

IN RECOGNITION OF HER SERVICE
TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE: MS.
DONNA JIMENEZ

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2018

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, after twenty years of dedicated service to the American people as a staff member with the United States House of Representatives, Ms. Donna Jimenez will officially retire on February 28, 2018.

Ms. Jimenez served with honor and distinction as the longtime District Office Manager for Congressman David Dreier from 1997 to 2012, and as a Senior Constituent Services Representative for my office and the residents of California's 47th District from 2013 until her retirement.

During her time in the Legislative Branch, Ms. Jimenez served thousands of constituents of both Congressional districts, helping solve challenging cases with numerous federal departments and agencies. She demonstrated leadership and dedication in helping people navigate the federal bureaucracy, and derived great joy and satisfaction in serving those in most need of advocacy and assistance, among them including our nation's veterans, seniors, the disabled, and those immigrants seeking a brighter future in America.

In addition to her dedicated service to the American people, Ms. Jimenez further distinguished herself by earning her Master of Public Administration degree with an emphasis in Immigration, from the University of LaVerne in 2002.

It is with great pride and gratitude that I extend my best wishes to Ms. Donna Jimenez upon her retirement from the United States House of Representatives.

TRIBUTE TO STUART FRIENDS CHURCH

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a special Iowa church congregation from Stuart, Iowa. Stuart Friends Church recently celebrated the 140th anniversary of their congregation.

In 1855, pioneers founded the first church in the Stuart community. A new building was built in 1877, named Stuart Meeting of Friends and is still in use today. The congregation supports missions locally and abroad, and welcomes all people.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate the members of Stuart Friends Church for their many years of faithful attendance and service to their community. I am proud to represent them in the United States Congress and I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Stuart Friends Church and wishing them all nothing but the best in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF GEORGE G.
DODGE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

HON. DAVID P. JOYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2018

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge an exceptional school in my district, the George G. Dodge Intermediate School in Twinsburg, which has been recognized by the Ohio Department of Education as an Ohio School to Watch and a National Forum School. An Ohio School to Watch is a school that exceeds in academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity, and organizational structures and processes. Students who attend George G. Dodge Intermediate get one of the best hands-on education experiences in the nation. The teachers and administrators go above and beyond their normal duties to educate and influence young minds to succeed academically, socially, and in their future professions. There is no greater cause than educating the minds of the future. As a father, I know the amount of trust parents put into the hands of our educators. Knowing our school districts are exceeding in efforts for our children to succeed creates a closer, more positive community for the students, parents, and all involved in the surrounding neighborhoods. George G. Dodge Intermediate School's mission is to create an environment of pride for one's education while engaging with parents, administration, and fellow students to grow in civic engagement and extra-curricular activities. This recognition is all due to the hard work by George G. Dodge Intermediate School Principal Reggie Holland, his staff, Twinsburg City School District Superintendent Kathi Powers, and Twinsburg City School District School Board members Matt Cellura, Rob Felber, Matt Curtis, Tina Davis, and Angela DeFabio. The dedication and leadership of these men and women is remarkable and unmatched. I am truly proud to have such a great education system in Ohio's fourteenth district and congratulate George G. Dodge Intermediate School on this well-deserved distinction.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate the City of Council Bluffs, Iowa for its selection for three awards by the Iowa Tourism Office and Travel Federation of Iowa. Council Bluffs received the Outstanding Community Award, Outstanding Event Award, and the Outstanding Website Award.

Council Bluffs received these distinctions for its accomplishments on a new promotional website, strong hotel occupancy, and successfully attracting large meetings and sporting events to the city. The Council Bluffs Parks Department cited 45,000 attendees at special events during 2017. The Council Bluffs website, UnleashCB.com, had a triple-digit percentage increase in users, sessions, and

page views. Mark Eckman, Executive Director of the Council Bluffs Convention and Visitors Bureau, said, "it's definitely noteworthy when a community wins three awards. It speaks to the quality of our efforts."

