

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNITION OF 25 YEARS OF
THE MAFFS MISSION SUP-
PORTED BY THE 302D AIRLIFT
WING AT PETERSON AFB, CO

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Citizen Airmen serving in the Air Force Reserve's 302nd Airlift Wing, Air at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado.

Today I recognize their 25 years of dedicated support of the Department of Defense's C-130 Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System, or MAFFS mission.

In 1993, the Air Force Reserve portion of the MAFFS mission was moved to the 302nd Airlift Wing, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado from March Air Force Base, California.

On October 28, 1993, two aircrews from the 302nd Airlift Wing's 731st Airlift Squadron and maintenance personnel from the 302nd Maintenance Group departed for Point Mugu Naval Air Warfare Center, California for their first MAFFS activation.

Since that first activation, hundreds of Reserve Citizen Airmen have trained, supported and executed the Defense Support of Civil Authorities Mission assisting in the tireless efforts of ground firefighting crews through reaching inaccessible areas by air, supporting the containment of hundreds of wildland fires and saving lives and property throughout the United States of America and Mexico.

In addition to supporting fire suppression efforts across the U.S., 302d Airlift Wing Reservists have responded to fires in their own backyards supporting suppression of major Colorado fires including the Hayman fire (2002), Waldo Canyon fire (2012) and Black Forest fire (2013).

Innovation is in their DNA, and it comes from the diverse experiences our Reserve Citizen Airmen bring to the mission. We honor all who work tirelessly to support and make this special mission possible both in the air and on the ground. We recognize the hundreds of hours of labor expended by the Reserve aircraft maintenance crews who ensure the MAFFS-equipped C-130s, call-signs MAFFS 2 and MAFFS 5, are mission ready. We honor the highly-experienced Air Force Reserve aircrews flying one of the most challenging missions in the U.S. Air Force.

When not supporting the wildland firefighting mission, the 302nd is always ready to answer our nation's call with the agility to shift to its tactical airlift mission supporting rapid global mobility.

Today, it is also important to remember the six Reserve Citizen Airmen who lost their lives in support of the MAFFS mission, specifically the crew of SUMIT 38, a MAFFS support mission from Boise, Idaho that did not make it back to Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado on May 13, 1995; and four members of the crew of MAFFS 7 from the 146th Airlift Wing, North

Carolina Air National Guard who were lost during a MAFFS mission in White Draw, South Dakota on July 1, 2012.

Today, the Reserve Citizen Airmen from Colorado's Peterson Air Force Base along with their Air National Guard counterparts continue to provide the surge support to wildland firefighting efforts when requested by the National Interagency Fire Center at a moment's notice. To make it happen, we seek the best and brightest minds from across the nation to fill critical career fields such as Air Force Reserve pilots and maintenance technicians.

Today, in 2018, the continued bravery, sacrifice, expertise and dedication to this mission by our Reserve Citizen Airmen has allowed for 25 years of unwavering support of the MAFFS mission by the Air Force Reserve at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAULA LINKER

HON. DAVID SCHWEIKERT

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank a very special member of my community. For as long as I have been involved in working for Arizona, Paula Linker has been a friend and supporter. Those who know Paula admire her for her courage and determination. She is forthright and dependable. She works every single day to make sure that the causes and people she cares for most have all the support she has to give. And, it is in that spirit that I am so pleased she is being awarded the Lincoln Lifetime Achievement Award from the Maricopa County Republican Committee.

The community celebrates Paula, and it is with great enthusiasm that I include these remarks into the RECORD of the U.S. House of Representatives.

DIGITAL AUTHORITARIANISM AND THE GLOBAL THREAT TO FREE SPEECH

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today we held a hearing on China's digital authoritarianism. China has the world's largest number of internet users as well as the world's most sophisticated and aggressive internet censorship and control regime. The Chinese government, under the leadership of Xi Jinping, views digital controls as necessary for its political stability and control of core digital technologies as necessary for its economic future.

The Chinese government spends \$10 billion on maintaining and improving their censorship

apparatus. The U.S. government has an annual internet freedom budget of \$55 million and Congress still has little idea how this money is spent.

Over the past year or so, Chinese companies were ordered to close websites that hosted discussions on the military, history, and international affairs and crack down on "illegal" VPNs (in response, Apple was forced to remove VPNs from the China App store). New regulations were announced restricting anonymity online and the Chinese government rolled out impressive new censorship technologies, censoring photos in one-to-one WeChat discussions and disrupting WhatsApp.

Beijing has also deployed facial and voice recognition, artificial intelligence, and other surveillance technologies throughout the country, but particularly targeting the Uyghur ethnic minority, where between 500,000 to 1 million Uyghurs have been detained arbitrarily.

The Chinese government and Communist Party's attempts to enforce and export a digital authoritarianism poses a direct threat to Chinese rights defenders and ethnic minorities and poses a direct challenge to the interests of the U.S. and the international community.

The U.S. must recognize that we are engaged in a battle of ideas with a revitalized authoritarianism—online, in the marketplace, and elsewhere—and we need up our "competitive game" to meet the challenge.

The Administration's National Security Strategy says quite clearly that the Chinese government and Communist Party (along with Russia) seek to "challenge American power, influence, and interests, attempting to erode American security and prosperity. They are determined to make economies less free and less fair, to grow their militaries, and to control information and data to repress their societies and expand their influence."

[The Chinese government and Communist Party] is using economic inducements and penalties, influence operations, and implied military threats to persuade other states to heed its political and security agenda. . . China gathers and exploits data on an unrivaled scale and spreads features of its authoritarian system, including corruption and the use of surveillance."

The Chinese government and Communist Party want to shape a world antithetical to U.S. values and interests and to export its economic, political, and censorship models globally.

In response, the U.S. and like-minded allies must stand resolutely for the freedom of religion, fairer and freer trade, labor rights, freedom of navigation, the rule of law and the freedom of expression—including online.

A coherent and engaged internet freedom strategy must be a critical part of the U.S. diplomatic toolbox. This strategy should have at its core a commitment to protect fundamental freedoms, privacy, and promote the free flow of news and information.

But it is not a matter of just having a strategy; it should be the right one. The Bush and Obama Administrations pursued cyber diplomacy; yet internet freedom has declined

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

around the world, privacy is increasingly under threat, and the free flow of information has become more endangered.

The right strategy must start with some humility. Cyberspace is a place to spread democratic ideals and a place where criminals, extremists, corporations, traffickers, and governments exploit vulnerabilities with impunity. On-line communication can convey are highest ideals and our worst fears. It can shine a light on repression and be the source of hatred, manipulation, fake news, coercion, and conflict. It can bring people together or push us apart.

Despite all this, I agree with the NSS's conclusions which says, "The Internet is an American invention, and it should reflect our values as it continues to transform the future for all nations and all generations. A strong, defensible cyber infrastructure fosters economic growth, protects our liberties, and advances our national security."

Central to a revitalized U.S. internet freedom strategy should be a priority to open gaping holes in China's Great Firewall.

Right now, I'm just not confident that this is the policy of the Broadcasting Board of Governors or the State Department right now.

I think there are certain goals we should prioritize in our internet freedom strategy regarding China.

First, China's netizens require easy, reliable and free access to uncensored information through anti-censorship technologies, so that anybody can freely access information regardless of their technical ability. Reliable solutions should work all the time, regardless of intensified crackdowns or major events (Party Congress, June 4th anniversary) taking place in-country.

Second, solutions should also present difficult choices for the Chinese authorities—if the authorities want to disrupt these solutions, then they must disrupt many online services which they would normally be hesitant and unlikely to block.

Third, Access to solutions should also come at no cost for Chinese netizens, the Chinese authorities often block access to payment providers so even if Chinese can afford a circumvention solution, they cannot get past censorship by their payment provider.

Fourth, holistic anti-censorship solutions should be encouraged, including not just technical circumvention but also distribution of those tools (getting around Google Play being blocked, and censorship in the Apple App Store) and well as helping users share anti-censorship tools, as well as content, through messaging apps, social networks and QR codes.

These are just a few starting principles. I am open to a conversation about these goals with experts and allies. But given the stakes and possible outcomes, moving quickly to fund and distribute anti-censorship technologies should be a priority.

The future of our grandchildren—in the U.S. and China alike—may very well depend on open, interoperable communications online, with minimal barriers to the global exchange of information, data, ideas, and services.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF GAIL WRIGHT

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Eastern Kentucky's greatest champions for economic development and infrastructure enhancement, my friend Gail Wright, who is retiring after nearly 30 years of dedication as Executive Director of the Gateway Area Development District.

Gail was raised on a farm in rural Menifee County, Kentucky, where she learned the value of basic infrastructure, a frugal family life and hard work. She developed a deep passion for helping others while on the farm, which inspired her love for community development.

Gail has been an overcomer from day one, including being first in her family to graduate from college and serving as one of the first female Executive Directors for an Area Development District in Kentucky. Most recently, about ten years ago, she was diagnosed with a brain tumor and a genetic defect in her heart that would ultimately test her strength and tenacity. Once again, she never slowed down, overcoming two major health issues back-to-back.

She has utilized that same determination and courage of conviction to fuel her leadership for the Gateway Area, covering Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, and Rowan Counties. She has been an incredible force in the field of community and economic development; she knows the often-complex inner workings of grant funding and administration; she knows how to bring strategic partners together at the federal, state and local levels; and ultimately, she has a genuine love and understanding for the people, the culture, the talent and the heritage of Eastern Kentucky.

As you look around the communities in the Gateway Area, her fingerprints are visible on countless projects from water and wastewater expansion, industrial parks, transportation enhancements, tourism growth, educational access and other revitalization activities. She has served as Chair of the Kentucky Area Development District's Executive Directors and has dedicated her time and resources to multiple boards in the region, across Kentucky and nationally. Most importantly, she has simultaneously devoted her life to her husband, Dean, with whom she has raised two wonderful sons, Abraham and Jordan.

Gail has been a true jewel for Eastern Kentucky and we will do our best to continue the work she envisioned for the region we all love. As she enters retirement, my wife, Cynthia, and I wish Gail and her family immense joy and blessings in the years to come.

HONORING PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR MARK KOZAK

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mark Kozak from Kodiak, Alaska. After 30 years of work with the City of Ko-

diak Public Works Department, Mark is retiring on May 18, 2018.

Mark was born and raised in Kodiak. Following high school, he learned to fly and for ten years worked as a commercial bush pilot in Kodiak, operating single and twin-engine aircraft. He was well known for flying the Grumman Goose and transporting fishermen, hunters and villagers to all points on the island.

In 1988, Mark began working for the City of Kodiak as a Utility Worker in the Public Works Department. He was quickly promoted to Equipment Operator and from there became the Maintenance Supervisor. In 2002, Mark was asked to serve as the Public Works Director.

The 27 employees of the Public Works Department have many responsibilities that directly impact the health and safety of the community. These include street, building and equipment maintenance and repair, operation and maintenance of the municipal airport and float-plane facilities, building permits and inspections, a water treatment and distribution system designed for up to ten million gallons per day, wastewater treatment and collection, a United States Council Certified compost facility, and nine regulated dams with a total holding capacity of 1.0 billion gallons of water. Kodiak is one of the top fishing ports in the nation and it is vital that the water system be reliable and of sufficient quantity for processing the millions of pounds of seafood each year.

Throughout his career, Mark has held to the highest standards, and his dedication and commitment to the taxpayers of Kodiak is well known. With his leadership the Public Works Department has accomplished numerous achievements for the community. Major projects have included extensive water, sewer and road renovation and replacement, an ultraviolet plant for the water treatment facility, the planning and building of a compost facility, and a new pump house at the Monashka Dam.

