

CELEBRATING MOUNTAIN SUN'S
25TH ANNIVERSARY**HON. JARED POLIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, 25 years ago, Mountain Sun opened its doors as a single pub on Pearl Street in Boulder, Colorado. Now there are five operating locations throughout Colorado's beautiful Front Range. Through the years, Mountain Sun has been home to many up-and-coming musicians, made guests feel like family in their cozy dining rooms, crafted beer and food that not only fills bellies but gives back to the community and honored their philosophy of being a "gathering place with good food and drink, where conversation flows freely." Mountain Sun's story began in Portland, Oregon. Their proprietor Kevin Daly brewed his first beer at his favorite local pub. Soon his love of craft beer outgrew his desire to pursue a career in law and in 1993 Kevin opened up Mountain Sun Pub in Boulder. The brewery began as a six-barrel brewing system and their beloved ESB style beer, Colorado Kind, was the first beer crafted. Today, it remains one of their most popular beers.

Commitment to high-quality ingredients, community engagement, environmental stewardship, and employee equity are the driving forces behind Mountain Sun's business. In 2002, Southern Sun, a larger dining space and a ten-barrel brew system, opened in south Boulder. The operation continued to grow with expansion into Denver in 2008 with the opening of the Vine Street Pub. Under the Sun and Longs Peak Pub and Taphouse opened in 2013 and 2014 respectively.

I am proud that Mountain Sun calls the 2nd District of Colorado home. Mountain Sun's 25 years have given the community many great Scrabble games, stout months, and delicious burgers. Cheers to the next 25.

HONORING JAMES BAKER OF
ARLINGTON, VERMONT**HON. PETER WELCH**

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. James Baker of Arlington, Vermont for his distinguished career in law enforcement and his deep and abiding commitment to improving the lives of Vermonters.

Jim's exemplary career spanned 40 years. As commander of the Vermont State Police and director of the Vermont Police Academy, he put to good use his strong leadership skills and his noble commitment to public service. He worked hard to ensure the fair delivery of justice and an end to discrimination and misconduct whenever it arose.

Shortly after retiring from the Vermont Police Academy in 2009, Jim was recruited to fill important positions in communities in need of new law enforcement leadership. He served as acting police chief in Manchester, then took the helm of the Rutland Police Department.

In Rutland, Jim worked countless hours to tackle the opioid epidemic that hit the city hard. He played a major role in the creation of

Project VISION, an effective grassroots community collaborative that coordinates local efforts to combat addiction and crime. He also transformed the culture of the police department, while identifying and rooting out the causes of crime and addiction. Jim's lasting legacy is a coalition of hundreds of residents, active to this day, who address community challenges head-on to improve the quality of life in Rutland.

Jim's tenure yielded positive results for Rutland. Calls for police service dropped and the city experienced a double-digit decline in burglaries and property crimes. Resident surveys demonstrated remarkably higher satisfaction with their neighborhoods.

Most recently, Jim returned to Arlington to help revitalize his hometown, working with volunteers to ensure that no one falls through the cracks.

Jim Baker has earned his reputation as the "Mr. Fix-It" of the Vermont law enforcement community. Countless Vermonters have benefited from his tireless work, and our state is better off because of it.

And now, as he battles cancer, Jim is doing so with the characteristic grit, grace, determination, and sense of humor that all of us who have had the good fortune to work with him will recognize.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me today in sending James Baker of Arlington, Vermont our best wishes and thanking him for his lifetime of service to Vermont.

IN RECOGNITION OF AUDREY L.
BALL**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Audrey L. Ball, recipient of the Community Builder's Award presented by Westmoreland Masonic Lodge No. 212 in Westmoreland County, Virginia.

Audrey, a native of Westmoreland County, is a graduate of the local public schools and of Howard University where she majored in chemistry. She has been employed by Riverside Tappahannock Hospital for more than twenty years and is a registered diagnostic cardiac sonographer. Audrey is married to Warren Ball and is the mother of five children.

Aside from her healthcare work and family commitments, Audrey is highly active in the community. She has been a member of Pottomac Baptist Church for more than fifty years where she has served as a children's church teacher and former president of the nursing ministry. Audrey is also a member of the Westmoreland County Volunteer Rescue Squad and has served as an emergency medical technician and as an advisor to members of the junior volunteer rescue squad. Audrey, as a loving and dedicated mother, has also served in numerous civic organizations including as a committee member for Boy Scout Troop No. 252 and as a den mother and treasurer for Cub Scout Pack No. 207. She has also been a parent advisor for the Future Problem Solvers of Westmoreland County and the James Farmer Scholars.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Audrey L. Ball for receiving the Commu-

nity Builder's Award from Westmoreland Masonic Lodge No. 212 in honor of her work in supporting the community. I also ask that you join me in recognizing Westmoreland Masonic Lodge No. 212 for its efforts in honoring this important member of the community.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE CHARTERING
OF THE LOS ANGELES HOST
LIONS CLUB**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues Congressmembers MAXINE WATERS, GRACE NAPOLITANO, ADAM SCHIFF, JUDY CHU, KAREN BASS, and JIMMY GOMEZ to recognize the 100th anniversary of the chartering of the Los Angeles Host Lions Club. Not only was the Los Angeles Host Lions Club the first Lions Club chartered in Southern California, it is the oldest Lions Club in the entire state of California.

