

relinquishing command of the 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas this morning. His previous assignments include the III Corps, G3 Chief of Training at Fort Hood, TX. He also served as the Deputy Brigade Commander, Executive Officer, and Fire Support Officer for the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, KS as well as the Battalion S-3 for the 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery; LTC Errington was the Assistant Professor of Military Science at Saint John's University, College of Saint Benedict's, and Saint Cloud State University in Minnesota. He was the Battalion Fire Direction Officer, S1, and Charlie Battery Commander for 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery, 1st Armored Division, Baumholder, Germany. LTC Errington also served as a Task Force Fire Support Officer, Platoon Leader, and Company Fire Support Officer for 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery at Fort Riley, Kansas.

LTC Errington's decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Badge, the Meritorious Unit Citation, and the Presidential Unit Citation.

He is married to the former Alison Adams of Hermantown, MN and they have three children—Brooke who is going to start college at Kansas State University in the fall, Billy, and Becky.

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HONORING THE NORTHWEST MISSOURI REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2018*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments for their milestone achievement of fifty years of service for the betterment of the local communities they serve.

The Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments, formerly called the Northwest Missouri Regional Planning Commission, is one of twenty regional planning commissions in Missouri, which grew out of the State and Regional Planning and Community Development Act of 1966, permitting the establishment of regional planning commissions to resolve common community problems on a regional basis. Since their founding in 1968, the Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments has been assisting their member counties and cities with engineering studies, grant applications, and coordinating regional efforts to the benefit of my constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask that you join me in celebrating these achievements and promoting the ongoing mission of the Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments.

VETERANS CEMETERY BENEFIT CORRECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 16, 2018*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to S. 2372, the VA Mission Act. When our brave men and women take an oath to serve in the United States Armed Forces, we make them a solemn promise. Upon completion of their service, we assure them and their families of clearly defined benefits that are guaranteed. Legislation that impacts those benefits must be held to a critical and fundamental test. It must never jeopardize the future of those benefits that our men and women in uniform and their families sacrificed for. While S. 2372 has a number of outstanding provisions that I support, I am disappointed and troubled to say that it fails that fundamental test. The changes this legislation makes to the Veterans Choice Program jeopardizes the necessary future funding to support our veterans and guarantee their healthcare benefits. For that reason I cannot support S. 2372.

S. 2372 combines the VA community care programs by merging the current Veterans Choice Program with other VA community care initiatives. While this consolidation may make it easier for veterans to receive private sector care through the VA, S. 2372 creates a significant future funding problem for the Veterans Choice Program and the VA as we know it today. Currently, Veterans Choice is designated as mandatory spending-guaranteed. S. 2372 shifts funding for Veterans Choice to discretionary spending, meaning that spending on Veterans Choice will compete for funds directly within the VA against other programs for healthcare, benefits, homelessness, infrastructure, and electronic health record technology modernization. It also means that this funding will compete against spending in other appropriations bills including education, law enforcement, the environment, and infrastructure.

Additionally, the current budget caps do not support the level of VA spending that would be required to absorb Veterans Choice as a discretionary program. In fact, the Congressional Budget Office has projected that S. 2372 will cost the VA nearly \$47 billion over the next five years. This means that in the short-term, S. 2372 could subject the VA to automatic sequestration cuts that would jeopardize every VA program. This goes beyond simple bad budgeting. By failing to ensure future funding for veterans' benefits programs, S. 2372 fails to uphold that most solemn promise we make to our women and men in uniform when they serve this nation.

Mr. Speaker, passing this legislation and subjecting the VA and our veterans to the threat of future budget cuts is plain wrong. Ensuring the highest quality care for our veterans is the right thing to do and is not a partisan issue. In the coming weeks it is my hope that Democrats and Republicans will come together to ensure that this legislation is fixed and that the guaranteed benefits provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs are robustly funded for the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN P. GALLAGHER & PHYLLIS (SKOCIK) GALLAGHER, ALZHEIMER'S ADVOCATES

**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2018*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Phyllis Gallagher and her late husband John Gallagher of Frackville, Pennsylvania who have served as courageous advocates for Alzheimer's patients and their families. John passed away on April 18, 2018 after a 6 year struggle with the disease.