Following retirement, Mark and his wife, Linda, plan to remain in Kodiak where they enjoy boating, sport fishing, hiking, and photography.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mark Kozak for his many years of selfless service for the people of his community and for the City of Kodiak. Please join me in congratulating Mark on his retirement and to wish him our best.

COMMEMORATING PASTOR B.R. DANIELS, JR.'S 25TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY AT THE FIRST GREATER NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Pastor B.R. Daniels, Jr.'s 25th Pastoral Anniversary at the First Greater New Hope Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas.

A native of Fort Worth, Pastor Daniels attended and graduated from O.D. Wyatt High School. After completing high school, he answered the call of duty and enlisted in the

United States Army where he faithfully served his country for 8 years. Pastor Daniels was honorably discharged in 1992, at the rank of Sergeant E-5.

In early 1993, when the First Greater New Hope Baptist Church often referred to as "The Hope," was in search of a new pastor and leader, Reverend Daniels was called upon to occupy the pulpit. The congregation knew right away that they had the right man for the job.

On May 2, 1993, Pastor Daniels became the second pastor of the First Greater New Hope Baptist Church, and he continues to lead his congregation today.

Under his leadership, the First Greater New Hope Baptist Church established multiple ministries and grew to over 600 active members.

If that is not enough, Pastor Daniels is also currently pursuing a master's degree in Theology at the Trinity Theological Seminary.

Most importantly, he is the proud father of Brittany and Brianna Daniels, and the proud grandfather of Britton Ray Daniels.

After 25 years, Pastor Daniels has certainly left his mark not only on his church but also in the City of Fort Worth. His passion and love for the ministry explain why so many follow his vision of hope.

Therefore, I include in the RECORD this statement in recognition of Pastor B.R. Daniels, Jr.'s 25 years of dedicated service to the First Greater New Hope Baptist Church.

CELEBRATING THE 2018 CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, once again, I come to the floor to recognize the great success of strong local schools working with dedicated parents and teachers. I rise today to congratulate and honor a number of outstanding high school artists from the 11th Congressional District of New Jersey. Each of these talented young men and women participated in the 2018 Congressional Art Competition, "An Artistic Discovery." Their works of art are exceptional.

Sixty-three students from twenty-three high schools in Morris, Essex, Sussex and Passaic counties participated.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the winners of our art competition. First place was awarded to Alyssa Talon from Pope John XXIII Regional High School for her oil painting entitled, "Girl on the Bus." Second place was awarded to Ava Economou from Wayne Valley High School for her conte pencil work entitled, "Reflections of Past." Third place was awarded to Rachel Cenicola from Madison High School for her photograph entitled, "The Stories We Wear."

Honorable Mentions were awarded to: Tafari Dempster from Whippany Park High School for his colored pencil work entitled, "Bioluminescence," Caitlin Gethins from Whippany Park High School for her photograph entitled, "From Heaven Above," Morgan Hoover from Wayne Valley High School for her gel pen work entitled, "Mel," and Katherine Hu from the Morris County School of Technology for her acrylic painting entitled, "Perspicacious."

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize each artist for their participation by including in the

RECORD their high school, their name and the title of their contest entries:

Boonton High School: Ifrah Bajwa, "Time Lapse"; Jaylene Combs, "Self-Portrait"; Catharine Owens, "Nick"; Zeeshan Qureshi, "Kobi".

Delbarton School: Lucas C. Acocella, "Unexpected Beauty"; Sean Taylor, "A Cut Above the Rest".

Eastern Christian High School: Steve Blanco, "What I Saw in the Water"; Angela Han, "The Friend".

Hanover Park High School: Jenna Glinko, "Freedom Tower"; Ronald Petriella, "Flashback"; Delaney Trignano, "Utensils".

Jefferson Township High School: Kaitlyn Hollar, "Shapes of the Rainbow"; Katrina Jenisch, "Child's Play"; Rachel Warncke, "Oliver".

Livingston High School: Tiffany Acosta, "Four Eyes"; Bari Greenwald, "Chivalrie Romance at the Abbey"; Rachel Leibel, "Jurassic Art"; Breena Rettig, "Fading".

Madison High School: Loryn Camp, "Acceptance"; Rachael Cenicola, "The Stories We Wear"; Julia Ferranti, "Distorted"; Kierran Matos "Don't Go".

Montclair High School: Tien Servidio, "The Angriest Bois".

Montville Township High School: Nicholas Corradino, "Golden Tiers"; Alexandra DeLuise, "Tessellate"; Cindy Xie, "Splendor".

Morris Catholic High School: Tess Clemente, "Sad Goodbye"; Yifan "Coco" Peng, "Potter Peng"; Deok Hyeon "David" Yu, "Bob Dylan"; Kelsey Zapana, "Tess".

Morris County School of Technology: Katherine Hu, "Perspicacious".

Nutley High School: Zawar Ahmed, "Fair and Lovely"; Barbara Benda, "Detached"; Paul Ibrahim, "Entropy"; Sabrina Kuo, "Individuality".

Parsippany Hills High School: Emma Mykowski, "Connection to the Past".

Passaic County Technical Institute: Christopher Cortez, "Narcissus"; Emmalie Foti, "Space Mammals"; Ava Liguori, "Colors".

Passaic Valley High School: Jonathan Alarcon, "Earth's Sanctuary"; Danielle Burden, "Oasis"; Matthew Nelson, "1:05".

Pope John XXIII Regional High School: Margaret Butler, "Teeth"; Anne Ilardi, "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?"; Alyssa Talon, "Girl on the Bus"; Jessica Whittam, "Taz".

Rae Kushner Yeshiva High School: Maya Homa, "American Beauty Rose"; Noa Mobilia, "Lone Bonsai".

Sparta High School: Sydney Van Brunt, "Country Girl"; Sarah Wille, "Freedom of Speech"; Ande Wittenmeier, "Veteran".

Trinity Christian School: Ben Genberg, "Mesa Verde".

Villa Walsh Academy: Lucy Anderson, "Midnight in the Garden"; Maureen Walsh, "Coming of Age".

Wayne Valley High School: Ava Economou, "Reflections of the Past"; Morgan Hoover, "Mel"; Kaitlyn Lauckner, "Proud"; Amanda Piszczatoski, "Looking Forward, Looking Back".

West Orange High School: David Fernandez, "Dream Deferred".

Whippany Park High School: Tafari Dempster, "Bioluminescence"; Emily Garcia, "Lantern Study"; Caitlin Gethins, "From Heaven Above"; Sara Kahn, "Playful Elephants".

Each year the winner of the competition has their art work displayed with other winners from across the country in a special corridor here at the U.S. Capitol. Thousands of our fellow Americans walk through the exhibition and are reminded of the vast talents of our young men and women. Indeed, all of these young

artists are winners, and we should be proud of their achievements so early in life.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating these talented young people from New Jersey's 11th Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING THE BROAD INSTITUTE

HON. KATHERINE M. CLARK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today we celebrate National DNA Day, which marks the completion of the Human Genome Project that produced the first complete DNA sequence of a human being. On the 15th anniversary of this milestone, the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard will reach another remarkable achievement: having now sequenced a total of 100,000 human genomes since the conclusion of the Human Genome Project.

Connecting MIT, Harvard, the Harvard teaching hospitals, and the life sciences and technology industries in Cambridge, MA and beyond, the Broad Institute is one of the world's leading biomedical research institutions. In the service of its mission to propel the understanding and treatment of disease, the Broad Institute is also one of the largest producers of human genomic information; it has made more genomic data available for health research than any other organization.

Over the last decade, the Broad Institute has generated about ten percent of the world's entire knowledge base of human genomic data. Scientists in the United States and around the globe have used its data to research the underlying causes of devastating diseases, from common conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, and cancer to very rare childhood disorders.

That tremendous progress reflects not only on the Broad Institute, but on the wisdom of our government to meaningfully invest in biomedicine with its launch of the Human Genome Project in 1990, from which we are still reaping the returns.

I want to thank the Broad Institute for their commitment to science, health, and progress. I am incredibly proud to have this institution and their historic achievements within my district.

HONORING CURTIS W. THAYER

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and celebration of the 50th birthday of a former employee, colleague and more importantly, friend on May 4, 2018.

Mr. Curtis Thayer of Anchorage, Alaska has worked tirelessly on behalf of Alaskans for over half of his very young 50 years. He has served his time in a wide variety of public service and private practice to bring Alaska economic development, jobs and a solid foundation of community.

Moreover, Curtis is a devoted husband, father and son who dedicates his life to his family and many charitable and non-profit organizations. In a very brief time, Curtis has completed more than most people could in three lifetimes and I have a tremendous amount of respect for him, even selling him one of my precious guns at one point in time. That never happens as I really love my guns—but I gave him a great deal.

Curtis has a great wit, a sharp mind, and sometimes a sharp tongue, but you can always count on him to be there for you. He epitomizes loyalty, honesty and courage. He has stood by my side through all of the political and personal ups and downs and I cannot thank him enough for all he has done for the great State of Alaska and for me as a politician and a person. He is just simply a great guy with an even better wife and son.

Mr. Speaker, Curtis's wife Josie and his son Matthew stand beside a great man who will have many more years to make Alaska an even better place to live. Fifty is just the beginning for this young man.

Happy birthday to my friend, Curtis W. Thayer.

HONORING THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the staff of The Press Democrat for being awarded the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for Breaking News Reporting “for lucid and tenacious coverage of historic wildfires that ravaged the city of Santa Rosa and Sonoma County.”

The Press Democrat is a locally-owned, daily newspaper that was founded in 1897 and is headquartered in Santa Rosa, in my district. This national recognition of its exemplary reporting reinforces what our community already knows—that The Press Democrat is a world class newspaper with exceptional reporters, photographers, editors, online producers and page designers.

During the historic October 2017 wildfires, the staff at The Press Democrat filled a dual role. They told the larger stories, reporting on the devastation and community-wide heartbreak and photographing the looming flames and incredible heroism. They also kept people in our community informed of whether they needed to evacuate, where they could go if they did and how to search for and locate missing family, friends and neighbors. Their updates were critical in keeping people in the Sonoma, Napa and Lake Counties aware of the rapid movement of the fires and events unfolding in our community.

The Pulitzer Prize is well-deserved acknowledgment of the hard work of the staff of The Press Democrat. During the long days and nights and extreme uncertainty, the reporters, photographers and editors worked on the front lines and around the clock to keep the community informed and shared the horrors with the rest of the country and the world. Reporting on the fires demanded everything of them and they delivered, even as some were evacuated from their homes and unsure if they would have a home to return to.

Mr. Speaker, The Press Democrat is an important newspaper and institution in our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor the staff and their accomplishment of winning a Pulitzer Prize for Breaking News Reporting.

HONORING RABBI STEVEN KUSHNER ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM TEMPLE NER TAMID

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rabbi Steven Kushner upon his retirement from serving as the spiritual leader of Temple Ner Tamid in Bloomfield, New Jersey. Since its inception in 1980 when two Bloomfield congregations—one reform and one conservative-merged, the Jewish community at Temple Ner Tamid has not just grown, but thrived, under Rabbi Kushner's tenure.

Rabbi Kushner has been instrumental in the growth and expansion of the Ner Tamid congregation to hundreds of families serving three generations of members. In that time he has developed adult education, interfaith, social action, outreach, and family programming at the synagogue. Whether officiating at B'nai Mitzvah, confirmations, weddings, bris ceremonies, baby namings, or funerals, Rabbi Kushner has played an integral role in major life events of thousands of New Jersey families. His high-holiday sermons were always thought-provoking, and included the right dash of movie references or popular culture.

