbian couple and I don't agree with your lifestyle?" These things are happening already, and I fear what this does and what it can do to the United States of America and to its people if these bills are allowed to become law.

Dasia: We're facing insurance things in this state that would prevent me from my HRT, which I have been on for seven months. It's good insurance, Minnesota state insurance. She works for MNSCU, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. It's awesome insurance. Apparently it's not going to be soon.

Dave: I am an employee of the University of Minnesota. I work in the Educational Psychology department. I have great health insurance. Last year my daughter was lucky enough, after being on the waiting list for over a year at the Center for Sexual Health, to finally get in. The second they ran my insurance, they wanted to let me know that there was a categorical exclusion for any kind of medical intervention. While that is many years down the road, that's something

we need to fix. If the University of Minnesota can't provide coverage for the services they offer as an institution to their employees, something's wrong. The Center for Sexual Health is leading in the Midwest as the expert location for affirming Trans care; all the service that they either provide or refer to should be covered by our insurance.

Kaylee: I fought very hard to get HRT programs in Winona because, before I petitioned Semcac, which is essentially our Planned Parenthood, about getting hormone procedures in their office, we would either have to go up to Rochester, an hour away, or down to Lacrosse, out of state and forty minutes away. So I tried to get those local and I succeeded. And now, I get to pay about \$80 a month for hormones, which is not doable for me. Right now, I take about half the recommended dosage. I skip days; I skip weeks at a time because I don't have the money to take care of myself because all the things I've had to sacrifice financially have culminated on top of another and stacked. Now, it's difficult. Even getting here was challenging. I've counted every penny that every bus has required of me. \$50 for round trip train ticket to here. \$2.25 for the bus here, but I had to pay \$3 because I didn't have any quarters. Bottled of water cost \$1.25. I'm counting all this in my head; keeping it on track so I don't go negative before my next paycheck. HRT is described as very big challenge I can't do.

Nicole Vanderheiden: I am a queer trans woman. As a direct result of my trans status, I have experienced family rejection, homelessness, hunger, and sexual assault, discrimination in education, employment, and health care. I am going to talk about my experience as a veteran in the U.S. Forces. Like many other trans folk who serve in the military at a proportion twice that of the general population, I served honorably in the U.S. Air force. I get my treatment solely from the Department of Veteran Affairs, which currently operates under blanket exclusion for transgender surgical care. It is unconscionable that in 2017 we have a federal agency that is not only failing to prohibit discrimination, but also operating under policies that prescribe discrimination. I really want to ask you to take action to end those policies, and to prevent our federal agencies from discriminating against trans folks.

Luci Peterson: I am transgender, male-to-female, I am autistic, Jewish, and just recently was hired as a para-educator with a great company. The real reason I want to share and testify, whenever it comes to the LGBT community in conversation, wherever I go, I experience what I consider a gap in the conversation. That gap is around disabilities. The one I can specifically speak about is autism. I volunteer a lot with Autism Society of Minnesota, Awesome.org, and AISM. I just think that it is very dangerous for those people out there, because there is a lot of nonverbal autistic people and then people of all types of disabilities that, depending on where they are living or what their current situation is, they may not have the freedom that able-bodied people do to speak for themselves. We're trying to get a mentorship program going for autistic adults like me to mentor younger autistic people, and I'd like to see more programs like that in the LGBT community, where no matter what your other identities are that LGBT adults could come along LGBT youth. Showing them how they have coped and managed to live a healthy and successful life.

Roxanne Anderson: I want to talk a little bit about where I work and spend time at 3405 Chicago, The Minnesota Transgender Health Organization and Coalition. We're formed by and for transgender folks. We're

the only transgender led by-and-for 501(c)3 nonprofit in Minnesota. We do a lot of work, and we've been doing that work since 2007. We offer services that are inclusive, and serve about 165 Trans and gender non-conforming folk throughout the week. We do six support groups. Our shot clinic serves over 40 people in the six hours that we are open during the week. We spend a lot of time working with Dave [Edwards], and others with the Minnesota Department of Education to be gender-inclusive in schools, and to insure that trans and gender non-conforming can mark their identities on the student survey, something we need to make sure we keep in place in Minnesota. We do harm reduction through syringe exchange; we have food selves, clothe shelves, gender gear. We do shot assistance, and we do that all through the support of volunteers. We do that all under a budget under \$30,000 a year. That sounds awesome, and it is not sustainable. It means that everybody that gives their time, and energy, and effort to MTHC does so without pay. We are located at 3405 Chicago which also houses Café Southside, which employs at about 80-85 percent trans and non-gender conforming folk. I don't know if there is any other place in the whole state that can say that the majority of the people that they employ are trans. It also houses Rare Productions, which is an art and entertainment for LGBT folk of color. The reason I am mentioning this is because like lots of folks have said, we're in jeopardy. We don't have a lot of funding, and we don't get a lot of support from foundations or big business. I think to the point of economics it's really important to know that those organizations that are specially supporting trans folk, and figuring out how to support them.

COMMENDING THE NORTHWEST INDIANA BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2017

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise to commend numerous exceptional leaders from Indiana who were honored as the Northwest Indiana Business and Industry Hall of Fame Class of 2017. While there were many nominees, this year's inductees include Joseph Mansueto, Raymundo Garcia, Karen Maravilla, Craig Dwight, Robert Johnson, Fair Oaks Farms, and Don Babcock. For their many contributions to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond, these honorees were recognized at the 10th Annual Induction Ceremony on Tuesday, May 16, 2017, at the Avalon Manor in Merrillville, Indiana. Mitch Daniels, President of Purdue University and former Governor of Indiana, was the keynote speaker for the event.

Joe Mansueto is the founder and Executive Chairman of Morningstar Incorporated. Morningstar was initially created to educate individual investors, but it quickly became an asset to financial advisors and institutions. Under Joe's leadership, the company has become a global organization, managing 1.2 million retirement assets and advising up to 10.9 million individual investors, 300,000 plan sponsors, 250,000 investment advisors and more than 1,300 institutions. Morningstar secures \$800 million in annual revenue, does business

with 27 companies globally, and employs more than 4,500 people worldwide.

Raymundo Garcia and Karen Maravilla are the owners and operators of El Taco Real restaurant in Hammond, Indiana. In addition, Karen owns and operates Its Just Serendipity, a vintage shop in downtown Hammond. Throughout their twenty-one years together, Karen and Raymundo have shared a passion for entrepreneurship as well as a philanthropic spirit. The community of Hammond is very important to them, and they have worked hard to help revitalize parts of the city over the years. Their next project includes the purchase of three large properties in downtown Hammond that they will renovate and repurpose.

Craig Dwight is the Horizon Bancorp Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Under Craig's leadership, Horizon's total assets increased from \$360 million to \$3.1 billion in 2016. In addition, Horizon currently includes 59 branches and is one of the top largest banks in the state of Indiana, while ranking as the 342nd largest bank in the United States. Mr. Dwight's charitable efforts are to be admired and commended. Craig continues to give back to the community and has chaired numerous fundraising campaigns for many organizations, including the United Way of LaPorte County, the Martin Luther King Center, the Michigan City Education Fund, and the YMCA, to name a few.

Robert Johnson is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Cimcor, which is based in Merrillville, Indiana. Cimcor is a global cybersecurity company that acts to keep information and servers protected and secure. Due to his hard work, strong leadership, and innovative mind, Robert Johnson has made Cimcor immensely successful. Customers include NASA, the United States Air Force, and the Chicago Stock Exchange, to name a few. In addition, Mr. Johnson enjoys giving back to the community of Northwest Indiana and serves on the advisory boards for Valparaiso University's Cyber Operations/IT Programs, Purdue University Northwest's Computer Technology Department, and Indiana University Northwest's Computer Information Sciences Program. Robert also serves as chairman of the board of directors of the Legacy Foundation, and he is a member of the board of directors for Methodist Hospitals.

The recipient of the Enterprise of the Year Award is Fair Oaks Farms. Fair Oaks Farms, located at the border of Jasper and Newton counties, is an incredibly successful working farm that is also an agricultural tourist destination. The farm brings in more than 600,000 visitors each year and is a popular field trip site for area schools. Fair Oaks continues to grow and expand its many attractions, including the pig adventure, pork education center, the farm-to-table Farmhouse Restaurant, the dairy adventure, and more. Fair Oaks is planning to add many new and innovative attractions that will appeal to a wide audience and give guests a reason to keep coming back, such as a beef cattle adventure and a poultry attraction that will demonstrate how 500,000 to 700,000 chickens are raised.

The recipient of the Partners in Progress Award is Don Babcock. Don is the Economic Development Director for NIPSCO and has been very successful in creating partnerships that bring in new industries, such as Alcoa Howmet, Hoist Liftruck, and Pratt Industries. Don also works tirelessly to build support for

many public works projects such as the South Shore commuter rail expansion and the Gary Airport runway improvement. Mr. Babcock is also President of the Michigan City Redevelopment Commission, which is currently working on a \$20 million rejuvenation of the city. He has been called, "an unsinkable cheerleader for the region." I am truly grateful for his enthusiasm and unwavering dedication to the community of Northwest Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending these dedicated leaders upon their induction into the Northwest Indiana Business and Industry Hall of Fame. They are truly deserving of this honor, and for their exceptional leadership and commitment to the region and beyond, each of them is worthy of the highest praise.

