

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019

SPEECH OF

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 22, 2018*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5515) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Chair, I thank the Speaker for allowing a vote on my amendment, number 17, which would for the first time include blast exposure history in service records. This would drastically improve the care our service members receive when they return from theater by identifying injuries sustained from blasts on the field.

This bipartisan policy was recently recommended by the Center for a New American Security, and is supported by my co-chair of the Brain Injury Task Force, Congressman THOMAS J. ROONEY (R-FL), as well as independent researchers and brain injury advocates.

The effects of our service members' repeated exposure to blast events are largely unknown and could take years to show up. Accurate records of blast exposure, including during training, are needed to improve our understanding of blast-induced brain injury.

NDAAs in recent years have authorized funding for critical programs like DOD's Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury Research Program. Throughout the appropriations process, I hope to see continued funding for this and other brain injury programs at Defense, such as the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center and the National Intrepid Center of Excellence.

This funding, coupled with this amendment, will allow us to further understand and improve the care provided to service members who have sustained a brain injury.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, due to attending the graduation of my eldest son, Eli Westerman, from Yale University, I was unable to attend votes on Monday, May 21, 2018. Had I been present in the House of Representatives, I would have voted Aye on Roll Call No. 207 (H.R. 4830—SIT—REP Act); Roll Call No. 208 (H.R. 4451—Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Programs Reauthorization Act); and Roll Call No. 209 (H.R. 3832—Veterans Opioid Abuse Prevention).

IN RECOGNITION OF JERRY FORTE

**HON. DOUG LAMBORN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, for over twelve years, Jerry Forte has served the Colorado Springs area tirelessly and with great success as CEO for Colorado Springs Utilities. During his tenure, Mr. Forte oversaw production of electric, natural gas, and water services for over a half million customers in our area. In his work, he has streamlined large projects in order to save customers money and improve overall efficiency. He will retire this year, but not without leaving a lasting legacy—he has delivered reliable service and low rates to our communities.

He also operated the nearly \$1 billion utility budget with a high degree of professionalism and incredible stewardship. Community leaders like Mr. Forte are the reason our region thrives and remains one of the best places to live in the nation. As a Colorado Springs native, he understands and appreciates that.

Mr. Forte returned to his hometown of Colorado Springs after serving the communities of Sterling, Colorado and Woodland Park, Colorado. He also worked in the private sector as a consulting engineer. He managed Johnson Control's five-service utility in support of the Los Alamos National Laboratory, where he received awards for excellence in customer satisfaction and leadership excellence. He also has several publications to his credit.

Mr. Forte is dedicated to delivering safe and reliable public water and power. I'm extremely thankful for his service and commitment. Our region has been in good hands. Mr. Forte, thank you for over twelve years as CEO of Colorado Springs Utilities and decades more of service to our state. I wish him well and I pray that God will bless him in whatever he decides to do next.

RECOGNIZING JAY ROBERTS

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mr. Jay Roberts, who is retiring after thirty years of dedicated service in music education and as a community leader.

Mr. Roberts began his career in 1988 as a part-time elementary music education teacher while working at home repairing musical instruments. He began teaching full-time at Brentwood Union School District in 1990. In 1995, he entered the Elk Grove School District system, teaching music education at Harriet Eddy Middle School, and will retire as the music director for the award-winning Toby Johnson Middle School Band in Elk Grove, where he's taught since 2001.

Mr. Roberts has served admirably as an outstanding and accomplished music educator and leader in our community. He can be credited with the recognition of Toby Johnson's Middle School Jaguar Marching Band and Color Guard, an award-winning marching and jazz band. As a music education teacher, Mr. Roberts has impacted the lives of hundreds of students, giving them a sense of confidence and accomplishment. He's challenged them in a way to make them realize their potential, and the results are an award-winning middle school music program—an incredible accomplishment. In the community, he founded the Elk Grove Community Concert band, the Jay Roberts Swingtime Orchestra and he also conducts for River City Theater Company.

Mr. Roberts holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from California State University, Fullerton and completed his graduate work at California State University, Hayward.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Roberts has served our student community with admirable leadership, passion and dedication. He leaves a remarkable legacy. It is my honor to thank him for the positive impacts he's had on his students and wish him the very best for an enjoyable retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for Roll Call No. 165 (H.R. 4, FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018). Had I been present, I would have voted "Yes" on this vote.

HONORING BARKEATER CHOCOLATES ON ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Ms. STEFANK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Barkeater Chocolates on its 10th anniversary.

In 2008, Debbie Morris decided to turn her passion for chocolate into a business. With the help of her husband, Jim, she set out to provide the Adirondacks with artisanal chocolate. The Morris's renovated an old home into a chocolate factory and retail store in the North Creek area, and have not stopped making chocolate since.

Unsatisfied with the lack of variety and quality of chocolates available in their community, the Morris's set out to provide the North Country the delicious sweets it deserves. Barkeater Chocolates proudly offers dozens of flavors of truffles, caramels, bars, bark, peanut butter cups, and cocoa. Now a thriving business,

• 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.

Barkeater Chocolates serves as a wonderful example of successful entrepreneurship in the North Country.

On behalf of New York's 21st district, I want to congratulate Barkeater Chocolates on its 10th anniversary. Barkeater Chocolates plays an important role in North Creek community life, and I look forward to watching Barkeater Chocolates continue to flourish in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL  
ARTHRITIS AWARENESS MONTH

**HON. DAVID B. MCKINLEY**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize National Arthritis Awareness Month. Every May, we call attention to the hardships associated with arthritis, a chronic disease that results in the inflammation or swelling of one or more joints of the body. Arthritis is the number one cause of disability in the United States, and carries a total economic burden of more than \$300 billion in medical expenses and lost productivity.

During this month of recognition, it's critical we remember the more than 54 million Americans, and 300,000 children, living with arthritis. There are over 100 different forms in which this disease manifests, the most common being: osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, fibromyalgia, and psoriatic arthritis.

While arthritis limits their daily activities, people with arthritis are fighters, and take action to conquer this disease. As co-chair of the Congressional Arthritis Caucus, along with my colleague Representative ESHOO, we work together to address some of the most pressing issues facing the arthritis community today, like the high out-of-pocket costs for medication.

Increased awareness can lead to early detection and treatment, and it fosters an environment that supports people with the disease in our communities. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing National Arthritis Awareness Month.

TRIBUTE TO HARLEY GREENWALT

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Harley Greenwalt of Shenandoah, Iowa on the occasion of his 100th birthday. Harley celebrated his birthday on May 14, 2018.

Our world has changed a great deal during the course of Harley's life. Since his birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Harley has lived through eighteen United States Presidents and twenty-five Governors of Iowa. In his lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Harley in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish him a very happy 100th birthday. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Harley on reaching this incredible milestone, and wishing him even more health and happiness in the years to come.

HONORING FIRST SERGEANT  
RAJENDRA TONY SINGH

**HON. JACKIE WALORSKI**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor First Sergeant Rajendra Tony Singh of South Bend. His acts of heroism and sacrifice in service to our country are an inspiration to us all.

Sergeant Singh has served three combat tours in Iraq and another in Afghanistan in his 21 years in the U.S. Marine Corps. He is a true leader who loves his country and is devoted to his fellow servicemembers. His abilities and actions have earned him well-deserved recognition, including a Navy Commendation Medal with a V, a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, a Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation among many others. These decorations are a sign of his good character, dedication, and patriotism.

Sergeant Singh has always gone above and beyond to help others and make a real difference for those in need. His service to our country overseas is matched by his service to his community here at home. Sergeant Singh is a distinguished leader among his peers and a guiding light for his family. I want to thank his wife Marilyn for her incredible strength and for the support she has given to her family while her husband serves. I have no doubt their children Sabrina, Anthony, and Steven will grow up to be as driven and compassionate as their father.

