

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING MR. CHRISTOPHER BROWNE

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Christopher Browne in recognition of his contributions to Fairfax County and the Northern Virginia region and to congratulate him on being named the 2017 Tower of Dulles Honoree by the Committee for Dulles.

Mr. Browne currently serves as Deputy Director of the National Air and Space Museum, which has historically been the most popular Smithsonian Museum. Last year, 7.5 million people visited the National Air and Space Museum, and it is on track to meet or exceed those numbers in 2018.

Prior to accepting this position, Mr. Browne was Vice President and Airport Manager for Washington Dulles International Airport, a position he assumed in 2005. This position was the culmination of a career in airport management, which began in 1988 when he joined the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority as an Operations Manager at Washington National Airport. After seven years in that position, he was promoted to Airport Manager at National, a position he held until accepting the Airport Manager position at Washington Dulles. His 29-year tenure with MWAA was marked by periods of massive construction and expansion, as well as Y2K and the terrorist attacks of 9/11. During his time at Dulles, he was responsible not only for overseeing a staff of more than 500, but also for managing a \$400 million revenue stream, which included the profits from the Dulles Toll Road.

These profits were a critical component in the financing of the Silver Line project, which will finally bring to fruition the vision of a rail link between our nation's capital and its premier international airport.

Mr. Browne's tenure as airport manager of National and Dulles earned him multiple accolades, including being named Airport Manager of the Year in 2002. He also served on the Board of Directors of the Southeast Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives.

Prior to entering civilian public service, Mr. Brown served his country in uniform in the United States Navy, where he served as a Naval Aviator for seven years aboard the USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower*. During his naval career he amassed over 1,400 flight hours, made over 300 carrier landings, and graduated from the Navy's prestigious "Top Gun" Fighter Weapons School.

Mr. Speaker, Christopher Browne represents the very ethos of service to the community and our country. In addition to his multi-decade career with the Navy and MWAA, Mr. Browne serves on the Board of Directors of the Special Olympics of Virginia,

as well as on the Boards of several area Chambers of Commerce. Mr. Brown has selflessly dedicated himself and his career to the betterment of our community, and his efforts are truly worthy of our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Christopher Browne on his accomplishments, and in thanking him for his immeasurable contributions to our community.

NATIONAL DAY OF AWARENESS FOR MISSING AND MURDERED NATIVE WOMEN AND GIRLS

**HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize May 5, 2018 as the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls.

Native women in the U.S. face tragically high rates of violence, sexual assault, and murder. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, homicide is the third leading cause of death for Native women and girls between the ages of 10 and 24 years old. A study commissioned by the Department of Justice found that, in some tribal communities, Native women face murder rates that are more than ten times the national average. This is unacceptable.

I'm pleased that the Portland City Council recently passed a resolution recognizing the disproportionate effects of human trafficking on people of color in our region, but we must do more to protect Native women. Importantly, we must recognize the institutional racism and systematic inequalities they face, and we must seek justice on behalf of those who are missing or murdered.

For those families who have not received justice, I stand with you. I'm committed to taking action to prevent these crimes in the future, and hope that your missing loved one will return home soon.

RECOGNIZING BARRINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 220 SUPERINTENDENT DR. BRIAN HARRIS

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Brian Harris, Superintendent of Schools for Barrington 220 Community Unit School District in Barrington, Illinois. On April 12, 2018 it was announced that Dr. Harris was elected to serve on the executive committee of AASA, American Association of School Administrators. This July, Dr. Harris will be sworn in as an executive committee member and will serve a three-year term.

Founded in 1865, AASA advocates for equitable access for all students to the highest quality education, and develops and supports school system leaders. Dr. Harris has been a member of AASA, as well as the Illinois Association of School Administrators since 2010. He has also been a member of the AASA governing board since 2014.

Prior to joining Barrington 220 as the Superintendent of Schools in 2014, he served as Superintendent of Schools for Community Unit School District 200 in the Wheaton/Warrenville, Illinois area and Assistant Principal at Barrington Middle School's Station campus. As the leader of one of the top school districts in Northern Illinois, Dr. Harris is well-prepared to serve on the executive committee, where he will bring over 30 years of experience and expertise in education to the national level.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in recognizing Dr. Brian Harris for his outstanding leadership and being elected to serve on the executive committee of the American Association of School Administrators.

RECOGNIZING THE 2017 ELLY DOYLE PARK SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the honorees of the 2017 Elly Doyle Park Service Awards. These awards, sponsored by the Fairfax County Park Authority Board in cooperation with the Fairfax County Park Foundation Board, recognize individuals and organizations for their extraordinary contributions to our environment and public park system.

The Elly Doyle Service Awards were established in 1988 in honor of former board member Ellamae Doyle's many years of outstanding service. Recipients have also been selected for the Eakin Philanthropy Award, named in honor of the family that donated the first parcels of parkland to the Park Authority more than 50 years ago, the Mayo Stuntz Cultural Stewardship, named in honor of a celebrated local historian and military veteran, the Sally Ormsby Environmental Stewardship Award, named in honor of a local champion of environmental education and protection, and the Harold L. Strickland Partnership and Collaboration Award, named for the former Sully District representative on the Park Authority Board. In addition, a special recognition will be given to Park Authority volunteers, who play an integral role in the agency's success.

It is my honor to congratulate all the recipients of the Elly Doyle Park Service Awards and to include in the RECORD the names of the following individuals:

Harold L. Strickland Partnership and Collaboration Award: Fairfax County Department

• 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.

of Neighborhood and Community Services and The Athletic Council;

Sally Ormsby Environmental Stewardship Award: Norma Hoffman (in memoriam);

Eakin Philanthropy Award: Jean and Ric Edelman, Volkswagen of America, Chantilly Youth Association, Timber Ridge at Discovery Square;

Student Honoree: Jennifer Ochs;

Special Recognition: Carol Melim, Patricia Moran, Denise McKittrick. Emiko Takeuchi, Freddie Mac;

Elly Doyle Park Service Awards: Kathy Trichel, Villamay Community Association.

Mr. Speaker, Fairfax County is regarded as one of the best places in the country in which to live, work, and raise a family, and our nationally-recognized park system has played a key role in that distinction. Our community has a strong commitment to promoting and preserving our environment, including our public parks and outdoor spaces, as the efforts of the individuals and organizations recognized tonight reflects. These are truly selfless actions done for the benefit of all and merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on receiving these awards and in wishing them great success in all their future endeavors.

UNITED STATES-ISRAEL SECURITY ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZATION ACT MARKUP

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be a co-sponsor of H.R. 5141, the United States-Israel Security Assistance Authorization Act, and commend my good friend, Chairwoman emeritus ROS-LEHTINEN, for her leadership in introducing H.R. 5141—a critical, important bipartisan measure—along with Congressman DEUTCH.

This bill responds to a crisis of converging threats that imperil the security of our closest ally, Israel. Iranian forces and their terrorist proxies now surround Israel from nearly every direction. With Iranian support, Hizballah continues to amass a dangerous arsenal of thousands of advanced rockets to the north that are trained on Israel's main population centers.

Hamas, also with Iranian backing, threatens Israel from the south and west with terror tunnels, rocket barrages, and now with a cynical campaign that manipulates civilian protests with the use of so-called human shields to threaten Israel's sovereign border. To the east, in Syria, Iran continues to carry out strategic outposts where it can station advanced weapons systems and fighters to challenge Israeli defenses.

