former athlete, I understand the amount of hard work and commitment to be awarded such a title. Nick is an example of the importance of dedication and a strong work ethic I am proud there is such young talent in our community, and to see him represent Geneseo throughout the state.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Nick Swartzendruber on his title, and I Join the rest of the community in wishing him every success in the future.

HONORING ALYSSA YARCK

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alyssa Yarck. A student at the University of North Georgia, my alma mater, Alyssa recently earned the Girl Scout Gold Award—the highest honor that the leadership organization awards.

Alyssa joined the Girl Scouts as a kindergartener, entering into the Daisy ranks and deepening her commitment to the program even after graduating from Chestatee High School.

She received the Girl Scout Gold Award for modernizing a system to equip first responders with important health information about students in Hall County.

The new database, Assisting Special Kids' Needs and Other Technologies (A.S.K.N.O.T.), centralizes students' individual health needs and contact information within Hall County Central Communications, preparing emergency responders to better care for children in the event of an emergency.

Whether an emergency occurs at school or home, first responders now have access to medical information for students who have enrolled in A.S.K.N.O.T. and can then respond accordingly.

Alyssa started this program in 2015 and completed it last September. Her tireless service through the Girl Scouts has left a lasting impact on children in our community—I want to thank Alyssa for her dedication and congratulate her on this significant honor.

AIT NEW COMPOUND OPENING CEREMONY ON JUNE 12

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2018

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the grand opening ceremony for the new compound of the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) this week. The United States and Taiwan have enjoyed a fruitful partnership for decades, and I am confident that our partnership will only grow stronger with this new facility.

Our two countries' partnership has flourished because of our shared commitment to democratic values and constitutional governments. Taiwan serves as a strong example of democracy not only for the region, but also the world. We must never take democracy for granted; we must remain vigilant in protecting and strengthening it.

Our nations are also bound together by immigration, travel, and trade. More than 350,000 Taiwanese live in the United States, and an estimated 4,000 Americans live in Taiwan. Nearly 3,000 of my constituents were born in Taiwan. Additionally, Taiwan is the United States' 11th largest trading partner, and in 2017, Taiwanese businesses invested $34 billion in the United States. Travel, especially air travel, helps to further strengthen the bonds between the United States and Taiwan. In that sense, I am very pleased that the Ontario International Airport, located in California's 35th district, now offers direct flights to Taiwan.

This is a relationship I am proud to support, and I am committed to working with my colleagues to find additional areas where our two countries can partner to our mutual benefit. This week's opening ceremony is an important step, and I am confident that it will contribute to the strengthening of the U.S.-Taiwan partnership.

JAIME WILSON NAMED CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2018

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jaime Wilson of Katy, TX for receiving the Citizenship Education Teachers of the Year Award from the Katy VFW Post 9182.

Jaime, a history teacher at Seven Lakes High School received the award from the Katy VFW for incorporating and advocating for veterans into her classroom. Ms. Wilson has continually asked veterans to speak to her students about their experiences in times of conflict. She was presented the Citizenship Education Teachers of the Year Award by Vietnam war veteran Stephen Brady, of the Katy VFW Post. Jaime began teaching at Seven Lakes in 2007 and met Brady at the Katy Rice Harvest Festival. Since then, she has welcomed Brady and other veterans into her classroom to help Katy ISD students better understand the Vietnam war and issues affecting our nation's veterans. She has also advocated for more veteran guest speakers at Cinco Ranch and Tompkins High Schools.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Jaime Wilson for receiving The Citizenship Education Teachers of the Year Award. Her efforts to champion veterans and educate the youth of TX–22 is crucial to our growth and character as a society. I thank you, Ms. Wilson.

HONORING CAROL AND GERALD CLARK

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2018

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gerald and Carol Clark, who have long been the driving force in Teller County, Colorado and champions for the cause of liberty. For many years, the Clarks have been devoted servants to countless civic leaders throughout Teller County and have always been highly regarded for their steadfast commitment and dependability. Teller County will never be the same without the Clarks.

The following testimonials speak to their personal character and the standard they set for generations to follow:

''Carol and Gerry have always been synonymous with the term 'American Patriots.' ''—Hon. Robert C. Balink

''It's difficult to describe Carol's love for this country and how valuable her contributions have been over the years to the cause of freedom. She is always striving to make things better. We will miss her tireless efforts immensely. Needless to say, Gerry has been her constant companion for many, many years, supporting her at every step of the way.''—Norma Thompson

''Carol has been an awesome leader . . . due in part because she was always such a 'doer'. We have all been blessed because of you.''—Carolyn Fairchild

''Carol and Gerry were the backbone of Teller County and I, along with many others from far and wide, are honored to call them friends. I whole heartedly endorse and petition the United States House of Representatives to recognize Carol and Gerry Clark for their patriotism and unmitigated duty to the citizens of Teller County Colorado and the Pikes Peak Region.''—Pete LaBarre

''Gerry and Carol Clark of Woodland Park, Colorado, are true patriots. Driven by true American Principals and a hard work ethic, they have led many others to stand up for these principals by actively working to advance public education on important matters of policy on the local, state and national levels. Gerry and Carol Clark were usually the first to volunteer for the long hours of staffing information centers and organizing volunteers. They tirelessly gave of their time and treasure to ensure others had access to reliable information and always communicating in civil and polite ways with those whose views differed from their own. They have both truly made a difference in the things that mattered. Their honorable service to our community, state, and nation deserves our heartfelt gratitude.''—Cheryl and Norm Steen, Teller County Commissioner

''Words are inadequate to express our gratitude and appreciation of the incomparable work and attitude you have displayed. Saying goodbye is never easy especially to people who have been such valued team members. We wish you all the best for now and into the future. If you can learn that is good. If you can teach that is life changing.''—Doloretta & Robert Barber

It is my great privilege to honor these legendary citizens of Teller County, Colorado from the halls of the U.S. House of Representatives. I thank Gerry and Carol for their faithful service and for leaving an indelible mark on the people of Teller County.

RECOGNIZING EASTON BIANCHI FOR HIS 1A STATE TITLE IN THE 100 AND 200 METER DASH IN TRACK AND FIELD

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2018

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Easton Bianchi, a senior from Newman Central Catholic High School, for