By all accounts, Rabbi Kushner took his title very seriously. The word “rabbi” means Jewish teacher in Hebrew, and Rabbi Kushner is a tremendous educator. In fact, Rabbi Kushner helped prepare my Chief of Staff, Ben Rich, for his Bar Mitzvah almost three decades ago. And through leading his confirmation class trip to Washington, D.C., helped influence Ben's path toward what has been a long career working for the people of northern New Jersey on Capitol Hill.

Rabbi Kushner is certainly a figure of respect in the Jewish community, and he has made his mark in the community at large as a distinguished and respected member of the clergy in Essex County and throughout New Jersey.

Rabbi Kushner is past president of the New Jersey Association of Reform Rabbis, the Coalition of Religious Leaders of New Jersey, and the Metro West Conference on Soviet Jewry, and also served on the Ethics Committee of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR). Rabbi Kushner is a member of Reform Judaism's Commission on Worship, Music and Religious Living, and chairs the Beth El Memorial Park Foundation of the United Jewish Communities of Metro West. He is a Trustee of The Blue Card, a unique charity that provides emotional and monetary assistance to Holocaust survivors and their families.

A native of Michigan and long suffering Lions fan, Rabbi Kushner received a Bachelor of Arts from Wayne State University in Detroit before earning a Master of Arts in Hebrew Letters from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. Rabbi Kushner has also re-

ceived Certification in Pastoral Counseling from the Postgraduate Center for Mental Health in New York City, and was awarded a Doctor of Divinity from the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in March of 2002.

Rabbi Kushner served on the faculty of Bloomfield College from 1983 to 2003. In May of 1995, the college honored him with a Doctor of Laws honoris causa degree.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the dedicated service given. Let us come together to join Rabbi Kushner's family, including his daughters A viva and Hannah, his friends, and the Ner Tamid congregation, clergy and staff, in congratulating Rabbi Steven Kushner on his retirement after thirty-eight years of serving the Jewish community of northern New Jersey and Temple Ner Tamid of Bloomfield.

HONORING POLICE CHIEF RONDA WALLACE

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the career and achievements of Chief Ronda Wallace of Kodiak, Alaska, who has served her community and the Kodiak Police Department with distinction for the past 20 years. Chief Wallace first joined the Department in 1997 as a Public Safety Dispatcher, and the next year was commissioned as a patrol officer. She steadily rose through the Department's ranks and held numerous positions including Narcotics and Investigative Detective, Patrol Sergeant, and Lieutenant, until becoming Kodiak's first female Police Chief in 2013.

Chief Wallace's leadership by example, care for the community of Kodiak, and compassion for its citizens have come to define the Kodiak Police Department. During her career she has gotten countless drugs off our streets, solved homicides, worked tirelessly to help women and children who are victims of abuse and assaults, and consistently raised the bar for professional police work. And, like all true leaders, her shining example will continue through the legacy she has created in Kodiak and the many people she has mentored, both within her police department and the community at large.

Throughout her 20-year career she has displayed the highest possible standards of police work, and is an inspiration to future generations of law enforcement professionals and public servants. I greatly appreciate and admire her selfless dedication to Kodiak, to her fellow citizens, to our great State of Alaska, and to our Nation as a whole through her cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Coast Guard Investigative Service.

Therefore, it gives me distinct pleasure to honor Chief Wallace today, and I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Ronda and wishing her continued success.

ALEXANDER OLSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Alexander Olson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Alexander Olson is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Alexander Olson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Alexander Olson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF VULCRAFT
GRAPELAND

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the fiftieth anniversary of the Nucor Corporation's Vulcraft Steel Plant in Grapeland, Texas.

In 1946, a small steel fabrication company, the Vulcraft Corporation, was founded in Florence, South Carolina. For sixteen years, the company grew and prospered, ultimately transforming into an exclusive manufacturer of steel span joints, before the Nuclear Corporation, a company tracing its roots to the founder of Oldsmobile, purchased its facilities in 1962.

After expanding its steel manufacturing operations to facilities in Nebraska and Alabama, Nucor, previously known as the Nuclear Corporation, made its move to the Lone Star State on April 1, 1968, when it opened a fourth steel plant in Grapeland, Texas.

With this foundation, Vulcraft's operations expanded to three additional states and two production facilities in Canada. Despite experiencing such massive growth and success in business, Vulcraft maintained its high levels of customer satisfaction and standards of excellence. In fact, Vulcraft is known worldwide for exceptional safety standards, high-quality steel products it manufactures, and the commitment it has made to producing environmentally friendly products.

Look no further than Vulcraft's Grapeland facility for proof that the company is dedicated to serving its customers and its employees. Since its foundation in 1968, Vulcraft Grapeland has tripled in size, and it continues to serve as a beacon of success and excellence in our community.

Notably, Vulcraft and its parent company, Nucor, are now looking to use their years of experience, successful business practices,

and high standing in the steel industry to advocate for free trade policies and the safety of men and women in the workplace.

On April 1, 2018, Vulcraft celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its plant in Grapeland. I am proud to join the men and women of Vulcraft, and the entire Eighth District of Texas to recognize this significant mile-marker and their continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF SIERRA PACIFIC HS GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Sierra Pacific High School Golden Bears Girls Basketball Team for their victory as California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Division V Basketball Champions.

The Golden Bears of Hanford, California defeated Lowell High School of San Francisco, California by a margin of 52–26 at the Golden 1 Center in Sacramento, California. Their victory capped a 32–5 overall record for the 2017–2018 season.

Starting varsity play in 2011, Sierra Pacific's basketball program quickly evolved from the upstart to champions. This season, the Golden Bears were undefeated both at home and in East Sequoia League play.

Led by Head Coach Amy Bush and Assistant Coaches Heather Brasil and Victor Chavarin, Jr., Sierra Pacific High School was proudly represented by Cristina Avila, Haley Bettencourt, Kylie Brasil, Kalea Bush, Arianna Chavarin, Ciana Gonzales, Hailey Leslie, Celeste Lewis, Rose Miller, Alana Roberts, Kaylie Rocha, Annabelle Saavedra, Janae Tolbert, and Savannah Torres.

I further congratulate players Kalea Bush, Haley Bettencourt, and Alana Roberts for their terrific performance this season. By the conclusion of the season, Miss Bush became the all-time leading scorer for the Golden Bears, earning 1,099 points.

Miss Bettencourt, who is the second all-time leading scorer for Sierra Pacific, was awarded the Pursuing Victory with Honor Award for her performance and sportsmanship during the State Championship game.

In the Championship game, Miss Roberts led Sierra Pacific in both scoring and rebounds, collecting twenty points and twelve rebounds.

The success of the ladies of Sierra Pacific High School is an inspiration to our Central Valley community, their victory is a testament to the bonds of sportsmanship, dedication, and camaraderie.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the players and coaches of Sierra Pacific High School Golden Bears Girls Basketball Team for their terrific athletic achievement during their 2017–2018 season.

CONGRATULATING LINDSEY JENSEN

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. KINZINGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lindsey Jensen, who was named the 2018 Illinois Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Jensen began her teaching career 12 years ago, and her positive spirit and passion for education has profoundly impacted countless lives across our community.

As an English teacher at Dwight Township High School for the last 10 years, Mrs. Jensen has continually demonstrated her passion for teaching and her commitment to serving students, her colleagues, and her community. High School is such a pivotal and exciting time for students, especially as they prepare themselves for their next steps. These young adults need teachers like Mrs. Jensen who can inspire them, motivate them, and push them to reach their full potential.

Colleagues of Mrs. Jensen have described her as an educator who radiates with infectious positivity, saying she is more than a teacher of English, but rather a teacher of the people. As the son of a public-school teacher, I know the importance of having passionate and creative teachers in the classroom, and I know how important a good education is to giving a student hope and opportunity for a brighter future.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 16th District of Illinois, I wish to express our sincere gratitude to Mrs. Jensen for her dedicated service to our students and the Dwight community. It is my honor to congratulate Mrs. Jensen on this much deserved recognition as the 2018 Illinois Teacher of the Year, and we are truly proud to have this exemplary educator representing our community.

DAIMON OSWALT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Daimon Oswalt for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Daimon Oswalt is a student at Wayne Carle Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Daimon Oswalt is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Daimon Oswalt for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN APPRECIATION OF MAURI
GRAY'S WORK WITH THE HOUSE
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, today, as Ranking Member of the Committee on the Judiciary, I join with Representative SHEILA JACKSON LEE, Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, in expressing our appreciation for Mauri Gray's work with the Committee over the past two years.

Mauri came to us as a detailee from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, having worked for nearly six years as an Assistant Federal Public Defender in Puerto Rico, representing indigent clients in federal criminal cases. Prior to starting her career as a public defender, Mauri attended the University of Florida and the University of Georgia School of Law.

At the conclusion of her detail to the Committee, she will be resuming her work, moving to the Federal Defender's office in Phoenix, Arizona.

As counsel to the Committee's Democrats, Mauri provided indispensable analysis and advice concerning oversight hearings and a wide range of proposed legislation, including various child protection bills, legislation to combat opioid abuse, proposals to fight online sex trafficking, legislation concerning arrest authority of federal law enforcement officers, and bills concerning federal benefits for those with criminal records. Often, her counsel helped Members defeat or improve bills intended to inappropriately expand the scope of federal criminal law or to impose unjust penalties.

As the Committee has engaged in the beginnings of an initiative to reform our criminal justice system, Mauri's experience as a federal defender has informed our legislative efforts. She has helped us examine and prepare legislation to improve our sentencing laws as well as legislation to reform various aspects of federal prisons.

We have appreciated and benefited from Mauri's energy, enthusiasm, and insight over the past two years, during which she became an integral part of our team. We will miss her.

We thank Mauri for her selfless service to the Committee, and we wish her the best as she continues her career.

CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL
OF SANDUSKY, OHIO

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an important milestone in the life of one of the communities in my district. Sandusky, Ohio celebrates its bicentennial in the coming days, highlighted by a ball on Saturday April 28, 2018.

Founded two hundred years ago in 1818, Sandusky was developed near the town of Portland, which it soon overtook. According to

history, part of the city was built on "land formerly occupied by a Native American man named Ogontz. Thus, the city is said to have been built upon 'Ogontz' place." The name "Sandusky" was taken from the Native American Wyandot word for "water." In fact, Sandusky sits on the Western Basin of Lake Erie. As a result of its location on the Lake, Sandusky's population grew quickly. It was one of Ohio's first major ports and was "an original terminus for the Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad. Chartered by the state legislature in 1832 and envisioned to run between Sandusky and Dayton to the southwest, the Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad was the first rail line located entirely in Ohio" when Sandusky was the site of its ground breaking on September 17, 1835.

The State of Ohio established Erie County in 1838 and set Sandusky as the county seat. Charles Dickens, who visited Sandusky in 1842, wrote this about the city in his travelogue *American Notes*: "At two o'clock we took the railroad; the travelling-on which was very slow, its construction being indifferent, and the ground wet and marshy; and arrived at Sandusky in time to dine that evening. We put up at a comfortable little hotel on the brink of Lake Erie, lay there that night, and had no choice but to wait there next day, until a steamboat bound for Buffalo appeared. The town, which was sluggish and uninteresting enough, was something like the back of an English watering-place out of the season."

However, the town soon grew and by 1846 Sandusky had become an economic hub, with its port and two railroads. According to the history, about three thousand people lived in Sandusky and were served by "numerous stores, two printing offices, two machine shops, two banks, six churches, one high school, and several iron furnaces." The city's downtown was laid out similar to the pattern in our nation's Capital.

