

Humanitarian Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon with one bronze star, United States Coast Guard Special Operation Service Ribbon, and the New York State Medal for Merit.

After many years of service Yeoman Second Class Gwen Colon was honorably discharged from the Navy and worked as a paralegal for a prominent attorney and Henry become Company Commander at the Recruit Training Center in Orlando, FL. Radioman First Class Henry Colon was honorably discharged in 1993. In 1999, Gwen returned to Buffalo where she worked at the Buffalo VA Medical Center. Unfortunately, Henry Colon passed away in 2002. Gwen retired from the Buffalo VA Medical Center in 2009 but never stopped advocating for veterans and their families. In 2015 Gwen started volunteering for the Patriot Guard Riders.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize Henry and Gwen Colon. It is an honor to recognize them as an example of veterans who were dedicated to serving in the military for the betterment of our nation. Henry and Gwen represent the strong resolve and determination of the people of Buffalo and their commitment to furthering their ambitions through hard work. They serve as inspiration to others by showing that our citizens can overcome challenges in their quest to serve our country.

TRIBUTE TO MARY PORTER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mary Porter. Mary was awarded the Presidential Medal at the Lions Club International Iowa state convention.

Mary was recognized at the event as a faithful aide to her husband as Chaplain for many years. She travels to locations throughout the state, providing meaningful memorial services for Lions members who have passed. She uses her ventriloquist skills to recruit new members to the Lions organization.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mary for receiving this outstanding award as a faithful volunteer. I am proud to represent her in the United States Congress and I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Mary and wishing her nothing but continued success.

HONORING VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2018

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise for this Holocaust Remembrance Week to honor the people murdered by the Nazis during the Holocaust, especially the six million Jews singled out for genocide. The methods of mass murder were unspeakable, horrifying and modern. The anti-Semitic hate fueling the

killing was an ancient, persistent evil, a disease of the heart that dehumanizes and destroys.

The late, iconic Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel wrote that “The anti-Semite is an ideological fanatic and pathological racist. An anti-Semite is someone who never met me, never heard of me, yet he hates me.” In addition, neighbors, colleagues, and friends, being murdered, strangers, from the youngest to the oldest, were targeted and annihilated merely for being Jewish or being perceived to be Jewish.

Children were even taught to hate the Jewish people, informally at home and formally at schools and through organizations like Hitler Youth. This wicked ideology was imposed on countries conquered by the Nazis. Several generations of Germans and other Europeans were infected by this poison and it may take several generations more for it to be purged from the body of Europe.

Families were robbed of lives, homes were robbed of their belongings, and countries were robbed of the talents of their Jewish citizens. Europe, indeed the world, has been poorer because of this theft. We will never know which cultural, scientific, and other gifts, past, present, and future, were consumed by the carnage of the Holocaust.

It may be tempting to think of the Holocaust as history from long ago. In the span of human history the Holocaust was close enough to be more like the present than the past. Some survivors are still alive, witnessing to the resilience of the Jewish people over the millennia, and perpetrators continue to be prosecuted. Anti-Semitism did not end with the Holocaust.

Anti-Semitic evil is still evident locally and globally. In my district, the Congregation Sons of Israel synagogue was recently vandalized for the second time in nine months. This time cowardly criminals spray-painted 666 on an outdoor Holocaust memorial and drew a swastika-like symbol on a nearby pick-up truck.

For all of America in 2016, the latest year for which the FBI has issued hate crimes statistics, fifty four percent of the victims of anti-religion criminal offenses were Jewish. Every year since Congress began requiring the FBI to collect and report these figures in 1996, more victims of anti-religious hate crimes have been Jewish than any other religious group.

Witnesses testified at a hearing I chaired last year on “Anti-Semitism Across Borders” that extremist groups in the United States are using, modifying, adapting, and boosting the anti-Semitic tactics and strategies of extremists in Europe—which has been the site of so many violent and deadly attacks on Jewish communities in recent years.

Anti-Semitism is hard-wired into the ideology, propaganda, radicalization, targeting, and operations of terrorist groups like ISIS and Al-Qaeda. Neo-Nazis and fringe political elements in Europe are openly promoting anti-Semitism. Segments of Muslim society in Europe have been sources of anti-Semitic incidents, including refugees and migrants who arrive with the anti-Jewish and anti-Israel attitudes of their countries and regions of origin. Anti-Semitism has become mainstream across the political and economic spectrum in many European countries to a degree unseen since World War II.

The rise of anti-Semitism in Latin America reflects trends in Europe as well as in some instances the influence of Iran and its terrorist

proxies like Hezbollah that threaten Israel and Jewish communities everywhere.

The Boycott, Divest, and Sanctions movement, more commonly known as BDS, is a vicious example what the great Natan Sharansky rightfully called “new anti-Semitism”: Anti-Semitism under the guise of criticizing the State of Israel. This new anti-Semitism is rampant on college and university campuses and is even found among local governments. Modern anti-Jewish hatred is as outrageous as older anti-Semitism.

We must fight anti-Jewish hatred until it is defeated. The safety and security of Jewish communities is paramount and must be prioritized—particularly through strengthened and new partnerships between law enforcement agencies and these communities. Our domestic law enforcement agencies at every level have to ensure they are focused on anticipating, preventing and responding to anti-Semitic crimes. Iran, ISIS, Hezbollah, and other terrorist entities that threaten Israel and Jewish communities elsewhere must be confronted.

Stand we must and stand we will with Jewish communities so that they are able to flourish without fear.

TRIBUTE TO DONNA AND RAYMOND SHIELDS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Donna and Raymond Shields of Diagonal, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated this anniversary on February 4, 2018.

Donna and Raymond’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 meaningful occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued happiness.

TRIBUTE TO DONNA WALLACE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Donna Wallace. Donna retired from the Adair County 4-H Program on February 28, 2018 after 24 years of service.

4-H in Iowa is designed specifically to prepare our young people to be successful, contributing members of society, and empower them to reach their full potential through exploration and varied experiences. Donna worked hard to build the Adair County program to be