Not only will these girls find an abundance of resources on the grounds, they will also each be able to create a unique plan of restoration known as the Refuge Circle of Care. While volunteers have been working tirelessly to build these facilities and bring in furniture, girls all over America have been raising money for the cause.

One organization of passionate college-aged women known as ''Pedal the Pacific'' will be cycling 1,700 miles down the west coast to raise $250,000 for the ranch—more than double the $60,000 they raised last year. It is through people such as these that communities like the Ranch are able to be built and provide victims a home where they can heal.

Such spaces are necessary, as today in my home state of Texas there are almost 79,000 minors that are victims of sex trafficking. Yet, even though child sex trafficking is the fastest growing crime in this country, there are not even 600 beds offered nationwide for child sex trafficking survivors to be able to recover long-term. Organizations like Refuge Ranch have the right idea in creating more communities and offering more beds to victims of this horrific crime. When it opens in August, the Refuge Ranch will be the largest live-in rehabilitation facility for rescued victims of minor sex trafficking in the United States. Those at the Refuge Ranch have the right idea and I am certain that they will provide 48 young girls with not just a safe place to sleep, but a home in which they can heal.

And that's just the way it is.

KATHERINE WOOD

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Katherine (Katie) Wood for receiving the Congressional Gold Award.

The Congressional Award is an award from the United States Congress for young Americans who demonstrate excellence in four program areas: Voluntary Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness and Expedition/Exploration. It is awarded to young people who strive to challenge themselves and reach new goals.

Katie received this award because of her determination, hard work and achievements in these program areas. This year, Katie is being awarded the Gold Congressional Award—the highest honor and a tremendous accomplishment! In past years, Katie has earned two Silver Congressional Awards.

This type of achievement can only be attained with hard work and perseverance, both of which have been exemplified by Katie in this award process and in her day-to-day life. I applaud students like Katie who work to make the most of their education, commit to being lifelong learners and develop a work ethic and new skills which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Katie Wood for winning the Congressional Gold Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARGUERITE FREEMAN

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2018

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Marguerite Freeman of Bainbridge Island, Washington, who passed away on Monday, June 18, 2018.

Marge—as she was known to her friends—lived an eventful life. As she said in her memoir, ''I've tasted the pioneers' hardships'' and ''moved into the 21st century and saw all the changes, a complex technological future . . .''

Born into a family of Swedish and Danish immigrants who homesteaded in Birka, North Dakota, she was the seventh of Arthur and Elda Leidholm's nine children. She recalled the Great Depression, the hope of the New Deal, including her older brothers enlisting in the Civilian Conservation Corps, and the perseverance of farmers. As she said, ''My parents' courage and determination was passed on to us and we were taught to never be afraid of failure but work hard at what we believed in, to be honest and true to ourselves.''

And while she often cited Ronald Reagan's adage that ''we were poor, but we didn't know it,'' from her very first vote, in 1944, to her last, she was a proud FDR Democrat.

World War II was a turning point in Marge's life. She followed her brothers west to Seattle. There she joined the war effort, earning 67 cents an hour as a ''Rosie the Riveter'' on the B–17 production line for Boeing. There, too, she met her future husband, Donald Freeman, on leave from the USS *Indiana* stationed in Bremerton. They were married on July 20, 1946 at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Seattle. On that day, in a way, she also joined the Navy.

They travelled the country and the world with a growing family of three boys. It was not until Don's retirement that they truly found a home, settling on Bainbridge Island. Marge became an integral part of our community, volunteering at her beloved Bethany Lutheran Church and the local Helpline House. Her deep faith and love permeated all she did.

The story of Marguerite Freeman is a life of service; service to God; service to her country; service to her family; and service to her community.

Her memory and her spirit live on in her friends and family. Today, our thoughts are with them: her sons Terry, Mark, and Don, her six grandchildren and her nine great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, today, we remember Marguerite Freeman.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL TONKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2018

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, on June 15, 2018, I was not present and voting in the House of Representatives.

Had I been present for roll call vote 267, I would have voted no.

Had I been present for roll call vote 268, I would have voted no.

CONGRATULATING KAREN RICHARD

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2018

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, on June 25, 2018, Mrs. Karen Richard will retire after 31 years of service to the town of Colchester, Vermont. Mrs. Richard was elected in 1998 as Colchester Town Clerk and Treasurer after 11 years of work in the local assessor's office. She quickly led the town in replacing outdated voting machines and optimizing the town's election process. Perhaps her greatest contribution to the town was her efforts to digitize the town's land records. Because of Mrs. Richard, Colchester was one of the first towns in Vermont to digitize their land records and by the end of the year, all the records will be available for the public online. At a time when many municipal employees are being asked to go above and beyond for their residents, Mrs. Richard's leadership was transformational. Her hard work was recognized when she earned the awards of Vermont Clerk of the Year in 2007 and Vermont Treasurer of the Year in 2014.

Outside of her elected role, she has been Chair of the Vermont Municipal Clerks and Treasurers Association's Legislative Committee, a member of the Champlain Water District Board of Commissioners, and Clerk/Treasurer for Colchester Fire District No. 3.

Mr. Speaker, her exceptional work on behalf of Vermont communities will surely be missed and I wish Mrs. Richard well in her retirement.

HONORING RANDY COOK

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2018

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to honor Farm Service Agency Wisconsin District 1 Director Randy Cook.

Mr. Cook has spent over 30 years of his professional career serving his community and the great state of Wisconsin. Mr. Cook knew from the beginning the importance of carrying on the values and honor of farming by teaching agriculture from 1981 to 1987 at Cameron High School.

His willingness to help farms big and small achieve the American dream was shown through his work at the Farm Service Agency. Mr. Cook served 21 years as executive director in the counties of Pierce, Dunn, and his home community of Barron County. His care and love for farmers over those two decades made him a natural fit as District 1 Director of the Wisconsin Farm Service Agency where he served for the past 10 years.

On behalf of the residents of Wisconsin's 7th Congressional District, I wanted to say thank you to Mr. Cook for devoting his skills, passion, and knowledge to the greatest asset in the state of Wisconsin, our farmers. I am proud to call him a friend, leader, and a constituent of this Congressional District.