Faced with such a constellation of fanatical enemies, Israel cannot spare a moment's vigilance—and neither can we for the sake of our close friend.

By authorizing enhanced military cooperation between our countries and further enshrining Israel's qualitative military edge, H.R. 5141 guarantees that Israel will also remain far and away our most capable ally. The bill authorizes foreign military financing at an annual level no less than the \$3.3 billion agreed

to in the bilateral MOU negotiated under the Obama Administration. Crucially, the bill specifies that the assistance should be “not less than \$3.3 billion”—a clear statement that this MOU constitutes a floor rather than a ceiling. This Congress can not accept predetermined limits on its support to such a crucial ally. A floor, yes—a ceiling, no.

The bill's other provisions facilitate the transfer of advanced precision guided missiles for Israel's use and lays the groundwork for bilateral cooperation that will assist Israel in confronting an evolving landscape of threats, including from unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), cyber-attacks, and non-state actors. The many facets of cooperation supported by this bill—from international development, to space exploration, to cybersecurity—are not just for Israel's benefit: they directly contribute to our national security.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND RETIREMENT OF MR. SHIRO FLOYD MORI

**HON. COLLEEN HANABUSA**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Shiro Floyd Mori, former president and CEO of the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS), and wish him well as he retires from a distinguished career in public service.

Born in Murray, Utah, outside of Salt Lake City on May 30, 1939, Floyd is the son of Japanese immigrants from Kagoshima. He graduated from Jordan High School and served for six months on active duty in the United States Army Reserves at Fort Ord, California. After starting college at the University of Southern California (USC), Floyd interrupted his studies and served a two-year mission to Hawaii for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. He earned his bachelor's degree in economics and Asian studies, as well as a master's degree in economics and political science, from Brigham Young University (BYU). Since then, Floyd has attended fellowship programs at Stanford University and the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

After college, Floyd began his career by teaching economics at Chabot College in Hayward, California, for ten years. In 1972, Floyd was elected onto the City Council of Pleasanton, California, before becoming mayor. In 1975, he was one of the first two Japanese Americans elected onto the California State Assembly. Floyd eventually became director of the Office of International Trade in California, an international business consultant, and president of Mori-Silva International.

There is no doubt that Floyd has had a truly distinguished career. Today, however, I rise to recognize his extraordinary lifelong contributions to Asian Pacific Islander communities in the United States. Besides his outstanding work with APAICS, Floyd held numerous local and national positions for the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), including as president and vice president. He served on the executive council of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, the diversity council for Comcast, and as chair of the

National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA).

Floyd's many awards for his community service include the Outstanding Citizen Achievement Award from OCA National, Coalition Building Award from the Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund, Voices of Courage Award from the Islamic Cultural Center of Fresno, the Distinguished Citizenship and Patriotism Award from the Pan Pacific American Leaders and Mentors, Community Leadership Award from the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies, and the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette Award from the Japanese government.

In March, Floyd retired from his position as president and CEO of the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS). For five years, Floyd has led APAICS to achieve significant growth in activity, public support, and sponsorship. The APAICS we see today is more visible, well-connected, diverse, and ambitious because of Floyd's leadership.

Floyd's lifelong service reminds us all of how important it is that we continue to cherish and advance diversity across our country. Through his tireless efforts as a leader of the Asian Pacific Islander community, Floyd has enriched the lives of countless Americans of all backgrounds. He has inspired future generations to build upon the important work he achieved.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating Floyd's accomplishments and years of service and wishing Floyd the very best in a prosperous retirement and all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of First Baptist Church of Vienna, which has been a fixture of our Northern Virginia community since its founding. In 1867, shortly after the conclusion of the Civil War, Union Army Major O.E. Hine presented the founders of First Baptist Church with a deed to a small piece of land he owned for the purposes of building educational and religious facilities. Using lumber acquired from the Freedman's Bureau and from barracks that were being torn down, the first church building was erected on Lawyer's Road in the town of Vienna, where the congregation would remain until relocating to its current location on Orchard Street ninety years later in 1957.

Throughout its 150-year history, First Baptist Church of Vienna has served as the spiritual and religious home to countless worshippers. In addition to fulfilling its religious missions, the philanthropic work of the church and its members is extensive, both locally and internationally. Working with area churches, First Baptist has raised over \$28,000 for tsunami relief in Asia and Africa, contributed over \$53,000 to the Community Coalition for Haiti for earthquake relief in that devastated country, and

donated \$5,000 to build a new community college in Zimbabwe.

The congregation has also participated in the Rise Against Hunger campaign, which raised more than \$14,000 and packaged 50,000 meals for communities around the world suffering from chronic hunger.

In our own Northern Virginia community, First Baptist has partnered with numerous nonprofits for a variety of charitable causes, including Habitat for Humanity, the Northern Virginia Clergy Council, OAR Fairfax, and the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna. Truly, First Baptist Church of Vienna is following the ethos of ministry and working for the betterment of all in our community. This ethos is prominent in Northern Virginia, and I am confident this is part of the reason why this congregation has remained here for as long as it has, and why it will continue to thrive.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have been a partner with First Baptist Church of Vienna on many of these initiatives and have been fortunate to join them for worship many times. I commend Pastor Vernon C. Walton as well as former Pastor Kenny Smith for their leadership and devotion to their faith and our community. I also congratulate the entire ministry and congregation on this milestone, and ask my colleagues to join me in wishing them continued success.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding missed votes due to meeting with a constituent group. Had I been present for roll call vote number 174, Adoption of H. Res. 879—The rule providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 3053—Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2018, I would have voted yea.

#### RECOGNIZING IOLA "OLIE" ELSE

### HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Iola "Olie" Else, the long-time rodeo coach at the University of Montana-Western in Dillon.

For more than two decades, Coach Else has been the driving force behind the school's nationally recognized college rodeo team. The Bulldogs place high in the regional standings and compete for national titles. In fact, her teams rank in the top 10 in the National Collegiate Rodeo Association every year.

The National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association named Else Coach of the Year in 2004. She was the first woman to earn the award.

A red blazer and cowbell are Olie's trademarks at college rodeo competitions. UMW rodeo athletes recognize that ringing cowbell from the stands whenever they rope or ride.

Current and former athletes recall her leadership and support that have guided them through college and beyond. Considered more

than just a coach, many of the athletes regard Else as a second mother, and she often refers to them as her kids. Despite the team's regional and national recognition, Else says she's most proud that her kids graduate and go out into the world to make a difference.

Olie is retiring after 25 years as head coach, but it won't be her last rodeo. You can be sure her kids will see and hear her from the stands in future competitions.

In honor of rodeo moms and mothers everywhere, today I honor Iola "Olie" Else for her dedication to education, the sport of college rodeo, and our Montana way of life.

#### RECOGNIZING MATTHEW NIMS

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a finalist for the Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal in National Security and International Affairs, Mr. Matthew Nims. Presented by the Partnership for Public Service, the Service to America Medals—or the Sammys—are highly respected honors to highlight excellence in our federal workforce. Nominees for the award must show a strong commitment to federal service, a significant accomplishment within their field that meets the needs of the American people, and excellence in customer service to citizens or other beneficiaries.

Matthew Nims, the Acting Director for the Office of Food for Peace at the U.S. Agency for International Development, worked with his team to distribute \$1.4 billion in emergency food assistance to 20 million people in Yemen, Somalia, South Sudan, and Nigeria, who are threatened by violent conflicts every day and fighting famine. The efforts of Mr. Nims and his team have saved countless lives under harrowing conditions.