Sergeant Singh's legacy and career exemplify what it means to be a Marine. His steadfast commitment to humanitarian efforts as well as to preserving our way of life has made our nation and our communities stronger. We are grateful for his continued service and selfless dedication to this country. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking First Sergeant Rajendra T. Singh for his honorable service to our country and wishing him all the best in the amazing things I'm sure lie ahead for him and his family.

ANTHONY AND ANGELA HALL

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, there's an old saying, "In the South there are no strangers, just friends we haven't met yet." In Texas, we call that southern hospitality. It's rare to find a Texan who isn't ready to lend a hand to those in need. Hurricane Harvey brought out the best in Texans, and the goodwill shown by Anthony and Angela Hall of Humble, Texas truly shines as bright as the lone star.

The Halls, like many in their neighborhood, sustained damage to their home from Hurricane Harvey. But like most Texans, Anthony and Angela rushed to help their neighbors and volunteered at a local shelter. One day at the shelter, the couple met a woman and her children sitting off to the side. The storm had taken everything but the clothes off their backs.

Heartbroken and determined to help, Angela told the family that she would feed them. Sure enough, she began to prepare meals for the family at home, which she then brought with her when she went to the shelter.

As Angela continued her volunteer service, she recognized that many of her neighbors were also in need of assistance, and before long she was cooking meals for the neighborhood, delivering their sustenance door-to-door.

Angela and Anthony, along with their four daughters, prepared as many as 300 plates a day for their neighbors still reeling from the effects of the hurricane, waking up before the sunrise every day and spending thousands of dollars of their own money to keep the neighborhood from going hungry.

To this day, the Halls are still providing meals to anyone in need, and are even willing to travel to ensure that none of their neighbors go hungry.

Mr. Speaker, Anthony and Angela Hall are angels in the kitchen and are redefining the depth of Texas hospitality. It is people such as the Halls that ensure that no disaster of any magnitude will ever keep the American nation down.

And that is just the way it is.

IN MEMORY, REMEMBRANCE, AND  
CELEBRATION OF DR. JOSÉ  
FRANCISCO PEÑA GÓMEZ

**HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and commemorate Dr. José Francisco Peña Gómez on the 20th anniversary of his passing. Throughout his life, Dr. Peña Gómez was a lifelong public servant who spoke up for the marginalized and often disenfranchised Afro-Latino community from the Dominican Republic; a community and dichotomy intrinsic to all Caribbean and Latin American nations.

It cannot be understated how transcendent Dr. Peña Gómez remains in the Dominican Republic to have served as Mayor of Santo Domingo; Vice President of the International Socialist Party for the Western Hemisphere; President of the Dominican Revolutionary Party, and twice nominated for the Presidency of the Dominican Republic. But his legacy is not just limited to the Dominican Republic.

Dr. Peña Gómez spent his life campaigning for democracy, progressive public policies, free speech and national sovereignty in the Caribbean and Latin America, and greater international community. Through his global education and activism, Dr. Peña Gómez became a friend and partner with elected leaders and luminaries such as Nobel Peace Prize Winner Willy Brandt; U.S. Representative Charles B. Rangel, U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy; French President François Mitterrand;

U.S. President Jimmy Carter; and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe González Márquez.

"The People First!" (La gente primero) was a mantra that Dr. Peña Gómez personified. He never relented in furthering himself and others from the Dominican Republic. His passion for public service in government was a result of his political activism with the Dominican Revolutionary Party and lived experience as an Afro-Latino. As an activist, he loudly voiced his opposition to military intervention in the Dominican Republic; was a fierce proponent of free speech; and denounced unfair elections practices that undermined democracy. Dr. Peña Gómez worked feverishly to advocate for dual-citizenship for Dominican nationals living abroad. He was a global advocate for the indigent and his fervent condemnation of civil and human rights violations in the Dominican Republic never waned.

From his lifetime of service, Dr. Peña Gómez will, without question, be recorded in history as a civil rights icon and advocate for the poor in the Dominican Republic. He was never afraid to speak out against racism and invective directed towards him. He rose above the racism and hatred and in his own words said, "I am a human being who has experienced many vicissitudes . . . I was born in an era of conflicts. I have two sets of parents and two families. One is by blood, and the other is the result of cohabitation. But both are dear to me." It is my pleasure and great honor to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. José Francisco Peña Gómez with his family and those who fondly remember his model and standard.

#### TRIBUTE TO BRUCE RASMUSSEN

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Bruce Rasmussen of Council Bluffs, Iowa for receiving the 2018 Mercy Heritage Award for Business, sponsored by CHI Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs. The Heritage Award was created to show special recognition to volunteers who have enriched our community and helped established a legacy for the future.

Bruce is a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School in Council Bluffs and Iowa State University with an engineering operations degree. After college, Bruce returned to Council Bluffs to help his father establish the family heating and air conditioning business. Today, Rasmussen Mechanical Services has operations in seven midwestern states with over 200 team members. Bruce's business experience goes beyond the family-owned heating and air conditioning business. He has owned a boat hoist manufacturing business, a fitness and wellness center, and helped develop a retail outlet center called Power Plaza. He recently purchased the old Bingo King building in Council Bluffs and is in the process of renovating the structure to be used as the corporate headquarters for Rasmussen Mechanical Services. Bruce has taken an active role in his community, serving in leadership roles with the Council Bluffs Chamber of Commerce, YMCA, Optimist Club, Lutheran Family Services, and Pottawattamie County Foundation. He is a youth basketball and baseball

coach and is an active member at St. John's Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Bruce Rasmussen on his selection for the CHI Mercy Hospital Award for Business. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in congratulating Bruce and wishing him nothing but continued success in all his future endeavors.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ESKATON

### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Eskaton, the largest nonprofit community organization serving senior citizens in the greater Sacramento area. As team members, clients, and families celebrate Eskaton's 50th anniversary, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Eskaton and its team members for their tireless commitment to ensuring that the needs of our Seniors are met.

For the past five decades, Eskaton has been defined by the compassion their staff shows towards their community members and the partnerships they have developed. Eskaton has been part of the growth of our region, enhancing the lives of our Seniors by providing innovative health, housing, and social services to nearly 14,000 people that live in their communities. Eskaton not only serves those living in their facilities, they also provide compassionate support options to those who choose to remain in their own homes. The Center offers important programs that assist Seniors in their daily lives, such as Telephone Reassurance, the Adult Day Health Center, and Eskaton Kids Connection.

Eskaton serves the greater Sacramento community and our residents proudly. I extend my appreciation for the efforts of this outstanding organization and the individuals who work tirelessly to provide valuable health initiatives and benefits to the region's Seniors.

Mr. Speaker, I stand to pay tribute to Eskaton and its staff for fifty years of serving Seniors in the greater Sacramento region. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their exemplary work on behalf of Seniors, as well as their ongoing dedication to their mission of serving the community.

#### SHARING STUDENTS' 'MARCH FOR OUR LIVES' REMARKS

### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 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. I include in the RECORD remarks by Raniya Madhi. 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

(By Raniya Madhi)

Hi everyone, my name is Raniya Mahdi, and I'm a junior at Ridge High School in Basking Ridge, New Jersey, and I'm participating in this march to honor the lives lost at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, where we lost seventeen of our school companions and teachers to yet another mass shooting in this country.

Today is March 24. Millions of people are marching for their lives across the country to demand change so that no student, teacher, or parent has to fear for their or their loved ones life while they are receiving an education at school. When I heard about this shooting, I had mixed emotions. I was shocked, shocked, that we had to lose seventeen more innocent kids to another senseless killing, and yet some of us haven't even addressed this issue that is killing our kids day after day. I was upset, upset to think about how their families must be feeling, that they will never get to kiss their kids goodbye ever again. They will never ever be able to see their loved ones, maybe in another world, but not this one. This world, this country, has made it impossible for us to be able to feel safe in our own schools. We should never have to think about the possibility of being shot by someone who can easily break through our defenseless walls and enter our school like an ordinary person, until they whip out their AR-15 and start firing at students and staff without a care in the world. The ones who we lost should not have been taken away. Why did they need to suffer because of the inaction and stagnance of our congressmen? I thought to myself: These innocent kids came to school, on Valentine's Day, like any normal school day, yet they did not live to see their families and friends the next day. This is horrifying to me, that countless school shootings like this have happened over the years, but no change.