Sandusky was a critical stop on the Underground Railroad. Many fugitive slaves who sought freedom in Canada boarded a boat in Sandusky to cross Lake Erie into Ontario. They were assisted in their journeys by a strong network of residents.

The history notes that by 1880, "Sandusky's population had reached almost sixteen thousand residents. This much larger population resulted in an increasing number of social institutions, including twenty churches and three newspapers. The community also became more economically diverse, with at least twenty-nine businesses with ten or more employees. Among the items that Sandusky businesses produced were lime, railroad locomotives and cars, carriages, wheels, crayons, chalk, beer, paper, baskets, and tools. In 1886, residents boasted that they were the leading manufacturers of wooden wheels in the United States. That same year, Sandusky was home to the Ohio Soldiers' and Sailors' Home and the Ohio State Fish Hatchery."

Sandusky continued to grow and develop through the Twentieth Century. Today, Sandusky is known for its tourism: its beaches, boating and fishing, parkland and Cedar Point. It is home for higher education for adults of all ages at the Firelands Campus of Bowling Green State University, a thriving arts community and the MerryGoRound Museum, the active Sandusky Chapter of the NAACP, historic religious institutions and many thriving businesses. The Ohio Veterans Home—one of

only two in the state—continues to serve veterans. Its nearly 30,000 residents are members of a town that proudly celebrates its history while looking toward its future.

DANTE PADRO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dante Padro for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Dante Padro is a student at Arvada K-8 and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Dante Padro is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dante Padro for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF
SANFORD M. SAUNDERS, JR.

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life of Mr. Sanford M. Saunders, Jr., whom we lost too soon at the age of 59. A constituent of McLean, Virginia, Sandy is survived by his wife of nearly 22 years, Beth Saunders and predeceased by his parents, Eugene and Paulette David.

Sandy was loved immensely, sharing a special bond with his wife, Beth that came from his great heart and genuine nature. They had similar personalities and together sought the adventures of life, year after year finding the treasures of the world. Love is not an easy feeling to put in words but with Sandy, his love for Beth was revolutionary and he devoted himself to her.

Sandy carried a joyous spirit throughout this world and always shared it unto others. He will be remembered affectionately as the "Sandman." A name given unto him to fit his calm and comforting personality. He was a supportive uncle and the oldest cousin among all family members. His wisdom and humor prevailed in every conversation.

Above all passions, Sandy was enthusiastic about serving people. With over thirty years of representing his clients, Sandy every day pledged to arm them in his work.

From a young age, Sandy understood the importance of a good education. He received his J.D., Cum Laude, from Georgetown University Law Center in 1983 and his B.A., with honors, from Johns Hopkins University in

1980. In addition to his time practicing law, Sandy also served as a Visiting Fellow at George Mason University's Center on Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption, imparting his decades of wisdom in these fields to the next generations.

Sandy deeply loved life and this was clear to all those around him. Psalms 34:22 speaks, "The Lord redeems the souls of his servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned. The dust returns to the earth as it was, but the spirit returns to God who gave it."

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring the extraordinary life of Mr. Sanford Saunders, Jr., and I ask that my colleagues join me in offering our deepest condolences to the Saunders family.

RECOGNIZING THE BLUE VALLEY NORTHWEST TEAM

HON. KEVIN YODER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the team from Blue Valley Northwest High School in Overland Park, Kansas that is representing our state this weekend at the 31st Annual We the People National Finals academic competition.

The We the People program is a civics education course that teaches K–12 students around the country about the U.S. Constitution. Each year, this program culminates in a national competition, in which state champion teams come to Washington, D.C. to test their constitutional knowledge against other students from around the country.

This will be Blue Valley Northwest's seventh year in a row as the Kansas champion, representing our state in the We the People national competition. Under the leadership of teacher Ken Thomas, they have earned the state title in nine out of the last ten years. This is a remarkable achievement and a testament to the dedication of Blue Valley Northwest students and Mr. Thomas to learning about our nation's Constitution.

I applaud the Blue Valley Northwest team for this achievement, and I welcome them to our nation's Capital. Good luck to them in the competition, and go Huskies.

ANDREAS JERMAINE PEREA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Andreas Jermaine Perea for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Andreas Jermaine Perea is a student at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Andreas Jermaine Perea is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard

work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Andreas Jermaine Perea for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY I. GREGORY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of a remarkable woman. Mary Gregory passed from this life on April 2, 2018. Her friends and family will gather this week to remember and honor her.

Mary Gregory was born to Louise and Richard Booker in Marion Indiana in 1930. Though they lived in town, the family owned a farm and Mary participated in its daily operation. She regularly attended the Methodist Church. Surely, Mary's faith and discipline were instilled at an early age. Some of her family left for work in Toledo and eventually the rest of the family, including Mary, joined them. Her mother established a beauty salon, one of the first African American owned salons in Toledo.

After graduating from Libbey High School, Mary was at first unable to pursue a nursing degree as she had chosen, because no nursing schools would admit an African American. In 1947 she was admitted into the St. Vincent School of Nursing and was the first African American to do so. She graduated in 1951, married Raymond Gregory, and together they raised a family of four children. Mary continued her education, completing her Masters of Education, Community Health and Administration Degree from the University of Toledo. She went on to a 47 year career at St. Vincent Hospital.

Mary Gregory's tenure at St. Vincent's was writ large. Beginning in the Emergency Room, she later was an operating room staff nurse. Then Mary really established herself. She instructed and trained students as surgical technicians for twenty years. During this time she developed a "patient centered" curriculum and initiated a two year Surgical Tech training program. The program was so successful it was transferred to Lawrence Tech so that it could grow and was replicated in other places. Mary also supervised the St. Vincent Sickle Cell Free Testing and Education Program provided to Toledo's African American community. She even wrote the grants to fund this service.

It was through her position as Manager of Health Promotions that Mary Gregory indelibly stamped her imprimatur on St. Vincent and the Toledo community. She developed free community health screenings and education, going out into the neighborhoods, migrant camps, and other underserved areas. She met the people where they were, at community events, shopping centers and health fairs. She talked to all people, especially those whose health and well-being were disproportionately addressed. Mary Gregory became the face of health promotion for many and fought to elimi-

nate disparities in health care availability and accessibility.

At the same time her career progressed at St. Vincent Hospital, Mary Gregory served our community in many ways, committed to community health. She was a member of the Toledo-Lucas County Board of Health, the Toledo HIV-AIDS Task Force, and the Ohio Commission on Minority Health. Mary was a co-founder of the Toledo Council of Black Nurses, serving as its first president. Additionally, Mary started a caregiver service at Warren AME Church, implemented health screenings at Toledo Public Schools, worked through the organizations of which she was a member to provide cancer, diabetes, and heart disease screenings, lupus support services, and smoking cessation help as part of April's Minority Health Month, and she was an Ambassador for the American Heart Association.

Mary Gregory used her time and talents for the benefit of others. Through her efforts our community was compassionate, and our most vulnerable neighbors were ministered to in many ways. She lived Christ's message of Love. Surely at her homegoing, she was greeted as in Matthew 25:23, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

To Mary Gregory's family and friends, we offer our condolences. We hope they find comfort in shared memories and the gift of her life.

RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the value and importance of international students in the United States. I am fortunate enough to represent numerous colleges and universities in my district. I have a deep appreciation for the important role these institutions play in providing opportunities for students around the globe.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the largest university in my district, enrolls over 10,000 international students from 122 different countries. Illinois State University boasts students from 67 countries and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville has 325 international students from 50 countries.

I am proud to represent institutions like these that welcome the world's brightest learners. I believe that today's students become tomorrow's leaders. The former presidents of both Ecuador and the Philippines earned doctorate degrees from universities in my district, and I know that presidents and prime ministers all over the world have earned their college degrees right here in the United States.

Welcoming international students and scholars strengthens our diplomatic ties with countries across the globe and contributes significantly to national security and to our economy. International students are vital to our nation's fabric. Through the exchange of ideals, languages, and cultures, diplomacy is strengthened and our world is made a better place.

RICHARD (RICHIE) PRUETT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Richard (Richie) Pruett for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Richie Pruett is a student at The Manning School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Richie Pruett is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Richie Pruett for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call votes held on April 26, 2018, I was inescapably detained handling important matters related to my District and the State of Alabama. If I had been present, I would have voted YES on the amendment proposed by Rep. DEFAZIO (42), NO on the Amendment proposed by Rep. ROHRBACHER (60), NO on the Amendment proposed by Rep. KING (IA) (63), NO on the Amendment proposed by Rep. LIPINSKI (78), NO on the Amendment proposed by Rep. DENHAM (79), YES on the Amendment proposed by Rep. LYNCH (87), and YES on H.R. 4744.

PENNSYLVANIA'S 14TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT ART COMPETITION

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the artistic ability of a young woman from my congressional district, Haley Peretic from Cornerstone Christian Preparatory Academy. Ms. Peretic is the winner of the 2018 14th Congressional District of Pennsylvania's High School Art Competition, "An Artistic Discovery." Ms. Peretic's artwork, a drawing in colored pencil and marker entitled "Happy Heart," was selected from a number of outstanding entries in this year's competition.

In fact, 90 works from 19 different schools in Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District were submitted to our panel of respected local artists.

It's a real tribute to Ms. Haley's skill and vision that her work was chosen as the winner of this year's competition. I should add that Haley won fourth place in the competition last year for her pencil and colored pencil drawing entitled "Every Day People." Ms. Peretic's artwork will represent the 14th Congressional District of Pennsylvania in the national exhibit of high school students' artwork that will be displayed in the United States Capitol over the coming year.

I encourage my colleagues as well as any visitor to Capitol Hill to view Ms. Peretic's artwork, along with the winning entries from the high school art contests held in other congressional districts, which will be on display in the Capitol tunnel. It is amazing to walk through this corridor and see the interpretation of life through the eyes of these young artists from all across our country.

Laurel Black from Springdale High School was awarded second place for her oil painting "Sweet Innocence." Derek Kotecki from Baldwin High School received third place for his charcoal reduction drawing entitled "Self." Rachel Simcic from Springdale High School was awarded fourth place for her composition involving mixed media, digital art, and markers entitled "Thief," and Taylor Rebyanski from Westinghouse Arts Academy, was awarded fifth place for her colored pencil drawing "Iris."

In addition, Honorable Mention Awards were presented to works by Summer Bernotas from Baldwin High School, Nicole Ellwood from East Allegheny High School, Julia Conway from Gateway High School, Erin Douglass from Gateway High School, Aliza Hamid from Gateway High School, Shaina McKinney from Gateway High School, Anwitha Sherigar from Gateway High School, Jennifer Gustafson from Highlands High School, Sophie Gatesman from Oakland Catholic High School, Madison Pastore from South Allegheny High School, Kathleen Marsili from Springdale High School, and Sophia Lebiere from Winchester Thurston School.