With civil war, violence, and terrorism threatening vulnerable populations in those four countries, getting aid to people who are suffering is difficult. Matthew Nims did not let such conditions deter him. According to his colleagues, Mr. Nims was "out in front, meeting with, informing, coordinating, and leading hundreds of USAID staff, others in government and our international partners to choose the right approaches, prioritize the most critical situations, and get food to people swiftly and efficiently when lives were at stake."

In South Sudan, for example, the economy was in a freefall, crime was rampant, travel was difficult, there were few functioning institutions, and some five million people were in need of food assistance. To function effectively under such conditions required Mr. Nims to assess the needs, ensure the safety of his team, find creative ways to deliver food, plan and manage the food distribution, and resolve the day-to-day challenges.

As a former Peace Corps volunteer and USAID employee in Indonesia, Guyana, and Afghanistan, Mr. Nims has brought a unique perspective to his role in the Office of Food for Peace and sees his mission as quite simple: "We work to keep people alive. When there are hungry people out there, we try to feed them." I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Matthew Nims for his work to dis-

tribute food assistance to 20 million people in four countries who are fighting famine and other dangers, and in congratulating Mr. Nims for being a finalist for such a prestigious award.

#### CELEBRATING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMBASSY THEATER OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

### HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. BANKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Embassy Theater in Fort Wayne, Indiana. For 90 years, the Embassy Theatre has been a treasured cultural and performing arts center in downtown Fort Wayne. The Embassy Theater opened its doors on May 14, 1928 as a movie palace and vaudeville house. During its 90-year history, the theater has hosted numerous notable acts, including Perry Como, Tony Bennett, Doris Day, Duke Ellington, and Louis Armstrong.

Sadly, the theater fell on hard times in the 1960's and was closed in 1971. The community of Fort Wayne banded together to save the Embassy, and the Embassy Theater Foundation was founded in 1972. The intent of this organization is to preserve this historic landmark for future generations in northeast Indiana. The foundation sponsored a major renovation of the property in 1995 and continues to support the theater today.

The Embassy Theater is a cherished cultural landmark in Fort Wayne, and we celebrate its 90th anniversary. Congratulations to everyone associated with the Embassy Theater on reaching this important milestone.

#### CELEBRATING MIKE BUCCI WHO WILL BE HONORED AS PERSON OF THE YEAR BY COLUMBIA COUNTY ASSOCIATION IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

### HON. JOHN J. FASO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Anthony Michael "Mike" Bucci Jr., who will be honored as Person of the Year by the Columbia County Association in the City of New York on May 10, 2018.

Born and raised in Hudson, NY, Mike was an honors graduate of Hudson High School, where he was a three-sport letterman. He went on to graduate cum laude from Villanova University in 1983, where he was the captain of the intercollegiate bowling team. Upon graduation, Mike was immediately hired to work for the accounting firm Ernst and Whinney. During his time with the firm, he was responsible for audit and consulting services for more than 100 different audit and tax clients.

1988 brought a new adventure for Mike, as he became the Audit Director and Controller for the NYS Bridge Authority in Highland, NY. In that capacity, he was responsible for a \$10 million annual budget that handled the implementation, maintenance, and adequacy of the Authority's financial and management accounting and reporting systems.

In 1998, Mike became a partner at the prestigious accounting firm of Pattinson, Koskey, & Rath P.C. In a short three years, Mike was named Treasurer and equity owner in the firm. During that time, the firm voted to be renamed Pattison, Koskey, Howe and Bucci, CPAs, P.C. Under his leadership as Managing Shareholder, the firm amassed ten partners, eighteen CPAs, and six offices in the Hudson Valley.

Mike is also a dedicated and active member of his community who is always willing to lend a hand. He has served on several local boards including the Twin County Vikings, the Hudson Little League, and the Hudson Boys and Girls Club. Currently, Mike is a member of the Columbia County Sons and Daughters of Italy No. 659, serving as a trustee and was named its "Positive Image Award" recipient in 2005.

Mike's service to Columbia County is greatly appreciated, and I congratulate him for being honored as Person of the Year by the Columbia County Association in the City of New York.

CONGRATULATING PHILLIPS PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate PHILLIPS Programs for Children and Families on its 50th Anniversary. I also want to recognize the outstanding faculty, staff, and Board of Trustees for the extraordinary impact they have had on the education and lives of thousands of youth in the communities surrounding our Nation's Capital.

The growth of PHILLIPS Programs from their humble beginnings is astonishing. Years before the first federal laws were enacted to require all public schools to provide a free and appropriate education for all students regardless of disabilities, in 1967 PHILLIPS began in a two-bedroom bungalow in McLean teaching four students. The PHILLIPS Programs now include special education schools on four campuses, a vibrant home-based support program (Family Partners), and its newest career and technical education initiative, Career Partners, which launched in 2016. While all of these programs teach important job skills, they also teach employability skills (general skills in the areas of applied knowledge, effective relationships, and workplace skills) that are necessary for success in the labor market at all employment levels and in all sectors. In tandem with academic and technical skills, employability skills are crucial to career readiness.

At PHILLIPS Programs, the core of their philosophy and practice is the ethos that with the right support and commitment, all of its students will reach their full potential. PHILLIPS offers special education day school programs for students in elementary through high school in nationally acclaimed facilities for students for whom public or other specialized schools were not successful.

PHILLIPS serves a diverse group of youth from Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, D.C.

The lives of the youth served by PHILLIPS have been affected by a variety of personal and neurodevelopmental circumstances, so PHILLIPS staff tailor their approach to each unique individual. PHILLIPS provides these youths a fresh start. They address each student's needs honestly with acceptance, respect, compassion, and a creative plan to make a better tomorrow. PHILLIPS focuses on the students' behavioral health needs, their emotional needs, communication needs, and beyond that their family and community needs. PHILLIPS builds a program around each child, rather than fitting that child into a particular program.

Mr. Speaker, for five decades PHILLIPS Programs have provided youth and families in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area with the opportunity to achieve their dreams through education, combined with a full menu of support services. PHILLIPS is continuing its tradition of support for youth with a focus on students transitioning from school to work through the expansion of career and technical education and workforce development, serving those others cannot. On behalf of the citizens of the 11th Congressional District, I congratulate each and every member of the PHILLIPS community on this momentous anniversary and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing them continued success and growth.

PARK MANOR BEE CAVE AND GULF POINTE PLAZA RESIDENTS BAND TOGETHER

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, not far from the beach in Rockport, Texas, lies the Gulf Pointe Plaza, a community providing care for the elderly.

Their serene world was overturned when Hurricane Harvey bore down on the southeastern coast of Texas. Mobilizing quickly, the care center successfully evacuated all of the 90-plus residents and transported them to sister facilities, out of harm's way, before the storm hit. The fire departments of both Rockport and Travis County played a significant role in their successful evacuation.

Since September, the residents of Park Manor in Bee Cave have graciously played host to their displaced visitors, heartily welcoming them into their communities while the future of the facilities in Rockport remained up in the air. Current residents doubled up in rooms, and the staff converted the physical therapy room into a makeshift dormitory that slept 14 people.

The Rockport crew received support from well-wishers outside of Texas. Residents of the South Shore Care Center in Worthington, Minnesota, gathered together and painted signs with messages of support, including "Stay Strong Texas" and "God Bless You," that they mailed to Texas to bolster the spirits of the uprooted Gulf Coast residents.