Picture this: A nineteen-year-old walks into a liquor store and lawfully be denied any sort of alcohol. Now picture how is it that a nineteen-year-old cannot legally buy a beer but can legally buy an AR-15 assault rifle at this age? And how can our country allow a person to take the lives of fourteen fellow students and three teachers? We have to unite as one and urge our congressmen to take action. This is why we are participating in this peaceful protest, to pressure our congressmen, senators, representatives and the President to make changes to the existing laws. Ban bump stocks! Ban assault rifles! Increase background checks! We deserve to feel safe in our schools! We may just be students, but this kind of revolution has never happened before, where us kids are taking the reins. Look around you. Look at how many empowered students there are standing up here and around you. This is what determination and unity looks like. With these two things, we can be the generation that ends gun violence.

Most of us here are just teenagers. We should be worrying about doing well on our AP tests and finals in the end of the year, not about being shot by someone who can enter our schools. There have been eighteen school shootings this year alone, and we are only in March. This country's problem is that we do not learn from our mistakes. In Australia, there was a mass shooting in 1996, when a gunman killed thirty-five people in Port Arthur. Only weeks after the tragedy, Australia banned all rapid-fire guns and offered to buy the remaining weapons that some individuals possessed. Since that day, there has not been a single mass shooting. Not one in the past twenty-two years.

Whereas America? After Columbine, Sandy Hook, San Bernardino, Orlando, Vegas and endless others, this country remains numb to any shootings of any kind, no matter how extreme the death tolls are, this country has made it seem like those who died and those who are living aren't even worth putting any sort of restrictions on the weapon that brutally ended their lives and a weapon that could potentially end ours if we do not do something about it.

America needs to wake up and address the major problems here: gun violence and school security. We cannot let more innocent lives be taken away. Again, we may not be able to pass legislation, but we have a voice and we are strong and will continue to use it until something is done. Let's unite as one and support the brave survivors in Parkland that are speaking out for their rights and let's stand together and fight through this hell of an uphill battle. This is not the end of our fight, it's only the beginning.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR.  
LEWIS A. OPLER

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Lewis A. Opler, a doctor who dedicated his life to the care of others. He passed away Thursday, April 12th at the age of 69 in New York City.

Dr. Opler was born in 1948 in Los Angeles but spent the majority of his childhood in New York. He graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biochemical Sciences. He went on to receive a Ph.D. in Pharmacology in 1975 as well as a Medical Degree in 1976 from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine at Yeshiva University.

For 20 years, Dr. Opler served at the New York State Office of Mental Health where he'd go on to become the director of the research division and chief medical officer. Dr. Opler served on the faculties of Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York University School of Medicine and Long Island University.

Dr. Opler's dedication to his work and helping those with mental illness made him one of the most distinguished professionals in his field. He helped to develop the Positive and Negative Syndrome Scale, which became the gold standard measure of symptoms in patients with schizophrenia. He spent his career treating and researching post-traumatic stress disorder, schizophrenia and other brain disorders. His work revolutionized the field and went on to be used in countless research studies and resulted in hundreds of research papers, books, and presentations.

Dr. Opler was also an active member of NAIM-NYS, New York States National Alliance on Mental Illness. His actions there went well beyond that of the average doctor. He devoted countless hours to consoling individuals living with mental illness as well as their family and friends. He wrote a column for NAIM-NYS newsletter and for 30 years was an active participant in their fall educational conference.

Among other titles, Dr. Opler was an accomplished writer and musician, he co-wrote the books "Resurrection and Redemption: Overcoming Mental Illness and Regaining Dig-

nity," with Harryet Ehrlich and "Prozac and Other Psychiatric Drugs" with Carol Bialkowski. Additionally, Dr. Opler worked as the medical editor for the book the "Complete Pill Guide."

During the Vietnam War, Dr. Opler was an outspoken member of the anti-war movement and performed many classic protest songs as well as his own songs during rallies. He was a classically trained violinist and knew how to play the harmonica, banjo, guitar and mandolin. Dr. Opler was a lifelong defender of labor rights, once leading a walk out for the rights of hospital residents.

Dr. Opler's dedication and spirited empathy has left behind a legacy of generosity, kindness and loyalty. His memory will live on in his family, colleagues, peers and community. He was an honorable man who made this world a better place. I offer my sincerest condolences to his wife, Annette; his sister, Ruth; his children, Mark, Daniel, Michelle and Douglas; their spouses Stacy, Yamuna, Paul and Angela and his seven grandsons.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Dr. Lewis A. Opler's colleagues, family and friends, all those whose lives he has touched, in recognizing Dr. Lewis A. Opler's remarkable life of service.

CONGRESS OF FUTURE SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY LEADERS

**HON. KEN BUCK**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Andrea Flores, who was chosen by the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists to represent the State of Colorado as Delegates at the Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders.

The Congress is an honors-only program for top students in our country who aspire to work in science, technology, engineering, or math (STEM) fields. These students are nominated by their teachers or the Academy based on their leadership ability, academic achievement, and dedication. This program is designed to inspire young people to go into STEM fields and provides a path, plan, and mentoring resources to help them reach their dreams. During the Congress, the students will have the chance to learn from luminaries of the STEM field including top scientific university deans, leaders from government and the private sector, and even Nobel laureates.

This student's acceptance to this prestigious program is an incredible feat, and it is my honor to rise today and recognize the outstanding accomplishment of this future leader. Our nation greatly benefits from the achievements of scientists and technologists, and it is important that we continue to inspire younger generations to pursue careers in the STEM fields.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my congratulations to Andrea Flores and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO LOGAN SCHUMACHER

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Logan Schumacher for winning the Class 1A, 182 pound bracket at the Iowa High School State Wrestling tournament earlier this year.

Logan is a senior at Martensdale-St Mary's High School. He wrestled at the state tournament during his entire high school career and was also nominated for the Class A 2018 Dan Gable Wrestler of the Year Award.

Iowa has a long and proud history of strong wrestling programs, producing college and Olympic champions for years. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent Logan Schumacher and his family in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize him today. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Logan on competing in this rigorous competition and in wishing him nothing but continued success in his education and wrestling career.

IN HONOR OF MARY GRADY  
BURNETTE KOONCE

**HON. GEORGE HOLDING**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the life of Mary Grady Burnette Koonce.

Mary Grady was born in Raleigh on January 4, 1935. She graduated from Saint Mary's School in Raleigh in 1954 and went on to receive a degree in Journalism in 1956 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority. She worked in public relations for Meredith College and then at the Raleigh Times as a court reporter.

Mr. Speaker, in 1957, Mary Grady won the North Carolina Press Women First Place Award and also received the Tar Heel Writers Roundtable First Place prize for juvenile fiction. She enjoyed freelancing as a journalist, writing short stories and poetry.

When not writing, Mary Grady was actively involved in her community. She was a North Carolina Museum of Art docent, Bal de Mer Co-Chair, Treasurer of the Guild; and also Saint Mary's School Parents' Council Vice Chair and Vice President of the Friends of the Library. She was a member of the Raleigh Fine Arts Guild, the Junior League of Raleigh, Hayes Barton United Methodist Church Chancel Committee, and North Carolina Museum of History Associates Wake County Committee.

