

All of Councilman Liverman's colleagues have called him, "a truly unique Princeton citizen and a great human being." Another member of the council has called him "Princeton's Hero," as he not only serves on the council, but also through his church, working with youth, and through his constant presence around town. This is why the local paper has described him as the "Son of the Community."

Though Councilman Liverman will be stepping down from his seat at the end of this year, this does not end his service to his community. He has pledged that he will continue to serve the community and help make Princeton a model for social justice. He will also use his time away from the council to spend more of it with his wife LaTonya and his three daughters, Kelsey, Ashlyn, and Savannah.

I urge my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the tremendous work of Councilman Lance Liverman and to wish him the best in his future endeavors.

CONGRESSIONAL INTENT FOR H.R.
620

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I supported H.R. 620, the ADA Education and Reform Act last month on the House floor. The bill will improve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and curb lawsuit abuse. H.R. 620 requires the Department of Justice to develop a program to educate state and local governments and property owners on strategies for providing improved access to public accommodations for persons with disabilities. The legislation also gives owners and operators of public accommodations, after receiving written notice of ADA violations, an opportunity to address those violations before being sued.

The bill's notice and cure provisions apply to the owners and operators of public accommodations just like the underlying ADA statute. They are in the best position of control over the condition of their premises and compliance with the ADA. It is appropriate that disabled individuals who have been subject to discrimination in violation of the ADA should seek redress from owners and operators.

This does not affect the ability of owners and operators to seek indemnity from design and construction entities. However, such intent is not meant to authorize direct lawsuits against design and construction entities with or without compliance with notice and cure requirements on owners and operators under H.R. 620.

HONORING THE WORK OF MIRAH
HOROWITZ

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the special leadership of Mirah Horowitz, the Founder and Executive Director of Lucky Dog Animal Rescue, and include in the

RECORD an article entitled, Southwest and Lucky Dog Animal Rescue Fly Plane to Puerto Rico to Save 62 Pets and Donate 14,400 lbs. of Supplies that was published by People Magazine. This article outlines the rescue mission embarked on by Southwest Airlines and Lucky Dog Animal Rescue.

It was the extraordinary leadership of Mirah Horowitz that this rescue effort was launched and coordinated with Southwest Airlines. I'm exceedingly proud of my constituent for her professionalism, dedication and compassion. Mirah has built an organization that is highly respected, and it is her determination that led to the nationally recognized rescue of animals in Puerto Rico, bringing them to their new homes in the United States.

I salute Mirah and all the volunteers involved in this historic effort. In this unique undertaking, they demonstrated the very best of America.

[From People Magazine]

SOUTHWEST AND LUCKY DOG ANIMAL RESCUE
FLY PLANE TO PUERTO RICO TO SAVE 62
PETS AND DONATE 14,400 LBS. OF SUPPLIES

(By Kelli Bender)

On Saturday Jan. 20, Lucky Dog Animal Rescue and Southwest Airlines drastically changed the lives of 62 Puerto Rican animals, flying the homeless, furry passengers up the East Coast to a new life.

It was a trip long in the making, powered by dozens of brilliant, compassionate animal lovers, who asked for nothing in return except the chance to change an animal's life.

Southwest Airlines has a history of helping those in need, especially after natural disasters. So when Washington D.C.-based Lucky Dog Animal Rescue approached the company about flying out homeless pets stranded in Puerto Rico following the devastation of Hurricane Maria, Southwest responded immediately.

"We had a goal to do something for each of the hurricanes. The situation in San Juan was a little different because our employees and their families were affected, and with the electricity being out, we couldn't focus on the animals right away," Lisa Tiller, Southwest's Senior Communications Manager told PEOPLE.

But just because they couldn't fly pets out, didn't mean Southwest wasn't bringing help in. The airline routinely shipped planes loaded with supplies to the island, much of which is still without running water and electricity. Many of the runs included pet essentials to help rescuers in Puerto Rico look after animals.

In January, three months after the hurricane hit, things were finally in a place where Lucky Dog Animal Rescue and Southwest could put their plan into action.

For the mutt-filled mission, Southwest took one of its planes out of service and staffed it with some of its finest employees, all of whom chose to donate their time to this effort.

