

colleagues in Graham and teachers everywhere. I join with his friends, family, and the Sixth District in congratulating Bernard Fuller on this excellent accomplishment.

RECOGNIZING THE RESIDENCE INN  
FAIR LAKES

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 19, 2017*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Residence Inn Fair Lakes on its 20th anniversary. Each year, the Residence Inn provides exemplary service to those living in and visiting the Northern Virginia region. Countless numbers of great reviews and ratings have ensured its reputation as one of the premier hotels in the region. It is an honor to recognize the Residence Inn on its 20th anniversary and celebrate this extraordinary accomplishment.

Opening their doors in 1997, the Residence Inn Fair Lakes filled a need in the community for high quality yet affordable accommodations. Being located in a prime location, the Residence Inn attracts a wide variety of travelers from short stay tourists to longer-term business professionals. Its proximity to Dulles and National Airports, the thriving high-tech region of the Dulles corridor, Fair Oaks Mall, George Mason University, countless restaurants, and of course Washington, D.C., has made the Residence Inn Fair Lakes a premier destination.

In 20 years, the Fair Lakes region of our county has witnessed explosive growth and expansion in residential as well as corporate development. Residence Inn Fair Lakes has positioned itself to give business travelers, both domestic and international, a place to stay that is like a home away from home.

In addition to providing exceptional accommodations to business and leisure travelers, Residence Inn Fair Lakes also offers extensive event planning services. Corporate meetings, conferences and training sessions are frequently scheduled at the Residence Inn Fair Lakes. Social events including engagement parties, showers, and family reunions are made even more special through the outstanding customer service provided by the facility and its staff. And of course, the wedding services and receptions held at the Residence Inn are meticulously planned. No detail is overlooked and the beautiful setting makes the event even more memorable.

The motto of the Commonwealth of Virginia is: "Virginia is for Lovers." The management and staff of the Residence Inn embodies that motto through its hospitality, generosity, kindness, exemplary customer service, and reliability. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Residence Inn Fair Lakes on its 20th anniversary and in wishing it continued success.

BARBARA A. ZDRAVECKY

**HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 19, 2017*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the distinguished career

and leadership of "one of country's most influential advocates for women's rights," Barbara A. Zdravecky. She is retiring after serving 24 years as the CEO of Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida. I am honored to recognize her selfless service and valuable contributions during these challenging times for the health rights of women.

A Pennsylvania native, Barbara graduated from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania and earned her nursing degree from Manatee County's State College of Florida. Barbara served as head nurse of Manatee Memorial Hospital's Psychiatric Program and later served as the Patient Care Coordinator of the First Hospice Program in Key West, primarily caring for HIV/AIDS patients. In 1993, Barbara accepted the offer to lead Planned Parenthood of Southwest Florida as its Chief Executive Officer where she continues to serve and live by their mission to provide comprehensive health care, education, and advocacy for women of all walks of life.

Throughout her career, Barbara advocated to ensure that women have the information and care they need to live strong, healthy lives and fulfill their dreams—no ceilings, no limits. She successfully fought countless legislative battles and then brought legal challenges when the legislative body overreached, such as Florida's House Bill 1411, the Termination of Pregnancies and Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida v. Celeste Philip, that would have blocked access to health care for women and their families. She kept up the good fight on all attempts to protect against attempts to cut funding for or defund Planned Parenthood altogether.

Under Barbara's leadership, Planned Parenthood grew in stature into the Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida in 2015. Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida now covers 22 counties with 11 health centers serving over 45,000 patients in Florida.

Barbara was also instrumental in engineering regional headquarters in Sarasota and constructing the new building at 736 Central Avenue where the health care provider has expanded its services. In September, it became the first in Florida to offer hormone therapy for transgender patients.

Barbara has received numerous awards and accolades for her dedicated service. In 2006, Barbara was honored with the Ruth Green Award as the top Planned Parenthood CEO in the country by Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Equality Florida presented her with the "2014 Voice for Equality Award" and in 2015, she was named "Wonder Woman" by the Women's Resource Center of Manatee County.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of Florida, my neighbors in the Tampa Bay community and women everywhere, I would like to take this opportunity to thank one of the great champions of women's health and equal rights, Barbara A. Zdravecky, for her many years of service and contributions fighting for the rights of women and their families. It is with great honor and joy to congratulate Barbara on her new endeavor as well as the many accomplishments she has had throughout her career, and I know together we will keep up the good fight.

TRIBUTE TO COLLETTA GILLETT

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 19, 2017*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Colletta Gillett of Clarinda, Iowa on the occasion of her 103rd birthday. Colletta was born on November 11, 1914.

Our world has changed a great deal during the course of Colletta's life. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Colletta has lived through eighteen United States Presidents and twenty-two Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Colletta in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish her a very happy 103rd birthday. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating her on reaching this incredible milestone, and in wishing her nothing but the best.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 105TH  
BIRTHDAY OF GEORGE N. LEIGHTON

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 19, 2017*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Honorable George N. Leighton, who turns 105 years young on October 22nd.

George was born in New Bedford to Anna Silva Garcia and Antonio Neves Leitao, who emigrated from the Cape Verde Islands. During his childhood, George and his siblings helped their parents who worked as agricultural laborers, and they only attended school for a few months a year. It was while working as a cranberry bog weeder that George first decided to pursue a career in law.

George finished school after the 7th grade and, while working in restaurant kitchens, started taking night classes. He then pursued a degree at Howard University, after he was able to prove he could complete college level work. This was the first time he would use English as his primary language. In 1940, George graduated magna cum laude from Howard University and held a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserves Officer Training Corps.

An aspiring lawyer, George would stop at nothing and entered Harvard Law School with a scholarship later that year. As the United States entered World War II, George served in the Pacific Theater for almost three years and was awarded the Asiatic Pacific Service Medal, Bronze Star. Discharged as a Captain in 1945, George reentered Harvard Law School. He then passed the Massachusetts bar in 1946 and established his law practice in Chicago.