

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 damned 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.

RECOGNITION OF 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2018

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

As Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, it is both a pleasure and an honor for me to commemorate such an enormous milestone for an organization that does so much for America's veterans.

Founded by a small group of friends in New York City on February 16, 1868, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is an American fraternal society committed to the virtues of charity, justice, brotherly love and fidelity. Over the past 150 years, the Order has grown to include nearly 1,000,000 Elks Members and 2,000 lodges across the country.

The Elks have a long and storied history of supporting America's veterans. This is evident through the century-old Elks pledge: "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."

In fact, during World War I, at the behest of General Pershing—who was an Elk, himself—the Order donated over \$2,000,000 to assist U.S. soldiers going abroad; and organized, constructed and equipped the first two American field hospitals in France.

Following World War I, the Elks empowered nearly 50,000 disabled veterans by providing rehabilitation, vocation and education loans. It was this act of generosity that prompted the federal government to offer the first ever G.I. Bill for education benefits.

Every day, Elks across the country visit VA medical facilities to provide support and friendship to the men and women who have borne the battle for our freedoms. Last year alone, the Elks provided over 1,000,000 hours of service to veterans and donated nearly \$41,000,000 worth of goods, supplies and cash in support of America's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned before, it is an absolute honor for me to commemorate the 150th anniversary of this incredible and selfless organization, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. I would like to extend my most sincere gratitude for their work over the past 150 years and I wish them the absolute best for 150 years to come.

TRIBUTE TO CAROLYN AND GAIL BROCKMAN

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 Carolyn and Gail Brockman of Marne, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on December 2, 2017.

Carolyn and Gail'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.

RECOGNIZING HEATHER PHILLIPS, TEACHER OF THE YEAR FOR OKALOOSA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2018

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Heather Phillips, the Teacher of the Year for Okaloosa County School District. For many years, Ms. Phillips has served the Okaloosa County School District with exceptional enthusiasm and an unwavering commitment to excellence.

Ms. Phillips is a fourth-grade teacher at Bluewater Elementary School in Niceville, FL. Even though she has taught for 15 years, she feels like she is just getting started.

Ms. Phillips finds the greatest inspiration from her faith in God and the support of her family. She loves seeing the world through the eyes of children and allowing their energy to influence her focus on what truly matters.

Her teaching experiences in Japan and Hong Kong help her appreciate diversity. She is also an active member of her church in Niceville and enjoys being part of the community where she teaches.

Ms. Phillips believes being an educator is never predictable, and she thrives on the ever-changing nature of her profession.

Ms. Phillips' many skills and wonderful character truly make her an invaluable and greatly appreciated resource. For all these reasons and more, she has been selected as the 2018 Okaloosa County School District Teacher of the Year.

She is honored to represent Bluewater Elementary and humbled to be considered among such an immensely talented group of educators.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Ms. Heather Phillips for her accomplishments and her continued commitment to the Okaloosa County School District. I thank her for her service and wish her all the best for continued success.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARGARET FAYE SCHMITTOW

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2018

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Margaret Faye Schmittow, one of the first female Marines to serve our Nation and who recently joined our Heavenly Father at the age of 96.

Mr. Speaker, known by most as Faye, Mrs. Schmittow was a WWII veteran who proudly answered the call of duty when the Marine Corps first opened to women in 1944 and devoted more than 27 years of service to the Navy Exchange.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to her outstanding service to our military, she also set an example of service to her children and grandchildren and was described as a person who "would give you the shirt off her back." She is survived by two granddaughters and a great granddaughter and will be remembered as a guiding force in the community through her work with the Athens Detachment in Georgia's 10th District and Helping Hands in Colbert, GA.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing her remarkable legacy of service and unyielding commitment to our great Nation.

TRIBUTE TO MYCALE DOWNEY

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 Mycale Downey of Creston, Iowa for being named Creston Citizen of the Year for 2017.

Ms. Downey has served as Creston Animal Rescue Effort's lead volunteer since the organization was founded in 1998. She and the other volunteers in the group serve the community by caring for animals at the city pound. They also coordinate veterinary care and work diligently to find new homes for each of the animals.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent community leaders like Mycale in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize her today. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Mycale for this outstanding recognition and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

TRIBUTE TO RAY BAUM

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2018

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I was deeply saddened to learn of Ray Baum's passing. Ray was a consummate professional—a true gentleman, whose decency and graciousness showed through in everything he did.

He brought decades of expertise and a depth of knowledge to his role as Majority Staff Director of the House Energy and Commerce Committee partly due to his prior service as member of the Oregon State Legislature.

Ray was also a dear friend, who I was proud to work with when we both served as public utility commissioners for our respective states of Oregon and New Mexico.

But more than that, Ray was a kind, brilliant, patient, and dedicated public servant.

He will be deeply missed by Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle and his