Regrettably, Mary Grady Burnette Koonce passed away on April 25 this year in Raleigh at the age of 83. She was a kind and graceful wife, mother, daughter, grandmother, and friend who loved time with her children and grandchildren. And she will be missed.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from Roll Call No. 205 (on the final passage of H.R. 2). Had I been present, I would have voted "No."

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 216.

CONGRATULATING A GROUP OF  
OUTSTANDING STUDENTS FROM  
AUBURN, MASSACHUSETTS**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a group of outstanding students from Auburn, Massachusetts.

Students from Auburn High School's AP United States Government & Politics class traveled here to Washington, D.C. last month to take part in the "We The People" national finals competition. Hosted by the Center for Civic Education, this program teaches kids from across America about the importance of our founding principles. Now more than ever, we must teach our students about the value of public service. Through discussion and simulated Congressional hearings, the students got a firsthand look at the historical and contemporary debates that drive our nation's political discourse.

Auburn High School has taken part in "We The People" since 2011, and this is already their third time to Washington. This year, the class participated in a daylong state competition before moving on to nationals, and raised over \$50,000 to help cover the cost of their trip.

The most important title in our democracy is that of citizen. We are obligated by our history to pass along to future generations the hard-fought rights and responsibilities of that citizenship. Through their hard work, these students learned that our democracy is not just an achievement, but an unending call to build a more perfect union for all. They discovered the importance of civility, compromise, and community in our politics. And they left knowing that their voices really do matter here in Washington.

Mr. Speaker, I am so proud of the hard work and determination of Samantha Barrell, Brendan Benevento, Zachary Billings, Matthew Bregman, Kayrin Brower, Jessica Chenard, Hannah Cherry, Olivia Copson, Lucas Daly, Enaira DaSilva, Marisa Day, Sydney Dinsdale,

Amanda Doherty, Kathryn Dudko, Emily Frost, Jacob Landry, Brianna Leon, Savannah Louis Charles, Morgan Maher, Haydn McPherson, Tiffany Moen, Katelyn Norwood, Renee Ordway, Ana Pietrewicz, Kyle Powers, Brian Sarkisian, Jacob Stokes, Bridget White, and William Wright. Each of them represented Massachusetts with distinction and dedication, and I wish them only success in all their future endeavors.

## TRIBUTE TO BETA SIGMA PHI

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Beta Sigma Phi. This organization was presented with the Spirit of Christmas Award from the Salvation Army at their annual dinner on May 9, 2018.

Beta Sigma Phi is an international women's sorority that began working with the Salvation Army in 1989. Every year, the Salvation Army provides toys for the women inmates at a nearby prison to select as Christmas presents for their children. Beta Sigma Phi then wraps and packs the gift for shipping, so that the children have presents at Christmas.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Beta Sigma Phi for receiving this outstanding award and for their continued commitment to making their community better. I am proud to represent them, and Iowans like them, in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating this group of women and in wishing them nothing but continued success.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HARRY  
ARCHER BUZZETT**HON. NEAL P. DUNN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Harry Archer Buzzett who passed away peacefully at the age of 94 on April 7, 2018.

Harry Buzzett is a decorated war veteran, devout Catholic, and dedicated family man.

Harry graduated from West Point on June 6, 1944. On this date, Harry would also learn that his brother Julian Rexall Buzzett ("Rex") was killed in action during the D-Day invasion. Harry fought in WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War at the ranks of 2nd Lieutenant and later Full Colonel. During his 30 years of service, Harry received the Bronze Star (Valor), the Army Air Medal (Valor), and in 2014, Harry was awarded the French Legion of Honor.

Harry Buzzett not only embodied a lifestyle of service while fighting for our country, but also back home (in the states) through dedication to his family and church.

Harry married Catherine Neil Austin and together, the two of them would go on to raise six children. The Buzzett family lived in Massachusetts for several years, before moving back to their hometown in Franklin County, FL in 1985.

Mr. Buzzett will be missed by many. May his service to our country always be remembered and venerated and may he rest in peace.

WHEN THE WELDERS CAME TO  
CAPITOL HILL**HON. THOMAS R. SUOZZI**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, last year, I welcomed three welders—Christopher Donahue, Andrew Labeck and Moises Fernandez—into my Washington, D.C. office. They were smart, articulate, and passionate about their work.

These welders had access to job training and critical tools to give them a chance to earn and thrive. And our nation needs more of them. Sixty percent of Americans do not attend college. We need more post-secondary school education, such as apprenticeship programs and vocational schools for the next generation that chooses not to attend college but is willing to work hard to have the skills to live the American Dream.

The collective story of Christopher, Andrew and Moises tells us a great deal about what can work in the American economy. Their story also shines a bright light on how to build an economy that gives everyone a chance to earn a share of the American Dream.

Christopher, Andrew and Moises' story inspired me to write in the Wall Street Journal about their success and about how to put people to work in America.

Therefore, I include in the RECORD, those words, that inspiration.

[The Wall Street Journal, May 14, 2017]

WHEN THE WELDERS CAME TO CAPITOL HILL

(By Tom Suozzi)

I'm sitting in my Capitol Hill office a few weeks ago, meeting with three well-dressed, well-spoken young men who earn salaries in the high five and low six figures. You see the type a lot in Washington, but these guys are different. They're not lobbyists. They don't represent Wall Street or any Fortune 500 companies. They're welders.

America needs more of them and what they represent: good jobs at good wages. Last month I held a roundtable with suppliers in the aeronautic and defense industries, who told me they cannot find enough computer machinists. It sounds like an intimidating job, but according to these companies, trade schools and community colleges teach the specific skills needed.

Census data show that in 2015 there were 105 million full-time jobs in the U.S., about 59 million of which paid less than \$50,000 a year. That's not enough to raise a family and achieve the American dream. Most people who work these jobs responded to President Trump's message of antiglobalization and "America First." Many workers without college degrees have played by the rules but still feel left behind. Globalization and technology rendered their stable, good-paying jobs obsolete.

Policy experts, economists and politicians (including me) have pushed college education as the solution. We've argued the more you learn, the more you earn. Yet minting more college graduates in the STEM subjects—science, technology, engineering and math—is only half the story. The other half ought to be creating jobs that can be filled by graduates of high schools, trade schools, community colleges and union apprenticeships.

The welders in my office seemed almost sheepish when I asked how they came to the trade. The common theme was that they didn't do well in school. I'll tell you what I told them: They're amazing. At 22, 29 and 32 they are making more than many graduates of college or even law school. They take the work that's offered, even if it means leaving home at 4:30 a.m. and driving an hour and half. They like their jobs and are good at them.

The policy debates in Washington—over the corporate tax, the income tax, regulatory reform, infrastructure spending—should be centered on creating positions like these. Republicans and Democrats should pledge to work together to create and fill, by 2020, five million new jobs that pay at least \$80,000 a year.

Americans don't need corporate-tax reform simply because companies need more money to buy back stock or increase dividends. They don't need income-tax "simplification" only because the wealthy want bigger paychecks. They don't need regulatory reform because workers and consumers have too many protections. And they don't need a massive infrastructure plan only because America's roads, bridges, sewers, water lines and mass transit systems are in disrepair.

Americans need these things because they will create jobs at home and rebuild the middle class. My welder buddies are losing faith. So are those computer machinists, and millions more like them. You can meet them at any church, bar or ball field. They have a lot to teach Washington, if only it will listen.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 216.

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#### TRIBUTE TO SAM ALLGEIER

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sam Allgeier. He was presented with the Excellence in Leadership Award from the Salvation Army at their annual dinner on May 9, 2018.

Mr. Allgeier has coached in the Youth Basketball Program since 1986 and was instrumental in rebooting the program in 2002. He currently is the lead referee and spends many hours recruiting coaches and referees for the program.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Sam Allgeier for receiving this outstanding award and for his continued commitment to making his community better. I am proud to represent him, and Iowans like him, in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Sam Allgeier and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

TO DESIGNATE THE FACILITY AT THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE LOCATED AT 1355 NORTH MERIDIAN DRIVE IN HARRISTOWN, ILLINOIS, AS THE "LOGAN S. PALMER POST OFFICE"

### HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on August 21, 2017, the USS *John McCain* collided with a merchant ship off the coast of Singapore, in an accident that ultimately killed 10 sailors, including a constituent of mine, Petty Officer Logan S. Palmer of Harristown, Illinois.