HONORING WILLIAM MOREHOUSE

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of William "Bill" Morehouse. So many of us in the greater Vancouver community knew, or knew of, Bill. He was a member of the United States Army and the National Guard early in his life, and his lifelong service to not only his country but his local community are what helped defined him. Bill's military service spanned World War II, and then as a POW guard at the Fort Vancouver barracks in Washington state. Bill was a true patriot who cared about the safety of all Americans.

Later in his life, Bill became involved in countless volunteer organizations to continue serving those around him. He was a member of the global community service organization, the Lion's Club, as well as the American Legion. But it was his many years spent as a member and even president of the Moses Williams Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Buffalo Soldiers by which most of us knew him. In that position, he led toy and food drives for underprivileged kids, and provided Honor Guard at various military ceremonies and parades.

In his free time, Bill enjoyed being with his child, grandchild, and great grandchildren and on behalf of Southwest Washington, I express to them my sincere condolences. He will be missed and always remembered.

IN RECOGNITION OF E.T. RICHARDSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate E.T. Richardson Middle School, in the Springfield School District of Pennsylvania, on their re-designation as a School to Watch by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grade Reform and the Pennsylvania Don Eichhorn Schools: "Schools to Watch Program."

Schools that earn the Schools to Watch designation demonstrate academic excellence,

developmental responsiveness, social equity, and organizational processes. E.T. Richardson Middle School has demonstrated its commitment to educating young students in the community and preparing them for success in and beyond middle school. The middle school provides a rigorous curriculum and offers many academic, athletic and social activities open to all students.

I congratulate Principal Daniel Tracy and all the school's hardworking teachers, staff, students and parents for earning this impressive distinction.

80TH BIRTHDAY OF JOSEPH GEOGHAN

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 80th Birthday of Brooklyn's Joseph Geoghan.

Born on May 26, 1937, Joe Geoghan is a man devoted to his family, faith and career. In 1961, he married the love of his life, Kay, with whom he has five children and nine grandchildren. After graduating from St. John's University in 1959 and Fordham Law School in 1964, he volunteered his time to the Brooklyn Diocese starting in 1975. Having attended a Catholic school for his undergraduate studies, Joe knew the great work that the Catholic faith has done in providing students with a quality education. Nevertheless, his volunteer work did not stop there. He served on the Diocesan Education Commission, and he was a founding member of the Diocesan Finance Council, on which he still serves. Additionally, he also served as the first director of the Alive in Hope Foundation. To top it off, Joe is a Eucharistic Minister at St. Rosalie Parish. For all he has done for the Brooklyn Diocese, the Vatican made Joe a Knight of the Order of St. Gregory the Great in 2003.

Aside from championing numerous charitable causes, Joseph Geoghan also had a successful business career. While still in college, Joe got his first job at Union Carbide, for which he would end up working decades. After graduating law school, the company immediately made him one of their attorneys. From there, he served as Chief International Counsel, Deputy General Counsel, and Vice President and General Counsel. Moreover, Joe sat on Union Carbide's Board of Directors from 1990 through 1998.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Joseph Geoghan a very happy 80th birthday. His lifelong devotion to his faith, as well as his tremendous work ethic are simply astounding. I thank him for his service to the Brooklyn community and wish him all the best.

IN TRIBUTE TO TOM HLAVACEK

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tom Hlavacek who has served as the Executive Director of the Alzheimer's As-

sociation of Southeastern Wisconsin since 2005. He is retiring on June 30, 2017.

As Executive Director of the Alzheimer's Association of Southeastern Wisconsin he has supervised a staff of 29 who provided over 37,000 points of service per year in the chapter's eleven county region service area. Mr. Hlavacek convened and chaired the Alzheimer's Challenging Behaviors Task Force which produced two reports, "Handcuffed" and "We All Hold the Keys". The reports led to his testimony before U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging. Mr. Hlavacek has also been very involved in Wisconsin and proposed legislation to assist those receiving long term care services.

Mr. Hlavacek holds a Master of Science degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee. He is a past recipient of the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation Public Policy Fellowship and served in Washington, D.C. as a Disability Fellow in the United States Senate in the Office of former Senator Harkin—Iowa.

Prior to his service with the Alzheimer's Association of Southeastern Wisconsin, Mr. Hlavacek directed the Milwaukee Office of Disability Rights Wisconsin which is the statewide protection and advocacy system for people with disabilities. He also served as the Advocacy Director at United Cerebral Palsy of Southeastern Wisconsin.

He has advocated tirelessly on behalf of the disability and aging communities for nearly 40 years. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to know and work with Tom over the years, whether it was on housing for those with disabilities or funding for Alzheimer's and other long term care services, he provided invaluable information and counsel. I am so sorry I am unable to join him, his family, friends and colleagues at his retirement celebration on June 14, 2017. However, I wish him much success as he transitions into a different phase of his life.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Tom Hlavacek and I am proud to call him a friend of the long term care community. The citizens of the Fourth Congressional District and the State of Wisconsin are privileged to have someone of his ability and dedicated service working on their behalf for so many years. I am honored for these reasons to pay tribute to Tom Hlavacek.

CELEBRATING THE SALEM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the Salem Volunteer Fire Department.

On November 27, 2016, our country's flag was raised over the Fire Department's brand new station, beginning a fresh chapter in the organization's two hundred and fourteen-year history. Since its foundation, the Salem Volunteer Fire Department has played a crucial role in the community. In 2011, firefighters were called on to rescue Salem's families from the flooding caused by Hurricane Irene, as well as to respond to a deadly propane explosion on State Route 29. This department has also

served the entire state of New York, readily volunteering their assistance on September 11, 2001.

In my district, we are proud of these firefighters and respect the sacrifices that they make to ensure our community is safe. On behalf on New York's 21st District, I would like to congratulate the Salem Volunteer Fire Department as they open their new firehouse. We are grateful for their service, and hope that this new station will serve as a suitable home for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING MR. SID LAPIDUS

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Sid Lapidus, who is receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award from United Jewish Appeal (UJA) Federation of New York.

Mr. Lapidus retired in 2007 after a long, distinguished career as a partner of Warburg Pincus LLC, a private equity firm in New York City. He previously worked at the Securities and Exchange Commission and today sits on the board of two publicly traded companies, Lennar Corporation and Knoll, Inc.

Outside of work, Sid has dedicated his time to charitable organizations. He has held numerous roles within UJA Federation, including serving as a board member, chair of the Network, Commission, and member of the Finance and Executive Committees. In addition, Mr. Lapidus is passionate about cultural artifacts and heritage, serving as a trustee and chair of both the Finance Committee of the Center for Jewish History and the Library Committee of the New York Historical Society.

Mr. Speaker, Sid Lapidus has had an exceptional career and has dedicated himself to improving the lives of others. I urge my colleagues to join me in commending him for receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from UJA Federation of New York.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY HONORS PREP PROGRAM AT HARRISBURG HIGH SCHOOL

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my sincere congratulations to Harrisburg High School on the 25th Anniversary of its School of Business and Industry (SBI) Honors Prep Program.

In 1991, the Harrisburg School District entered into a partnership with Florida A&M University to incorporate a School of Business & Industry Prep School Program into the Harrisburg High Campus curriculum. The goal of the SBI Program is to orient potentially high achieving scholars to the world of business and industry and enhance their critical thinking, listening and communication skills.

SBI is a three-year accelerated honors program and has proven to build leadership skills and self-esteem, strengthen scholars' preparation for college and the career world, and empower them to become entrepreneurs.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I thank and congratulate all involved—past and present—with the SBI Honors Prep Program at Harrisburg High School on their 25th Anniversary and wish them continued great success in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING MR. MICKEY GORAL FOR HIS DECADES OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mickey Goral, who is retiring as the Rockford Township Supervisor. Mr. Goral has honorably worked through various levels of government and public service for more than 40 years, and he will be greatly missed.

Mr. Goral served our region as a member of the Winnebago County Board for 18 years. Since then, he has held the position of Rockford Township Supervisor for the past two decades in which he has provided temporary assistance to some of our community's most vulnerable populations. Through his tenure as Township Supervisor, he has strived to mentor and provide individuals with the tools and resources they need to succeed. Under the direction of Mr. Goral, Rockford Township's general assistance office has not only enriched the lives of those in our community, but has allowed Rockford Township to serve as a role model for those across our state and the country that are looking to better their assistance services.

Mr. Goral's great accomplishments have been recognized far beyond our community, leading him to being elected to the position of First Vice President for the Township Officials of Illinois by representatives from over 14,000 Townships.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Mr. Goral for his commitment to public service and for all of the work he has done to better our community. I congratulate him again on his well-earned retirement and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

TWO HARRISBURG HEROES

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge City of Harrisburg, Illinois, Water and Sewer Superintendent Kelly Hefner and Harrisburg Fire Chief John Gunning for their fast thinking and their quick response during our most recent flooding in the 15th District of Illinois. At the beginning of May, both the superintendent and the fire chief rescued drivers

whose vehicles had ended up submerged in water.