I would like to recognize all of the participants in this year's 14th Congressional District High School Art Competition: Summer Bernotas, Morgan Bell, Meghan Bradley, Brian Genovesi, Derek Kotecki, and Tina Odato from Baldwin High School; Sam Chickini from Carlynton High School; Haley Peretic from Cornerstone Christian Preparatory Academy; Larrissa Bloom, Nicole Ellwood, Makenzie Freed-DePastino, Marissa Riggs, and Taya Tassone from East Allegheny High School; Kiera Harrell-Danks, Emma M. Harvey, Alexis Kentebe, Calista Martin-Singer, Lowrie Woodside, and Chiara Zuccoli from The Ellis School; Julia Conway, Erin Douglass, Aliza Hamid, Shaina McKinney, Ava Parker, and Anwitha Sherigar from Gateway High School; Maddie Cincala, Erik Frantz, and Jennifer Gustafson from Highlands High School; Kira Blenk, Claire Ishiyama, Madelyn Largent, and Emma Miller from Northgate High School; Sophie Gatesman, Noelle Pina, Giovanna Tatananni, Julia Vrabell, and Angela Zenchak from Oakland Catholic High School; Sarah Artuhevich, Skye Cato, Kylie Meyer, Elizabeth Szurszewski, Mia Walker, and Dania Zaynullin from Penn Hills High School; Eva Curlee, Allison Patton, and Sydney Reyes from Riverview High School; Isabelle Analdo from Shadyside Academy; Arianah Bellamy, Kourtnee Duval, Macy Kelly Ernst, Madison Pastore, Robert Nesky, and Morgan Templeton from South Al-

legheny High School; Laurel Black, Patricia Linderman, Kathleen Marsili, Alicia Matthews, Rachel Selzer, and Rachel Simcic from Springdale High School; Ashton Bowler, Reonna Collington, Renae Darcy, Alexis Frazee, and Alexis Sekinger from Sto-Rox High School; Jenny Rohach from West Mifflin High School; Caden Ferita, Anaeja Halliburton, Angelina Kukic, Alyssa Marchbank, Taylor Rebyanski, Pheobe Elise Richardson, and Allison Riley from Westinghouse Arts Academy; Yixin Allison Cai, Maya Husni, Sophia Labiere, Rivers Leche, and Isel Pollock from the Winchester Thurston School; and Mariah Faith Smith, Juliette Gough, Andre Hilliard, Colleen Malecki, and Erin Reichert from Woodland Hills High School.

I would like to thank these impressive young artists for allowing us to share and celebrate their talent, imagination, and creativity. The efforts these talented students have put into expressing themselves in a powerful and positive manner are deeply inspiring.

I hope that all of them will continue to utilize their artistic talents, and I wish them all great success in their future endeavors.

MARCUS SMALE-SCHEMMEL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Marcus Smale-Schemmel for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Marcus Smale-Schemmel is a student at Arvada K-8 and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Marcus Smale-Schemmel is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Marcus Smale-Schemmel for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
THEODORE "TED" VAN DER MEID**HON. DARIN LAHOOD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor and remember the life of Theodore "Ted" Van Der Meid. A dedicated public servant here in the House of Representatives, Ted will be greatly missed by his former colleagues and friends.

Born in Rochester, New York in 1957, Ted displayed natural leadership qualities at a young age. During his high school years, Ted traveled to Western Europe as part of the People to People Student Ambassador Program, which exposed him to cultures and governments veiled by Russian influence during

the Cold War. These experiences taught him the importance of coalition building and the interconnectedness of humanity; lessons he carried with himself into his professional life on Capitol Hill.

Ted committed his life to service and was known throughout the halls of Congress for his compassion, leadership, and his pragmatic approach to politics. Ted was a trusted advisor to numerous members of Congress, including former House Republican Leader Bob Michel, of Illinois, Representative Nancy Johnson, of Connecticut, and, ultimately, the 51st Speaker of the House.

Ted's most enduring physical legacy in the U.S. Capitol is the Capitol Visitors Center, which enhances the visitor experience for three to five million visitors a year. From his position in the Speaker's office, Ted played an instrumental role in the completion of the building, which was created in the wake of the Capitol shooting in 1998 and the terrorist attacks in 2001. The Capitol Visitors Center safeguards millions of visitors every year and will remain a lasting memory of Ted's abilities. His ability to build consensus, combined with the care and compassion he had for those around him, made its completion possible.

We mourn the passing of Ted Van Der Meid, a friend and colleague to many. He left a lasting impact on those who had the pleasure of working with him and his memory will be forever entwined in the fabric of the Capitol.

HONORING MR. KENNETH L.
TUCKEY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Mr. Kenneth L. Tuckey, who is receiving the Cumberland County Friends of Scouting Award. I know I will be neither the first, nor the last, to applaud Mr. Tuckey for this well-deserved honor.

The Friends of Scouting Award is given to individuals who have shown exceptional support for their local Boy Scouts of America programs. Cumberland County's division of Boy Scouts has chosen Mr. Tuckey as their honoree this year for his outstanding community service and his ambassadorship for the Boy Scouts.

A lifelong resident of South Central Pennsylvania, Mr. Tuckey has long been a pillar of the Carlisle community. Throughout his storied career, he has helped his community both economically and through countless volunteer ventures.

Mr. Tuckey owns and operates Tuckey Mechanical Services, Inc., Tuckey Metal Fabricators, Inc., and Tuckey Restorations, Inc., and has led each of these companies to success. For instance, Tuckey Mechanical Services, Inc., just celebrated its 50th anniversary this year. He and his wife, Marsha, have two sons, Matthew and Nathan, who also work in the family businesses. Through his work, Mr. Tuckey has been integral in the revitalization and historic preservation of downtown Carlisle.

Additionally, Mr. Tuckey contributes to his community as Board Chairman of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Pinnacle-

Carlisle's Board of Directors, and serves on many other non-profit boards, such as the Cumberland County Economic Development Corporation, the Cumberland County Industrial Development Authority, and the Pennsylvania State Workforce Investment Board.

I believe we can all take a cue from Mr. Tuckey's inspiring story and his personal motto of "service above self," as a guiding principle. This award is proof that hard work and quality service do not go unnoticed, and that a positive impact on the region is widely recognized.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mr. Tuckey for all he has done and continues to do for the Carlisle community and congratulate him on receiving the Cumberland County Friends of Scouting Award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 153, on passage of H.R. 3144, I am not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PETE YAZZIE-RODRIGUEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Pete Yazzie-Rodriguez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Pete Yazzie-Rodriguez is a student at Arvada West High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Pete Yazzie-Rodriguez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Pete Yazzie-Rodriguez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHERIFF JOHN R. GOSSAGE

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. John R. Gossage's 31 years of service in law enforcement, including two terms as Brown County sheriff, and the successful legacy he leaves as Brown County's top law enforcement officer. Sheriff Gossage's

long and reputable career includes many professional accomplishments that reflect the caliber of his leadership and service.

Sheriff Gossage joined the police department in May 1987 and proved himself a natural leader. He worked hard and steadily rose in the department as he mastered numerous life-saving skills from law enforcement operations to public-safety issues. He became the chief deputy under former sheriff Dennis Kocken's administration, and quickly received the endorsements of Mr. Kocken and other previous sheriffs in his campaign for county leadership.

Sheriff Gossage has served with distinction in what he calls "the finest law enforcement agency in the nation." Brown County is the oldest sheriff's office in Wisconsin, but Sheriff Gossage has faced many challenging cases throughout his tenure. Nevertheless, he has provided steady leadership during times of change and supported his department while protecting Northeast Wisconsin communities.

The historic Brown County sheriff's office, Mr. Gossage once observed, is much like the Green Bay Packers—a local institution rich with traditions, achievements, and pride. There is no doubt that Sheriff Gossage will be missed by the officers who worked and served with him, the county officials who depended on him, and members of the communities he helped keep safe. As Sheriff Gossage steps down to pursue other opportunities, I have no doubt that he will continue to serve well.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in commending Mr. Gossage for his service as sheriff and his long career protecting the great state of Wisconsin.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF JOSEPH P. SILVA

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Joseph Silva, a resident of New Bedford, Massachusetts, who turned 100 years young on Thursday, April 12th.

Joseph has dedicated his life to serving his community and country. In World War II he was drafted into the U.S. Army, serving two years in North Africa and another in Italy. During his service, Joseph attained the rank of staff sergeant for the 22nd Quarter Master Battalion, Company A.

Upon returning home, Joseph joined the New Bedford Fire Department, and remains the first and only Cape Verdean to achieve the rank of deputy chief. Joseph served at the Fire Department for thirty-six years, where he routinely encouraged other Cape Verdeans to apply, even inviting them into his home to study for the firefighter's exam. On his days off he worked as a longshoreman for nineteen years.

In 1950, Joseph married Julia Barros. The two would go on to have two daughters together and today Joseph is a proud grandfather. Joseph has remained active in his community, receiving the Marian Medal from the Dioceses of Fall River for his dedicated service, and serving on his church's Building and maintenance Committee until just five years ago.

Mr. Silva's children and grandchildren speak incredibly highly of him, noting the value he placed on education, as well as the importance of listening and understanding.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Joseph Silva on this joyous occasion of his 100th birthday. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing him many more years of health and happiness.

CALEB STOCKTON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Caleb Stockton for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Caleb Stockton is a student at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Caleb Stockton is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Caleb Stockton for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF FORMER FIRST
LADY OF THE UNITED STATES—
BARBARA BUSH

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize, Barbara Bush, the former First Lady of the United States from 1989 to 1993. Barbara Bush was the only woman besides Abigail Adams to serve her country as both a wife and a mother to a president of the United States. However, her service to her country did not end there. She also dedicated her life to literacy efforts through the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy.

Mrs. Bush, a dedicated wife and mother, committed her life to her family and community. Early on in her life she volunteered at YMCA and United Way and actively participated in her husband's campaigns. When her husband became U.S. ambassador to the United Nations and Chief of the U.S. Liaison Office in the People's Republic of China, her time entertaining foreign dignitaries and traveling abroad to China gave her the experience and popularity that only rose when she began to represent the United States as the wife of the Vice President of the United States in the early 80s.

As the wife of the Vice President, Mrs. Bush found her passion in literacy and started to dedicate her life to supporting the cause.

When her husband became President, she dedicated her life to supporting literacy efforts, and it was during this time that she started her non-profit, the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy. Once her husband left office and moved back to Texas, she continued to devote her life to her non-profit and later served as an ambassador-at-large for AmeriCares.

Today, I honor former First Lady Barbara Bush for her commitment to literacy efforts for children across the United States and her grace, poise, and leadership as she supported her husband and, later, her son in leading the United States.

HONORING UAPB'S GOLDEN LION
BATTALION

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff's historic ROTC officer program.

In 1968, the United States Department of the Army began holding classes under the Reserve Officers Training Corp at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Since the establishment of the Golden Lion Battalion, more than 500 Army officers have received their commission.

Students here learn many skills including teamwork, critical thinking, leadership theory, time management, and problem solving making them effective leaders in our Armed Forces.

I take this time to thank the alumni of the Golden Lion Battalion for their years of service, and for their continued commitment to training the next generation of leaders enrolled in the ROTC program at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

JOSE VILLEGAS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jose Villegas for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Jose Villegas is a student at Jefferson High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jose Villegas is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jose Villegas for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING ALLIE INGALLS

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Allie Ingalls from Royal Oak High School. I met Allie last week at a rally in Royal Oak as part of the student led National School Walkout. Allie is a senior and one of the student leaders in her school and community. I was so impressed with her courage and the passion with which she delivered her remarks that I wanted to share her speech with my colleagues. Therefore, I include in the RECORD the remarks of Allie Ingalls:

It is 5:30 AM. I have an hour before I need to wake up for school. But instead of sleeping, my body is shaking and I am sure I'm about to throw up. But this isn't new. I have had this nightmare before. Always in the same place in the hallway, leaving a class I'm not sure I even have. And I try to run. But we all know you cannot outrun a bullet. Do not tell me it is not about guns. Do not tell me it is not about guns, when it is not a face I see in my nightmares, but a trigger. Do not tell me it is not about guns, when middle schoolers tell me they're afraid of high school because we carry backpacks. Where a gun can be hidden. Our fears are not unprecedented. Shootings that have occurred on school grounds in 2018. Winston Salem, North Carolina. Italy, Texas. Benton, Kentucky. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Los Angeles, California. Oxon Hill, Maryland. Nashville, Tennessee. Parkland, Florida. Savannah, Georgia. Itta Bena, Mississippi. Norfolk, Virginia. Mount Pleasant, Michigan. Jackson, Mississippi. Birmingham, Alabama. Mobile, Alabama. Seaside, California. Lexington Park, Maryland.