This was an absolutely terrible tragedy that became a huge story due to many mistakes that were made leading up to it. After the accident, I spent a lot of time talking with Logan Palmer's family, helping them navigate the uncharted waters of dealing with such a tragedy and consoling them.

Palmer survived the initial collision of the USS *McCain*, but kept himself in harm's way in order to help his fellow shipmates. At age 23, he went far too early. His flag-draped casket was carried into the church on the day of his funeral by a Naval honor guard in dress uniform. Navy officers and sailors saluted the casket, which was surrounded by flowers of red, white and blue. The sailors were followed by troops of Boy Scouts who also saluted Palmer's casket, marking the loss of one of their own; Petty Officer Palmer had achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.

After the experience, we decided it would be appropriate to introduce legislation in Petty Officer Palmer's honor, naming the Post Office in his hometown after him. The bill would designate the post office located at 1355 North Meridian Road in Harristown, Illinois as the "Logan S. Palmer Post Office." I have built a special bond with the Palmer family and feel that it's only appropriate that we honor the Petty Officer in this unique way that will allow those of us in Illinois to always remember Logan as the hero he was.

A NATION'S TEARS IN HONOR OF THE LOST LOVED ONES OF SANTA FE HIGH

### HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of the eight students and two teachers who were horrifically massacred during the Santa Fe High School shooting. Our prayers go out to them and their families, and the wounded. I include in the RECORD this poem penned in their memory by Albert Carey Caswell.

A NATION'S TEARS  
(By Albert Carey Caswell)

A Nation's tears  
So lie here  
For all those lost loved ones so dear  
And their heartbroken families gathered here.

A Nation's tears  
As now appear  
All in the darkest here  
In a parent's worst fears  
In what evil has reared  
In the darkest of all hearts which appeared.  
Young beautiful children with such great futures near

With so many moments up ahead of happiness in the coming years,

Now disappear.

Our children are but the very hope of the world so very clear,

To hold in our arms and hearts to endear

And those teachers so here,

Whose whole life was dedicated to teaching the ones we hold dear.

Now, with all the families left in tears,

With the kind of pain only Heaven can heal.

When, united once again as Angels in arms they feel

As we will remember their beautiful faces, to warm our hearts in all those cold places

And remember their smiles and try not to cry for a while

And may all the wounded bind up their wounds,

and for their fellow lost students and teachers ever shoot for the moon.

A Nation's tears

Trying somehow to make sense of all this here,

As one things stands clear,

There is darkness

And there is light

All in this battle from the beginning in sight,

Of Good versus Evil,

Of Dark versus Light,

In hearts let us remember the darkness is no match for the light,

The kind which in those lost students and teacher which burned bright.

Let us find peace

Let us find rest

By keeping them in our hearts,

and by leading the lives of the best.

To make a difference with our light in the time we have left,

And now we lay them down to rest.

We pray our Lord their souls to bless,

And their loved one's pain ease no less.

But, take heart for these,

live now as Angel's in the Army of our Lord in peace

And they will watch over you day and night, and in your sleep

And when there comes a gentle,

their tears shall wash down you to ease your pain

Until, up in Heaven you meet again and you won't have to cry no more.

CONGRATULATING THE TOWN OF HOPE ON ITS 200TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 200th anniversary of the Town of Hope.

While formally founded in 1818, the Town of Hope traces its roots back to the 1700s. The Town of Hope was originally part of the Town of Wells, which formed from a 1772 purchase of land in the central Adirondack region from a Native American tribe. It was not until 1818 that Hope seceded from the Town of Wells and formally became a town. Hope quickly grew into a booming center for agriculture and the lumber market.

Over time, Hope's population dropped, and the area was overtaken by the glistening lakes and streams, rolling hills, and peaceful valleys surrounding it. This natural sanctuary appealed to outdoorsmen, fishermen, hunters, hikers, and those seeking a tranquil, friendly place to live, much as it did in the 1700's. Today, the town stands as a proud and cordial community of good neighbors.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to congratulate the Town of Hope on its 200th anniversary. I wish all its residents the best as they celebrate this important milestone.

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GEOPOLITICS OF U.S. OIL AND  
GAS COMPETITIVENESS

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, America's oil and gas industry is a force multiplier for U.S. influence around the world. For decades, many of the planet's great energy producers have been tyrannical regimes who leveraged their oil wealth to oppress their own people and pursue evil foreign policies. However, thanks to American ingenuity, the United States has unleashed its own energy potential—now becoming a major player in the global market.

In large part, America's revival as an energy superpower is a result of the shale revolution. Through the process of hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," we are now able to reach oil and gas deep within the earth, where they were previously unreachable. With this new technology the U.S. has gone from the world's largest oil importer, to one of the world's largest energy exporters. Just a decade ago, the U.S. was importing 12.5 million barrels per day of crude oil and fuel. Today, it's just 4 million barrels per day. Between 2010 and 2017, U.S. oil production rose from 5.5 million barrels per day to 10 million barrels per day—approaching a record last set in 1970. This has allowed for a dramatic reduction of our dependence on foreign oil which ultimately strengthens our national security.

In the nearly three years since Congress ended the restrictions on exporting crude oil, the U.S. has beat market expectations and surged its exports to a record 2.6 million barrels per day. By 2022 we will export more oil than we import. But the good news isn't limited to just our oil production. U.S. natural gas production has been setting new records almost every year since the year 2000.

Again, thanks to innovations in liquefied natural gas—commonly known as LNG—we can ship this growing resource anywhere in the world. In the last year, we have become a net exporter of natural gas for the first time in 60 years. In the coming years it will only improve as the market of natural gas consumers grows and more exporting facilities come online.

America's comeback as an energy superpower has wide-ranging geopolitical implications. First, it is an obvious benefit for Americans and the U.S. economy, reducing our trade balance and creating new well-paying jobs. In turn, this generates more revenue making us an even stronger nation. Second, it means a lot less money is going to repressive regimes around the world who we were pre-

viously dependent on for oil. And since energy is more abundant, the price of oil is decreasing. Overall the result is less money for Putin's Russia, the Ayatollah's Iran, and Madura's Venezuela. With the low price of oil, international sanctions, and their own economic mismanagement, these regimes who could rely on their oil wealth to fund their evil activities are instead seeing their economies tank. Now their people are in the streets demanding accountability.

Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states have long been important U.S. strategic partners because we needed their oil and their leverage in stabilizing global oil prices. But now we can redefine our relationship, making it less about maintaining oil access and more about other strategic US interests. With growing energy independence, we can pick our allies rather than have them picked for us by the necessity of access to oil. This does not mean we should become isolationists or abandon our traditional partners. Instead we should do the opposite. With our oil and gas advantage we are more empowered to argue that our allies must be more responsible, including improving their human rights records.

Our increased oil and gas competitiveness allows our friends abroad to be more secure and less dependent on bad actors. For far too long, our European allies have been vulnerable to energy blackmail from Russia—particularly through the supply of Russian natural gas. But with American LNG alternatives, European states can stand up to Putin's bad behavior without suffering retaliation through their gas supply.

Lastly, U.S. oil and gas exports reinforces the importance of free trade. This includes NAFTA. About 60 percent of U.S. gas exports now go to Mexico, providing a major boost to our trade balance. Canada has become a major importer of American refined fuels. Together, the U.S., Mexico, and Canada represent 20 percent of global oil and gas supply. Our integrated energy network makes North America a rock of stability and prosperity in the world.