Just recently, the Gulf Pointe Plaza residents and employees, who relocated with their patients, received the good news that renovations on their new facility have been completed and that they will soon return home. In addition to those returning from Bee Cave, the

facility will also take in new residents once it is reopened.

To celebrate their return to their original home, the residents and staff at Park Manor threw their visitors a Texas-themed goodbye party, complete with food, drinks, and, naturally, country music. While the folks from Rockport will be glad to return home, their farewell to their hosts was bittersweet. Despite the stress of being displaced from their home, they take fond memories from their eight months spent in Bee Cave with them.

Mr. Speaker, the generosity, support, and helping hand provided by the Rockport and Travis County Fire Departments, the South Shore Care Center, and of course the Park Manor in Bee Cave are yet another example of the tremendous benevolence shown to the victims of Hurricane Harvey, and they represent everything that is good about America. This is truly a country whose citizens will provide for each other in a time of need, even if it does mean going without a fitness area for eight months.

And that is just the way it is.

SHARING STUDENTS' 'MARCH FOR OUR LIVES' REMARKS

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on May 9, I came to the Floor and spoke about the March For Our Lives on March 24 and the nine extraordinarily poised students in Morristown, New Jersey, who spoke at the rally there, which I attended. Because they were too long to insert into the RECORD together, I am submitting them individually. I hope my colleagues will read them and internalize the sense of fear in which our nation's students are living every day—and our responsibility as Members of Congress to do something to address this crisis of gun violence.

'MARCH FOR OUR LIVES' REMARKS

(By Bella Bhimani)

Hi, everyone. Before I begin, I would first like to thank everyone for coming today to support such an important cause. The overwhelming support we've received has made all the difference. And to everyone who donated, whether it be your time, money or even knitting hats, I cannot thank you enough. I would also like to thank both the mayor and the Morristown Police Department for all the help they have provided and doing everything possible to make this march happen. We also have four sponsors, Blue Wave NJ, Moms Demand Action, NJ-11 for Change, and League of Women Voters. These organizations are all truly amazing and have done so much for us. Lastly I would just like to say how grateful I am for the incredible group of students that we have. These students have worked so hard and without them none of this would have been possible.

One of the questions I've been asked a lot is "what makes this shooting so different?" I can't speak for everyone else, but I know at least for me, when the last major school shooting happened, (Sandy Hook) I had only just turned eleven. It's not that I didn't care, because I was obviously upset, but I knew that as a fifth grader I didn't have the power to do anything. Because we live in a world where we are taught growing up that "the

adults will handle it". We expect that the president and all of our legislators will do their job and when there is a problem they will actually do something about it. However as we have grown up we've realized that that is not the case. If we want change to happen we have to make it happen ourselves. One of my favorite Gandhi quotes is 'Be the change you wish to see in the world.' And that is why I am up here today. We are the ones affected and we are the only ones willing to fix this.

But before I go any further I want to address the preconceived notion that we are trying to take away all guns. This is not the case. All we want is to make the world safer, which is something I think everyone can agree. We believe this can be accomplished through stricter gun regulations. We are asking for stricter background checks, raising the age limit of purchase and, while not everyone may agree, I am certainly in favor of a ban on assault rifles, which are truly weapons of war.

Going off of that another question that I am frequently asked is, what am I actually trying to accomplish with this march. With that comes the constant criticism that this march isn't going to suddenly make change happen. And to some extent they're not wrong. This is not something that will happen overnight and is a fight that is going to take time. Every fight has to start somewhere and this is only the beginning. So to answer the question what I want is to keep this conversation going. To get Congress to begin discussing passing stricter gun laws and to show the world that we won't stop.

That being said, I would like everyone to take a second to turn to the people around you and introduce yourselves. Get to know each other, because we are ultimately all one community, and we are here for the same reason: to put an end to gun violence. And this change is only going to happen if we are united.

RECOGNIZING RECRUIT CLASS  
2017-02 OF THE PRINCE WILLIAM  
COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE  
AND RESCUE

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the recent graduates of the Prince William County Public Safety Academy. These men and women will soon join the ranks of those who have served and continue to serve in the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue.

Since its inception in 1966, the Department of Fire and Rescue has led the way. In 1967, Prince William County became the first jurisdiction on the East Coast to implement the 911 System. That same year, Prince William became the first county in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the National Capital Region to implement a physical ability exam for career firefighters. In 1994, Mary Beth Michos was hired as Chief and became the first female fire and rescue chief of a metro-sized department. The Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue continues to maintain one of the most forward-thinking combination fire departments in the country, and its legacy of "firsts" continues. It is one of only three jurisdictions in the Commonwealth of Virginia with delegated training authority, granted by the Virginia Department of Fire Programs.

Each member of the recruit class has successfully completed a rigorous application process, followed by more than 1,200 hours of exhaustive academic and physical training over the course of 28 weeks. Upon successful completion of this program, each recruit is eligible to graduate and become a Fire and Rescue Technician with the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue.

The training and certification required to achieve the status of a Fire and Rescue Technician cannot be accomplished without significant dedication and hard work. Today's graduates have completed more than 600 hours of the required coursework for certification in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Infection Control, Certified Scrum Master (CSM), Emergency Medical Training (EMT-Basic), Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Emergency Vehicle Operator Course 2, Emergency Vehicle Operator Course 3, Flashover Simulation, Rapid Intervention Training (RIT), Mayday, Hazmat Awareness/Operations, Swift Water Rescue Awareness, Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) with Simulation, Rural Water Supply, Basic Life Support (BLS) Protocols, Rope Rescue Awareness, Vehicle Rescue Awareness, and Child Passenger Safety Seat Installation.

It is my honor to include in the RECORD the following names of the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue recruit class graduates:

William Allen, Tyler Barnikel, Jadon Carr, Joshua Castellanos, Brice Deible, Samuel Gorham, Lucas Gray, Kurt Hagen, David Hufford, Brandon Jacobs, Jeremy Lonas, Damian Lyles, Corey Mcfarland, Seth McGregor, Marcio Midence, Jharray Neal, Adam Negvesky, Jordan Rigney, Christopher Sager, Dante Sanders, Ian Sheedy, Michael Smith, Jesus Tapia-Lima, Sophia Therriault, Robert Traver, Ryan Turlik, Brooke Wallace, and Nicholas White.

As the newest members of the Department of Fire and Rescue, the aforementioned graduates join the department as integral parts of the emergency response and community safety team.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the newest members of the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue. I am confident that recruit class 2017-02 will serve the residents of Prince William County with honor and distinction. In the tradition of their new firefighting family, I say: "Stay safe."

APPRECIATING JUDGE ROBERT  
CHAPMAN

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, South Carolina honored a Grateful Patriot, Judge Robert Foster Chapman, who passed away on April 18, 2018.

As a courageous pioneer for developing the two-party system, Judge Chapman was Chairman of the South Carolina Republican Party in 1961 when Charlie Boineau of Richland County was elected the first Republican legislator of the 20th Century, and in 1962 when State Representative Floyd Spence of Lexington County, was the first legislator to switch par-

ties in the 20th Century. From this humble beginning, the Republican Party advanced to majority status in 1994.

I particularly appreciate his judicial service in 1984 when he ruled that State Senate elections would not be delayed and single member districts would be implemented based on equal population.