Kelly Hefner dove into the floodwaters near the intersection of East Sloan Street and Commercial Street in Harrisburg on May 1st. Hefner moved quickly to rescue a man who had driven his SUV into a flooded ditch. It was the second rescue in that particular area of town. Just the day before, Fire Chief Gunning had to rescue the driver of a vehicle who had driven into a flooded ditch.

Both heroes selflessly acted fast to assist the drivers, who could not undo their seat belts as cold water flooded into their sinking vehicles. I offer my deepest admiration and gratitude to these two heroic gentlemen for working hard to keep Harrisburg's citizens safe, and for inspiring us all to think about others.

I thank Superintendent Hefner and Chief Gunning for their service.

HONORING BASCOM SORRELL

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a very special individual, Mr. Bascom Sorrell, of Nicholas County, Kentucky. Bascom has been a prominent member of his community for many years.

Bascom Sorrell is a lifelong resident of Nicholas County and a graduate of Nicholas County High School. Jockey International employed him from 1966 to 2005, where he served as Plant Manager from 1984 until 2005. Bascom served in the Kentucky National Guard from 1960 to 1966 and reached the rank of Sergeant. He coached Babe Ruth baseball for many years and was chairman and coach of JC's Little League basketball from 1966 to 1975. Bascom was a member of Daugherty Lodge 65 of F & AM for 45 years and Master in 1975. Bascom has served on the Advisory Board for Hospice of the Blue Grass and continues to serve on the Advisory Board for the Community Action Council. A loyal member of the Carlisle Rotary Club, Bascom is a past president and recipient of the Paul Harris Fellowship award.

Bascom recently retired as Chair of the Nicholas County Economic Development Authority, having served on the board from 2006 to 2008 and again from 2011 to 2017. His leadership with this group was critical in improving economic opportunities in Nicholas County.

There is no question that Carlisle and Nicholas Counties are much better places due to Bascom's dedication to the community and its citizens. His devotion and long-term service to Carlisle and Nicholas Counties are widely recognized and greatly appreciated. Bascom is a true leader in his community and a role model for future leaders. His fellow citizens are honoring him for his leadership and devotion.

Bascom Sorrell is a fine man who has earned the respect of his community. He is a true servant leader. It is my honor to call him my friend and to recognize him before the United States House of Representatives.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF U.S. MARINE CORPS IN WORLD WAR I

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize the U.S. Marine Corps' achievements in World War I. At the entry of the United States into World War I, the Marine Corps was relatively small and relegated to ship-borne duty and small expeditionary outposts in far flung locations, such as China and the Caribbean, numbering less than 14,000 officers and men. By the end of the war, the Corps had swelled to more than 75,000; of which 30,000 were ground combat forces in France, and another 1,600 served with the U.S. Navy in Europe on board ships, on shore, and with the Navy's aviation force, the Northern Bombing Group.

The 5th and 6th Regiments as well as the 6th Machine Gun Battalion formed the 4th Brigade under the U.S. Army's 2d Division in late 1917. Their baptism by fire came at Belleau Wood in June 1918 when the 2d Division halted the German advance toward Paris through three weeks of bloody fighting. The Marines continued to prove their mettle throughout the summer and fall of 1918 at Soissons, St. Mihiel, Blanc Mont, and Meuse-Argonne. At the end of the war, the 4th Brigade remained as part of the 3d Army, occupying Germany along the Rhine River.

While the 4th Brigade battled the Germans, the 5th Brigade arrived in France and served as part of the Army's Service of Supply to the entire American Expeditionary Forces, as well as provided a pool of replacements to the 4th Brigade. The First Marine Aviation Force (FMAF), as part of the Northern Bombing Group, arrived in late summer 1918 and operated over the English Channel and Belgian coast from Calais, France, conducting antisubmarine patrols, bombing German submarine pens, and even providing close air support and food drops to Entente troops in Belgium. On a smaller scale, the First Marine Aeronautic Company conducted antisubmarine patrols out of Ponta Delgada, Azores.

In the six months of fighting on the Western Front, the Marine Corps suffered approximately 12,000 casualties; 8 Marines earned the Medal of Honor, and another 152 Marines earned the Navy Cross. The Marine reputation as a fierce fighting force was well earned, and whether on "land, air, or sea," the American people can be undeniably proud of the performance of their Marine Corps in World War I.

AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT OF 2017

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1628 is an assault on hard-working Americans and their families.

Trumpcare is sickness care for millions of Americans who will lose their healthcare cov-

erage and have to receive healthcare in hospital emergency rooms.

Trumpcare is tax care for the 400 richest families, who will receive about \$7 million a year ad infinitum if this bill becomes law.

Trumpcare is less care for Americans who will buy cheap health insurance policies and find they are worthless when they get sick and need care.

Trumpcare is insufficient care after the \$8 billion over 5 years for high-risk pools in this bill runs out across the country.

Trumpcare is discriminatory care when states can determine that you deserve unaffordable high risk care.

Trumpcare is no care for Americans with pre-existing conditions who cannot afford their premiums.

Trumpcare is a careless political scheme concocted to win elections and line the pockets of the very wealthy at the expense of the millions who will lose healthcare.

INTRODUCTION OF BILL TO DIS- PLAY THE FLAG IN HONOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MAYORS ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill that would make a small but significant change to federal law by adding the Mayor of the District of Columbia to the list of named principals for whom the President can order the U.S. flag be flown at half-staff. Current law states that the President shall make this order "upon the death of principal figures of the United States Government and the Governor of a State, territory, or possession, as a mark of respect to their memory." Surely the death of a current or former D.C. Mayor should qualify as a principal. My bill would add D.C. Mayors, who have many of the same responsibilities as state and territory governors, to the current list of officials. This bill is a continuation of our "Free and Equal D.C." series to ensure fair recognition of the nearly 700,000 citizens of the District of Columbia.

Congress already acknowledges that D.C. deserves a place among the states for certain honors, and this addition is not as great as others Congress has already recognized. We have already won congressional recognition of D.C. in situations where the city was overlooked while honoring the states. For example, our legislation ensured that the District of Columbia War Memorial honored only District residents who served in World War I and that D.C.'s Frederick Douglass statue sits in the Capitol alongside statues from the 50 states. We also successfully worked with the U.S. Postal Service to create a D.C. stamp, like the stamps for the 50 states, and worked with the National Park Service to add the D.C. flag alongside the state flags across from Union Station.

Legislation was also enacted to give D.C. a coin after it was omitted from legislation creating coins for the 50 states. Legislation was needed to require the armed services to display the District flag whenever the flags of the states are displayed. With this acknowledgment, it is not too much to ask Congress to

add the Mayor to the list of principals who are recognized upon their deaths.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

TERRY WETHERILL

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Terry Wetherill, who recently received the Emergency Manager of the Year Award. Terry is the Mineral County emergency manager and search and rescue coordinator. As part of the Mineral County Search and Rescue team, he serves as an EMT in the County Ambulance Service and as a fireman in the Volunteer Fire Department. Terry's roots in the community run deep. Terry's family was one of Mineral County's founding families, settling there over one hundred years ago. Terry made his home in Creede after 29 years of service in the U.S. Navy.

As Mineral County Emergency Manager, Terry has spearheaded the use of technology to aid in difficult search and rescue missions in the San Luis Valley in situations where all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles can't access those in need of emergency services. Avalanches and steep cliffs create treacherous conditions in parts of the San Luis Valley, and the drone helps prevent rescuers from having to put themselves in life-threatening situations. Thanks to the work of Terry's office, Archuleta, Hinsdale, Mineral, and Rio Grande counties will now have access to this life saving drone.

Mr. Speaker, Terry Wetherill's service to Colorado and his commitment to safety and security in the San Luis Valley is commendable and we are fortunate to have him. He is well-deserving of this honor, and I wish him the very best in the future.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the dedicated law enforcement officers who serve and protect communities in Minnesota and across the United States and to remember those who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

In Minnesota's Fourth District and throughout America, police and peace officers bear an enormous responsibility. In local departments, state agencies, and for the federal government, the women and men of law enforcement put their lives on the line each and every day to keep our families and communities safe.

As Ranking Member of Interior-Environment Appropriations Subcommittee, I am particularly mindful of the work and sacrifice of federal law enforcement officers whose tasks range from serving Americans visiting our National Parks to protecting our natural resources.

This National Peace Officers Memorial Day and Police Week, we remember our fallen law enforcement officers. Last year, more than 140 officers lost their lives in the line of duty.

As we honor their courage and sacrifice, I send my deepest condolences to the family, friends, and loved ones of our fallen heroes who so proudly wore the police uniform.

Congress must continue to ensure that our local and state police, as well as their federal colleagues, have the resources they need to do their jobs and serve our communities.