Overall, the increased competitiveness of U.S. oil and gas production is good for America and good for the world.

And that's just the way it is.

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CONGRESS OF FUTURE MEDICAL  
LEADERS

**HON. KEN BUCK**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two high school students who were chosen by the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists to represent the State of Colorado as Delegates at the Congress of Future Medical Leaders. These students are Shayla Cooper and Arianna Sanchez.

The Congress is an honors-only program for top students in our country who aspire to be physicians or medical scientists. These students are nominated by their teachers or the Academy based on their leadership ability, academic achievement, and dedication. This program is designed to inspire young people to go into medical research fields or be physi-

cians, and provides a path, plan, and mentoring resources to help them reach their goal. During the Congress, the students will have the chance to learn from leaders in the medical field as well as government officials, top medical school deans, leaders from the private sector, and even Nobel laureates.

These students' acceptance to this prestigious program is an incredible feat, and it is my honor to rise today and recognize the outstanding accomplishment of this future leader. Our nation greatly benefits from the achievements of physicians and medical scientists, and it is important that we continue to inspire younger generations to pursue careers in the medical field.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my congratulations to these students and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

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CELEBRATING THE 50TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF EL AMISTAD

**HON. JOHN R. CARTER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 50th anniversary of El Amistad, a non-profit civic organization dedicated to inspiring the leaders of tomorrow. Through a half century of remarkable work, El Amistad has helped make Central Texas a great place to live and work.

Founded in my home town of Round Rock, TX, El Amistad is dedicated to education, community service, recognition of veterans, and promotion of Hispanic cultural awareness. By utilizing the talents and skills of its diverse membership, it has supported various youth development activities throughout Central Texas. Since its inception, El Amistad has awarded millions in scholarships to thousands of high school graduates seeking to take the next steps in their educational development.

Honoring our brave warriors remains a driving force among El Amistad members. The organization led the charge to dedicate Veterans Memorial Park in Round Rock, TX to Robert P. Hernandez, who died in the line of duty while serving in Vietnam. It's the devotion of committed activists like El Amistad members that help remind all of the invaluable and lasting contributions veterans make to keep our nation safe and free.

Fifty years after its creation, El Amistad has touched countless lives for the better, and continues to make positive impacts on those it's dedicated to serve. I celebrate its half century of dedicated civic involvement and join all Central Texas in wishing this great organization nothing but the best in the decades to come.

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TRIBUTE TO JIM KLINSTIVER

**HON. TODD ROKITA**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jim Klinstiver, a great Hoosier and friend who passed away on May 20th. Jim



was born in Harrison County in 1940, along the Ohio River. He was a great public servant, working for the Department of Transportation for forty-two years, retiring as a project supervisor.

In 2010, he was elected County Commissioner for the Third District by the voters of Harrison County. He was then re-elected by an even wider margin in 2014. Jim had a passion for history, and used his time as commissioner to focus on local preservation. He pushed to protect the Morvin's Landing historical site, where Confederate General John Hunt Morgan's raiders crossed the Ohio River and entered Indiana during the Civil War. The landing of Morgan's troops at Morvin Landing in July 1863 preceded the Battle of Corydon, one of the few Civil War battles fought in the North, and the only battle fought in Indiana.

In addition to being a hardworking public servant who dedicated countless hours in service to Indiana, Jim was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and treasured friend. He was married to his wife Dixie for fifty-five years. They have one daughter, one grandson, and one great-grandson.

The legacy of Jim Klintstiver will live on in Harrison County for years to come. Many of us gained so much from his experience and knowledge from his decades of experience as an engineer, farmer, small business owner, and community leader.

For me, I've always appreciated his friendship and support. May we all strive to live our own lives with the sense of purpose and servant's heart that Jim showed. His passing is a true loss for all Hoosiers.

HONORING NEW JERSEY SENATOR  
BOB GORDON

**HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor New Jersey State Senator Bob Gordon. Bob is a loyal son of New Jersey and proud Fair Lawn resident, who has dedicated his life to helping North Jersey's communities.

During his time in the Senate, Bob quickly established himself as a leader among his ranks. He has never been afraid to reach across the aisle to get things done for the Garden State. Bob doesn't approach policy debates by labeling issues as Democratic or Republican, but rather by pushing for sound policy and what's best for the families and businesses of New Jersey. While at the helm of the Senate Transportation Committee, Bob achieved numerous legislative accomplishments, including key reforms of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and New Jersey Transit. His calm demeanor and respect for his fellow colleagues will be sorely missed on the Senate floor in Trenton.

Bob will leave New Jersey's State Senate to continue his passion for public service at the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities. This is one more role that Bob will tackle to help the state he loves so dearly. He has served New Jersey as a mayor, councilman, and fire commissioner in Fair Lawn, and later as an Assemblyman before ascending to the Senate in 2007. Our state is lucky to have Bob in our corner, fighting for New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely thank Senator Gordon for his tireless work on behalf of New Jersey, and I wish him and his wife, Gail, all the best in continuing to serve our state.

HONORING LTC JOEY ERRINGTON

**HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of Lieutenant Colonel Joey L. Errington's change of command and pending retirement from the United States Army, I want to recognize him and his family on their nearly 30 years of service to the Nation. Originally from Rush City, Minnesota, LTC Errington enlisted in the Army in 1989 as a 13B, Cannon Crewman. He was selected for the Green to Gold Program at Clemson University and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Field Artillery in 1997.

He is a graduate of the Field Artillery Basic Course, the Field Artillery Career Course at Fort Sill, OK, and the Command and General's Staff Course at Fort Leavenworth, KS. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education from Clemson University and a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from Webster University.

During his tenure, he led our soldiers at each echelon from the platoon to battalion, and, today, LTC Errington is relinquishing command of the 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas. His previous assignments include the III Corps G3 Chief of Training at Fort Hood, TX; 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; Assistant Professor of Military Science at Saint John's University, College of Saint Benedict's, and Saint Cloud State University in Minnesota; Battalion Fire Direction Officer, S1, and Charlie Battery Commander for 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery, 1st Armored Division, Baumholder, Germany; and 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.

TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER NORRIS

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jennifer

Norris. She was presented with the Appreciation Award from the Salvation Army at their annual dinner on May 9, 2018.

Jennifer is the Director of Recreational Ministries and oversees the Basketball and Day Camp activities at Citadel. She will soon be an officer in the Salvation Army.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Jennifer Norris for receiving this outstanding award and for her continued commitment to making her community better. I am proud to represent her, and Iowans like her, in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Jennifer Norris and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LEE M. ZELDIN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, on May 9th I missed a vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 173.

TRIBUTE TO HEATHER CALKINS

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Heather Calkins. She was presented with the Begie Hefner Volunteer Award from the Salvation Army at their annual dinner on May 9, 2018.

Heather has helped for years with the week-long Christmas sign-ups for Toy Shop and helps at the shop. She is a leader in the Corps and works with one of the youth groups every Wednesday night.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Heather Calkins for receiving this outstanding award and for her continued commitment to making her community better. I am proud to represent her, and Iowans like her, in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Heather Calkins and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

RECOGNIZING LEE WILLBANKS'  
CONTRIBUTIONS TO SAVE THE  
RIVER

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Ms. STEFANK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Lee Willbanks as he leaves his role as Executive Director of Save the River and Upper St. Lawrence Riverkeeper.

Since he joined Save the River in 2012, Lee has been instrumental to the organization's efforts to preserve and protect the St. Lawrence River. His achievements include overseeing the enactment of Plan 2014, creating the Bass Catch and Release program, and expanding the Save the River In the Schools program.



Lee's strong knowledge and passion for conservation issues has made him an invaluable leader of Save the River. In recognition of Lee's persistent and passionate advocacy of the St. Lawrence River, Freshwater Future named Lee a 2016 Freshwater Hero and Citizen Advocate of the Year.

