

Detective Connie Van Putten, whom I have named Woman of the Year in Contra Costa County, California. Woman of the Year recognizes women who have made important contributions to California's 5th Congressional District in Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation or Community Service.

Ms. Van Putten was born in San Diego, California. She graduated from the University of La Verne with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice. In 1965 Ms. Van Putten began her career in law enforcement as a member of the San Diego Police Department, where she served for 23 years. She was the first woman in the San Diego Police Department to be promoted to the rank of Sergeant and Lieutenant.

In 1985 Ms. Van Putten was selected to attend the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. After completing the program, she served as a Captain in the Union City Police Department until her retirement in 2000. After retiring from full time service, Ms. Van Putten joined the Hercules Police Department Reserve Officer Program. As a Reserve Officer Ms. Van Putten has gone above and beyond the call of duty. She organized the Prescription Drug Turn In Program where over 800 pounds of prescription drugs have been turned in and destroyed and is the Department's Public Information Officer. She has donated over 1,200 hours of service to her community annually both as a uniformed patrol officer and a plain clothes detective.

Ms. Van Putten has also remained active in our community in other ways. She has been involved with Prevent Blindness in California, which promotes and performs vision screening for preschool children. She also has spent 15 years with the Navy League as the liaison to the United States Coast Guard Vessel *Tern*. Ms. Van Putten has been married to her husband, Peter, for 42 years.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Van Putten is the kind of citizen we should all strive to be. She has seamlessly blended her personal and professional passions for the betterment of our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor Connie Van Putten here today.

HONORING THE MORRISON
OPTOMETRY LEGACY

HON. DOUG COLLINS
OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, April 16, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Gainesville Vision Clinic, a local optometry practice in its 103rd year of operation.

Northeast Georgia serves as the home to many family-owned businesses that have been in operation longer than I've been alive. A business's 100th year marks a meaningful milestone for the family that operates it—making the Gainesville Vision Clinic's achievement special to our corner of Georgia.

This optometry practice has been managed by three generations of the Morrison family: Dr. J.C. Morrison, Sr.; Dr. J.C. Morrison, Jr.; and my friend, Dr. Bill Morrison, who currently runs the practice.

After receiving his Georgia optometry license in 1917, Dr. J.C. Morrison, Sr. opened the Gainesville Vision Clinic on Bradford

Street along the community square. He managed the practice for 49 years until his son took over in 1964 and, eventually, his grandson began leading it in 1975.

Throughout the course of a century, this family's commitment to caring for their neighbors has remained constant. As the Morrison optometry legacy lives on, I celebrate their contributions to the Gainesville community as a family-owned business.

CAPTAIN STEPHEN ALLISON
SPANN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, April 16, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor posthumously, Captain Stephen Allison Spann, United States Navy Reserve, (ret) for his service to our country.

Captain Spann served in the United States Marine Corps from 1959 to 1963. From there he served for four years in the United States Marine Corps Reserves and three years in the United States Navy (Seabees) Reserves. Captain Spann served for thirty years as a member of the United States Navy Reserves, Civil Engineer Corps, retiring at the rank of Captain. Captain Spann's military awards and decorations include the USMC Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Meritorious Unit, Rifle and Pistol ribbons.

My office had the honor and privilege of getting to know Captain Spann and hearing about his experiences during a Vietnam War 50th Commemoration pinning ceremony in August 2017.

Captain Spann's courageous service charted a path for future generations of men and women to serve in the military. I extend my deepest appreciation to Captain Stephen Spann for his dedication, integrity and outstanding service to the United States of America.

HONORING GINNY CRAVEN AS
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, April 16, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Ginny Craven, whom I have named Woman of the Year in Lake County, California. Woman of the Year recognizes women who have made important contributions to California's 5th Congressional District in Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation or Community Service.

Ms. Craven was born in Concord, California and moved to Lake County, California as a child, where she attended elementary school and graduated from Upper Lake High School. She earned a bachelor's degree from California State University, Chico.

Ms. Craven has dedicated much of her life to helping veterans and their families. Ms. Craven is the founder and Chief Executive Of-

ficer of Operation Tango Mike, Inc., an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that has shipped over 20,000 care packages to deployed military personnel. Ms. Craven has also been a personal liaison to local Gold Star families and is a member of multiple veterans' organizations, including United Veterans Council of Lake County, Military Funeral Honors Team of Lake County, Pearl Harbors Survivors Association, Patriot Guard Riders and Daughters of the American Revolution.

Ms. Craven supports other important causes as well. She was co-captain of Quick Steppers, the Lake County Relay for Life team that raised more than \$13,000. She has supported victims of the 2015, 2016, and 2017 fires in Lake County. She coordinated Operation Tango Mike Volunteers to assist survivors and worked with the U.S. Army to bring an Engineer Battalion to Lake County for flood prevention operations in 2015. Ms. Craven's service to our troops and community continues her family's long history of service.

Mr. Speaker, Ginny Craven has worked tirelessly to better the lives of others. She is a selfless community member and our district is better for the work that she has done. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

IN RECOGNITION OF LENNIE
GOTCHER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, April 16, 2018

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lennie Gotcher who will be presented with the 2018 Citizen of the Year Award from the Associated Parents' Group of Hillsborough. Lennie is a role model for all of us in the community and an integral part of our town.

Lennie's roots in Hillsborough run deep. She grew up here and she and her husband Peter raised their four children here. Her volunteer work began in the schools her sons attended; first at South when her oldest son was in preschool, then at North Preschool and Crocker Middle School where she spent countless hours in the classroom and at events.

In addition to being a devoted mother and wife, Lennie is passionate about gardening and to say that she has a green thumb and comprehensive understanding of organic farming is an understatement. Lennie had the vision and perseverance to create the Harvest Garden, known as the crown jewel of Hillsborough. In 2010, she worked with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, the Hillsborough Beautification Foundation (HBF), the Town Public Works Director and the Town Council to get the project approved. Not only did she create a beautiful garden growing fresh produce, she turned the project into a learning experience for students. She oversaw a group of high school students cleaning a vacant lot and soliciting donations from the community. Today, the Harvest Garden offers an internship program for high school students, workshops for community members and volunteer programs for the local schools, the Boy Scouts, the National Charity League and the Young Men's Service League. All of the work is done by volunteers who have produced over 9,000 pound of organic vegetables that