We are four months into 2018. The only thing this is about, is guns.

I do not want clear backpacks. I do not want my teachers to carry a gun. I do not want bulletproof desks. I do not want to be taught the difference between the sound a firework makes, and the sound a gun makes. I want common sense gun control. I want to go to school, without wearing a bulletproof vest. I want Helena Ramsey in a classroom today. I want Peter Wang in a classroom today. I want Luke Hoyer in a classroom today. I want Charlotte Bacon to celebrate her eleventh birthday. I want Noah Penzer to see his sister again. I want Olivia Engel to go to dance class today. But their voices have been silenced, the only thing our politicians hear is the NRA. We live in a generation where a dollar has more of a voice, than the 16 million people who sit in a classroom. Today, I stand here for the 16 million people who have been silenced by the adults who are in a position to make change. Every single student in the United States is my classmate. Every single teacher in the United States is my teacher. In the wise words of Parkland survivor Michelle Lapidot "Was the blood of my classmates and teachers worth your NRA blood money?"

To the adults who have failed us, to the politicians who have made it clear where their loyalty stands, to the Royal Oak School Board, to the individuals who have called us "nitwits," among other names, I would like to personally thank you. Thank you for empowering me. Thank you for proving what we already knew, we are the change. We are the people who will vote them out. We are the generation who will put our children first. We are the generation on the right side of history. You have all

proved that we live in a society where the adults are compliant while the youth rise in resistance.

To the adults who have stood up with us, to my teachers who have encouraged me to use my strong voice, to Gabby, you have helped create a generation that is unstoppable. You have given us the tools to be louder than the NRA, you given us the tools to be what this country needs.

With that, to all my peers, WE ARE VICTIMS, WE ARE STUDENTS, WE ARE CHANGE. Soon we will all be armed with something much stronger than an AR-15: Our voter cards. Our ballots are stronger than their bullets. To everyone eligible, arm yourself today. Register to vote. To those who are not, your voice is just as powerful, our politicians represent all of us. Write your reps, call your reps, become so persistent they know your name, write letters till your fingers bleed. Our voices will no longer be silenced. Make way for the youth. Because we're coming, and we will not be quiet.

Allie Ingalls is just one of the thousands of young people throughout my district and our country who have stood up and said "Enough is Enough." Mr. Speaker, we must stand with these students and their allies who demand solutions to ending gun violence. We as leaders must do better by our young people. We as a Congress must act now.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Allie Ingalls. I wish her the best of luck in all her future endeavors and have no doubt we will be hearing more from her in the future.

CELEBRATING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBBEY GLASS COMPANY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an achievement few American companies have attained: the 200th anniversary celebration of Libbey, a glass manufacturer in Toledo, Ohio. In fact, the company's legacy gave rise to Toledo's designation as "the glass capital of the world."

In 1818, the New England Glass Company was started in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Through successive generations including his father before him, Edward Drummond Libbey became the company's president in 1880. In 1888, the company's 70th year of operation, after studying a location for a move and noting the fine silica sand and natural gas qualities of the region, Mr. Libbey moved the entire plant—along with many of its skilled tradesmen and workers—to Toledo. In 1892, the company was renamed the Libbey Glass Company. The Libbey Glass Company produced bottles, containers, window glass and was best known for its cut glass.

Always a visionary, Edward Drummond Libbey obtained the exclusive right to build and operate a glass factory at the 1893 world's fair in Chicago. Michael J. Owens, a skilled blower and inventive wonder who came to the plant as it arrived in Toledo, managed the World's Fair factory. Guests could tour the factory, watching the tradesmen and production of blown, cut and etched glass pieces, and purchase such pieces in a gift shop. The exhibition put the Libbey Glass Company on

the world stage so that the company and its products were widely known and valued.

The success of the Libbey Glass Company was due in significant part to the inventions of Michael J. Owens. In 1903, he invented an automatic bottling machine, revolutionizing the industry and lauded as the "most important invention since the blowpipe 2,000 years earlier." In 1904, a machine was developed to automatically produce light bulbs. That same year, Libbey Glass Company was featured at the 1904 World's Fair where an amazing 25 inch cut glass punch bowl was showcased. In 1907, machine blown glass was made possible. These inventions enabled Libbey and Owens to go on to found the Owens Bottle Machine Company (later Owens-Illinois) and the Libbey-Owens Sheet Glass Company (later Libbey-Owens-Ford) as the company produced windshields for automobiles. In 1935, Owens-Illinois purchased Libbey Glass. As the 1940 World's Fair in New York approached, Libbey Glass again dazzled the crowds. Michael J. Owens' genius for invention partnered with Edward Drummond Libbey's incredible business acumen made the pair among "the greatest developers in the 20th century."

The Libbey Glass Company has been one of the largest glass manufacturers in the United States throughout its 200 years. Even as the original founders passed into history, the company continued remarkable progress. In 1970, a machine was developed to blow and press stemware in one piece, in 1989 the company invented the marbelique glassware process and in 1995, a computer controlled stemware blowing machine. Revolutionary techniques continue to the present day.

Through the centuries Libbey has been a strong community partner. The company was responsive as a community leader and foundational investor in the revitalization of the farmers market complex in downtown Toledo, building a signature showroom as an anchor store. Libbey has even been a key partner in our annual Ninth Congressional District Art Competition.

Intertwined and indelibly Toledo, Libbey will toast its 200 years with a reception and a performance by the Toledo Symphony Orchestra on Friday, May 4, 2018. The company will share its journey with our community even as it looks toward a bright future. As the oldest brand name and American table and decorative glassware in continued existence, Libbey—and Toledo—have a lasting legacy proudly shared.

ELIJAH WAGNER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Elijah Wagner for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Elijah Wagner is a student at Arvada K-8 and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Elijah Wagner is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perse-

verance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Elijah Wagner for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

FLORIDA'S 16TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARDS

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to law enforcement men and women who have provided distinctive service to the people of Florida's 16th Congressional District.

Law enforcement is a demanding profession that requires sacrifice, courage and a dedication to serve others. Every day, brave men and women put themselves in harm's way to enforce the laws of our society and protect public safety. They deserve our gratitude and respect.

Seven years ago, I established the 16th District Congressional Law Enforcement Awards, CLEA, to give special recognition to law enforcement officers, departments, or units for exceptional achievement.

This year, I will present congressional law enforcement awards to the following winners chosen by an independent panel comprised of current and retired law enforcement personnel representing a cross-section of the district's law enforcement community:

Ms. Carolyn Mason, a citizen affiliated with the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, will receive the Associate Service Award.

Lieutenant William Tracy of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, Major John Baumann and Captain John F. Donovan of the Florida Highway Patrol, Detective David Tuck of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office and Sergeant Michael Kenyan of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office will receive the Career Service Award.

Detective Frank Coleman of the City of Bradenton Police Department, Trooper Kenneth Watson of the Florida Highway Patrol, Sergeant Bruce King and Officer Chase Gloeckner of the City of Sarasota Police Department and Detective Joseph Petta of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office will receive the Dedication and Professionalism Award.

Deputy Willie Finklea of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office and Detective Ashley Lindeman of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office will receive the Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award.

Trooper Gerry Smith of the Florida Highway Patrol, Sergeant Jeffrey Steiner, Officer Elise Schanley, Officer Derrick Gilbert, Officer Devin Epps, Officer Ronald Dixon, Officer Sean Gleason, Officer Kevin Sullivan, Sergeant Anthony Frangioni and Officer Bryan Lundstrom of the City of Sarasota Police Department, Deputy Efrain Taveras of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Carmine Luper, Deputy Terry Blake, Deputy Timothy

Collins, Detective Dino Murgas, Deputy Selina Sly and Deputy Jerod Wolfe of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office will receive the Preservation of Life Award.

Sergeant Shawn Johnson, Detective James Klay, Detective Eric Wedin, Detective Eric Ellis and Civilian Brook Buzzell of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office's Digital Forensics Lab will receive the Unit Citation Award.

Captain Jim Rieser, Captain (ret.) Kevin Stiff, Lieutenant Michael Schwieterman, Sergeant Jaymi Delcos, Officer Clifton Bishop, Officer David Dubendorf, Officer Dan Griesdorn, Officer Matthew Grochowski, Officer Matthew Kimball, Case Manager Krystal Frazier and Legal Advisor Joseph Polzak of the Sarasota Police Department's Homeless Outreach team will receive the Unit Citation Award.

Lieutenant Darin Bankert, Sergeant Karen DeVries, Detective Charles Butler, Detective Darryl Davis, Detective Daniel Dickerman, Detective Benjamin Main and Detective Rabun Moss of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office, Lieutenant Bob Bourque of the Longboat Key Police Department, Detective Chad Oyler of the Palmetto Police Department, Sergeant Brian Hall of the Holmes Beach Police Department, Sergeant Lenard Diaz of the Bradenton Beach Police Department and Detective James Curulla of the City of Bradenton Police Department will receive the Manatee Homicide Investigative Unit Citation Award.

CONGRATULATING CALEB KLEMAN

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exemplary student from the 1st District of Iowa. I am pleased to announce that Caleb Kleman of Cedar Rapids, Iowa has been accepted to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Mr. Kleman is an outstanding student—ranking in the top 1 percent of Iowa Assessments each year of his high school career. In addition to awards such as Academic Numerals, Academic Letter, and Academic Certificate, he is recognized as an AP Scholar with distinction in his third year. Mr. Kleman's academic recognition is well deserved as he ranks 5th of 309 students in his class with a weighted GPA of 4.492 while enrolling in over ten advanced placement courses.

Further developing his leadership skills, Mr. Kleman attained the position Vice President of the National Honor Society, Section Leader of Marching Band, and First Chair of both Jazz Band and Concert Band. His participation in the band as a first chair trumpet player for four years led to performances at All-State competitions. Serving as Captain of the Cross Country team, he developed skills identifying potential conflicts, problem solving, and team building.

I have full confidence in Mr. Kleman's ability to successfully pursue a degree in engineering while serving as a vital asset to the U.S. Army.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILCOX PRIMARY SCHOOL

HON. DAVID P. JOYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to acknowledge and congratulate Wilcox Primary School in Twinsburg, Ohio for being designated as a 2018 Hall of Fame School by the Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators (OAESA). This award goes to exemplary educational programs that go above and beyond meeting the needs of students in elementary and middle level schools across the state. Wilcox Primary School perfectly fits that characterization. I think we can all agree, a child's education is one of the most important aspects contributing to a child's success in the future. Schools like Wilcox Primary School create a community that is both academic and fun for all students who go through there. They provide hands on education, while guaranteeing the state's and nation's highest standards.

Special congratulations to Wilcox Primary School Principal Lynn Villa and her staff for their remarkable contribution to their students' futures. The teachers, administrative leaders, and support staff all work together to make a safe and creative educational environment for their young students and their families. I am proud to have such impressive schools in Ohio's 14th District.