John was a native of Ashland in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. He was a career civil servant who worked as a clerk for the Bipartisan Committee of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in Harrisburg. John was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's in 2012, leading to his retirement at the age of 49. John chose not to let his service to others end with his diagnosis. With the help of his wife Phyllis, John spent his time involved with the local Alzheimer's Association chapter. He took part in the Walk to End Alzheimer's and participated in several research projects at Johns Hopkins University. He also decided upon his death, his brain would be donated to research being conducted at the Boston University School of Medicine.

After John's condition deteriorated, Phyllis continued their work to raise awareness of Alzheimer's disease research and the desperate need for support programs for Alzheimer's patients and caregivers. Her mission took her to Capitol Hill last year to testify before the United States Senate Special Committee on Aging and to participate in the Alzheimer's Advocacy Forum to speak on behalf of the 5.5 million Americans living with Alzheimer's disease.

On the day she testified before the Senate, Phyllis observed: "this disease has ravaged our family, but that doesn't mean that we have to give up hope. Something positive has to come out of this."

It is an honor to recognize John and Phyllis Gallagher for the tireless work they have done to raise awareness of Alzheimer's disease. I am grateful to John and Phyllis for contributing to the advancement of treatment and cure while facing their own tremendous struggle with the disease. It is my hope that Phyllis continues her work as an advocate for the individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's.

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CONGRATULATING DIANA DIAZ TAPIA

**HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2018*

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Diana Diaz Tapia for graduating cum laude from Rutgers University Newark with a Bachelor of Arts in Public and Nonprofit Administration.

Diana, a resident of Franklin Township and a DREAMer, came to the United States in 2002 from Mexico. Throughout her academic career, Diana has worked hard to achieve her

goals. Knowing the sacrifice her parents made to bring her to the U.S., she has been motivated to pursue her dreams.

Diana was admitted into the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program at New Brunswick High School her freshman year and her academics took off. She graduated in the top of her class and received numerous scholarships that allowed her to attend Middlesex Community College. Among those scholarships were the Karl Burnstein Memorial Scholarship and the Elinor Pavon Oziel Memorial Scholarship.

While at Middlesex she once again excelled and received the RU-N to the Top, The Dream, US Scholarship as well as other scholarships to help make her dream of a college degree come true. In true Diana fashion, she has already begun classes towards her next goal; a master's degree in Public Administration.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Diana on her recent graduation and wish her the best of luck on her future endeavors.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2018*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I had a scheduling conflict, and was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call No. 181; "yea" on Roll Call No. 182; "yea" on Roll Call No. 183; "yea" on Roll Call No. 184; "yea" on Roll Call No. 185; "yea" on Roll Call No. 186; "yea" on Roll Call No. 187; "yea" on Roll Call No. 188; "yea" on Roll Call No. 189; "yea" on Roll Call No. 190; "yea" on Roll Call No. 191; "yea" on Roll Call No. 192; "nay" on Roll Call No. 193; "nay" on Roll Call No. 194; "nay" on Roll Call No. 195; "yea" on Roll Call No. 196; "nay" on Roll Call No. 197; "yea" on Roll Call No. 198; "yea" on Roll Call No. 199; "nay" on Roll Call No. 200; "nay" on Roll Call No. 201; "yea" on Roll Call No. 202; "yea" on Roll Call No. 203; "nay" on Roll Call No. 204; "yea" on Roll Call No. 205; and "yea" on Roll Call No. 206.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2018*

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I missed a vote on 4/10/2018. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 130; YEA on Roll Call No. 131; and YEA on Roll Call No. 132.

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HONORING UNITED VETERANS COUNCIL OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY'S 100TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2018*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Congresswoman ANNA

ESHOO, to honor the 100th Annual Memorial Day Service in our community and to take a moment to remember those in our military who selflessly sacrificed their lives for our nation.