Today and throughout the year, I join my colleagues and all Americans as we honor our law enforcement officers and remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of our families and communities.

RECOGNIZING THE GETZVILLE
VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY LADIES
AUXILIARY UPON THE OC-
CASION OF THEIR 95TH ANNIVER-
SARY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I join the Amherst Women's Interclub Council in recognizing the accomplishments and tireless work of the Getzville Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary. The Ladies Auxiliary has been serving their community for nearly 95 years through fundraising for many causes, and assisting those who were displaced due to factors beyond their control.

The Ladies Auxiliary was formed in September 5, 1922 at the request of then-President of the Getzville Fire Company Sam Heim and Mr. George Dettmer. During the early years of the Auxiliary, the ladies would hold fundraisers such as card parties, dances and dinners. The money raised would help the Fire Company buy new equipment. During the 1940's, the Ladies Auxiliary Group donated to the American Red Cross to assist them during World War II.

The Getzville Ladies Auxiliary continues to provide vital assistance to those in need and enhance the quality of life in their community to this day. Especially impressive is their willingness to help victims of disasters by giving them a safe place to stay and ensuring they are fed.

Trademarks of the Ladies Auxiliary that will long be remembered include their famous chili during their summer picnics, their fashion shows, mystery rides and dinners that celebrate their anniversary. In the grand scheme of things, they will mostly be remembered for their work in the community, their selfless volunteerism and their caring and compassion.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the work that the Getzville Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary has done as they approach their 95th Anniversary celebration on September 11, 2017. I wish them the best in all their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SUMTER COUNTY
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Sumter County Sheriff

Bill Farmer, Wildwood Police Department Chief E.W. Reeser and the law enforcement officers who keep Sumter County safe every single day.

This week marks the annual observance of Police Week. Though we set aside one week a year to honor law enforcement, I encourage all Americans to join me not only this week, but every day, in recognizing the honor, courage, and commitment of America's law enforcement.

Our law enforcement officers are heroes in the community. They keep us safe, and are willing to put their lives on the line every day in the course of their duties. It is impossible to fully express our gratitude or adequately recognize the professionalism of the men and women who voluntarily put their lives on the line for our safety and security. It is with deep respect that we pause today to honor the memory of the heroes who gave the last full measure of devotion and made the ultimate sacrifice.

I want to extend my sincere appreciation to Sumter County Sheriff Bill Farmer, City of Wildwood Police Chief E.W. Reeser, and the law enforcement officers who bravely and selflessly serve Sumter County. It is an honor to recognize them and all men and women in law enforcement.

IN HONOR OF THE WYOMING
STATE SOCIETY, DAUGHTERS OF
THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. LIZ CHENEY

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Wyoming State Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, which will hold its one hundred and second annual conference on May 18–21st in Casper, Wyoming. Members will attend from across Wyoming and host Daughters of the Republic President General Ann Turner Dillon as the keynote speaker. As part of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, the Wyoming State Society is a non-profit, non-political, women's volunteer organization that is dedicated to preserving American history and promoting patriotism.

The Wyoming State Society, Daughters of the Revolution, is comprised of women who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. These women invest many hours serving their local communities by supporting active duty military personnel, promoting historic preservation, working with school children, and welcoming new American citizens at naturalization ceremonies. I am grateful for Daughters of the Revolution members' commitment to preserving our national heritage.

Each chapter in the State Society has a unique connection to the local community and its history. The Fort Caspar Chapter, NSDAR, where this year's conference will be held, is named in honor of Lieutenant Caspar Collins, who sacrificed his life trying to rescue a wagon train that was headed for the local fort. The Fort Caspar Chapter has been dedicated to veteran services, genealogy, community services, and historic preservation since its founding in 1914. It is my honor to acknowl-

edge this and the many contributions the women of the Daughters of the Revolution have made throughout history, and continue to make today.

RECOGNIZING DEER PARK POLICE
DEPARTMENT ON PEACE OFFI-
CERS MEMORIAL DAY

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Deer Park Police Department. On May 15, 2017, the Deer Park Police Department will hold its 17th Annual Police Officer Memorial Service to recognize the 135 police officers killed in the line of duty across the nation, and specifically the 17 police officers killed in the State of Texas in 2016. We honor and memorialize 135 police officers who will never go home, see their spouses, see their children, or walk on God's earth again.

The service is in recognition of National Police Week, May 14 to May 20, 2017. Established by a Joint Resolution of Congress in 1962, President John F. Kennedy proclaimed May 15th as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that day falls, as National Police Week.

Mr. Speaker, this is a time to honor those who form the thin blue line that protects our community and pay tribute to those who have given their life keeping us safe. I couldn't be more thankful and proud of the men and women who protect our communities.

May God continue to protect our entire law enforcement community and comfort the family and comrades of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

HONORING REVEREND PEG
CHEMBERLIN

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Reverend Peg Chamberlin, for her many years of public service to the citizens of the Fifth Congressional District, the Minnesota Council of Churches (MCC), and to the great state of Minnesota.

As the leader of the MCC since 1995, Reverend Chamberlin has led the organization into one of the premier state councils of churches in the nation. The Rt. Rev. James L. Jelinek, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota, described Reverend Chamberlin as, "both a professional and a volunteer, with the gift of leadership and inspiration." During her time leading the MCC, the membership has grown by over 30 percent, half from historic Black Churches.

She has been a key voice against religious bigotry, working hard to unite interfaith communities, foster interfaith solidarity, and to uphold the constitutional right to religious freedom without the fear of violence. Following the attacks of 9/11, she organized a diverse group of faith leaders for a massive gathering at the Minnesota State Capitol. She also aided in organizing a broad group of religious leaders, including Buddhists, Jews, Muslims, Hindus,

and more to pray after the 35W bridge collapse in Minneapolis.

Reverend Chamberlin also had the honor of being the 25th President of the National Council of Churches from 2009 to 2011. She was the first Minnesotan and the fourth woman to hold that position. The NCC has been a leading force in increasing collaboration among various Christian groups throughout the United States.

Reverend Chamberlin has also been the recipient of numerous awards, including former Minnesota Governor Arne Carlson's Woman of Excellence award in 1994, the NOVA (Non-Violent Alternatives) Peace and Justice Award presented by St. Cloud State University, and Angel of Reconciliation award from Unity Baptist Church.

After 21 years, Rev. Peg Chamberlin has chosen to retire. Twenty-one years of mobilizing faith communities to engage in civic matters, strengthening ties within different religious denominations, and emphasizing the importance of welcoming refugees to our nation. Through her accomplishments, she has excelled in bringing to life MCC's mission to manifest unity in the church and to build the common good in the world.

I commend Rev. Peg Chamberlin, and all she has done for the state of Minnesota. I want to thank her for her dedication and service in creating interfaith connections and a safe atmosphere for people of all faith communities.

IN HONOR OF NEW CITIZENS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate thirty individuals who took their oaths of citizenship on Friday, May 12, 2017. This memorable occasion, presided over by Magistrate Judge Andrew P. Rodovich, was held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On May 12, 2017, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, took their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Xuezhe Wang, Jyoti Awasthi, Jovan Bujaroski, Karen Jazmin Flores Martinez, Amane Seid Djoubar, Rosa Brisco, Hilda Alvarez, Mario Alqraini, Emmanuel Chigozie Chijioke, Ayodeji Ekundayo, Thiola Makhiwa Moyo, Andy Dai Nguyen, Gerson David Plaza, Julio Rolando Plaza Jr., John Michael Prejmak, Bianca Yasmin Rafidia Vargas, Omar Awad Sobih, Alma Valencia, Jafar Ziad Thawabi, Klimentina Suleska, Maria Patricia Quezada, Josselyn Russell, Cece Mumbi

Maina, Esther Galvez, Nguyet Phan, Milton Alexi Guerrero, Lowel Alabastro Recososa, Carl Recososa, Manuel Miranda, and Manuel Pena.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country "... of the people, by the people, and for the people." They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who became citizens of the United States of America on May 12, 2017. They, too, are American citizens, and they, too, are guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

IN MEMORIAM PETE GARCIA

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a community leader, a U.S. Army veteran, a native Arizonan and a tireless advocate for economic, racial and social justice. Pete Garcia is truly an Arizona legend and his contributions to our community will live on for generations to come.

Pete volunteered for the U.S. Army in 1962 and served in Germany. After his honorable discharge, he worked for the U.S. Postal Service while putting himself through Phoenix College.

Pete worked for many non-profit organizations in Phoenix including Phoenix Job Corps, Valle del Sol, and perhaps most notably, Chicanos Por La Causa (CPLC). Under his leadership at CPLC, the organization's operating budget grew from \$3 million to over \$60 million. In 2008 it was named the second largest Hispanic non-profit in the United States by Hispanic Business Magazine. During his tenure as President and CEO of the organization he received numerous awards and recognition, including being invited to participate in the Ditchley Foundation Conference in the United Kingdom three times. He was selected as a Johnson Fellow, named an AARP Inspire award recipient, received the Cesar E. Chavez Leadership Institute legacy award, Pioneer in Excellence by Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) and "One of the Valley's Most Influential People" by the Phoenix Business Journal, among many others.

