Not long after, he sought higher office in the Connecticut General Assembly and won his seat in a special election. He also served as chairman of the Lyme Board of Education for several years. Jack was extremely well-respected by his colleagues on both sides of the aisle and was known across the state for his hard work, candor, and exemplary character. I had the chance to see Jack’s fine work up close and in person during the time I held the state legislative seat from the town of Vernon from 1987 to 1994. We were from different parties, but that didn’t mean a thing in all of our interactions. It was truly an honor to serve with him, and his example is an important one for all of us in public office.

Jack never lost sight of the challenges that Connecticut dairy farmers face. Each morning, before traveling to Hartford, he rose to do the farm chores. He once declared on the floor of the Connecticut General Assembly, “I am a dairy farmer by birth, I am a dairy farmer by education and I am a dairy farmer by choice.”

Even after leaving the General Assembly in 1992, Jack continued to advocate for farmers. He was a lifelong member of the Lyme Grange and several other agricultural associations.

In addition to being a great public servant, Jack was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He is survived by his wife Susan, his children Hannah and John, as well as their grandchildren Erica and Lauren. He will be dearly missed by his friends, family, and the Lyme community at large. I ask my colleagues to please rise in recognition of Jack’s lifetime of service. May we all look to him as an example of honesty, humility, hard work, and stewardship.

HONORING MR. MIKE SMITH

HON. MICHELLE LUISAN GRISHAM
OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 25, 2018

Ms. MICHELLE LUISAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate New Mexico native Mike Smith on completing his horse Justify’s Triple Crown earlier this month. Mr. Smith deftly rode his horse Justify to victory in the Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes, and Belmont Stakes to become just the twentieth Triple Crown winning jockey. Furthermore, at the age of 52, Mr. Smith is the oldest person to achieve this feat.

Mr. Smith was born in Roswell, New Mexico and spent his childhood in the nearby town of Dexter. Horses were an integral part of life for Mr. Smith, who spent much of his time working with them on his grandparents’ farm. Mr. Smith’s professional jockeying career began when he was just a teenager and included races at tracks like Ruidoso Downs in Southern New Mexico.

Since the early 1990’s, Mr. Smith has cemented himself as one of the top jockeys in the world. Amongst his accomplishments include seven victories in Triple Crown races as well as a record 27 Breeders’ Cup wins. His success at these top races has earned Mr. Smith the nickname “Big Money Mike”. In recognition of his impressive career, Mr. Smith was inducted into the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame in 2003.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the state of New Mexico, I want to congratulate Mike Smith on winning the Triple Crown. He has brought our state great pride and we wish him the best of luck in the future.

CELEBRATING THE 120TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRESNO ELKS LODGE

HON. JIM COSTA
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 25, 2018

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Fresno Elks Lodge on the occasion of the 120th anniversary of its founding. Since its formation on June 25, 1898, the Fresno Elks Lodge has supported and improved the local community through charity and fellowship, providing neighbors and families a place to come together and serve others.

As a charitable fraternal organization, the Fresno Elks Lodge has served the greater Fresno area through many community service projects. Since the organization’s founding, members have worked with the local community to ensure efforts towards its happiness and progression. Such efforts include inviting a clown troupe to visit children in schools and hospitals and organizing local events.

Over the years, the Fresno Elks Lodge has been honored for its community work for schools and veterans. The Fresno Compact named them one of the Top Ten Businesses and Nonprofit Organizations. They were also honored by the Fresno Veterans Hospital for their work with veterans.

Each year, the Fresno Elks Lodge organizes several events for the community. Members hold an annual Flag Day ceremony and other patriotic events in an endeavor to promote good will in the community. Other philanthropic efforts include supporting the California Elks Association Major Project, which provides occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech and language training and preschool vision screening for disabled children throughout California and Hawaii.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Fresno Elks Lodge’s 120th anniversary. I commend the service of all the members of this organization who have worked collectively to invest in the community and help improve the quality of life for many in the Central Valley.

IN MEMORY OF THE LIFE OF JOEL CARTER DENNEY

HON. MIKE ROGERS
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 25, 2018

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and celebrate the life of Joel Carter Denney. Joel passed away on Sunday, August 13, 2017.

Joel served in the United States Army for 26 years and retired as a well-decorated Colonel in 1993. After retirement, Joel spent his days serving others as Chairperson for Alabama Honor Flight, President of Habitat for Humanity, Co-chair of the Calhoun County Chamber Military and Security Affairs Committee, Member of the Alabama Job Creation & Military Stability Commission, Member of Berman Foundation Board and Museum and a volunteer with Carpenters for Christ.

During his time in the Army, Joel served in Korea, Vietnam, Germany, Fort Benning, Fort Hood, Fort Carson, Fort Riley, Anniston Army Depot and Aberdeen Proving Grounds.

I knew Joel for many years and can honestly say he spent his life serving others—especially the work he did with the Alabama Honor Flight. His leadership and presence are certainly missed in Calhoun County.

Joel will be laid to rest on June 27, 2018 at Arlington National Cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in remembering Joel Denney and celebrating a life well-lived.

IN RECOGNITION OF LINDA WOLFSON

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 25, 2018

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Linda Wolfson, a woman who has dedicated her life to helping others through her work for Vita Education Services. During her twenty-four years with Vita, Linda has served as Director of Literacy, Director of Programs and has served as Executive Director since 1999. Under her skilled leadership, Vita has grown into the leading literacy agency in Bucks County and the largest provider of education services in the Bucks County Correctional Facility. In addition to her vision, passion and leadership at Vita, Linda has also served our community in numerous ways. She is Trustee Emeritus of the Bucks County Free Library System and served as its President of the Board from 1994–2003. She also served as a member of the Bucks County Workforce Investment Board from 2010 to 2015. Linda has truly had a positive impact in my district. I commend her for her dedication and service to our community and wish her well as she retires.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JAMES A. DELAPP UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 25, 2018

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Colonel James A. DeLapp upon his retirement from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Colonel DeLapp, a native of Barrington, Illinois, has served our nation in the U.S. Army for over 24 years. Within this period of dedicated service, Colonel DeLapp assisted in military and peacekeeping efforts in Bosnia, Kosovo, Croatia, Iraq, and Afghanistan, as well as leading the Corps of Engineers Recovery Field Office mission to provide relief to residents of Puerto Rico in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria.

Prior to his experience commanding the Mobile District, Colonel DeLapp served as Commander of the Nashville District of the U.S. Military and Security Affairs Committee.