On January 13, 1913, Dr. Herman Beckwith met with his friend Philip Dodson for lunch at Marcus Godfrey's cafeteria on Spring Street near Fourth Street in downtown Los Angeles. He presented the idea of forming a luncheon club, and proposed the name Cirgonian, taken from the Latin words "Circum" and "Ago"—sort of a "round table" idea. By February 20 of that year, there were twelve men who became charter members of the Cirgonian Club of Los Angeles. During the next few years, the club grew and prospered.

Early in 1916, the Cirgonian Club officers exchanged a series of letters with Melvin Jones of Chicago concerning the founding of an international service club organization. As a result, a meeting was held in Chicago on June 7, 1917, at which the Cirgonian Club was represented, and a date was set for the first convention in Dallas, Texas. At that convention, on October 8 through 10, 1917, Lions Clubs International was born.

Although the Cirgonian Club was not represented at this convention, less than a year later, its 85 members voted to affiliate with the International Association of Lions Clubs and became charter members of the Lions Club of Los Angeles. The Charter was presented on September 12, 1918, making it the first Lions Club in Southern California. In 1940, it was designated as the "Host Club" of Los Angeles County. Additional "host" clubs were added as the county grew.

Given that the L.A. Host Lions Club has directly sponsored 22 Lions Clubs over the years, beginning with the Pasadena Host Lions Club in 1920, it can be considered the parent and grandparent of nearly all Lions Clubs in Southern California.

For more than 50 years beginning in 1919, the L.A. Host Club was the principal sponsor of the Lark Ellen Home for Boys, a nonprofit corporation organized in 1895 for the benefit of orphan newsboys. The name Lark Ellen is attributable to a benefactor of the home, Ellen Beach Yaw, a noted opera singer of the day who some had said "sang like a lark;" hence, Lark Ellen. In 1950, the home relocated to more spacious facilities in Azusa (at a greater cost) where it operated for nearly another quarter of a century.

Due to an enormous increase in the costs of operation, the Boys Home was discontinued in 1973. Its assets were sold, and the proceeds formed the endowment fund known as the Lark Ellen Lions Charities. From that time until now, Lark Ellen has approved donations of approximately \$1.5 million for the benefit of inner-city youth.

After many decades of meeting in the Biltmore Hotel, the Los Angeles Host Lions Club currently meets at Taix Restaurant in the Echo Park community, just north of downtown Los Angeles, where it now concentrates its service activities.

Today, the Los Angeles Host Lions Club participates in many projects, including:

Providing volunteers at health fairs to work the Lions Mobile Health Screening Unit, an RV vehicle outfitted so an eye professional can screen low-income patients for visual acuity and possible eye diseases such as glaucoma.

Sponsoring two Leo Clubs, teenage leadership development programs in conjunction with inner-city youth centers: The Salvation Army Red Shield Youth Center and El Centro del Pueblo in Echo Park. The sponsorship includes funding for travel and lodging for the Leos to attend regional leadership forums and other events.

Conducting community needs assessments to learn how the club can do the most good and serve more people.

Distributing food baskets/bags to families with children in inner-city schools.

Supporting district and multi-district projects such as Lions Camp at Teresita Pines, the Student Speakers Contest, Lions in Sight, and Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation.

Participating in the celebration and recognition of Flag Day by distributing American flags with patriotic presentations at local elementary schools.

Sponsoring inner-city youth as participants in the California Youth Exchange Program, which provides them an opportunity to spend six weeks with participating Lion families in Japan and Europe. In exchange, the club hosts teenagers coming from other Lions clubs from Europe or Japan.

Helping to decorate the Lions float appearing in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade.

Participating with community partners on projects that focus on the environment.

The Los Angeles Host Lions Club has had a great 100-year tradition. The vitality of its members and their commitment to service assures us all that the motto of Lions, "We Serve," will be upheld for many years to come. On Saturday, September 29, 2018, the L.A. Host Club will hold its Centennial Gala Celebration at the Crowne Plaza Hotel-Los Angeles in Commerce. More than 300 Lions and friends from throughout California will attend to commemorate this significant milestone.