The following obituary was published on April 26, 2018, in The State of Columbia, South Carolina:

Judge Robert Foster Chapman, born April 24, 1926, in Inman South Carolina, as the middle son of the five sons of James Alfred Chapman and Martha Marshall Chapman, died peacefully in his sleep on Wednesday, April 18, 2018. He attended the public schools of Spartanburg and graduated from Spartanburg High School in 1943. He entered the U.S. Navy on July 1, 1943, in the V-12 Program at Emory and Henry College. In March of 1944, he transferred to the naval ROTC at the University of South Carolina and graduated in 1945 with a B.S. Degree and was commissioned as an Ensign. He was assigned to Guam and commanded the ship YW-92 at age 19. He later attended the Crossroads Operation where atomic bombs were tested after the war.

He entered the University of South Carolina Law School in September of 1946 and graduated in January of 1949. He entered the practice of law as an associate in the firm of Osborne, Butler and Moore in Spartanburg, South Carolina and remained with this firm until December of 1951 when he was recalled to active duty with the U.S. Navy. He was on active duty as a Lieutenant from January of 1952 until October of 1953, on the staff of the Commander Naval Forces, Marianas Islands. He returned to Spartanburg in October of 1953 and formed the law firm of Butler and Chapman, which became Butler, Chapman, Parler and Morgan where he practiced law until appointed by President Nixon in May of 1971 as a United States District Judge. In October of 1981, President Reagan appointed him to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit where he served until electing senior status in May of 1991.

Judge Chapman moved from Spartanburg to Camden, South Carolina shortly after he became a federal judge and he resided in Camden until moving back to Spartanburg in 2008.

He became active in the South Carolina Republican Party in the spring of 1960 and was a delegate to the Republican National Conventions in 1960, 1964 and 1968. He served as the Chairman of the South Carolina Republican Party from July of 1961 until March of 1963. He was the Chairman of the Spartanburg County Republican Party from 1964 through 1969.

He received the Order of the Palmetto in 1978; the National Patriot's Award from the Congressional Medal of Honor Society in 1985; an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the University of South Carolina in 1986; an Honorary Doctor of Humanities from the College of Charleston in 2000. He became a member of the American Trial Lawyers Association beginning on September 1, 1969.

He married Mary Winston (Wince) Gwathmey Chapman of Spartanburg on December 21, 1951 and took her with him to Guam. They had three sons: Edward Bates Chapman, born December 11, 1953, of Tryon, North Carolina; Alfred Foster Chapman, born October 16, 1955, of Spartanburg, South Carolina; and Winston Gwathmey Chapman, born November 11, 1958 of Breckenridge, Colorado. Wince Chapman was the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Edward M Gwathmey of Spartanburg and she died September 28, 1998. He married Mary Vail St. Georges of South

Amboy, New Jersey on September 30, 2000. Mary died February 14, 2013.

He has three daughters in-law, Jeanette, Ruth and Ann; step children, Joe St. Georges and Cathy St. Georges, and their children; eight grandchildren, Robert, Malsert, Gabrielle, Ian, Katie, Chelsea, Cameron and Daniel; four step grandchildren, Hannah, Ben, Lori, and Will; and ten great grandchildren.

Judge Chapman was the third son of the late Mr. and Mrs. James A Chapman of Spartanburg. His brothers who predeceased him were James A Chapman, Jr; William Marshall Chapman; Joseph Wallace Chapman, and Hugh McMaster Chapman. He is survived by his brother in-law, Edward M Gwathmey of Vail, Co; and sister in-law, Elizabeth S. Chapman of Spartanburg, SC; and many nieces and nephews.

He was a Deacon and an Elder at the First Presbyterian Church of Spartanburg and an Elder at Bethesda Presbyterian Church in Camden.

The family is most appreciative for the loving care rendered to the Judge by "his Ladies": Toni Moore, Felicia Hollis, Betty Garrett, Courtney Oglesby, Karen Styles and Angie Lipscomb.

Honorary pallbearers will be the many law clerks who worked with and were mentored by the Judge over his career.

A memorial service will be held Monday, April 30th, 4:00 PM at the First Presbyterian Church of Spartanburg.

Memorials may be made in Judge Chapman's honor to The Linville Foundation, P.O. Box 99, Linville North Carolina 28646; or The Chapman Cultural Center, 200 East St John Street, Spartanburg, SC 29306.

RECOGNIZING THE 2018 NORTHERN VIRGINIA FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES AND AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Northern Virginia Football Hall of Fame (NVFHOF) and to congratulate the 2018 inductees and scholarship award recipients.

Participation in organized sports instills many values that will serve our youth well throughout life, including sportsmanship, teamwork, honesty, and the work ethic developed by striving for success and working to achieve a common goal.

For 28 years, the NVFHOF has recognized the efforts of players, coaches, officials, and cheerleaders from local youth and scholastic football programs, and has inducted a few exceptional individuals who have made significant contributions to the game. In addition, the NVFHOF presents several student-athletes with scholarships to help defray the cost of college.

I commend the NVFHOF and congratulate the following students, coaches, and community leaders who are being recognized during the 28th Annual NVFHOF Awards Banquet:

\$1,500 Scholarship Award Recipients: Kendall Malinchock, Nathan D. Leas, Charles S. Salette, Thomas A. Beamon;

Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame 2018 Inductees: Luke Bowanko (Baltimore Ravens, Jacksonville Jaguars, Centreville High School),

Stephen A. Price (Coach, Westfield High School, Lake Braddock Secondary School), Ronald E. Decker (Coach, Vienna Youth Incorporated);

Football Official of the Year: Charles Foster; Karl Davey Community Achievement Award: Valerie Armstrong;

Tom Davis Meritorious Service Award: Hossein S. Panah;

Gene Nelson Commissioner of the Year Award: Todd Casey;

High School Coaches of the Year: Tom Verbanic, Kyle Simmons;

High School Players of the Year: Nolan Cockrill, Spencer Alston, Dillon Spalding, Brian Cobbs, Ike Onwuka, Tyler Matheny;

Youth Coaches of the Year: Jason Goldsberry, Anthony Gutowski, Michael Molinar, Adam Guild;

Youth Sports Players of the Year: Miles Greer, Stacy G. Funches II, Adil Lodhi, Michael Guruli, William Warter, Duncan Bangerter, Jalen Bogue, Wyatt Singer, Chris Clark, Cody Howard, Zack Holzworth, Benjamin Hammond, Xavier Micah Butler, Blake Johnson, Calvin Van Pelt, Angelo Romero, Jackson Stroud, Vincent Ordenes, Anthony Giordano, Trenton Johnson, Allan Starks, Adrian Mejia, Veronica Paige Counts;

Youth Cheerleaders of the Year: Emma Clare Holloway, Darcy Johnson, Nevada Elyse Whitfield, Hannah Rae Johnson, Winnie Gondek.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Northern Virginia Hall of Fame, as well as those students, coaches, and community leaders who are being honored at the 2018 Football Hall of Fame celebration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, this week I missed two roll calls. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Roll Call No. 167—Yes, and Roll Call No. 168—Yes.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE SAM AANESTAD

**HON. TOM McCLINTOCK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. McCLINTOCK, Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I speak today on the passing of one of my dear friends and colleagues, the Honorable Sam Aanestad.

Sam Aanestad was a fixture in Northern California GOP politics for nearly 20 years. He served 2 terms in the California State Assembly, Third District, from 1998 through 2002, before being twice elected in 2002 to the California State Senate, Fourth District.