IN MEMORIAM: JEAN DE VELLIS (1935–2018)

HON. TOM O'HALLERAN

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Mr. Speaker, the passing of any person always brings dismay, sadness and the sense of permanent loss. Hence, it is difficult if not impossible to avoid these sentiments when writing this tribute to a person like Jean de Vellis. For those of us who had the honor and privilege of knowing and working alongside him, Jean meant more than a simple professor, more than a creative scientist, more than an outstanding colleague, more than just another boss. Jean was a fatherly and wise man who forever touched the heart end enlightened the minds of uncountable people during his 60 years of work and service for the advancement of science and the formation of researchers. His scholars, colleagues, and friends will miss him deeply and we all share in the sadness of Jean's wife Phyllis, and his children, Genevieve and Philip.

Meeting Jean was an adventure in itself. There was the contrast between the quick smile of recognition and a twinkle in the eyes when you encountered him, and the thoughtful pause before addressing a difficult problem. With his characteristic demeanor, Jean would face any crisis with a rare mix of optimism, foresight and acceptance that life deals both good and bad hands. He would always remind us that it is up to ourselves to move forward in front of adversity. This pragmatic optimism in his conduct always felt natural, magnetic,

iridescent. Jean had limitless faith in people, believing in our capacity to surpass the unsurpassable, and to constantly remake ourselves into something better, greater and more powerful. He would encourage, support, praise and believe in the potential of people, especially the young, and remarkably, those coming from dire socio-economic conditions. Jean's energy was contagious and an endless reminder that we all have the seed in ourselves to bloom into beautiful flowers. Not surprisingly, Jean was an excellent and patient gardener.

During his illustrious career, multiple societies, institutes, and boards, including the American Society for Neurochemistry, the International Society for Neurochemistry, the Winter Brain Conference, the Institute for Developmental Neuroscience and Aging, the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Research Foundation, and the Mental Retardation Research Committee of the NICHD enjoyed from Jean's keen mind and expert advice. Jean was an editor for the Journal of Neuroscience Research (JNR) from 1980 and Editor-in-Chief from 1999 until 2015, remaining as Editor-emeritus until his death. JNR was more than a scientific publication for Jean, it was part of his family. As editor-in-chief of JNR, he was exceptionally supportive of multiple meetings such as the International Conference on Brain Energy Metabolism series and was a strong advocate of special issues dedicated to encompass broad areas of brain function. Jean was the Director of the Mental Retardation Research Center (now the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center) at UCLA, where he worked since immigrating to the U.S. in 1959 as a graduate student. He held the George Tarjan Chair in Mental Retardation at UCLA and was a Distinguished Professor in Neurobiology since 2004.

For decades, Jean and his colleagues shared successes and failures, both professionally and personally. Curiously partaking in the American dream and at the same time rooted to his French family and culture, he understood very well the global citizenship shared by all scientists. Jean often welcomed students from all around the world to work on their dissertations for one or two semesters. His laboratory was an example of a multicultural global environment, with postdocs from every continent. Being a creative and innovative neurochemist, Jean made seminal contributions, particularly to the field of oligodendroglial biology. He was the first to successfully develop the methods to obtain and culture primary oligodendrocytes and astrocytes from the brain. This technique, which provided investigators across the world with the revolutionizing capability to study oligodendrocytes, was the cornerstone of countless publications and it is still one of the most used approaches to culture glial cells in current research. In the lab, Jean was a warm, and engaging counsellor with so much enthusiasm for his research and that of others, and for studying all aspects of brain development and neurological disorders. He would be a strong and constant advocate for thinking outside of the box. Jean was generous to all, without distinction, and would always find the right way to help everyone succeed. So many of us have our paths and our lives shifted for better by Jean's advice. So many of us are in his debt forever.

Atop of his kind nature, was a gentleman who would always pay attention to details

such as bringing double delights roses from his garden to the secretary office, or oranges and grapefruits to our lab meetings, cultivated by his own hands in a small parcel of land in Venice, Los Angeles. He fondly loved that place, which he once told me, reminded him of his childhood at the old family orangery farm near Soliman, Tunisia on Cap Bon.

Jean was like a cool breeze bringing balsamic accords to the spirit at dawn of warm summer mornings. Although the sadness of losing Jean will never disappear, we owe it to him to stand up and stay in the race. He was a long-distance runner and he has now passed the baton of his legacy to us.

HONORING JONATHAN LAWSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jonathan Lawson. Jon is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jon has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jon has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jon has become a member of both the tribe Mic-O-Say and Order of the Arrow. Jon has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jon built a fire pit at the Rush Creek Campus of Liberty United Methodist Church.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jonathan for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DIANE BLACK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded for roll call votes on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye on final passage for H.R. 5447, the Music Modernization Act. The music industry is extremely valuable to Tennessee both economically and culturally. This bill recognizes the valuable work of songwriters and will help the music industry better serve its fans.

MUSIC MODERNIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, the Music Modernization Act, which the House is

considering is a major step forward in providing fairness for those in the music industry. This legislation updates several key provisions of U.S. copyright law regarding music licensing, including the creation of a single licensing entity to administer mechanical reproduction rights for digital music compositions, and the establishment of royalty payments for pre-1972 artists. I am proud to support it.

While this legislation is a major achievement, there are additional issues around the public performance of musical works which have been a priority for me that must be addressed. Specifically, we need to address the fact that venues such as restaurants, bars, hotels, wineries, breweries and other retail establishments cannot rely on the repertoires published by the Performing Rights Organizations to make decisions about what music to play. I've heard from many business owners in my district throughout the years that have had to decrease their use of live music as a result of a complicated and convoluted music licensing process. Currently, they face a "take it or leave it" situation: Either buy licenses from all the Performing Rights Organizations or don't play music. This not only hurts small businesses, it hurts the artists when their music isn't played.

This problem certainly isn't localized to Wisconsin. It's happening throughout the entire country, and it's up to Congress to take the necessary steps to fix it. For this reason, I introduced H.R. 3350, the Transparency in Music Licensing and Ownership Act, last year. This bill would establish a fully searchable, up-to-date, comprehensive digital database of historical and current copyright ownership and licensing information. By increasing transparency we can help ensure that when a business pays a music licensing fee, it knows exactly what it is buying. It is my hope that this and other issues can be addressed in subsequent legislation.

HONORING THE PUNAHOU SCHOOL NATIONAL SCIENCE BOWL 2018 FINALISTS

HON. COLLEEN HANABUSA

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Punahou School's win in the Hawaii Regional High School Science Bowl and for earning the honor of competing in the National Science Bowl for the third year in a row.

Created by the Department of Energy's Office of Science in 1991, the National Science Bowl is one of the largest and most prestigious academic competitions in the United States. Over 290,000 students have participated throughout the National Science Bowl's 27 years. Each year, this competition has encouraged thousands of students—in all 50 U.S. States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico—to expand their understanding of mathematics and science and pursue careers in such fields. This year, 1,211 teams competed nationwide.

The team from Punahou will face the remaining 64 high school teams in the National Science Bowl Finals in Washington, D.C. this week. To the Punahou School team—Alexander Apo, Anna Kimata, Evan Liu, Ryan

Park, Dong-Woo Seo, and Coaches Tiffany Coke and Melissa Giresi—all the best in this year's competition. You are a shining example to your peers and I wish you continued success in your education and careers.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent these students and their families in the United States Congress and I know all my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating Punahou School on competing in the National Science Bowl Finals 2018.

HONORING CALEB ZORN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Caleb Zorn. Caleb is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 261, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Caleb has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Caleb has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Caleb has become a member of both the tribe Mic-O-Say and Order of the Arrow. Caleb has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Caleb built four wooden benches for the local Down Syndrome Guild.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Caleb for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on April 24. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call Vote Number 148 (Passage of H. Con Res. 111): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 149 (Passage of H.R. 5086, the Innovators to Entrepreneurs Act of 2018): YES.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STEVEN SZIEBERT

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Steven Sziebert, who passed away at his home in Yakima, Washington on February 23, 2018.

Steve was an exemplary community member with an admirable life story. His family immigrated to the United States in 1957 during the Hungarian Revolution. He graduated from Santa Clara University and entered the Army,

serving 5 years as an Airborne Ranger stationed at Fort Lewis and in South Korea.

At Fort Lewis, he met his wife, Marcia, relocated to the Yakima Valley, and quickly fell in love with Central Washington and all it had to offer his growing family. It was in Yakima that Steve came to realize his knack for construction. He spent his career managing projects across Washington and improving local infrastructure.

Steve will be fondly remembered for his jokes and stories, his welcoming personality, his kindness, and his service to his community. He will be missed by many, and my prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

HONORING THE WORK OF GEORGE M. SMART

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the dedicated service of George M. Smart, Director of FirstEnergy Corp. Under Mr. Smart's leadership, Summit County, Ohio has directly benefited from FirstEnergy's growth and success.

Mr. Smart is currently a trustee at his alma mater, Defiance College, where he was an undefeated quarterback for the Defiance College Yellow Jackets. Now, Mr. Smart devotes his time and resources to the success of athletic programs at Defiance, through the George M. Smart Athletic Center, which opened in 2012. Mr. Smart's lifelong loyalty to the Cleveland Browns, from the victorious "Kardiac Kids" in the 1980s, to the challenges of rebuilding the franchise today, serves as an inspiration to NFL fans everywhere. In 2006, the Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges (OFIC) inducted Mr. Smart into its Hall of Excellence, thereby honoring George for his service to Defiance College, as well as his impact on society through professional achievement, leadership and scholarship.

I am especially proud of the George and Sandy Smart Family Foundation, whose mission it is to help the needy and spread the word of the gospel in the Medina and Canton, Ohio area. Additionally, the Foundation sponsors children at churches in Ecuador, which the Foundation established.

FirstEnergy experienced significant growth during the period Mr. Smart served as Director, growing from Ohio Edison with 1 million customers, to having 6 million customers in six states. Mr. Smart is concluding his service to shareholders as Director of FirstEnergy Corp. on May 15, 2018. Throughout his life, Mr. Smart has been a respected business leader, while maintaining multiple leadership positions with civic and charitable organizations in the region.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to extend my congratulations and well wishes to George for his many years of dedicated service as a Director of FirstEnergy Corp., his support of Defiance College and the OFIC, and the George and Sandy Smart Family Foundation's ongoing philanthropic efforts. While Mr. Smart served as chairman of its Board, FirstEnergy remained committed to the long-term prosperity and vitality of Summit County. His work

has been critical in supporting economic development efforts that created jobs, sustained local suppliers and attracted new businesses to the 16th District of Ohio.

RECOGNIZING THE 2018 VALLEY VIEW WE THE PEOPLE TEAM

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, 21 students from Valley View High School in my hometown of Jonesboro, Arkansas will arrive in our Nation's Capital to compete in the We the People National Competition. For the better part of the past school year, these impressive students have given up their free time to study our Nation's constitutional democracy and thoroughly examine the history and principles of the Republic.

This weekend, they will put their knowledge to the ultimate test here in Washington. They will compete in a simulated Congressional hearing by evaluating and defending positions on historical and contemporary constitutional issues. Our government functions at its best when citizens engage in the political and policy making process, and I'm proud that these students are already preparing themselves for that process through their education.

Valley View has a history of excellence in We the People. Mrs. Traci Smith started We the People at Valley View nearly a decade ago, won the Arkansas state competition several times, and brought hundreds of students to the Capital to compete. Today, the program is led by Mr. Jacob Lamberson, who has coached at the national competition several times. Both teachers deserve our gratitude for their exceptional work preparing the rising generation for civic engagement and leadership.