Pete was a dedicated husband to Sarah and a devoted father to Daniel, Hilario, and Ilana. He was also a grandfather to Brenna, Morgan, Pete, Leila and Alya. In his spare time he enjoyed coaching his children's Little League teams, playing basketball, and playing with his own kids as well as other neighborhood children.

After his tenure at CPLC ended, Pete went on to be a successful philanthropist in his "retirement." He started a whole new foundation focused on educational opportunities for underserved students, which he named the Victoria Foundation in honor of his own mother. From 2008–2017 Peter raised more than \$4 million to enable students to attend ASU, UA, NAU GCU, Maricopa County Community Colleges and several out of state schools. The foundation offered scholarships to 80 community college students, 60 university students, and 4 medical school students. Pete also raised money through the Victoria Foundation to provide 300 bikes for inner city youths, stockings to the elderly at Christmas, and to provide turkey dinners to veterans on Thanksgiving.

Pete leaves behind a legacy of generosity, advocacy, and hard work. Arizona is grateful for his contributions to our community, May his memory be a blessing to his friends and family.

RECOGNIZING AMINAH AL-JABER

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Aminah Al-Jaber for her hard work and dedication to the people of Colorado's Fourth District as an intern in my Washington, D.C. office for the Spring of 2017.

The work of this young woman has been exemplary, and I know she has a bright future. She served as a tour guide, interacted with constituents, and learned a great deal about our nation's legislative process. I was glad to be able to offer this educational opportunity, and look forward to seeing her build her career in public service.

Aminah plans to continue pursuing her degree at the end of this internship. I wish her the best as she pursues her career path. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Aminah Al-Jaber for her service the last several months to the people of Colorado's 4th district.

RECOGNIZING PICNIC CAFÉ AND DESSERTERY

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the success of a small business in Dahlonega, Georgia in honor of Small Business Week. The Picnic Café and Dessertery, owned and operated by Sam and Julia Norton, has been serving Dahlonega residents and tourists coffee, sweets, and lunchtime favorites since 2001.

The Picnic Café and Dessertery, often times simply called "Picnic" by its regulars, has won multiple awards for its food and desserts. Its place on the Dahlonega town square brings a warm and welcome presence to the center of one of the South's best small towns, as hailed by Southern Living magazine. From college students to cadets to tourists bound for the Appalachians, the Picnic Café offers guests a chance to rest and be refreshed.

Mr. and Mrs. Norton have called Dahlonga home for years, and their love for the town is evident in the passion with which they run their business. The Picnic Café has employed dozens of college students and Dahlonga residents, providing the Lumpkin County community with jobs and students with work experience.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Nortons' commitment to their small business, and, in the spirit of Small Business Week, thank them for their dedication to serving the people of Dahlonga. I am looking forward to my next visit to the Picnic Café to see what's new on the menu, and wish the Norton family continued success.

RECOGNIZING JAMES HICKS

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a man who has dedicated his life to protecting and educating the public. James Hicks will be retiring this May from the Pana Fire Department after 45 years of service.

During his career with the fire department, James pioneered an Explorer Post, which he led for 34 years. This program allows youth and young adults become involved with and learn more about firefighting and fire responder careers. Under James' leadership, many of the explorers were inspired to protect their communities and become firefighters.

Hicks has also worked to keep the area schools informed on fire prevention techniques and spent many hours volunteering with the Pana Ambulance Service as an Emergency Medical Technician.

I am honored to recognize Mr. Hicks and wish him all the best in his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF SIMON EAGLIN FOR HIS LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO THE YPSILANTI COMMUNITY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Simon Eaglin, a prominent community leader who served Ypsilanti throughout his life. Mr. Eaglin served as Postmaster General for the Ypsilanti area for over two decades and provided impactful leadership to many local organizations and causes.

Born in 1917, Mr. Eaglin moved to Ypsilanti during the Second World War to work at the Willow Run Bomber Plant and aid the United States' war effort. After the end of the war, Mr. Eaglin became a radiation control technician at the University of Michigan medical center while working to complete his college degree at Eastern Michigan University. He was then named as the Ypsilanti Post Office's Postmaster in 1964, a position he served until his retirement in 1988. Mr. Eaglin was known for his efficient leadership in ensuring prompt delivery of mail and packages in the Ypsilanti

area. He was also heavily involved in the Ypsilanti community, serving as a member of the local Kiwanis Club and spearheading several of the organization's outreach efforts and remaining involved with its committees.

As the first African-American Postmaster in Ypsilanti, Mr. Eaglin dedicated his life and career effectively served the public while helping to break down barriers. In addition to his pioneering career as Ypsilanti's postmaster, Mr. Eaglin was well-known as a kind, caring individual whose service to the Ypsilanti community was instrumental to making the city a great place to live and work. In addition to his career as Ypsilanti's Postmaster, Mr. Eaglin volunteered for years with St. John's Catholic Church, the Housing Bureau of Seniors and several local hospitals. His legacy of public service, as well as his upbeat and friendly attitude, made him a beloved figure in the community, and he will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Simon Eaglin, Ypsilanti's former Postmaster and community leader. Mr. Eaglin went above and beyond to serve the city and its residents during his life.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. DAVID DiCHIERA

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. David DiChiera, who is retiring from the Michigan Opera Theatre. While he began his distinguished and impassioned career in California, he became known in Michigan and beyond as Mr. Opera. He is retiring from the Michigan Opera Theatre, which he founded in 1971 and which he served as General Director and Artistic Director. After completing his undergraduate studies in musical composition at UCLA, David DiChiera continued his scholarship in Italy on a Fulbright scholarship, and returned to UCLA to join the faculty and to complete his PhD in musicology. In 1962, Dr. DiChiera was recruited to join the faculty at Oakland University as a professor. He later became chairman of music at the university.

While at Oakland University, Dr. DiChiera created "Overture to Opera," a program featuring local opera singers which brought opera to communities throughout Michigan, and which planted the seeds for the creation of Michigan Opera Theatre. As Dr. DiChiera explained in an interview, "I would cast the wonderful local singers who otherwise had limited opportunities . . . we started taking this program to community centers—every year, I took it to The War Memorial and area schools. This was all throughout the 1960s. Then, in 1970, I thought it was time to do a full-length opera, and to create the beginnings of an opera company."

It is important to keep in mind the backdrop for Dr. DiChiera's efforts to create an opera company in Detroit. By 1971, when Michigan Opera Theatre was established, the city itself was experiencing a major loss of population and many people were skeptical that this endeavor could succeed. But Michigan Opera Theatre not only succeeded, it thrived—first at the Music Hall in downtown Detroit which was

restored with the support of the Kresge Foundation and Detroit Renaissance, and later at the Detroit Opera House, which was formally opened on April 21, 1996 with a performance by the great tenor Luciano Pavarotti.

Dr. DiChiera's impact extends beyond his building of this important institution. He has been a vital center of gravity for arts and culture in and around the City of Detroit. He has been committed to nurturing and showcasing the broad diversity of talent in opera, something which he viewed from the inception of Michigan Opera Theatre as central to its mission. "Building bridges into the community was a primary mission," he said in the Theatre's blog, "making sure that the African American community, the majority of Detroit's population, was represented on the stage." In addition to producing works which reflect the African American experience such as *Porgy and Bess* and *Tremonisha*, the Michigan Opera Theatre commissioned and produced the world premiere of Margaret Garner, based on the novel *Beloved* written by Nobel Laureate Toni Morrison. Ms. Morrison wrote the libretto for Margaret Garner, and the production starred famed mezzo-soprano Denyce Graves. Dr. DiChiera has ensured that Michigan Opera Theatre has performed works reflecting the rich cultural fabric of Metro Detroit, including the Armenian opera *Anoush*, King Roger and *The Haunted Castle*, which celebrate the region's Polish community, an opera based on the life of the Mexican artist Frida Kahlo, and *The Passenger*, an opera about the Holocaust.

In addition to founding, building, and leading Michigan Opera Theatre, Dr. DiChiera is a noted composer as well. In further tribute to him, the Michigan Opera Theatre is featuring this month Dr. DiChiera's full-length opera, *Cyrano*, based on Edmond Rostand's timeless play, *Cyrano de Bergerac*.

Mr. Speaker, like innumerable opera aficionados, I know that David DiChiera has brought boundless joy to experienced opera lovers while helping to create countless new ones. Along the way, he has nurtured young artists and has ensured that the Michigan Opera Theatre reflects the diversity of the community it serves. Dr. DiChiera built an enduring institution in Michigan Opera Theatre, and in so doing, he has established himself as one of Metro Detroit's true treasures. I encourage my colleagues to join me in congratulating and thanking much beloved Dr. David DiChiera for the immeasurable contribution he has made to the arts in Metro Detroit and far beyond.

HONORING THE 52ND ANNIVERSARY OF HEAD START

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the Head Start organization on its 52nd Anniversary.