In the Legislature, Sam focused on cutting government spending, opposing higher taxes, and preserving property and water rights, as well as constituent services. In 2009, he was named by Capitol Weekly as the State Senate's "Most Conservative Member."

During his tenure, Sam received 100 percent ratings from the California Taxpayers Association, National Tax Limitation Committee, California Farm Bureau Federation, National Federation of Independent Business, and many other conservative groups.

Sam and his wife Susan lived in the Northern California area since 1980. He had an established oral and maxillofacial surgery practice in Grass Valley, where he also served as Vice Chief of Surgery for Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital.

Sam was a member of the American Dental Association, served two terms as President of the Butte-Sierra District Dental Society, and served three years as Chairman of the California Dental Association's Council on Legislation. In 1998, he was honored by the UCLA School of Dentistry as their "Alumnus of the Year." CALAOMS (California Association of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons) awarded Dr. Aanestad the "Distinguished Service Award" for his leadership in the CA State Assembly.

Prior to joining the legislature, Sam served 11 years on the Grass Valley School District Board of Trustees, where he fought for greater local control and smaller class sizes. He was a member of the Rotary Club of Grass Valley, a youth soccer, football, and baseball coach, and member of the KNCO radio broadcast team for Nevada Union High School football.

Sam earned his Bachelor of Science degree as well as his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from the University of California, Los Angeles. He then did a four-year Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery residency at Highland Hospital in Oakland. Additionally, Sam earned his Master's in Public Administration from Golden Gate University.

Sam lived in Penn Valley with his wife Susan, where they were active in their local church. They have three grown children and 10 grandchildren.

Sam Aanestad was one of the most sincere, sensible, genuine and honest people I have ever met and his passing is a loss that will never be filled in the life of anyone who knew him. It was my honor for several years to have been his seat mate in both the Assembly and the Senate. He often agonized over votes because he truly wanted to do right by his constituents and his conscience, and he always did.

RECOGNIZING MARK SILVERWOOD

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipient of the Devotion to Children Legacy Award, Mr. Mark Silverwood. Co-founded in 1994, by my good friend, Rosemary Tran Lauer, Devotion to Children seeks to raise awareness and support for high quality education and child care programs for children under the age of six who are from economically disadvantaged families, which is critical in ensuring these children become mentally, physically and emotionally healthy members of society. Both working and unemployed families need access to affordable, quality preschool, daycare, health and educational services, which are often unavailable to them without outside assistance. Devotion to Children

identifies those needs, and works to find solutions.

Each year Devotion to Children recognizes an individual who has made extraordinary contributions by promoting public awareness of the organization and local needs, providing funding for programs and services, and who has collaborated with other community organizations to support local children. I am pleased to join Devotion to Children in congratulating and thanking this year's honoree, Mr. Mark Silverwood, for his service to our community.

Mark Silverwood is President and CEO of Silverwood Associates, Inc. and Silverwood Management, Inc., affiliated real estate development and management companies, as well as a partner in Silverwood Investments, LLC.

Since founding Silverwood Associates in 1993, Mr. Silverwood has been responsible for the acquisition, renovation, and management of several thousand apartments in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, North Carolina, and West Virginia. Mr. Silverwood has more than 35 years of experience in the real estate industry, building more than 4,000 residential units and one million square feet of commercial space.

In addition to his work as a developer, Mr. Silverwood has served on the Board of Directors of the Arlington Free Clinic and the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization, as co-chair of the Urban Land Institute Workforce Housing Committee and as a member of the Governor's Housing Policy Advisory Committee. Currently, he is a member of the Urban Land Institute's Washington District Council Advisory Board, the Virginia Housing Development Authority's Northern Virginia Advisory Board, and the Fairfax County Economic Advisory Commission.

Mr. Speaker, the dedicated work of citizens like Mark Silverwood and the volunteers, staff, and sponsors of Devotion to Children are some of the many reasons why Fairfax County and Northern Virginia as a whole remains one of the best places in the country in which to live, work, raise a family, and start a business. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Devotion to Children for their dedication to future generations and in congratulating Mark Silverwood on receiving this award.

GARY BROZ

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this summer will mark the end of Gary Broz's tenure as city manager of Liberty, Texas.

Gary has been a valuable asset for the city of Liberty since he took over as city manager in 2009. He revamped the city's infrastructure by authorizing the reconstruction of the city electrical grid and the replacement of the decades-old sewage plant and pipes system. He is responsible for the new, modern police station, upgraded parking meters, and the city's new municipal golf course and country club.

Above all, his leadership and poise helped the city navigate the challenges brought by Hurricanes Rita, Ike, and Harvey, as well as additional floods. The city's levy withstood Hurricane Harvey last fall, preventing millions of dollars of damage to the city and requiring only minimal repairs afterwards.

When Gary leaves his post in June, he will leave the city of Liberty better than he found it. The city's financial situation is promising, with deep reserves and a new fixed asset fund set aside for the purchase of new equipment. Liberty is also more recognizable as a city than it was in 2009 and has a stronger sense of community.

Gary's idea of a retirement? Taking on a new role as the city manager of Eagle Lake. Not that this comes as too much of a surprise, since hard work has always been a staple of Gary's life.

From working the Houston Rodeo to pay his way through college and his experience working as a farmer and rancher to his decades-long career in city governments across Texas, Gary has always met challenges in life head-on, leaning on an indefatigable work ethic and the uncanny ability to get even the toughest job done.

In his new post, Gary will be able to spend more time with his wife, Georgia, whom he married 39 years ago, as his office will only be a brief fifteen minutes away from his house in Columbus.

Mr. Speaker, it is individuals like Gary whose hard work done on behalf of our communities makes our country great.

And that is just the way it is.

HONORING AMBASSADOR VASILIOS PHILIPPOU

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me as I rise to pay tribute to H.E. Ambassador Vasilios Philippou as he begins his new position as the High Commissioner of the Republic of Cyprus in Ottawa, Canada.

Ambassador Philippou began his career in the National Guard for the Republic of Cyprus. He went on to receive his B.A. in Economics, Social Administration, and Political Science at University of Montpellier France in 1989, followed by a Master's degree in International Politics from Free University of Brussels in 1999, and most recently a Master of Arts in International Relations from Alliant International University in 2013. Ambassador Philippou served in the Foreign Service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus in 1991. He was later appointed as the Consul General of Cyprus in New York, in addition to later being appointed Counsellor to Economic Affairs, Multilateral Affairs, and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Cyprus to various other countries. He also served as High Commissioner of the Republic of Cyprus to Antigua, Barbuda, St. Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago in 2016.

Ambassador Philippou has been honored and recognized by many different government entities and organizations. The United States Congress honored him for his dedication to peace, understanding, and positive communication for human rights. Ambassador Philippou was awarded the "The International Good Scout Award" from the greater New York Councils of Boy Scouts of America. He has been honored by the Cyprus Children's Fund for his commitment to aiding the needy

children of Cyprus, and the Ambassador is an Honorary Fellow of the Foreign Policy Association of New York. Ambassador Philippou has dedicated his life to the service of the country of Cyprus, its international relations, and the well-being of Cypriot children.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my fellow members of the U.S. House of Representatives agree that Ambassador Vasilios Philippou deserves to be recognized for all of his hard work and dedication to the lives of others both in his country and internationally.