I include in the RECORD the names of the competing students: Jesse Allison, Walker Bartels, Adrian Brown, Benjamin "Benji" Campbell, Aaron Dent, Cooper Fanning, Colin Ford, Simon Gomez, Dylan Johnson, Ryan Jones, Ilyse Levy, Taylor Martin, Carly Mason, Daniel Miao, Tanner Mote, Weston Myers, Camryn Pierce, Anna Rhodes, Jackson St. Pierre, Johnny Waters, and Kori Wood.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you and the rest of Congress will join me in congratulating these young men and women for their achievements and wish them the best of luck in their future pursuits.

RECOGNIZING DEANNE HAENKE

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give special recognition to Deanne Haenke from Royal Oak. I met Deanne and her family last week at a rally in Royal Oak as part of the student led National School Walkout. Deanne is a mother and a parent ally who felt compelled to speak up and let the students in her community know that there are adults who will stand with them.

I was so impressed with her courage and the passion with which she delivered her remarks that I wanted to share her speech with my colleagues. Therefore, I include in the RECORD the remarks of Deanne Haenke:

Hello. My name is Deanne Haenke and I am a parent ally.

I was asked to speak because I attended a PTA meeting at the high school where there was a discussion about school safety and the walkouts. Much to my own shock, I stood up to say a few things. After the meeting, the student leaders thanked me for what I said and that was that. But, a few days later, I got a text that they wanted me to speak at today's rally. I was flattered but very hesitant because I am not a public speaker and I wasn't sure what more I could bring to this conversation. As I was talking to my husband about it, my eldest son came running into the house saying he had gotten a text from Jonah asking if I would speak at the rally. I was looking at my husband, who I knew would understand if I said no, and then looking at my sons who seemed so eager for me to say yes. And as we talked about it, I realized, there was no way I would not speak. How could I tell my sons, whose childhood reality is so completely different than what mine was and what I wanted theirs to be, that I am too afraid to speak at a rally when they are scared to walk into school, yet they do it anyway? When there was a rumor a few months ago that a kid was planning something at the high school, I asked my son if he wanted to stay home. He emphatically said, "Yes, I want to stay home. I want to stay home every day! But if I stay home today, I won't go tomorrow and they win." So even though I didn't want him to go and as his parent I had the right to make him stay home, I listened to him, I said ok, told him I love him and, with terror in my heart, watched him walk out the door.

People who try to dismiss him because he is young are extremely ignorant to what this generation is facing and what courage they are capable of. You have all been forced to grow up far too quickly and you have every right to be heard.

This is not going to be easy. It is not going to be quick. As we see on a daily basis, common sense falls on deaf ears. I know how hard it is to listen to the adults who are not listening to you. But if you do listen to them, you will hear what they are really saying. Every dismissive comment, every immature insult is screaming that they are afraid of you. They are afraid of your determination, they are afraid of your numbers and they are most definitely afraid of your intellect because the reform you are demanding makes sense. And when they can't argue the sensible gun reform that is being proposed, they resort to personal attacks, name calling, fear mongering by shouting "Those people" want to take ALL the guns away or they try to place the blame anywhere else they can . . .

Yes there is a bullying problem.

Yes there are mental health issues.

Yes, for numerous reasons, there are some kids who don't have a good support system at home.

And of course it would be great if we could solve all of those problems and we must continue to strive to do so.

But there was bullying when I was kid. There were mental issues (and that was in a time when people didn't dare talk about mental issues so it was much harder to find help) and there were kids who didn't have a great support system at home.

Yet, we weren't dying in school.

Today, kids are the ones doing the dying. To those opposing any sensible gun reform . . . how is it possible those words do not shake

them to their core? Kids are the ones doing the dying. Sadly, we know that has not affected the NRA, or the politicians they have bought and paid for. And that is only because they are not the ones doing the dying. Their ability to turn a blind eye is indefensible.

At the board meeting last week, as students and parents asked the board repeatedly, passionately and eventually pleadingly to simply state for the record that they support the students and the march today to call for sensible gun reform . . . the board sat there stone faced and silent. It is said that it is hard to speak truth to power, but as I sat there watching 14 to 17 year old kids speak, I was stunned and embarrassed by every member of that board, as it became crystal clear that it is much harder for power to speak truth.

No matter what they tell themselves, there is no excuse that they would not stand up with their community and say "we proclaim that we are with you, that enough is enough and we will not stop until sensible gun reform is passed."

Unfortunately, everyone is not on your side. But a lot of people are. So keep doing what you're doing. Keep showing up. Keep speaking out and as soon as you can, vote for the people who will speak truth to power and will not continue to repeat the same generic rhetoric that too many elected officials spew.

If you do that, you are going to save this country and I want to take this opportunity to say thank you. I have felt despair for far too long and I couldn't find solace anywhere, most certainly not from our leaders. And then you stood up. And now I have hope.

I look forward to voting with you in November and voting for you in the years to come.

Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, we must stand with mothers like Deanne Haenke and show our students that we support them in their efforts. We as leaders must do better by our young people. We as a Congress must act now.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Deanne Haenke and to thank her for her compelling remarks.

IN RECOGNITION OF DOOR COUNTY RESIDENT JIM SARKIS

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life and legacy of long-time resident of Door County, Mr. Jim Sarkis.

Mr. Sarkis was a businessman, philanthropist, and, most importantly, a beloved husband, father, son and friend. Jim fought cancer for 4 years, never letting it prevent him from having a positive attitude and showing kindness for others. Jim will leave a lasting legacy on Northeastern Wisconsin.

When reflecting on Jim's time with us, the verses read at his memorial, Hebrews 12:1–2a are most certainly fitting, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith."

A realtor by trade, Jim pursued many passions in life including golfing, reading, storytelling, and naturally the Green Bay Packers.

In addition to these, Jim's deepest passions were to family, community, and hard work that brought him wonderful success in life. Men like Jim, who are so passionate about their family and community, are rare to find and extremely difficult to lose.

Jim's extraordinary memory will be cherished by many of the lives he touched in Wisconsin and across the United States. It is not often that everyone in a community will think of a common theme or description of a giant from their corner of the world. But "if you don't know Jim Sarkis, you don't know Door County" truly captures Jim and his legacy. May his passion, dedication, and loving spirit be remembered and carried on by all who knew him.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in honoring the legacy of Jim Sarkis and his lifelong dedication to his family, community, and the great state of Wisconsin.

RECOGNIZING THE CONSERVATION WORK OF SISTER JEREMIAS STINSON

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD an article from the Toledo Blade, dated the 20th of April 2018.

In doing so, I want to recognize the conservation work of the Sisters of St. Francis in Sylvania, Ohio and Sister M. Jeremias Stinson.

As the superintendent of Environmental Stewardship, Gardens, Shrines and Woodland Management, in Sylvania, Sister Jeremias has committed her life to protecting over 250 native species of trees under her care.

With Earth Day being this past Sunday, and a few weeks away from Arbor Day, we as a Nation need to recognize the part we take in our environment.

As said by Sister Jeremias, "To care for all creation, we have to balance the forces of creation. You have to make wise decisions."

[From the Blade, Apr. 20, 2018]

NUN OVERSEES CONSERVATION OF SAINT
FRANCIS' WOODED GROUNDS IN SYLVANIA

(By Nicki Gorny)

It's a bright spring afternoon at the motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Francis in Sylvania, and Sister M. Jeremias Stinson is zipping around the grounds on a John Deere Gator, navigating stick-strewn paths through the woods as adeptly as the manicured lawns between buildings.

"We're going to fly," the 74-year-old nun tells a reporter beside her at one point, fully committed to showing off the full scope of the grounds within a time-crunched tour.

The tour, arranged just a few weeks before Arbor Day, celebrated in Ohio on the last Friday in April, covered just a sampling of the more than 5,000 mature trees that shade the grounds. As Sister Jeremias drove, she rattled off the names of species that stand tall in wooded areas and in deliberate clusters, like an arboretum between buildings just north of the Franciscan Center.

There are oaks, firs, and pines—250 native species in all to keep straight. Sister Jeremias, superintendent of the environmental stewardship, gardens, shrines, and woodland management, has mapped and documented them all.

The motherhouse holds the distinction of having the most diverse number of plant specimens in the region, said Sister Jeremias, who undertook a canopy study of the grounds that began in 2006. The grounds are also recognized as a conservation sanctuary, as approved in 1930 by the Lucas County Conservation District and Ohio Forestry Division.

"They're a great leader in promoting conversation on private lands," said Jamie Kochensparger, education and outreach director of Lucas County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Her agency is one of several at the county, state, and federal level to interact with Sister Jeremias and the religious community on forestry and conservation-related matters. With the vast majority of land in the United States under private ownership, Mrs. Kochensparger said, conscientious private partners play an important role in this arena.

"They've been great ambassadors for that," she said.

The distinctions reflect deliberate planning and maintenance on the part of the sisters, who arrived in Sylvania in 1916. Sister Jeremias sees practicality and spirituality in the number and diversity of trees on the grounds, pointing to their assistance as groundcover and windbreaks as well as their alignment with the values of St. Francis Assisi.

"Francis of Assisi; our founder, was extremely sensitive to all facets of nature," she said. "He respected it in all its forms."

"As Franciscans, we are each called—we are all called, but as Franciscans, we have a strong leaning and a strong responsibility—to look and care for all creation."

Sister Jeremias has overseen the grounds since 1974, when she submitted a proposal to leave her position as a local schoolteacher and "put full time into the witness to the dignity of manual work and contemplation." She started with the renovation of the Portiuncula chapel on the grounds, she said, and went on to maintain and, in many more instances, develop the shrines, paths, and other landscape elements that create to a prayerful environment on the campus.

Her work continues and forwards that of her predecessor, whose name came up frequently during her recent tour of the grounds.

"That fir tree over there, the tall one, was planted by Mother Adelaide," she said at one point, a variation on a theme that applied to some of the tallest trees on the grounds.

Mother Adelaide led the original sisters who established a convent in Sylvania in 1916. While some of the 89 acres they settled on were natively wooded, Sister Jeremias said, much was farmland. Mother Adelaide took it upon herself to obtain and plant trees on the campus to stabilize sandy hills, create windbreaks, and fulfill other practical functions.

"Her footprint is still here," Sister Jeremias said.

It's there, for example, in a cluster of Norway spruces behind the Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto. It's also there in a handful of original trees in the arboretum, whose establishment Sister Jeremias credited to Mother Adelaide, even if she's had to since replace many of the original trees that were planted there over the years.

This sort of maintenance has been an important part of Sister Jeremias' work on the grounds. She's overseeing several ponderosa pine seedlings in a patch near the Rosary Care Center, which will find permanent homes on the grounds as they grow larger. When the emerald ash borer more dramatically killed off 1,841 trees on the campus in 2006, she replanted an area that she now calls

the “new woods” on the grounds near Ten Mile Creek.

Whenever she removes trees from the grounds, with an eye toward long-term sustainability, she replaces them with new trees that maintain respect to species diversity and the individual site. While all species are native to the region, not all thrive in the same soil or at the same elevation.

“To care for all of creation, we have to balance the forces of creation,” Sister Jeremias said. “You have to make wise decisions.”

When Sister Jeremias proposed that she focus solely on grounds work in 1974, Mother Adelaide had died only about 10 years earlier. Sister Jeremias recalled that she began to notice downed trees and other effects of the community having gone without a dedicated grounds presence in these years.

It was a role for which the outdoorsy Sister Jeremias, who grew up in Port Clinton, tagging along to work sites with her father, a builder, felt she was well suited—and one that she’s been fulfilling faithfully for more than 40 years.

“I followed her footprint,” she said of Mother Adelaide.