

offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Daniel's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2022. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of a lifetime.

Daniel brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2022. While attending Perrysburg High School in Perrysburg, Ohio, Daniel was a Summa Cum Laude scholar, Senior Class President, Student Council Representative, and a school tutor.

Throughout high school, Daniel served as a team captain for football, wrestling, and rugby, earning multiple varsity letters. Daniel was also Vice President of DECA, volunteered at the Vision Soup Kitchen and Toledo YES Project, and participated in Buckeye Boys State. I am confident that Daniel will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Daniel Walton on his offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Daniel will excel during his career at West Point, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO PAT AND HOWARD  
ELLIOTT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 5, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Pat and Howard Elliott of Farragut, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary.

Pat and Howard'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.

WORLD CIVILITY DAY ON APRIL  
12, 2018

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 5, 2018*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and respect that I recognize the Community Civility Counts Initiative as the organization celebrates its third annual World Civility Day on April 12, 2018, along with the Gary Chamber of Commerce, the entire com-

munity of Northwest Indiana, and beyond. World Civility Day is a day in which we are asked to become aware of our behavior towards others and to become mindful of our thoughts, words, and actions. It is a day to remember that we can be better people in every area of life, and to remember that our actions serve as an example for generations to come. In observance of this special event, a day of civility-themed activities will be held at the Indiana Welcome Center in Hammond, and an awards banquet will follow in the evening at the Avalon Manor in Merrillville.

In 2015, Chuck Hughes, Executive Director of the Gary Chamber of Commerce, and Dr. Gordon E. Bradshaw, Chairman of the Public Policy Committee, worked together through the Gary Chamber to create the Civility Counts Initiative. The organization's mission is to build public awareness of civility and to help transform communities through positive programs and relationships. The Initiative works to raise the consciousness level of individuals and groups of people, as so many of us face incidents of disrespect, intolerance, bullying, or violence. For striving to make a difference in our communities, the organization and its supporters are worthy of the highest praise.

The Initiative has been overwhelmingly successful and recognized throughout many communities. Civility Resolutions have been approved by many local municipal councils including those in Gary, Hammond, Valparaiso, La Porte, and Lake County. In addition, Civility Resolutions have also been approved by the Indiana House of Representatives and the Indiana Senate. Support for the Initiative has grown tremendously with numerous organizations and individuals dedicating their time and resources to this great cause year after year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other colleagues to join me in honoring and congratulating the Community Civility Counts Initiative and in celebrating World Civility Day. The significance of this movement will have a positive impact on generation after generation. For their influence, passion, and dedication to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond, the leaders and supporters of the Community Civility Counts Initiative are to be commended.

HONORING ANTHONY A. SCARPINO,  
JR.

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 5, 2018*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true community servant and friend, District Attorney Anthony Scarpino. This year, Anthony is being honored with the Man of the Year award by MPAC at their Third Annual Gala and I too would like to honor him on the occasion.

Tony, as he is better known, was born and raised in the City of Mount Vernon where he attended public school. After graduating, he attended the University of Connecticut and then Syracuse University College of Law where he earned his Juris Doctor Degree. After law school, Tony returned to his home where he began his career as an Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of Mount Vernon. In 1977, he left local government and joined the FBI as a Special Agent. In 1984, at

the age of thirty-two, Tony was appointed Acting Mount Vernon City Court Judge earning him the distinction of being the youngest judge in the city's history. Then in 1988, Tony was elected Westchester County Court Judge.

In 1993, Tony was elected to the New York State Supreme Court for the Ninth Judicial District before being elected Westchester County Surrogate in 2000, a post to which he was re-elected to in 2010. In 2015, Tony stepped down to join the private law firm DelBello, Donnellan, Weingarten, Wise & Wiederkehr LLP, leaving the bench for the first time in thirty years. He was then elected Westchester County District Attorney in 2016, where he has since served with great distinction.

Tony has dedicated his career to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice. He has been an inspiration, a dedicated public servant, and I want to congratulate him on receiving this wonderful honor.

THE UPCOMING 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT—MANY ACHIEVEMENTS, YET IMPORTANT PROVISIONS NOT YET IMPLEMENTED

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 5, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on March 22 I chaired a hearing at the Helsinki Commission on the achievements, with a special focus on the unfinished business, of the April 10, 1998 Good Friday Agreement. As Members know so well, the signing of the Good Friday Agreement 20 years ago was truly historic, extraordinarily difficult to achieve, a remarkable framework for peace, and the hope for beginning of reconciliation.

In its most important provisions, the agreement launched a series of challenging protocols, by which the leaders of the nationalist and unionist communities in Northern Ireland agreed to a better governance, and peaceful resolution of differences. Prisoner releases, new government structures, British demilitarization of the North, the decommissioning of paramilitary weapons and systemic police reform were achieved to varying degrees over the last 20 years. In the 30 years between 1969 and 1998, approximately 3,500 people were killed in political violence, while in the 20 years since the Good Friday Agreement fewer than 100 have lost their lives.

I have personally chaired 16 congressional hearings and markups of legislation on human rights issues in Northern Ireland, most of them with a special focus on police reform and the need to establish a public, independent judicial inquiry into state-sponsored collusion in the murder of human rights attorney Patrick Finucane and others who were gunned down or, in the case of Rosemary Nelson, killed by a bomb. I also offered legislation that was adopted by the House of Representatives that put the House on record condemning violence and promoting peace and justice in Northern Ireland and police reform. And I just recently introduced H. Res. 777 which calls for a recommitment of the United States, the British, and all parties, including the Republic of Ireland, to the peace process.