PROTECTING CIVIL SOCIETY,  
FAITH-BASED ACTORS, AND POLITICAL  
SPEECH IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, our hearing today will explore U.S. policy responses to the growing trend of government incursions on the space for non-state actors in Sub-Saharan Africa. As authoritarian regimes and backsliding democracies have entrenched themselves in countries such as Sudan, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and Burundi, governments have increasingly encroached upon the mediating space between individuals and the state, particularly against religious groups and journalists, who often stand as independent institutional checks to authoritarian rule.

Protecting non-governmental sector in Sub-Saharan Africa is critical to preserving civil and political rights within the region. As we learned from the U.S. civil rights movement, groups such as churches and independent journalists are the safekeepers of civil liberties. Through sanctions and public diplomacy tools, the international community can protect the space for these safe-keepers to operate in Sub-Saharan Africa.

For example, the Catholic Church in the Democratic Republic of Congo is the only organization with a nationwide institutional presence and moral authority capable of checking Kabila's growing authoritarian rule. The National Episcopal Conference of the Congo (CENCO, per its French acronym) is the only civil society institution that pressures the Kabila regime to respect human rights and democratic principles. CENCO mediated the Saint Sylvester political agreement in 2016. It also oversees the Episcopal Commission for Justice and Peace (CEJP) which conducts voter-education and election-observer training programs and is a recipient of USAID funding, and has expressed "moral support" for pro-democracy protests.

The Catholic Church's leadership in the Congo does not come without a cost. Priests, nuns and parishioners have been targeted, attacked, and killed in retaliation for its leadership. A few months ago, Father Sebastien Yebo, parish priest of St. Robert in an outer eastern suburb of Kinshasa, was abducted by Congolese security forces. Interviewed on RFI radio, Father Joseph Bema from St. Kisito's parish said he has rarely slept at home since the brutal suppression of the protest marches organized by the Lay Coordination Committee on Jan. 21.

The closing of space for faith based organizations and other civil society organizations is a worrying trend in a number of Sub-Saharan African countries. Humanitarian aid workers, journalists, priests and political candidates (and their families), have been increasingly targeted and threatened by governments in Sub-Saharan Africa.

If we look north of the DRC, we can see that in South Sudan, a country I visited twice since its independence, we see humanitarian organizations are harassed by government forces. Last year, humanitarian organizations reported over 700 cases of humanitarian access incidents. The environment for humanitarian operations grows increasingly difficult and dangerous as the geographic scope of humanitarian need continues to expand. South Sudan currently have over 1.7 million IDPs.

There is also growing concern throughout the region on the closing of independent and objective media sources. Most recently, Burundi suspended Voice of America and BBC earlier this week for a period of six months, according to the announcement made at a press conference by the Conseil Nationale de la Communication (CNC). The CNC claims that this suspension is in response to "biased reporting." This suspension comes two weeks before a referendum allowing Burundi's president to serve into the 2030s, in apparent violation of constitutional term limits. VOA's local correspondent told US Embassy Bujumbura that the decision was a complete surprise and we will hear more from VOA's Africa Director as one of our witnesses today.

All of the witnesses today bring us an on-the-ground perspective of the closing space for non-governmental organizations, though they will provide a snapshot of conditions in several countries, their testimony's will provide evidence of the growing regional trend of incursions against civic space. My hope is that this hearing will inform our view of possible U.S. policy responses to better protect fundamental civil and political rights in Sub-Saharan Africa, which includes using sanctions, greater support for faith-based actor via USAID, and support media independence, specifically Voice of America—Africa (VOA).

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE RECOVER ACT

### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Reducing the Effects of the Cyberattack on OPM Victims Emergency Response Act of 2018 (the RECOVER Act), which would require the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to make permanent the free identity protection coverage that Congress required OPM to provide for 10 years to individuals whose Social Security Numbers were potentially compromised during the OPM data breaches. In 2015, OPM reported that the personally identifiable information of as many as 25.7 million current, former and prospective federal employees and contractors was stolen in two data breaches. I appreciate that Representative C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER is co-sponsoring this bill.

After OPM announced that it would offer identity protection coverage of limited duration

and value, Senator BEN CARDIN and I introduced the RECOVER Act in July 2015, which would have provided affected individuals lifetime protection and at least \$5 million in identity theft insurance. Congress subsequently included a version of our bill in an enacted appropriations bill, but limited the duration of the protection. Under current law, OPM is only required to provide identity protection coverage through fiscal year 2026. Under the bill we are introducing today, OPM would be required to provide the coverage for the remainder of the life of affected individuals.

The current coverage is inadequate, particularly considering that there is no limit to when the thieves (or those they have shared the stolen data with) may exploit the data. Therefore, there should be no limit to the duration of the coverage provided to affected individuals. This bill would give current, former and prospective federal employees and contractors who were affected both some peace of mind and protection. OPM failed to protect these people. It follows that the government must do the right thing to make up for its mistake.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 2018 WEST POINT LEADERSHIP ETHICS AND DIVERSITY IN STEM WORKSHOP

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the West Point Leadership Ethics and Diversity in STEM (LEADS) Program, and to congratulate the students who have participated in the 2018 LEADS Workshop.

The LEADS program began in 2011 and was designed to engage students in the 6th through 10th grades to help prepare them for the challenging academic courses required for acceptance into top tier schools like West Point, focusing primarily on underserved and minority school populations. While a focus on STEM education has been a top priority in many schools, the West Point LEADS program adds another very important dimension—the role that ethics plays in effective leadership. In addition to robotics and coding workshops, students in the LEADS program also participate in activities to explore and begin their journeys to become not only educated leaders, but also ethical leaders.

Students from forty-five schools are participating in the 2018 LEADS program. I congratulate each of these students and am honored to recognize the following schools who have provided them with this opportunity:

BASIS DC; Bishop O'Connell High School, Colonial Forge High School, DC International School, Deer Park Middle Magnet School, Dwight D. Eisenhower Middle School, Episcopal High School, Fairview Elementary School, Forest Park High School, Fort Foote Elementary School, Friendship Collegiate Academy, Frost Middle School, Georgetown Visitation Prep School, Great Explorations School, Hayfield Secondary School, HH Poole Middle School, Imagine Foundation at Morningside, Irving Middle School, Lake Brad-dock Secondary School, Lake Ridge Middle School, Langley High School, Lauren Hill Ele-

mentary School, Mark Twain Middle School, Mount Vernon High School, North Stafford High School, Oakcrest School, Oxon Hill High School, Patriot High School, Paul VI High School, Phillipsburg Middle School, Pinnacle Academy, Potomac Middle School, Rippon Middle School, Rodney Thompson Middle School, Samuel Ogle Middle School, Sidwell Friends School, South County High School, South County Middle School, St. Stephen & St. Agnes School, Suitland High School, Temple Baptist School, West Springfield High School, Westlake High School, and Williamsburg Middle School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the schools and students who are participating in the 2018 West Point LEADS Program. I thank the West Point Society of DC, the MITRE Corporation, and the Rotary Club of Springfield, for their support of this vital program. I also would like to recognize Ms. Pat Walker Locke, who in 1980 became the first African American woman to graduate from West Point, for her critical role in creating and promoting the LEADS program, as well as for her decades of commitment to the growth and development of our future leaders. She has received numerous national awards and accolades in recognition of her efforts. Her support of all students, but primarily those in underrepresented communities, has improved the lives of countless children and is truly worthy of our highest praise.