Since its establishment, Head Start has been working to serve the country's most vulnerable families. In addition to working with organizations that provide learning, nutrition and general health assistance for children, Head Start has also helped to provide training, job

development, and volunteer opportunities for low-income parents. These efforts are critical for establishing an environment in which every American is equipped to reach their full potential.

In my district, the Lewis County Head Start Center has strengthened our community by working with over 180 families to provide learning opportunities for children and parents alike. Focusing on early childhood development programs, these centers partner with families to ensure that every child is prepared to take full advantage of their education.

I would like to thank Head Start for 52 years of commitment to children and families across the country. In New York's 21st District, we are grateful for their work to make sure every child has the opportunity to succeed. I wish Head Start a prosperous future and I am confident that it will continue making a positive impact on the lives of many Americans.

RECOGNIZING STEPHEN FRIEDMAN

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Stephen Friedman, who is retiring after a decade as President of Pace University with campuses in New York City and Pleasantville, New York.

Mr. Friedman has dedicated more than 13 years of service to Pace University, where he first served as dean of Pace University School of Law for three years before being named president in 2007. Under his leadership, Pace has significantly increased its enrollment numbers while maintaining its commitment to providing education access and opportunities to students from all backgrounds. During his tenure, President Friedman has revitalized the Pleasantville campus in my district and led efforts to expand the university's academic program offerings, including study abroad and other international opportunities for students. Pace's international enrollment is at its highest level in 15 years, with students coming from more than 100 countries. Another initiative which he spearheaded to advance the university's motto of "Opportunitas," has been the development of iPace, an online degree completion program for adult learners.

Before joining the Pace community, Mr. Friedman served as Commissioner of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Capital Markets Policy at the United States Treasury Department, and a law clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. He has also lent his leadership to organizations such as the American Ballet Theatre, the National Museum of the American Indian in New York, and the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Friedman's numerous accomplishments have left a lasting impact on the communities he has served. I urge my colleagues to join me in applauding his years of leadership and service.

HONORING GLENN R. LITTLE ON THE AWARD OF THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL (POST-HUMOUS)

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the late Glenn R. Little, formerly of Hanover and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, on the posthumous award of the Congressional Gold Medal for his service to the United States in the Civil Air Patrol during World War II.

Second Lieutenant Little was one of 120,000 men and women who joined the Civil Air Patrol during World War II. They helped to protect our Nation by warding off German U-boat attacks on American oil tankers bound for Allied nations. They also took to the skies to patrol America's borders, conduct search and rescue missions, and provide disaster relief. These brave and heroic citizen volunteers helped to preserve our Nation's freedom.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest civilian honor bestowed by the United States Congress, and legislation was signed into law in May 2014 that honored members of the Civil Air Patrol. Lt. Little's career and accomplishments during the War recently were celebrated at the Pennsylvania State Capitol in Harrisburg. His granddaughter, Mrs. Barbara Heffner of Gettysburg, accepted the award on his behalf.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I thank and commend Glenn R. Little for his bravery and selfless service to the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING MS. JAN POHLMAN ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friend, Jan Pohlman, who is retiring this month after teaching in the Physical Education Department of Calhoun High School for the past 34 years.

Throughout her distinguished career, Jan has served as a strong role model in our community both inside and outside the classroom. During her time at Illinois College, where I had the pleasure of having her as a teammate and a Floor Monitor, Jan's leadership and passion allowed her to build a notable sports career for which she was inducted into the Illinois College Sports Hall of Fame. She was one of the first stars of the Illinois College women's track and field team where she served as senior captain, and set school records for the 400 meter run, the discus and the javelin, which earned her the status of NCAA Division III Illinois State Champion in 1981. Jan's love of sports naturally led to her teaching career at Calhoun High School where she has enriched the lives of her students by instilling values of teamwork and perseverance for more than three decades.

Jan's compassion and service to our community goes beyond the classroom. She al-

ways goes above and beyond to help others—evident in the integral role she plays in the annual James R. Pohlman Memorial Golf Outing, which raises money for Parkinson's disease research.

Jan has been a truly influential individual in the lives of so many people, and I am honored to be able to call her a friend. Mr. Speaker, I would like to again congratulate Jan on her well-deserved retirement and thank her for all of her contributions and service to our community.

GERMANTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 125th Anniversary of the Germantown Fire Department.

The Germantown Fire Department was chartered on May 2, 1892. The first complement of members included 18 volunteer firefighters, and the first apparatus was a hand operated pump—which had to be loaded onto a horse-drawn wagon, so the first roster of members included one horse. The first motorized apparatus was a 1919 Ford Model-T truck, which is now a part of the collection of the Hall of Flame Museum in Phoenix, Arizona.

In its first days the department depended entirely on donations. The first apparatus and equipment were all donated and through the years the members held all sorts of fundraisers. In the 1930s and 1940s weekly "platform dances" were held to raise funds. This allowed the department to purchase a 1941 pumper truck, which was in use until 1988. The antique truck was sold, but later repurchased by department members.

In the early 1950s members raised funds to help build a new fire station, purchase a 1953-model pumper truck, and purchase the first fire department radio system in the county. In those days a normal year would include ten calls, and during one period the department went 18 months without a call. In 1952 the Germantown Rural Fire Protection District, a taxing district, was formed to provide a stable funding source for the department; however, donations remain a significant part of department finances.

In 1986, the Department began providing First Responder emergency medical services to the community. The Department also implemented the first fire department-based Automated External Defibrillator (AED) program in the region. And in 1989 the Department purchased, with donated funds, then only the second rescue tool "Jaws of Life" system in the county.

In 2002, the Department formed an Explorer post to expose youth ages 14 through 21 to the fire and rescue service. Today, 11 former Explorers are members of the department.

Currently, the Germantown Fire Department has 35 members and responds to an average of 110 calls per year. Current vehicles include two pumpers, one pumper-tanker, one brush truck, one rescue vehicle, and one support SUV.

The Germantown Fire Department has planned a grand celebration in recognition of

its anniversary. This celebration will begin on June 10th and last into the night. The celebration will include great food and an assortment of fun and educational activities.

I stand today to salute the Germantown Fire Department on its 125th Anniversary and to wish it the very best in the future.

IN TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL ROSEN

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Michael Rosen who was an economics professor at Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) for 29 years. He is president of MATC's faculty and staff union, American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Local 212 and is the longest-serving President in Local 212's proud history. He is retiring on May 31, 2017.

Dr. Rosen received his BA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the school which both his parents attended. He received both his Masters and Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He has fought for public education at all levels from K-12 through higher education. Dr. Rosen is a prominent critic of for-profit colleges and helped draft Milwaukee's groundbreaking legislation that denies for-profit colleges city subsidies. Dr. Rosen has authored a number of studies on the labor market, trade, taxation and economic issues and is a nationally recognized expert on the automobile industry. Dr. Rosen brought an unprecedented level of activism and awareness to AFT, Local 212 in order to insure excellent representation and contracts for their members. However, he also led Local 212 with compassion and a cooperative spirit, during the Great Recession the union gave back a previously-negotiated raise to allow MATC to serve more students, calling it a "\$5 million investment in our students."

He has served on numerous boards, commissions, and councils over the years including: AFT-Wisconsin Executive Board, the President's Cabinet for the MATC Promise, the C4 board of Voces de la Frontera which is Wisconsin's largest immigrant workers' rights organization, Wisconsin Technical College System Board, the Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership Board, the Wisconsin Manufacturing Extension Partnership, the Mayor's Task Force on Tax Incremental Financing Districts and Milwaukee's African American Employment Task force. Dr. Rosen has been a frequent commentator on Milwaukee and Wisconsin Public Radio and Milwaukee Public Television on economic issues and international trade and was a frequent contributor to Milwaukee Public Television's Fourth Street Forum and the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to know and work with Michael for over 30 years. Michael has provided invaluable counsel and support over the years to me, other elected officials and community leaders. I have truly appreciated his candor and clear moral compass; he has truly stood for justice for all. I am so sorry I am unable to join him, his family, friends and colleagues at his retirement dinner celebration on May 25, 2017. However, I wish him much success as he transitions into a dif-

ferent phase of his life with more time to spend with his wife Glorie and children Corrine, Jesse, and Gina, stepson Miguel, stepdaughter-in-law Kelley and foster daughter Lila.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Michael and I am proud to call him friend. The citizens of the Fourth Congressional District and the State of Wisconsin are privileged to have someone of his ability and dedicated service working on their behalf for so many years. I am honored for these reasons to pay tribute to Michael Rosen.

HONORING JOAN WEICHMANN AS SHE IS RECOGNIZED BY THE AMHERST WOMEN'S INTERCLUB COUNCIL

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the accomplishments of Joan Weichmann for her tireless work in the community as she is honored by the Amherst Women's Interclub Council during their annual Kentucky Derby Luncheon. Her lifetime of community service is commendable and worthy of praise.

Mrs. Weichmann was born in Marilla, New York on a dairy farm where she and her family produced maple syrup. She later graduated from East Aurora High School, and Bryant and Stratton College where she majored in Accounting.