The most contentious of my amendments over the years, one of which became law, resulted in suspending all U.S. support for and exchanges with the British police force in Northern Ireland, the Royal Ulster Constabulary, or RUC, until standards were met to vet RUC officers who engaged in human rights abuses. Those new standards were set and eventually then-President Bush was able to certify, in accordance with my law, that human rights principles were part of police training going forward, both in the RUC and in its reformed successor, the Police Service of Northern Ireland, or PSNI. With the improvements, the police exchanges were resumed.

That is the good news. But as the 20th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement milestone approaches, serious attention and effort to be paid to achieving the dream. First and foremost, the government in Northern Ireland seems unable to consistently function or even constitute itself. Also, after 20 years, despite many obvious successes and benefits of the Good Friday Agreement, and although no one wants to scrap it, no one would want to return to the killing, the reconciliation to some extent has stalled. One of the reasons is that longstanding cases have not been resolved.

Geraldine Finucane, widow of murdered human rights lawyer Patrick Finucane, submitted testimony for my March 22nd hearing. And she points out, and I quote in part, "My family has campaigned for a public inquiry into Pat's murder, but the British government has repeatedly failed to establish one. Instead, they have instigated one confined investigation after another, claiming to want to examine the facts or get to the truth, but always in a process conducted away from public view. One cannot but wonder at the pointlessness of conducting investigation after investigation that are doomed to fail, no matter how forceful the conclusions, because they lack the transparency required to attain public confidence."

As Geraldine points out further in her testimony, "the 1998 agreement represent a new beginning that would mark a point from which the new future for everyone in Ireland, north and south, could be launched. What was not appreciated or acknowledged, however, was the fact that moving forward also meant dealing with the past." And of course, that is something that this Commission and my Subcommittee on Human Rights has tried to do for the last 20-plus years.

I would like to just point out too, testimony that's been provided to us by the Committee on the Administration of Justice, again, a very important quote from them, "In a highly disturbing development, and notwithstanding the reality that only a small number of legacy cases relate to British soldiers, a recent report of the Commons Defense Select Committee called for the enactment of a statute of limitations covering all troubles related to incidents involving members of the armed forces. This concept effectively means a selective amnesty for crimes committed by British soldiers." The Commons Defense Select Committee also suggested that it be extended to the RUC and other security force members. This position is, of course, completely contrary to human rights standards and, if were enacted, would probably be found unlawful by the courts. Nevertheless, the U.K. government has said that it will include the proposed in a forthcoming consultation on the implementation of the Stormont House Agreement. That is a dan-

gerous backtracking on the part of the British government. Hopefully it will cease and desist in moving in that direction.

TRIBUTE TO VICKY AND ALAN SEE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Vicky and Alan See of Peru, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on February 3, 2018.

Vicky and Alan'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 continued success.

KATY STUDENTS NAMED NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Tanner Scott and Morgan Long of Katy, TX for being named 2018 National Merit Finalists.

Only 50,000 students out of over 1.6 million are chosen to be National Merit Scholars based on their PSAT/NMSQT scores. The finalists were selected in February and the winners will be announced between April and June. Both Tanner and Morgan are seniors at Harmony School of Innovation and will attend college in the fall. Tanner has committed to Stanford for the class of 2022, where he plans to study biology and pre-medicine. Morgan plans to study physics and will share his college decision at the annual HPS College Acceptance Pep Rally April 19th.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Tanner and Morgan for this great academic accomplishment. I am proud of them and look forward to their future successes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID ROUZER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, an unforeseen medical condition prevented me from voting on 2/7/2018. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 61;

YEA on Roll Call No. 62; and YEA on Roll Call No. 63.

CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF MILAN

HON. JOHN J. FASO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the bicentennial anniversary of the founding of Milan, New York. Formerly part of the Little Nine Partners Patent, the Town of Milan was incorporated on March 31, 1818.

For two hundred years, Milan has taken part in the great American experiment, weaving together a diverse community and cultivating a strong civil society. This small bucolic town situated on the northern border of Dutchess County has celebrated many great triumphs of our nation and witnessed the nascent years of America's existence, but has also persevered through times of hardship. The strength and independence that continues to define this town are a result of principles instilled at its founding two centuries ago.

While the area has experienced many changes over the past two hundred years, the town of Milan is always eager to look to the future, but never forgets its past. Milan was built on a foundation of determination and resiliency with a strong community focus and a deep appreciation for a rural lifestyle. These core beliefs continue to guide and distinguish the community today.

This bicentennial anniversary marks a great milestone in Milan's history, and serves as an important time for reflection. On behalf of the 19th Congressional District and the U.S. House of Representatives, I would like to extend my deepest appreciation and congratulations to the town of Milan. As the residents celebrate its 200th birthday, I would like to commend them on the success of their small, thriving community and wish Milan continued prosperity in its next 200 years.

TRIBUTE TO DORIS AND KEN BARTLETT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Doris and Ken Bartlett of Creston, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on January 16, 2018.

Doris and Ken's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 70th 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 70th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join