I am thankful that I have had the privilege of working with Lee during his tenure at Save the River. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to thank Lee for his commitment to protecting the St. Lawrence River, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JARED POLIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 205.

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CELEBRATING OLD HICKORY,  
TENNESSEE'S CENTENNIAL

**HON. JIM COOPER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the wonderful small town of Old Hickory, Tennessee, on its Centennial Celebration.

Old Hickory's history is unique. When the United States entered World War I, our soldiers needed gunpowder, and lots of it. The U.S. government asked a giant American company, E.I. duPont de Nemours & Co., to build and operate a gunpowder plant on federal land near Nashville on the Cumberland River. Within months, 5,600 acres of land near Hadley's Bend were transformed into a self-sufficient village housing 56,000 workers and the largest factory the state had ever seen.

After the War, DuPont's chemical production continued for decades. If you came across someone on the street, chances are they worked for DuPont. Old Hickory was a "company town" with homes of similar designs, each one well-maintained. It was and is a model community with incredibly talented, hard-working, patriotic residents.

Although the factories and their owners have changed over the years, their footprints remain. Old Hickory remains one of the most storied towns in the South. Come visit and you will see the original mill town homes, friendly stores, and markets. It is a place where people know their neighbors, and where newcomers are welcomed with open arms. The hallmarks of hard work, faith, family, friends, and patriotism are just as important today as they were a century ago.

Old Hickory is truly one of Nashville's and the nation's "best kept secrets," and I know it will remain a treasure in Middle Tennessee for the next 100 years.

TRIBUTE TO LOU VOLK

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, a very special Vietnam Veteran in my district has continued his service to others decades after fighting in the war.

Mr. Lou Volk of the Cedar Bluff community of Knoxville, Tennessee has been walking along a busy road, picking up trash and praying for his neighbors every day for the past 30 years in spite of his injuries from the war.

He started this service when he was a teacher in Oak Ridge, and used it as an opportunity to teach his sons about doing for others without expecting anything in return.

At 71 years old, Lou has made it a priority to make the 2 mile walk each day in hopes of making our community better both physically and spiritually.

As he is cleaning up items that no one else might dare to touch such as used cigarettes, road kill, and food packages, he says prayers for cars that pass by.

He has gotten to know the challenges, suffering, and needs of the residents on Bob Kirby Road by saying hello and growing relationships with people out in their yards.

I want to recognize Lou for being such a dedicated caretaker of our community. I hope he inspires all of us to do a little more for others, without expecting anything in return.

If more people were out in the community instead of playing video games, watching television, or spending hours on social media, they could experience the blessings of serving causes greater than themselves.

I include in the RECORD the article that appeared in the Knoxville News Sentinel by Britany Crocker on May 7th, 2018, entitled "Every Day One Local Vietnam Veteran Picks up Trash and Prays for Everyone Who Passes Him":

Almost every day for more than 30 years, Vietnam veteran Lou Volk has donned his orange reflective vest and rubber gloves before leaving the house on a mission, armed with a trash grabber and a re-used Kroger bag.

He's a fixture in Cedar Bluff, where he's been walking his mile-and-a-half route along Bob Kirby Road since he moved there about 12 years ago, cleaning up the litter that seems to reappear almost every day.

You may have seen him in the mornings with his dog, Rosco. Rosco died in December though, so now Volk walks his route by himself, but not necessarily alone.

Volk can list the neighbors who live in the homes he passes. He can tell you the names of the dogs barking as he passes, or that the woman in the house on the left just lost her husband, or that the person in the passing truck is struggling with cancer right now.

Passersby wave or honk their horns at him, veering over the hilly road's median rumble strip to give him a little extra room.

What they might not know is that Volk prays for every one of them as they pass.

"I say a quick, 'Jesus, keep em' safe,'" Volk said, "so I know that each and every one of them has been prayed for that day."

His daily walks are a service he calls "Agape," a Greco-Christian term that has been interpreted to mean loving or serving while expecting nothing in return.

MAKING A HABIT

Volk started the habit when his children were young in Oak Ridge, where he taught

middle-school math and science after he returned from the Vietnam War.

Before the war, Volk had a bachelor's degree in business. He served as an infantryman from 1969 to 1971 in Vietnam, where he was exposed to agent orange.

A rocket-propelled grenade explosion left him mostly deaf, and he lives with post-traumatic stress disorder.

When he returned from the war, he started working in education. Peggy, Volk's wife of 41 years, said she thinks that taking care of children helped him adopt the unrelenting optimism he speaks with today.

"The kids were my little soldiers, and I had to take care of them," he said.

One of his favorite things was taking sixth-graders to the Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont. "I always tried to talk to them about the environment and how important it was, and well, you should lead by example."

So that's what he did. He started picking up trash around his neighborhood and at Cedar Hill Park, where he took his sons, Aaron and Max, to play on the weekends.

He continued the habit in Oak Ridge after his sons grew up and left home until he had to retire.

Volk said school shootings were becoming more common, kindling his post-traumatic stress, so he started thinking about retirement.

He recalled a school fire drill the teachers weren't informed of about a week after two Arkansas students pulled a fire alarm and opened fire on evacuating students and teachers.

Volk shut his students in their classroom and went outside to check the school's perimeter. "What if that had been a copycat?" Volk said.

He stayed in teaching for four more years but ultimately retired in 2002 after the Veterans Administration gave him a 100 percent disability rating for PTSD.

Four years later, he and Peggy moved to their Cedar Bluff condo to care for Peggy's mother.

RESPONSE AND ABILITY

Volk found a sense of continued service in his daily cleanup walks. "It's my Father's world out there, and I've got to take care of it," he said.

Tuesday was a "one-bag" day, but the weekends sometimes take two.

"Cigarette butts are by far the most numerous and the most annoying thing out here," Volk said, picking up a fluffed-out cigarette filter with his trash grabber. "I'm told it takes three to five years for one of these things to break down."

Food wrappers and plastic bottles are also pretty common sights for him. Plastic bottles filled with tobacco spit are the worst, he said, but he picks them up anyway.

He'll even pick up roadkill if it's lying where children can see it.

"It bothered my kids when they were little to see a squirrel lying dead on the street," he said. "And I'm not afraid of it; I grew up on a farm. So, I just pick it up."

By now, he knows the areas of the street that have the most poison ivy, and where the thin borders of the road drop off into steep hills.

He knows he'll usually find some broken glass bottles near people's mailboxes. He suspects people driving by at night make a game of trying to hit mailboxes with the bottles.

Speeding drivers aren't an uncommon sight on the short stretch of road, but Volk said he usually feels pretty safe. He checks both directions twice before crossing and tries to make sure drivers coming around blind hills can see him.

He almost got hit once, but he leaped into a ditch with his dog just in time.

Volk's walks have clearly paid off for him physically. He looks at least a decade younger than his 71 years.

He and his wife said they want to travel for as long as they are physically able to, and his walks help him keep fit.

"That's the selfish part," he admitted. "The nature, the birds chirping, the vitamin D, and I get exercise."

Volk said he wants to see other retirees in Knoxville take up the gauntlet and go outside to pick up trash.

"Retired people need to walk more, and most of us have the ability," he said. "Just try picking up your neighborhood some day. It doesn't have to be far. My walk is about two miles, but I have the ability so I go."

Volk said a fellow Vietnam veteran told him that ability is one half of the word responsibility. "If you have the ability to do something, what is your response?" he said.

"My response is that I can't do everything, but I when I see something, I can try to do something to make it better."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, on roll calls 207, 210, 211, 212 and 213, I am not recorded.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 207; YEA on Roll Call No. 210; YEA on Roll Call No. 211; YEA on Roll Call No. 212; NAY on Roll Call No. 213; YEA on Roll Call No. 214; YEA on Roll Call No. 215; and YEA on Roll Call No. 216.