Throughout her life, Mrs. Weichmann has served in many positions, such as her leadership as the former President of both the Amherst Dance Club and the Victorian Dance Company. Additionally, she formerly served as Vice President of both the German-American Society and the Club Lorelei German Club. Mrs. Weichmann continues to dedicate her time to these organizations as a board member.

Currently, Mrs. Weichmann is President of the Buffalo Federation of Women's Club, a member of the Bell Ski Club Board, the Lederhosen Ski Club, Second Vice President of Shea's Spotlight, Friends of Amherst Symphony and longtime member of the American Wine Society—Chaine des Rotisseurs. Mrs. Weichmann's many hobbies include skiing, swimming, dancing, golfing, hiking, and learning. Mrs. Weichmann resides in the Village of Williamsville with her husband Ron and their three dogs, two Afghans and one Greyhound.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Joan Weichmann for her tireless, vital and wide-reaching work in our community. I wish her the best in all her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING STAN RICHARDS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Stan Richards, the Richards Group's founder, principal and creative director as he was inducted into

the American Advertising Federation's (AAF's) 68th annual Advertising Hall of Fame class on April 25, 2017 in New York. We, in Dallas Texas, call Stan Richards the "Father of Texas Design, Dallas adman and icon maker."

Stan founded The Richards Group as a freelance practice after graduating from Pratt Institute in New York. The Richards Group, located in Dallas, is the largest independent brand-building shop in the nation. Clients include the brands of Cardinal Health, Dr. Pepper Snapple Group, GameStop, The Home Depot, Motel 6, Orkin, Ram Trucks, The Salvation Army, Sub-Zero, Wolf and many others.

In 1976, the Richards Group became a full-service advertising agency. Stan's work has received awards in virtually every major competition in the world. In 1976, Stan was chosen by the Dallas Society of Visual Communications as "the single individual who, over his career, has made the most significant contribution to the advancement of creative standards in the Southwestern United States." In 1981, 1983, and 1984, Stan was named by Adweek to the Southwest Creative All-Stars Hall of Fame. In 1985, Stan was honored by Pratt Institute as a Distinguished Alumnus. In 1986, he was honored with an Advertising Age cover story.

Also in 1986, Adweek named him Executive of the Year, and he was included in The Wall Street Journal's "Giants of Our Time." In 1988, the firm was named Agency of the Year by Adweek. Again in 1990 and 1994. And once more in 2002. In 1995, Stan was named an Entrepreneur of the Year by Inc. magazine.

In 1996, Stan received the ALGA Gold Medal, the award for career achievement in design. In 1997, Graphis magazine named The Richards Group one of the ten best agencies in the world, and the American Association of Advertising Agencies honored the firm with its A+ Award, given annually to America's best agency. In 2007, Graphic Design USA named the firm one of America's six most influential agencies.

The University of Texas named him the 1996 recipient of its Reddick Award for leadership in communication. Previous honorees include Walter Cronkite, Ted Turner, and Bill Moyers. More recently, Southern Methodist University announced the Stan Richards Creative Chair. Also in 1996, Stan received the ALGA Gold Medal, the award for career achievement in design. In 1997, Graphis magazine named The Richards Group one of the ten best agencies in the world, and the American Association of Advertising Agencies honored the firm with its A+ Award, given annually to America's best agency. In 1999, Stan received the highest honor available to a creative with his election to the Art Directors Hall of Fame, joining such luminaries as Walt Disney, Norman Rockwell, and Andy Warhol. In 2007, Graphic Design USA named the firm one of America's six most influential agencies.

Stan serves, or has served, on many boards: The Salvation Army, Episcopal School of Dallas, YMCA, Cooper Aerobics Enterprises, Dallas Symphony Association, United Way, the Creative Committee of the AAAA, Pratt Institute Board of Trustees, and the Mayo Clinic Center for Innovation.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Stan Richards for his service in the community and his extraordinary career.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN ED
YOUNG**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on May 12, 2017, South Carolina honored distinguished Southern Gentleman and former Congressman Ed Young of Florence. He was a World War II hero, a dedicated family man, a committed Christian, a farmer, a real estate developer creating jobs, and a pioneer public servant who helped develop the two-party system in South Carolina.

The following thoughtful obituary was published May 11, 2017, in the Florence Morning News:

A hero was lost to the Florence community, the greater Pee Dee area, the state of South Carolina, and our nation when Edward Lunn Young died on May 9, 2017 at the age of 96. Surrounded by his loving family, he passed away in the home where he was born in 1920.

Ed grew up on his family's farm in the Ebenezer community and attended Florence High School. He enrolled in the Corps of Cadets at Clemson University, where he majored in dairying and played Reveille on the bugle each morning and Taps each night. He graduated in 1941 and, like many young men of his generation, went off to war. Ed joined the Army Air Corps and flew P-38 fighter missions in the South Pacific. After completion of his required missions, Ed requested to remain in the theater, flying a total of 195 combat missions. For his valor, Major Young was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with nine Oak Leaf Clusters.

After the war, Ed returned to Ebenezer and the home where he grew up, following in his father's footsteps raising dairy cattle, and growing cotton, corn, soybeans, and tobacco. Although farming was a life calling for Ed, it was not his only calling. He became involved in state politics, serving in the South Carolina Legislature from 1957-1960. His service at the state level was followed by a term as his district's first Republican to the US Congress in 1973.

Mr. Young's devotion to service was hardly limited to politics. Among his many activities, he served frequently throughout his life as a Member or Chairman of the Board of Deacons of Ebenezer Baptist Church, President of Coble Dairy, President of the Florence County Farm Bureau, President of South Carolina Association of Young Farmers, Member of the South Carolina State Development Board and Chairman of the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce, among many others.

Ed was selected Outstanding Young Farmer of the Year by South Carolina Association of Young Farmers and awarded Outstanding Man of the Year in Agriculture by Progressive Farmer magazine; he also received the Distinguished Service Award from Clemson University and the Distinguished Agricultural Award, presented by the South Carolina Cooperative Council.

Ed is perhaps best known in the Pee Dee area for his tenure as the host of the Southeast Almanac television show in the 1960s. He is also well known in the community for participating weekly for over 50 years on the live Sunday morning radio program, Radio Sunday School. Another weekly occurrence was his attendance at The Rotary Club of Florence, where he led the singing and eventually became a life member. In 1996, he was

honored with the Rotarian President's Award for Distinguished Service.

In the business world, Ed was instrumental in several real estate developments including Oakdale Country Club, Forest Lake, as well as hotels in Florence and Surfside Beach. He combined his love of real estate projects and love of community by donating land for the Florence Civic Center and Veterans Military Park in Florence.

More than any of these interests, Ed's strongest and highest devotion was to Ebenezer Baptist Church. He and his wife, "Hatsy," taught Sunday School for over 50 years, and both were devoted members of the church choir.

While Ed Young has been a hero to his community and nation, he was more than any of these, a hero to his loving family. Ed is survived by his wife and "bride" of 71 years Harriet ("Hatsy") Yeargin Young, and his four daughters and sons-in-law: Dr. Claudia Venable & Dr. Greg Brigman of Atlanta, GA, Dr. John & Harriet Charles of Myrtle Beach, SC, Dr. Farrell & Virginia Gean of Simi Valley, CA, and Rev. Jay & Rebecca Madden of Atlanta, GA. Ed leaves behind seven adoring grandchildren: Julia Charles, Lillian Charles, Luke Venable, Austin Charles, Sarah Venable, Neale Madden, and William Madden. Ed's family attributes his success and long life to a grapefruit every morning, a nap every afternoon, and his never-failing optimistic spirit. He never met a stranger and everywhere he went, he would ask each person his or her name. Ms charm, handshake and the twinkle in his eye made everyone he met feel special.

He is predeceased by his three brothers: William (Bill) Young, James (Jay) Young, and John Young and his grandson, Henry Brockington (Brock) Madden.

The family extends their deepest gratitude to Dr. Steven Ross, not only for his excellent medical care, but also for his personal devotion and his wisdom over the past several years. Gratitude is also extended to the team that provided continuous care at his home and to McLeod Hospice for their superb caring attendance and reassurance during these final months. The family extends heartfelt love and admiration to Ed's dearest friend and coworker, Mr. Nathan Faison, for his lifelong friendship and support. They also thank the many along the way who have prayed and extended sweet thoughtfulness to the family.

In lieu of food and flowers, contributions may be sent to the Ebenezer Baptist Church Building Fund, 524 S. Ebenezer Rd., Florence, SC 29501.

The funeral service will be held at Ebenezer Baptist Church, 524 S. Ebenezer Rd. in Florence on May 12, 2017 at 2:00 pm, with burial following in the church cemetery with full military honors. The Youngs will receive visitors after the funeral at their home until 5:30 pm.

Waters-Powell Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements.

THE AMERICAN WRITERS MUSEUM—CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LITERATURE TO OUR NATION

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today is the official opening of the American Writers Museum, a unique center that celebrates the many contributions that writers have made to

our history, our culture, our understanding and our enjoyment. The American Writers Museum does not just document the wonderful record of literature in America, it will inspire this and future generations to read and to write, ensuring that our rich national tradition will continue.

