

was class president, homecoming queen, and valedictorian. Virginia graduated from Graceland University, and the University of Iowa, and earned a master's degree in library science from Western Michigan University. She began her career working in an elementary school in Illinois. Virginia returned home to help with the family business after the death of her father. She worked for the Council Bluffs Public Library and was the librarian for Bloomer Elementary School and returned to Thomas Jefferson High School to help establish the first computer lab. Virginia has remained active in her community and is best known as one of the "peanut-brittle ladies" who help raise money for a school in Haiti and for other church ministries.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Virginia on the honor of being a member of the Hall of Fame at Thomas Jefferson High School. I am proud to represent her in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in congratulating Virginia and wishing her nothing but continued success in all her endeavors.

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DANA ABBOTT RECEIVES SWIM  
COACH HALL OF FAME AWARD

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**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2018*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dana Abbott of Katy, TX for receiving the National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association Hall of Fame Award.

The Hall of Fame Award from the National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association is one of the most significant awards for the sport. Two association members are named annually and have their names engraved on the trophy at the International Swimming Hall of Fame. In 2016, Coach Abbott led the St. John XXIII College Preparatory swim team to a girl's state championship and a boy's regional crown for the Lions. Coach Abbott founded the Tiger Swim Club in Katy and the West Houston Aquatic League. He also served as an assistant coach at the University of Texas before working as the head swim coach at Katy High School from 1980 to 2005. During his career, Abbott has received numerous awards including the TAPPS Male Coach of the Year in 2016, the 2008 Paragon Award from the International Swimming Hall of Fame, and the TISCA Theron Pickle Lifetime Achievement Award.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Coach Abbott for receiving the National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association Hall of Fame Award. I thank him for his dedication to our education system and for sharing his passion for swimming with our students.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH RE-  
UNION OF THE BRAVE MEN AND  
WOMEN OF THE 6TH AIRLIFT  
SQUADRON

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**HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2018*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, the 6th Airlift Squadron is part of the 305th Air Mobility Wing at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey. It operates the C-17 Globemaster III supporting the United States Air Force global reach mission worldwide. The 6th Airlift Squadron is the oldest airlift squadron in the Air Force, having served with distinction since 1 October 1933—85 years ago. It must be understood that any aviation squadron which boasts a proud 85 year history can only be considered extraordinary. The squadron was initially assigned to the 2nd Transport Group, at Shreveport, Louisiana, and later reorganized in August 1937 with Reserve personnel at Columbus, Ohio. The squadron was activated on 14 October 1939 into the Army Air Forces at Olmsted Field, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The squadron made airlift history during World War II when, in October 1942, it was transferred to Port Moresby, New Guinea. Then flying C-47s, the 6th became the first personnel transport squadron to fly in the Pacific. It was during this assignment that the squadron earned the nickname Bully Beef Express, as it carried tons of boiled beef to allied combat troops in Australia and New Guinea. The French called it "boujili boef", and the Americanization of the term has continued to this day to be the squadron's emblem. The 6th performed aerial transportation in the Pacific Theater and Southwest Pacific Theater during World War II and in the Far East during the Korean War and after until 1968, when it was temporarily deactivated but then reactivated in April 1970 during the Viet Nam War as more C-141 Starlifters were coming into service. It has performed worldwide airlift operations since then. The 6th conducted resupply missions in support of scientific stations in the Antarctic during Operation Deep Freeze from 1971 to 1974. It re-supplied Israel during the 1973 Yom Kippur War. It evacuated Vietnamese refugees during the fall of Saigon, April through June 1975. It has also supported U.S. forces in Grenada, October through December 1983, during the invasion of Panama, December 1989 through January 1990, and during the liberation of Kuwait, August 1990 through March 1991, and continues to support military operations throughout the Middle East. In June of 1979 current and past members of the squadron organized the first of what would be 40 consecutive annual reunions spanning 4 decades—the longest continuous running reunion in the Air Force. On June 6, 2018, those past and present members of this distinguished military unit will celebrate a milestone with the 40th Annual Bully Beef Reunion. Today, we recognize the fine, dedicated men and women of the 6th who have served selflessly and honorably over 85 years, and congratulate them on their 40th Reunion.

HONORING LAURIE KRACKO

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2018*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a pillar of the Anshe Sholom community, Ms. Laurie Kracko, who this year is being honored by the congregation for all she has accomplished.

Laurie has been a life-long member of Congregation Anshe Sholom. Her grandparents, Selma & Erich Kracko became members in 1946. Her father Elliot was born into Anshe Sholom, and when he married Ellen in 1972, they continued their membership and have been involved ever since. Laurie grew up in New Rochelle and in Mamaroneck, went to Solomon Schechter grade school, and graduated from Scarsdale High School. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Business Communication from The University of Hartford in Connecticut.

Right out of college, Laurie started working for her father in one of his businesses. After a few years, Laurie chose to work in the non-profit world where she spent five years working at The National Jewish Council for Disabilities/Yachad, as office manager. In 2009, Laurie left Yachad to, once again, work in one of her father's businesses. In 2010, Laurie opened her own business, City Sprint Safety and Supply. In just under three years of being in business, a competitor approached Laurie and her business partner with an offer to purchase City Sprint. They sold the business in the winter of 2012. In March of 2015, Laurie bought out her father's business partner in Modern Paint & Hardware Corp. and together, Elliot & Laurie formed The Modern Paint Group, where they went from one paint & hardware store to eight in a matter of 90 days from April to July of 2015. This rapid growth turned Modern Paint into the second largest chain of paint stores in Westchester County.

Over the years, Laurie has become more and more active in Anshe Sholom. She is involved in planning events, weekly Kiddush preparation, social media and weekly Shabbat announcements. She is on the Chesed committee, the Outreach Committee and much more. Laurie became a Board Member in 2015, and in 2016 became Secretary of the Board.

In 2016, Laurie represented Congregation Anshe Sholom at the Westchester Jewish Council Leadership Development Program and has participated in many of their events and meetings on behalf of Anshe Sholom.

As you can see, Laurie has done it all, and is most deserving of this warm recognition. Congratulations to her on this grand occasion.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF THE CENTER  
FOR DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2018*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th Anniversary of the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) which will be celebrated on June 14th.