#### TRIBUTE TO BARBARA AND TERRY LINDSLEY

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Barbara and Terry Lindsley of Council Bluffs, Iowa for receiving the 2018 Mercy Heritage Award for Arts and Humanities sponsored by CHI Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs. The Heritage Award was created to show special recognition to those who have enriched our community and helped established a legacy for the future.

Barbara and Terry have been volunteers for CHI Mercy Hospital for over twenty years. They volunteer their time with the used book sale and the Mercy Guild and they are involved in the No One Dies Alone program. The Lindsleys and twelve other team members sit with patients when they are approaching the end of their lives and no family or friends are able to be with them. As a former ordained Roman Catholic priest, Terry serves as an on-call chaplain at the hospital. Barbara and Terry have been active volunteers for the local American Red Cross Chapter working disaster relief and teaching classes for the National American Red Cross.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Barbara and Terry Lindsley on their selection for the CHI Mercy Hospital Award for Arts and

Humanities. I am proud to represent them in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in congratulating Barbara and Terry and wishing them continued success in all their future endeavors.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DIANE BLACK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded for roll call votes on Tuesday, May 2, 2018 because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "Aye" on Roll Call No. 216, final passage of S. 2155—the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act. This legislation provides sensible reforms that will allow community banks to devote more time and resources to better support small businesses and families.

#### HONORING ASSEMBLYMAN TIM EUSTACE'S SERVICE TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

### HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor New Jersey Assemblyman Tim Eustace.

Assemblyman Eustace embodies all that makes North Jersey such a special place to live. I am honored to call Tim a friend and partner in the fight to help our region's families and businesses. Tim is a loyal son of New Jersey, the state that he loves so dearly, and has served so well.

Tim is New Jersey through and through. He was born in Passaic, went on to attend Blair Academy in Blairstown, and later graduated from Ramapo College in Mahwah. Tim quickly became a leader in Maywood as someone his neighbors knew they could count on. Starting his own small business, Tim helped countless patients as a licensed chiropractor and went on to become president of the Maywood Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club. Before ascending to the New Jersey State Assembly, Tim was elected Borough of Maywood Mayor, Councilman, and Council President. In each role throughout his career, Tim's leadership has been shaped by a deep commitment to doing what's right and what's best for North Jersey.

As a champion of the environment, Tim has successfully protected the beautiful natural landscapes and resources in New Jersey. He is on the front lines fighting for clean water in North Jersey, helping keep our kids and families safe. Tim's impact on communities across the state and his outspoken dedication to public health will be felt for generations to come. That's one reason why I am excited to see all that Tim accomplishes in his new role at the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission.

As a trailblazer in the LGBTQ community, Tim is a tireless advocate for equal rights for

all Americans. He is only the second openly gay person to be elected to the state legislature and played a key role in making marriage equality the law of the land in New Jersey. Along with his beloved late husband Kevin Williams, Tim made it possible for openly gay couples to access joint adoption in New Jersey by bravely breaking down barriers. Tim continues to be an incredible dad to Kyle and Cory to this day.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely thank Assemblyman Eustace for his friendship and for his service on behalf of New Jersey. I wish him all the best in continuing to serve our state.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF BILL AND LINDA ZAMMER

### HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bill and Linda Zammer who were named Citizens of the Year by the Mashpee Chamber of Commerce in Mashpee, Massachusetts.

The Zammers moved to Mashpee from Wellesley, Massachusetts in the late 1980s. With their vision, the Chamber of Commerce grew from twenty members to over three hundred today. Their efforts and dedication have given tremendous life to the Mashpee business community and Mashpee Commons.

Over the years they have owned many hotels, restaurants, and other similar establishments in the Mashpee area. They ran the Popponesset Inn in New Seabury for eleven years, the Coonamessett Inn in Falmouth for twenty-one years, and they still own the Flying Bridge Restaurant which they bought in 1994.

The Zammers are also celebrated today for their philanthropy in our community. Their charitable work aims to help the homeless and needy, youth programs like the Boys & Girls Club of Cape Cod, and education through their scholarships. They also helped establish the William and Linda Zammer Institute for Hospitality and Culinary Studies at Cape Cod Community College. Their work in the Mashpee Scholarship Foundation gave over \$100,000 to Mashpee High School students.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Bill and Linda Zammer as Citizens of the Year. I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating their accomplishments and wishing them many more years of success and community leadership.

#### COMMEMORATING THE MORTON HIGH SCHOOL BAND

### HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize the Morton High School Band on winning the 2017 Sudler Shield, an International Award Recognizing High School, Youth, and International Marching Bands for World Class Excellence.

For over 30 years, the John Philip Sousa Foundation has awarded Sudler Shield International Marching Band Award to schools with

world class marching bands. The Sudler Shield is one of the most prestigious awards bestowed upon high school bands and recognizes exemplary teaching. This eternal designation is a testament to the hard work and dedication conductor Jeff Neavor and his students have put into their band.

Morton High School serves nearly one thousand students and employs over seventy teachers and administrators in Central Illinois, who do a phenomenal job of educating young men and young women. The Morton community exemplifies the values of hard work and determination rooted in Central Illinois and this honor shows us what is possible when these values are put into action. I extend my sincere congratulations to conductor Jeff Neavor and Morton High School Band on this prestigious honor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to travel to Washington in time to vote on Monday, May 21 due to a family obligation.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 207; YEA on Roll Call No. 208; and YEA on Roll Call No. 209.

TRIBUTE TO PAMELA AND LESTER SWICK

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Pam and Les Swick of Council Bluffs, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on April 28, 1968 at First Christian Church in Council Bluffs.

Pam and Les' lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

HONORING THE LOISAIDA, INC. CENTER FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Loisaida Inc. Center Festival Committee on its 31st Annual Celebration in the Lower Eastside of Manhattan, New York. The festival was initially founded by grassroots leaders in the LES and led by Puerto Rican activists and Latino residents in the 1970's during a dark period in the community. Its goal was to provide a festive local fair for underserved families who could not afford to go away for the holiday weekend.

Loisaida Inc. was formally incorporated as a local development corporation in 1978. Throughout the years, a once single block event is now a major cultural celebration attracting more than 30,000 visitors. The fair features the Nuyoricán—Latin American cultural contributions to the historic immigrant tapestry of the LES. It is a chance for locals and visitors alike to enjoy day long theater, craft, music and delicious food.

This year's theme is Bridging Resurgence: From Sandy to Maria, an urgent reminder of the continuing struggles of the Puerto Rican people and New Yorkers who suffered after Sandy. The Loisaida Center remains committed to the Island's recovery as an affirmation of the neighborhood's Puerto Rican heritage.

I also want to recognize and congratulate this year's VIVA Loisaida honorees for their tireless lifetime commitment to social justice and bettering the community: Damaris Reyes, Executive Director of GOLES; Dr. Manuel Moran, Founder of Teatro SEA; Aixa O. Torres, community leader and President of Alfred E. Smith Housing Residents Association; and Luis and Abigail Rivera owners and son and daughter of Adela Fargas, beloved community icon and founder of Puerto Rican restaurant Casa Adela.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the rich history and legacy of The Loisaida Center Festival.

TRIBUTE TO CLEL BAUDLER

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Iowa State Representative

Clel Baudler. Mr. Baudler retired from the Iowa House of Representatives after 20 years of service.

Clel dreamed of public service as a child and worked diligently to make his dream come true. Before his service in the House, Clel served with the Iowa State Patrol as a state trooper for 32 years. He has been an active figure in the fight for the second amendment in the Iowa House and has fought industriously against illegal drugs. Clel also was a major supporter of the state's natural resources during his time as a state representative. Clel has been married to Mary Carole for many years, and has four children and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren that will keep him busy during his retirement years.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Representative Clel Baudler for this milestone, and thank him for providing leadership to the state of Iowa. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Clel and wishing him nothing but continued success.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 24, 2018 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.