The museum is the brainchild of Malcolm O'Hagan, a retired Irish manufacturing executive, who eight years ago decided that American writers deserved recognition. He knew that there was no museum to highlight our American literary legacy and, rather than just ask why not, he acted. As a result, beginning today, we will for the first time have a museum dedicated to showing the importance of stories, language and literature.

I am very proud that the decision was made to house this unique national museum in Chicago, recognizing the many wonderful writers based in the city and the importance of the Midwest in our nation's cultural history. The American Writers Museum is a wonderful addition to our city. As Mayor Rahm Emanuel has said, the "museum will complement the rich offerings of the city's theaters, museum, library and musical activities and add significantly to Chicago's vitality." I am reminded today of my predecessor, Representative Sidney Yates, a legendary champion of the arts. I know that he would be very happy to celebrate the opening of the American Writers Museum in Chicago and to recognize the importance of literature in our lives and in our national community.

I want to thank Mr. O'Hagan for his successful efforts and the board, designers, contributors and many volunteers who brought this Museum into being. I hope that people from around the country will come to Chicago to visit the American Writers Museum to learn, reflect, enjoy and be inspired to unleash their own creativity.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GRAND
OPENING OF EXPERIMAC**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the grand opening of Experimac in Manassas, Virginia, a retail and tech service store specializing in preowned Apple computers and devices. In addition to preowned product sales, Experimac also offers a variety of services, including screen repairs, diagnostics and troubleshooting, software installation, and more. With its prime location on Sudley Road in Manassas, I look forward to the valuable services Experimac will afford many members of the Manassas community.

My constituents, Ron Mosley and his wife, Benita Fitzgerald Mosley, are the proprietors of this Experimac location, and given their illustrious careers and backgrounds, I am confident the store will be a tremendous success. Benita, currently the CEO of Laureus Sport For Good Foundation, was born and raised in Manassas and Woodbridge, Virginia and is an Olympic Gold Medalist, and Ron studied electrical engineering at Brown University and has worked as a sales and marketing executive for over 15 years. In 2016, the two decided to return to Virginia to start a business that would support their community through both job creation and service.

While Experimac itself operates under the United Franchise Group umbrella and has more than 170 locations across the country, the broader company's success speaks to the need for local technology experts in today's competitive secondhand tech market. I am grateful for the resources the Manassas location will provide everyday customers, schools, and businesses.

In today's competitive economy, businesses like Experimac not only assist people with the services they offer, but they also foster strong local and secondhand economies. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding the Grand Opening of Experimac. I am very thankful for the broad range of opportunities it will afford my constituents of Virginia's 10th District, and I look forward to the positive impact it will have on individuals, schools, businesses, and our commonwealth as a whole.

H.R. 244, THE FY2017 CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT

HON. GARRET GRAVES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I did not ultimately support this legislation, however, there is much contained within the bill's almost 1700 pages of statutory text in addition to the explanatory statement that will advance the safety, security and economy of our great nation.

The bill includes \$551.1 billion in base defense discretionary funding and \$76.99 billion in Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO)/Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) defense funding. The total FY2017 defense funding is \$598.5 billion, \$25.7 billion over FY16 levels, and includes \$21 billion in new funding requested by the Administration. These funds provide for our national defense, pay our troops, and provide the resources and equipment our military needs to restore readiness, and protect our national security. I support these amounts to ensure American troops have what they need as we continue to engage threats to our national and homeland security around the world. Mr. Speaker, this bill also takes the first of many steps toward additional border security improvements by providing \$1.5 billion for critical funding for infrastructure, innovative technology, and agents at the border.

Other key provisions that I support include putting appropriate parameters in place for the Environmental Protection Agency; and providing \$50 million in additional current-year funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs to improve opioid and substance abuse prevention and treatment for veterans.

Mr. Speaker, the bill also and importantly provides \$57.7 billion for our nation's infrastructure, provides funding consistent with authorized levels in the FAST Act, which I was involved in crafting, and \$948 million in additional disaster relief for the Emergency Relief Program and Community Development Block Grant disaster recovery assistance. Importantly, the bill includes \$15 million that I requested for the state and local law enforcement agencies through the Bureau of Justice Assistance. These agencies experienced so

many challenges over the last several months. These challenges include a police-involved shooting on July 5, 2016 and subsequent violent protests, the ambush and murder of Baton Rouge City Police and East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff Deputies on July 17, 2016 and a 1000-year flood event in mid-August of the same year. Five of our officers were shot in the ambush and the flood resulted in the loss of an estimated 100 police vehicles, critical law enforcement equipment, weapons and personal and family losses for many of our peacekeepers.

Mr. Speaker, ultimately I could not vote for this bill despite the numerous provisions I support because appropriating over a trillion dollars in thousands of pages of new text over a few days does not afford the degree of transparency and consideration that I believe we should have. Further, the bill represents a lost opportunity to deliver on the commitment towards the recovery needs of tens of thousands of flood victims in my district and state of Louisiana. As I mentioned, there are provisions that can help, like providing some assistance through Community Development Block Grants—of which Louisiana victims will receive a small. Yet this funding varies wildly from the assessed needs of both HUD and the state. This is wholly inadequate given the scale of the flood event that struck Louisiana last August. That is why I offered four amendments to the bill that would have increased the total amount of Community Development Block Grants available to disaster impacted areas by \$750 million, made \$100 million available for Army Corps projects like the Comite River Diversion Canal to reduce the risk of future flood events, and provide much needed relief for our local school districts as they seek to rebuild and reopen 8 months after the flood. These amendments were not ultimately adopted, but I will continue to fight and advocate for these priorities and more as we work on a FY2018 funding bill.

Mr. Speaker, I feel strongly about the federal government's need to balance the budget, eliminate deficits and pay on the national debt. There is this misconception that under-funding CDBG-DR recovery assistance saves money. The reality is that we requested a fraction of the per capita assistance afforded to the victims of Hurricane Sandy and this calculation excludes the tens of billions of recovery funding provided in other federal programs. We have no desire to be greedy, but Americans need to know that when a catastrophic event occurs their government will be there—that we have their back. We have already seen many leave our community, bankruptcies, homes foreclosed, flood victims selling their homes for a fraction of the pre-flood value and many still living in tents, travel trailers, gutted homes and other inappropriate conditions. Rather than tailoring an appropriate response for this extraordinary flood, our own government's bureaucracy at the state and federal level are contributing to the pain rather than easing it. We can and should do better.

CONGRATULATING TAIWAN PRESIDENT TSAI ING-WEN AND HEADWAY IN THE ARENA OF WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, since President Tsai Ing-wen assumed office last May, Taiwan has taken steps to bolster women's empowerment at home and abroad. In November 2016, Taiwan and the U.S. announced their intention to jointly support the establishment of a subfund on women and the economy under the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

This joint initiative will allow the 21 members of APEC to apply for funding for new or existing programs with the aim of improving women's economic empowerment. The subfund, created through a mutually trusting relationship between Washington and Taipei, highlights Taiwan's meaningful participation in the international community. In particular, the subfund will promote women's empowerment in the areas of capital and market access, skills and capacity building, women's leadership and agency, and innovation and technology. Women's empowerment is a key area of collaboration under the Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF) established by the U.S. and Taiwan that President Tsai's administration has been focusing on.

Taiwan continues to make significant headway in the arena of women's empowerment. I congratulate President Tsai on her first anniversary as the President of Taiwan, and I look forward to an even closer U.S.-Taiwan cooperation under her leadership in the years to come.

HONORING SCOUTMASTER JIM RICARD

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on May 15, 2017, a Celebration of the Resurrected Life of Jim Ricard took place at Faith Lutheran Church of West Columbia, South Carolina. Services were lovingly conducted by Pastor M. David Kiel who eulogized that Jim "made a difference in our part of the world." The Wilson family especially appreciates Jim's service as Scoutmaster of Troop 1, where our four sons achieved the rank of Eagle Scouts.

The following thoughtful obituary was included in the church bulletin:

Haskel James "Jim" Ricard Jr., a baptized Christian and lifelong member of Faith Lutheran Church, entered into God's loving embrace on May 12, 2017. He was born January 4, 1942 in Springdale, South Carolina. He was the oldest son of Hack and Melva Ricard.

Jim is survived by his wife of 52 years, JoAnn S. Ricard, and three children, Jamey Ricard (Jeanne), Juston Ricard (Tammmy), and Joni Coleman (Brad). His grandchildren are Tanner, Jacob, Sydney, Josie, Jayne, and sister-in-law, Cindy. He was predeceased by his brother, Bobby Ricard.

After graduating from Brookland-Cayce High School, he worked for Baker Equipment Company before starting his own business, Ricard's Welding. After earning his Eagle

Scout Award as a young man, he later served as Scoutmaster of Troop 1. He received both the Silver Beaver and Lamb Award. He

served in the South Carolina National Guard in the 133rd MP Company.

Blessed be the memory of Haskel James "Jim" Ricard Jr.