This year, the United Veterans Council of Santa Clara County will help conduct the 100th Memorial Day Service in our community to recognize and celebrate, with gratitude and appreciation, the fallen heroes of our U.S. Armed Forces.

We acknowledge that through their heroism, our service members protected our freedom and fostered the safety and prosperity that we enjoy as a nation. We remember also the families of all those who perished in service to our country, and express our gratitude to them.

Mr. Speaker, we hereby recognize and commend those members of our U.S. Armed Forces, who have lost their lives in service of our country, as well as their family and communities, who supported their service for our country. During our 100th Memorial Day Service, our community comes together to remember those who dedicated their lives to preserve and protect our way of life and our future.

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#### CONGRATULATING DR. JEFF SZABO

### HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2018*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Jeff Szabo for winning the 2017 Arthur Flemming Award.

The Arthur Flemming Award is a great honor and Dr. Szabo has demonstrated the innovation and vision to be worthy of such an award.

He has been instrumental in advancing the Nation's understanding of the fate, persistence and transport of contaminants in drinking water distribution systems, and in wastewater treatment utilities. Under Dr. Szabo's direction the Water Security Test Bed (WSTB) was designed and built at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL), a first-of-its-kind, multimillion dollar field scale water distribution system. It is a platform for performing drinking water security experiments in a setting that resembles real water pipes in the ground without public health risk. Research conducted at the WSTB has proven to be invaluable by greatly enhancing the Nation's knowledge of how to decontaminate these critical infrastructures, and the water sector's ability to respond to a chemical, biological and radiological incident.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Szabo has made an important impact at the Idaho National Laboratory, and we celebrate his accomplishments.

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COMMENDING MR. ROGER DEHART OF BROWARD COUNTY FOR RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING BY WALKING OVER 1000 MILES

### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2018*

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, it is my great privilege to rise today to commend Mr. Roger

DeHart, a devoted public servant who walked more than 1,000 miles from Fort Lauderdale, Florida to Washington, D.C., in order to raise awareness about human trafficking.

Roger is a Deputy Officer in the Broward County Courthouse. He began training for this walk six months ago, and after pooling his vacation time, he set-off from the steps of the Broward County Courthouse to the steps of the U.S. Capitol.

Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery and the United States is one of the top destinations in the world for trafficked victims. Centers of tourism, including Florida, are major destinations for human trafficking victims—many of whom come from our own communities and schools. Florida now has the third highest rate of trafficking in the country, and Broward and Palm Beach Counties rank first and fourth respectively for in-state incidences of trafficking.

We are seeing a disturbing trend of victims being targeted at schools, where traffickers use force, fraud, or coercion to control victims and subject them to compelled labor or commercial sex acts. One year ago, I led members of the South Florida Congressional Delegation in urging the Palm Beach County and Broward County Public Schools systems to incorporate human trafficking education into their curriculums in order to push back against this horrific crime.

Mr. Speaker, I am awe inspired by Roger's activism and dedication to raising awareness about an issue that is taking place in our community and in every state across our nation. Roger deserves a debt of gratitude for all that he is doing to bring about real change, and working to end human trafficking once and for all. It only takes one person to make a difference. I thank Roger for being an unsung hero to so many, for his service to our community and to our nation.

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HONORING THE CAREER OF SUSAN HAIGH, PRESIDENT & CEO OF TWIN CITIES HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2018*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Susan Haigh, on the occasion of her retirement from Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity. For 13 years, Sue has made an outsized impact on not only Twin Cities Habitat, but also on the greater Saint Paul-Minneapolis region. By forging creative and dynamic partnerships and through excellent fiscal leadership, more than 1,200 hundred families in 58 cities bought homes with Habitat under her stewardship. Twin Cities Habitat is firmly positioned for continuing and lasting success.

Under Sue's leadership, Twin Cities Habitat is a growing force for good in our region. Not only is Sue's incredible impact felt in our community, she is also a leading force within Habitat across the country. Beginning at Twin Cities Habitat, A Brush with Kindness is now a national initiative to help moderate and low-income families with home repairs and updates. Sue led the way through robust growth and innovation, leaving the organization a foundation of strength. As Sue departs, she leaves Twin