#### HONORING MASTER SERGEANT RUSSELL BERKHEIMER, U.S. ARMY, ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER MORE THAN 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

### HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Russell Berkheimer, a native of Thomasville, PA, on his upcoming retirement after more than 20 years of service to the United States of America.

Master Sergeant Berkheimer currently serves as the Technical Director of the Joint Communications Integration Element, where he provides daily guidance on technical issues facing the entire command, while leading research and development projects to meet capability gaps. He entered the United States Army in 1998, and served in numerous assignments, to include Central America in support of counter-narcotics and humanitarian missions, as well as Afghanistan and Iraq during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, respectively.

His numerous commendations and awards, including the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (1 OLC), the Meritorious Service Medal and others, are a testament to his steadfast courage, personal integrity, tireless work ethic and impeccable character. His enduring legacy of service to our Nation truly is exceptional and sets a standard for all to follow.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I commend and congratulate my fellow brother-in-arms, Master Sergeant Russell Berkheimer, upon his retirement

and for his tireless service to the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE COURAGE OF MR. OSVALDO GHIO AND HIS FAMILY TO HELP RESCUE LT. WARREN ADERHOLT

**HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, we have often heard stories of American soldiers and airmen in World War II being rescued by heroic men and women throughout Europe. Today I rise to honor just such a man and his family.

On April 9, 1945, 2nd Lieutenant Warren Aderholt, a cousin on my father's side, crashed his P-51 Mustang approximately 30 miles behind enemy lines in northern Italy near the town of Sarzana. The area was occupied by German forces and the local civilians had been warned not to assist the Allied forces. They were told that if they disobeyed this directive they risked being shot. Nevertheless, at great personal risk to himself and his family, Mr. Osvaldo Ghio rescued Lieutenant Aderholt. Mr. Ghio and his family gave Lt. Aderholt food and clothes and hid him in a secret hideout that he had constructed for just this purpose. The hideout looked like a large stack of concrete blocks, but inside was a place for Aderholt to hide.

Also, U.S. documents show that Mr. Ghio would personally remove mines from around the airport that the Germans had placed there. He would go through these mine fields at night so as not to be seen and would then give the mines to the Italian Partisans in their fight against the enemy. Had Mr. Ghio not removed these mines when Lt. Aderholt belied his plane into the airport, he would have surely hit one as his plane skid in a crash landing.

Once the news that an American pilot had crash landed nearby, the Germans lined up the local citizens, including the Ghio family, and interrogated them. One family even had their home burned by the Germans. However, the Ghios continued to hide Lt. Aderholt until the coast was clear. Once the German troops left the area they led Lt. Aderholt to safety by hiking miles through the mountains to the front where American troops were advancing.

Members of Lt. Warren Aderholt's family will be traveling to Sarzana, Italy this month to meet the surviving daughter of Mr. Ghio, Rosalba. I would also like to recognize the painstaking research of Claudio Mischi, an aeronautical archaeologist, who did extensive research on what exactly happened in April of 1945 at this location. Mr. Mischi has done this painstaking research out of his extreme gratitude to the United States and the Allies that liberated his country. It should also be noted that Claudio Mischi is writing a biography on Lt. Aderholt's career as well.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the courage of the Ghio family and their sacrifice to help rescue Lt. Warren Aderholt back on April 9, 1945, as well as all those who offered acts of kindness and assistance to the United States Military during World War II.

RECOGNIZING THE 2017 MVLE ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2017 MVLE Annual Award Recipients.

For 46 years, MVLE has provided employment opportunities and support services to individuals with disabilities, and thereby created an environment which has allowed its clients to live in dignity and as independently as possible. MVLE has achieved this success by partnering with local businesses, as well as with government agencies and other not-for-profit organizations. MVLE, its staff, and dedicated volunteers and supporters can be proud that they are making a positive difference in someone's life every day.

Each year, MVLE honors individual participants as well as business and community partners, who support MVLE's mission. I am pleased to include in the RECORD the names of the 2017 award recipients:

The President's Award is being presented to individuals who have shown outstanding progress toward gaining independence and self-sufficiency through participation in employment and community services. The 2017 President's Award recipients are Ivana Ardinoto, Willie Anne Belleh, Brittany Davis, and Jeremy Dustin.

The Chairman's Award is being presented to an outstanding business partner who has demonstrated excellence in hiring practices, creating supportive work environments, and supporting the mission of MVLE. The 2017 Chairman's Award recipient is the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Office of Headquarter Operations.

MVLE also presents four Community Awards for Government, Employment Partner, Advocacy, and Social Responsibility.

The Government Champion Award is being presented to state Delegate Mark Sickles. MVLE presents this award to an outstanding partner who is committed to creating meaningful employment opportunities by building partnerships across government and business sectors.

The Employment Partner Award is being presented to Parkway Express. MVLE presents this award to an outstanding partner who is committed to creating meaningful community employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities and military veterans.

The Advocacy Champion Award is being presented to Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay. MVLE presents this award to an outstanding partner who advocates for community integration by fostering partnerships across sectors to create futures one person at a time.

The Social Responsibility Award is being presented to First Virginia Community Bank. MVLE presents this award to an outstanding partner who supports MVLE through contributions and volunteer work.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending MVLE for its success in helping individuals with disabilities achieve independence and in congratulating the 2017 MVLE Annual Award recipients. The efforts of

MVLE, its supporters, community partners, and clients are an inspiration to all and are worthy of our highest praise.

SPORTS FOR ALL

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it's that time of year again, ballparks are back in swing. You will be hard pressed not to find a little league game being played just about any day of the week. Most kids know the thrill of lacing up their cleats, wearing a uniform, and being part of a team. My community desired that ALL kids have this chance. I am proud to announce that the Second District of Texas has a new ballpark in town—Insperty Adaptive Sports Complex.

Too often children with disabilities are forced to watch from the bench or sidelines. Playgrounds and sports fields are neither wheelchair nor walker friendly. Humble Independent School District and the YMCA partnered to provide children with disabilities and special needs a unique barrier free environment to play and participate in team sports. The facility exists because of companies like Insperty and folks like Joe Cleary, Mark Koenig, and Dr. Guy Sconzo; along with the executive directors, board members, private donors, and volunteers, who devoted countless hours and money to improving the lives of children with disabilities.

Insperty Adaptive Sports Complex is located near Summerwood between Groves Elementary and West Lake Middle School. It sits on 5 acres. It features two YMCA Miracle League fields. Both fields are wheelchair accessible with a synthetic surface that allows children of all abilities to take the field. The team dugouts accommodate wheelchairs and other special needs such as walkers. Kids of all abilities can now be a part of a team. They proudly wear their uniform and round the bases just like their friends. And they have fans. It is joy to witness parents getting to watch their disabled child be a part of a team for the very first time.

The new adaptive sports facility also has an innovative playground with ramps, special swings, and sensory stations. It even has a basketball court with modified basketball hoops. It feels like any other ball park with concessions and a pavilion. It is important for those with disabilities to stay active. Adaptive sports and recreational programs bring health, wellness and social benefits to the special needs child. It is challenging but also healing.

The unique partnership, between the school district and the YMCA, allows students in the district to use the facility during the school day and the YMCA uses the facility in the evenings and weekends. The community is welcome to enjoy the open playground outside of school times. A win win for the Lake Houston area.

So this weekend, grab your sunscreen, and head out to our newest park in town. Be ready to cheer on some remarkable Texans, who are happy to finally be a part of a team.

And that's just the way it is.