

have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 644; YEA on Roll Call No. 645; NAY on Roll Call No. 646; NAY on Roll Call No. 647; YEA on Roll Call No. 648; and YEA on Roll Call No. 649.

TRIBUTE TO BETHEL AND RONALD LAMB

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 4, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Bethel and Ronald Lamb of Council Bluffs, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on September 28, 2017.

Bethel and Ronald's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 65th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 65th year together, and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them nothing but the best.

JIM AND PAULETTE STUART TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 4, 2017

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Paulette Stuart and Mr. Jim Stuart for their work in planning and hosting the National Medal of Honor Society Convention in Pueblo, Colorado.

In 1993, the 103rd Congress of the United States designated Pueblo, Colorado as the Home of Heroes, as it is the home of four recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor. Since then Jim and Paulette have dedicated much of their time to the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. Both worked tirelessly hosting the National Medal of Honor Society Convention this year in Pueblo, Colorado from September 12 to 16, 2017. This was the second time the National Medal of Honor Society Convention was held in Pueblo, Colorado (September 2000) thanks to Jim and Paulette's efforts.

Jim was born, raised and educated in Pueblo, Colorado. He became an entrepreneur starting Sangray Corporation, which marketed and sold finished ceramic gift products. He retired after running the business for 30 years, and now serves on numerous commissions and non-profit boards. Paulette started her career in Pueblo with the Pueblo Chamber of Commerce where she served as Vice President of the Conventions and Visitors Council. Later, she retired from the Pueblo Chieftain newspaper as Promotions Manager, and now is an advertising and marketing consultant and community volunteer, donating her time with non-profits and civic organizations. For their

dedication and commitment to the Pueblo community, they have been inducted into the Pueblo Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, Paulette and Jim Stuart continue to be advocates for the Medal Of Honor Society, the Pueblo Home of Heroes Association, and veterans across the nation. I'm proud to recognize these engaged civic leaders and valued members of the community for their work on behalf of our heroes and for promoting the City of Pueblo and its wonderful attributes.

IN RECOGNITION OF LAUREL JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL'S STATUS AS A 2017 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 4, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Laurel Junior-Senior High School in New Castle, Pennsylvania, which was recently honored by the Department of Education as a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School. This award, given to only 342 schools in America this year, is based on a school's overall academic performance as well as its progress in closing achievement gaps among its students.

In her message of congratulations, Secretary DeVos commended the "visionaries, innovators and leaders" who are "preparing every child for a bright future." I am proud to join her in congratulating the teachers and administrators of Laurel, as well as the families of these students for the love and support they provide. Most of all, I congratulate the students themselves for a job well done. They are truly a credit to Pennsylvania's Third District, and to our country. It is an honor to represent them in the People's House.

TRIBUTE TO VELVA AND ELDON COLE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 4, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Velva and Eldon Cole of Winterset, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married at the Methodist Church in Macksburg, Iowa on October 1, 1967.

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

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

CONGRATULATING GARY BEASLEY ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM NEIGHBORS OF WATERTOWN

HON. ELISE M. STEFANK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 4, 2017

Ms. STEFANK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Gary Beasley on his retirement from Neighbors of Watertown.

Neighbors of Watertown is a not-for-profit organization that works to create affordable housing for low-income residents and renovate blighted properties so they can be put to productive use. Mr. Beasley has proudly served his community as CEO for the past 38 years. Through his dedicated leadership, Mr. Beasley has played an instrumental role in revitalizing the Watertown community.

On behalf of New York's 21st district, I would like to thank Mr. Beasley for his years of hard work and dedication to his community, and wish him all the best in the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF CARL HOLMES

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 4, 2017

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, our nation's fire and emergency services lost an extraordinary leader on Thanksgiving Day. Retired Fire Chief Carl Holmes passed away unexpectedly in Dallas, Texas with his family by his side.

Chief Holmes was a ground breaker, a man of strong convictions who paved the way for African American firefighters to climb the leadership ladder in fire departments across the nation. A veteran of the Oklahoma City Fire Department, Chief Holmes began his career during a time when few opportunities were afforded in the fire service to African Americans. He achieved his ascent to leadership positions by training harder and working longer, a lesson he instilled in others who wanted to follow his path. In 1978, following 27 years of grit and determination, he became the city's first African American Assistant Fire Chief.

In 2016, Chief Holmes was awarded the Mason Lankford Fire Service Leadership Award at the 28th Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner in Washington, DC. He was honored for an incredible career that spanned over 65 years . . . a career that left a profound impact on firefighters of different ethnicities and regions of the country, both career and volunteer. I had the honor of attending the dinner program and witnessing the presentation of the award to Chief Holmes. It was a special event that brought 1,500 national fire service leaders to their feet to pay tribute to a man of incredible courage and character. Chief Holmes was a leader who literally changed the complexion of the fire service as we know it today.

Chief Holmes was a very special person and the consummate fire service professional. He inspired people and demanded the best from them. But more importantly, he taught others about life and what is most important to us all: family and friends. He leaves behind a loving wife, Marvella, and daughter, Carla and