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate the City of Council Bluffs for earning these awards. This community should be proud of receiving these outstanding awards. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Council Bluffs for these accomplishments and in wishing this great Iowa community nothing but continued success.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. MILDRED FAY JEFFERSON

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2018

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, we are blessed, in the First District of Texas, to have been home to a multitude of extraordinary individuals who have made significant impacts upon not only the State of Texas and our nation, but the entire world. Today, we honor one of these extraordinary individuals from east Texas, the late Dr. Mildred Fay Jefferson.

Dr. Jefferson was a young prodigy, raised in the town of Carthage, Texas. Her early education was completed before she reached the age of fifteen, graduating from Carthage Colored High School—later known as Turner High School—in 1943.

The determined young woman obtained a Bachelor's degree in Medicine from Texas College at the age of eighteen, and in 1947, she completed her Master's degree in Biology from Tufts University. Dr. Jefferson then conquered the odds and became the first African American woman to graduate with a Ph.D. from Harvard Medical School, in 1951.

After becoming a medical doctor, Dr. Jefferson continued to make history with a long string of "firsts" for women—including being the first woman to serve on staff at Boston City Hospital, the first woman to be granted membership in the Boston Surgical Society, and the first female Surgeon General at Boston University Medical Center.

Dr. Jefferson married former Navy Lieutenant Shane Cunningham in 1961. After their divorce in 1978, Dr. Jefferson turned her life to activism, by establishing the Massachusetts Citizens for Life Council.

It was a decision made by the American Medical Association in 1970, however, that ignited Dr. Jefferson's passion to defend life. It was at this time that the American Medical Association decided that they would allow member physicians, who performed abortions in states where this procedure was already allowed, to perform abortions and view them ethically. Viewing this decision as the abandonment of the Hippocratic Oath to "do no harm," Dr. Jefferson began a nationwide outcry against abortion.

Dr. Jefferson helped form the Value of Life Committee which was one of the organizations that initiated the national "right-to-life" movement which endures to this day. She quickly became one of the most sought after and fervent spokespersons in the nation to represent the pro-life stance. In 1981, Dr. Jefferson testified before Congress as a result of the historic 1973 Supreme Court case, *Roe v. Wade*.

Dr. Jefferson was quoted as saying, "I became a physician in order to save lives, not to destroy them." She also said, "I am not willing to stand aside and allow this concept of expendable human lives to turn this great land of ours into just another exclusive reservation where only the perfect, the privileged, and the privileged have the right to live."

The National Right to Life Committee (NRLC) was co-founded by Dr. Jefferson in 1973. She then entered the world of politics, running for the U.S. Senate from Massachusetts in 1982, 1990, and 1994.

Dr. Jefferson was honored with twenty-eight honorary degrees from numerous universities and colleges. Although Dr. Jefferson passed away at the age of eighty-four on October 15, 2010, her life's mission continues today. She will be forever remembered as one of the most notable and unwavering crusaders for the rights of unborn children.

It is truly a distinct privilege to honor this remarkable woman, whose exceptional life, steadfast devotion, and landmark accomplishments are included in the RECORD, which will endure as long as there is a United States of America.

HONORING LT. MARK A. RUSSO ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2018

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate, Lieutenant Mark Russo on his retirement from the Michigan State Police.

As a graduate of the 101st Trooper recruit school in 1987, Trooper Mark Russo went on to serve at the Ithaca Post, Criminal Investigation Division, and the Lansing Post. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1994 at the Ionia Post and in 1998 transferred to a multijurisdictional narcotics unit, the Metropolitan Enforcement Team. He served on that team for 14 years before being promoted to a Lieutenant within the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division.

During his distinguished career, Lt. Russo received multiple awards including the Sixth District Gerstacker Award, the Grand Rapids Police Chiefs Award, and the International Narcotics Interdiction Association Group of the Year Award.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Second District of Michigan, we thank Lt. Mark Russo and his wife Tracy for their 31 years of service to West Michigan and to our nation.