The plane's cargo hold and overhead bins were filled with supplies Puerto Rico's humans and animals needed before taking off from Baltimore-Washington International airport at 5 a.m. on Saturday.

"The morning started off with Lucky Dog getting Starbucks for everyone," Lucky Dog Animal Rescue's founder and Executive Director Mirah Horowitz said of the day, which began at 3:45 a.m. "The pilots brought doughnuts. My parents brought doughnuts. We had a lot of doughnuts on that flight, a lot of sugar."

After three hours and 45 minutes in the air, the volunteers landed in San Juan and began unloading the 14,400 lbs. of much-needed supplies they brought with them.

"Everyone was just so nice and helpful. The minute we landed, Lucky Dog volunteers were unloading, Southwest volunteers were unloading, the cargo staff on the ground was unloading," Horowitz recalled. "Everyone jumped in to help. It was truly amazing how wonderful everyone meshed for two groups that had never met before."

Next it was time to handle the precious cargo. Sixteen cats and 46 dogs looking for forever homes were carefully loaded into carriers off the tarmac and prepared for their flight to a new life.

"Everyone was jubilant. I was shocked! For as long of a day as it was, and as early as it started, people were just in the best moods the whole time," Horowitz said.

The furry passengers were a mix of pets from different circumstances. Some were living in foster homes before the storm hit, others were abandoned by their previous owners once Hurricane Maria touched down. But it was the rescuers of PR Animals who were caring for these pets before Lucky Dog Animal Rescue and Southwest arrived. And it was these rescuers who were there on the ground to greet the volunteers and say their goodbyes.

"It was very emotional; the rescuers putting their dogs in the crates and saying goodbye to them, because these are animals they have been caring for through very difficult and traumatic times—whether they were caring for them before Maria and weathered the storm with these people, which were a few of the dogs, or whether they were rescued in the immediate aftermath," Horowitz added.

While the rescuers had to say goodbye to the animals they sacrificed so much for, they didn't leave empty-handed. All of the PR Animal rescuers present left in vehicles packed with donated supplies. Important items like batteries, bottled water, towels and tarps were given to the rescuers, more than half of whom are still living without running water and electricity.

"It wasn't about taking the pets off the island, it was about giving hope and physical help to people and reminding them that we haven't forgotten them," Horowitz said of the trip's mission. Once the pets were packed up, they were loaded on to the plane with their carriers securely strapped into the seats.

You might think a plane packed with 62 pets in the cabin would be a bit of a circus, but there were only a few howls upon landing.

"Amazingly during the flight, the hum and vibration kind of put them all to sleep," Horowitz said.

With carriers of kittens and puppies aboard, not everyone stayed in their crate during the trip. Horowitz admitted that the volunteers and flight attendants couldn't resist getting some quality puppy-holding and kitten-cuddling time in during the trip back.

"It was great," the Lucky Dog Animals Rescue founder said of the ride back to BWI. Even the pilots got a chance to hold the pups.

Back on the mainland, the dogs and cats were loaded into transport vans and driven to Dogma Dog Bakery in Virginia, where a crowd was waiting to welcome the animals, including several new pet parents.

Nine dogs and two cats were adopted right off the transport vans by animal lovers who had falling in love with the pets' pictures online.

An adoption event the following day found homes for 10 more of the Puerto Rican natives. By the end of the weekend, 21 of the 62 pets were with their forever families. The rest spent some time in foster homes before being moved to local rescues, including Lucky Dog Animal Rescue, where they will surely find their own pet parents soon.

It was a trip that made sense to Southwest, whose logo is a large heart—even if it meant giving up time and money.

“We’ve always been an airline that has lead with heart,” Tiller said of her company. “It’s hard to find a spare aircraft with more than 3,500 flights a day. To be able to get our top leadership to donate time and plane fuel to save animals is touching. It’s when our employees shine the most are, when people donating time. Everyone is almost in tears because they are so touched to be a part of this.”

And for Lucky Dog Animal Rescue, this trip was another small but important step to finding loving homes for all the needy animals of the world.

The non-profit plans to continue helping the pets of Puerto Rico and is working to send more animals to the mainland through the pressurized cargo holds of United Airlines planes, because caring for animals is a way to help everyone.