Mr. Speaker, Congressmembers WATERS, NAPOLITANO, SCHIFF, CHU, BASS, GOMEZ, and I ask our colleagues to please join us in celebrating the Los Angeles Host Lions Club's 100th anniversary. We also thank the Lions for their service, and for improving the quality of life of those they have worked with and helped.

CONGRATULATING THE ARMENIAN ASSEMBLY'S 2018 DISTINGUISHED HUMANITARIAN AWARD HONOREE, MS. ANNIE SIMONIAN TOTAH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Armenian Assembly's 2018 Distinguished Humanitarian Award honoree, Ms. Annie Simonian Totah.

For over forty years, Ms. Totah has been a leading defender of human rights and a vocal advocate of Armenia, Artsakh and the Armenian-American community. Ms. Totah was the first woman to serve as Chair of the Armenian Assembly of America and she remains an effective spokesperson for Armenian issues on Capitol Hill. Her life as a community leader and activist has truly been a journey of dedication.

I have known Annie throughout my entire congressional career and I can say without hesitation that Annie's passion, dedication and commitment to Armenia and Artsakh is unparalleled. Since the demise of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s, Annie has worked tirelessly with Members of Congress to help secure billions of dollars in assistance to Armenia. Her contributions with the Armenian Assembly have included efforts that saw the enactment of several pieces of legislation and Missions to Armenia that have raised awareness and understanding of key issues.

Ms. Totah helped mobilize relief efforts to provide temporary shelters for the homeless victims of the 1988 earthquake in Armenia, and collaborated with the Marshall Legacy Institute to help launch the "Mine Detection Dog-Partnership" program in Armenia. Annie was also involved early on in the creation of the U.S.-Armenia Task Force for Economic Cooperation, and continues to encourage trade and investment between the two countries.

Ms. Totah is the recipient of many honors and awards, including: The Ellis Island Medal of Honor; Medal of Appreciation by the President of Artsakh; and the Encyclical of Gratitude and Appreciation by His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Annie Totah and the Armenian Assembly on this occasion and for its powerful voice and professionalism that has truly made a difference.

TRIBUTE TO LUKE GWARTNEY AND THE JOHNSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FALLEN OFFICERS MEMORIAL

HON. KEVIN YODER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a young man in the Third District of Kansas for his hard work to ensure law enforcement officers who have given the ultimate sacrifice to protect our communities and uphold the law are not forgotten.

Earlier this month—on the anniversary of 9/11, I met 16-year-old Luke Gwartney, an Eagle Scout from Olathe West High School, at the dedication for the Johnson County Sheriff's Office Fallen Officers Memorial.

I was inspired by Luke's story and hard work to create the Fallen Officers Memorial that brought us all together that day.

Luke worked tirelessly for months to find volunteers, get supplies, and receive donations to make this memorial a reality. In the end, he raised \$8,000 and was able to construct the memorial, which honors three exemplary police officers in our community who lost their lives in the line of duty over the last few years: Master Deputy Brandon Collins, Sgt. Willard Carver, and Det. Gerald Foote.

This memorial reminds us of the service and sacrifice of our law enforcement officers and continues to honor them with the gratitude and respect they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, join me in thanking Luke for adding this wonderful contribution to our community.

CELEBRATING DR. WADE MCLEOD

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to celebrate Dr. Wade McLeod's forty-five years of incredible service to the Round Rock community. Dr. McLeod's life and career reflect hard work, activism, and dedication to what's best for Central Texas.

As one of four veterinarians in his family, it could be said that Dr. McLeod's passion for veterinary medicine is in his blood. Raised on a West Texas ranch near Sweetwater, he graduated from the Texas A&M University veterinary program in 1969 and opened Round Rock's first veterinary clinic in 1973. In no time, his practice became one of the most beloved animal clinics in the city.

While Round Rock has grown over the years, Dr. McLeod has nurtured a small-town feel at the clinic. His practice focuses on small pets and he employs tried-and-true business practices to keep costs to a minimum that translate into savings for his patients. Dr. McLeod's business acumen, work ethic, and commitment to putting customers first speak to the common-sense values that Texans hold dear.

This small business leader is also an activist who responds to those in need. Over the years, Dr. McLeod has worked with patients who could not afford medical care for their pets and provided treatment for injured strays. He donated half of his clinic space to volunteers who cared for stray animals before there was a shelter in the area. Through his selfless devotion to others, Dr. McLeod has impacted countless families and is a beloved pillar of the Round Rock community.

Retirement is meant to be celebrated and enjoyed. It is not the end of a career, but the beginning of a new adventure. I thank Dr. Wade McLeod for his service and dedication to his community. I proudly join his family, friends, and colleagues in wishing nothing but the best for his richly-deserved retirement.