TRIBUTE TO SALLY AND LARRY OLSEN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sally and Larry Olsen of Treynor, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on December 22, 1967 in Underwood, Iowa.

Sally and Larry's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies

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.

HONORING RICHARD KUNDE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Richard Kunde, who worked tirelessly to establish Sonoma County as a world-renowned wine community and food destination.

Mr. Kunde was born on September 6, 1942 in Glen Ellen, California and grew up on the ranch that his German immigrant grandfather founded in 1904. He graduated from the University of California, Davis in 1964 with a bachelor's degree in viticulture and went on to earn a master's degree in horticulture in 1966.

Mr. Kunde worked as a viticultural consultant and then Director of Grower Relations for the North Coast Grape Growers Association before purchasing Sonoma Grapevine Inc. in 1982. He transformed the Santa Rosa nursery into the largest grapevine nursery in the United States. At its height, the nursery produced as many as 14 million vines every year, which were planted at vineyards across California.

Over his half-century career, Mr. Kunde promoted the California wine community in many ways. He co-founded the Sonoma County Grape Growers and was elected to serve as its first president in 1984. He also served as a Director and President of the Sonoma County Harvest Fair and held offices in the California Nurserymen's Association and the California Association of Winegrape Growers. And, Mr. Kunde was the first to promote the concept of American Viticultural Areas within the region believing it was important to protect the quality and value of Sonoma County grapes.

Mr. Kunde dedicated himself to the scientific development of California's wine community. He collaborated with the leading viticulturists, pathologists and entomologists at UC Davis to improve the quality and profitability of California wine grapes. Together, they grafted clonal budwood to produce superior grapes and created rootstock resistant to phylloxera, which strengthened the viability of our local and state wine communities, and beyond. To spread these new techniques, Mr. Kunde co-founded the Sonoma County Technical Group, which taught growers about the latest grape production research.

Mr. Kunde was a celebrated philanthropist who, with his late wife Saralee McClelland Kunde, generously donated their time, money and energy to agricultural causes. The couple raised millions of dollars for agricultural education programs like 4-H, Future Farmers of America, and the Sonoma County Fair Foundation at an event space they built them-

selves, Richard's Grove and Saralee's Vineyard.

In addition, the Kundes established a charitable trust to provide millions of dollars for agricultural education in years to come. Through the trust, the University of California, Davis received \$1.5 million for an endowed chair in the Department of Viticulture and Enology. Another beneficiary, the Sonoma County Fair Foundation received \$1 million to establish the Saralee and Richard Kunde Education Fund, which will provide young people interested in agricultural careers paid internships at local dairies, farms, vineyards and wool-growing operations. Finally, the Youth Ag and Leadership Foundation of Sonoma County received \$500,000 to foster the next generation of farmers and community leaders.

On July 26, 2016, a grateful community came together to dedicate Saralee and Richard's Barn, a 12,000 square-foot facility that now hosts agricultural mentoring, training and education programs year-round for at-risk and other youth. The barn, Saralee's dream project, was seeded with a \$300,000 donation from Mr. Kunde. The Sonoma community came together to raise the rest of the \$3 million construction cost.

For all his efforts, Mr. Kunde received countless awards. He was named a Friend of Agriculture by the Sonoma County Harvest Fair, was inducted into the Sonoma County Farm Bureau Hall of Fame, won the Shining Star Award from the 4-H Foundation, and was recognized for Leadership in Agriculture by the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce. Of his many honors, Mr. Kunde was especially proud to have been named one of the 100 most influential Sonoma County people of the 20th Century by the Santa Rosa Press Democrat in 1999 and to have received the Award of Distinction from the University of California, Davis's College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences in 2008.

Mr. Speaker, Richard Kunde is an icon in the national wine community, and I am proud to have called him my friend. It is therefore fitting and proper that we remember him here today.

TRIBUTE TO TRISH AND MIKE DELEHANT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Trish and Mike Delehan of Imogene, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on December 9, 2017.

Trish and Mike's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies 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.