“When we lose sight of how we treat animals, we tend to lose sight of our humanity,” Horowitz said of what the trip meant to her. “We can’t forget the pets.”

CONGRATULATING THE UCONN
FIELD HOCKEY TEAM ON THEIR
HISTORIC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the latest achievement of the University of Connecticut Women’s Field Hockey team. On Sunday, November 19, 2017, the UConn women celebrated a 2–1 win over the University of Maryland in the National Collegiate Athletic Association’s Division I Field Hockey championship. The victory marked the 23rd straight win of the Huskies’ historic undefeated season.

The championship is the fifth in UConn field hockey history, and caps the sixth perfect season in all of NCAA field hockey history. The team’s senior class is also the most successful in the school’s history, with a record of 87–6 and a pair of national championships.

The victory was Coach Nancy Stevens’ third championship title. Stevens, who is field hockey’s winningest coach, has brought much success to UConn. In the past five seasons alone under Stevens, UConn has won three of those five national championship titles.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating the University of

Connecticut Field Hockey team on yet another successful season. May their win be an example to all, that with hard work, dedication, and passion, greatness is within reach.

TRIBUTE TO BRIGITTE MARIE
KELLEY

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Brigitte “Brig” Kelley, who passed away in California on December 10, 2017. Brig was the loving wife of former California State Senator David G. Kelley and she will be deeply missed.

Brig was born in Potsdam, Germany, a suburb of Berlin, to Dr. Herman-Walter Frey and Marie Frey-Richter on Nov. 20, 1926. She spent her youth in Berlin, Germany; Salzburg, Austria; Rome, Italy; and Freiburg, Germany. She studied English at the University of Freiburg and in 1948 she received a Quaker Scholarship to attend Mills College in Oakland, California.

Brig spent two years in the United States and upon her return met David, her husband to be. They married in 1953 and returned to Hemet in 1955 to settle on their citrus ranch in Bautista Canyon. Brig taught German in Adult Continuing Education and Spanish at Mt. San Jacinto Junior College. She loved collecting art and antiques—in particular Spanish and religious art—and enjoyed traveling all over the world.

I have had the distinct privilege of knowing Brig for many years. I was proud to call her my friend and I will deeply miss her. I extend my heartfelt condolences to my good friend Dave Kelley as well as the entire Kelley family. Although Brig may be gone, her legacy and memory will live on.

HONORING JOSEPH GERCZAK

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, today I honor and remember one of Pennsylvania’s sons, and a native of Philadelphia, United States Coast Guard Signalman Third Class Joseph Gerczak.

Working as an apprentice machinist making gun parts after graduating high school, Joseph enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard on September 26, 1942.

Following his training and early assignments, Joseph joined the crew of Landing Ship Tank 66, and was on board during the first assault against the Japanese-held Borgen Bay Area of New Britain on December 26, 1943.

Joseph’s ship was in the bay while other vessels unloaded cargo onto the beach when seven Japanese dive bombers attacked his ship. He immediately manned his battle station and was the first crew member to return fire against the enemy.

Joseph opened fire, unloading his drums of ammunition into the dive bombers, blasting two from the sky while bombs fell from the planes, striking his ship. He continued his assault against the enemy planes until he was struck by a blast that fatally wounded him and destroyed his battle station.

The American assault at Borgen Bay was successful, due in part to Joseph’s courage, perseverance, and unwavering strength in the face of tremendous odds. Joseph was recognized for his sacrifice, posthumously awarded the Silver Star, Purple Heart, and the Presidential Unit Commendation.

This weekend, on March 9th, 2018, the Coast Guard will commission a Fast Response Cutter in Honolulu, Hawaii. The cutter will be named USCGC *Joseph Gerczak*. Joseph’s sister and only surviving sibling, 92-year-old Stella Gerczak, will be in attendance at the ship’s commissioning. Stella lives in my community, and we owe her, Joseph, and their entire family a debt of gratitude we will never be able to fully repay.

The commissioning of the USCGC *Joseph Gerczak* is just one way we can show our heartfelt and lasting gratitude for a brave young man who gave his life in service to our great nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, March 5, 2018 I missed the following votes and was not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 92, and YEA on Roll Call No. 93.