

organizations including the United Way of Greater New Haven.

I have had the great honor of knowing and working with John for close to thirty years and I have been proud to stand with him in the fight to preserve his members' jobs as well as the health and retirement benefits they have earned. I would be remiss if I did not extend a personal note of thanks to him for his many years of friendship and support. He has been an extraordinary friend and his fierce commitment and dedication is an inspiration to all of us who have been fortunate enough to work with him.

The retirement of John H. Dirzius from the American Postal Workers Union marks the end of an era. I am honored to have this opportunity to stand and extend my deepest thanks and sincere appreciation to John for his outstanding service and unwavering commitment to our working families. I wish him; his wife, Diane; their children, Melisa, Jeffrey, and Gregory; and the apples of their eyes, their grandchildren, Makayla, Jacob, Tatiana, and Benjamin, all the best for many more years of health and happiness. Congratulations my friend—Auguroni.

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HONORING MARY LYNN ROPER

**HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 26, 2018*

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Mary Lynn Roper.

Mary Lynn has been a force for good in our community. She has blazed a trail for so many aspiring journalists in New Mexico.

Generations of young people will look to the example she set not only in her professional field, but also in the way she gave back to the community. Mary Lynn was instrumental in the launch of "KOATS for Kids," a clothing drive that helps children in New Mexico stay warm in the winters, and she spearheaded the "School Supply" program for schools and students in our region.

Her decades of service in the newsroom at KOAT have also made a tremendous impact. She ensured that the stories of the people of New Mexico were told and her legacy in the field of journalism will be lasting.

I want to personally congratulate Mary Lynn Roper on her retirement and thank her for her service in New Mexico.

I have no doubt that she will continue to make a difference in whatever the next adventure brings.

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HONORING ANOOSH JORJORIAN  
WITH CALIFORNIA'S THIRD DISTRICT  
WOMAN OF THE YEAR  
AWARD

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 26, 2018*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Anoosh Jorjorian as a woman of the year. She is the coordinator of Yolo Rainbow Families, a support group for families with gender nonconforming children. In her role as

coordinator, she advocates for policies that create identity safe-spaces at schools for children who identify as LGBTQ+. Committed to serving her community, she devotes a substantial amount of her time to help nurture inclusivity and awareness in Yolo County. Despite being a relative newcomer to Davis, Ms. Jorjorian quickly became involved in social justice issues from LGBTQ+ to immigrant rights, also founding Davis' local LGBTQ+ youth group. Consistently a visible presence at school board meetings, she has also been integral in organizing gender identity sensitivity trainings for the City of Davis' Parks and Recreation Department all while being a passionate advocate for better pay for teachers. She was instrumental in forming Safe in Yolo, a community group that helped author a county resolution declaring Yolo County a safe and welcoming place. Additionally, Ms. Jorjorian has been a regular speaker as a devoted member of the Davis Phoenix Coalition, a community group that is dedicated to preventing hate-motivated violence. Ms. Jorjorian is a dedicated community activist who never backs away from doing what is necessary to make our community a safer place. You can find her at community events, speaking at public meetings, or organizing for the next effort to move Davis forward; she has a heart of service that is clearly and consistently demonstrated by her activism in our community.

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STATE DEPARTMENT IS COVERING  
FOR IRAN'S PROXIES

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 26, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Iran's network of terrorist proxies continues to expand across the Middle East. Wherever there is conflict and division, a militant group backed by Iran can be found. They have become powerful political and military actors in weak states because Tehran provides the money and weapons for them to murder and intimidate their way into power.

But what are we, the United States of America, doing about it? For one thing, we have finally re-applied sanctions on Iran after the terrible nuclear deal allowed these proxies to go well-funded and unchallenged. This allows us to target finances of the primary patron for chaos in the Middle East: Iran. But on the local level, in the multiple arenas where Tehran and its proxies are battling for control we are doing very little. Our own State Department has blocked any aggressive effort that would target some of Iran's most capable proxies. Why?

One of the most important arenas for competing against Iran's growing influence is in Iraq. That nation has seen nearly two decades of war, most recently with the fight against ISIS. Iran has exploited Iraq's chaos to raise several proxies that have killed Americans and Iraqis. While one of Tehran's earliest Iraqi proxies, Kataib Hezbollah, was designated as a foreign terrorist organization in 2009, others have operated with impunity. This includes two of the Iran's most powerful proxies: Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq (AAH) and Harakat Hezbollah al-Nujaba (HHN). In recent years these two militias have been the vanguard of Iran's activities

in the region, including sowing sectarian division in Iraq and fighting on behalf of the butcher Bashar al-Assad in Syria.

Yet when I introduced legislation that would designate AAH and HHN for terrorism—which nearly every expert agrees they are complicit in—the State Department has worked to shield these groups. U.S. Embassy staff in Baghdad was very dismissive of this legislation and ridiculed it. It seems to me that the embassy is ignorant of the threat of these groups that have American blood on their hands. Even one of these terrorist groups attacked the embassy after the embassy opposed the terrorist designation. Meanwhile, these groups have seized 15 seats in Iraq's parliament. So what has the state department accomplished other than obstruct Congressional lawmaking? Iraq is closer to being an Iranian client-state than ever before. The State Department should not join in with Iran and oppose this legislation.

President Trump has made clear that confronting Iranian expansionism is a key priority of his administration. But the State Department has instead adopted a strategy to protect Iran's proxies and undermine the American legislative process. We need our diplomats to be sending a strong signal that terrorist militias acting on behalf of Iran must not be taking power in Iraq. Now is a critical time in that country, with the Iraqi people in the streets demanding Iran out of their country. America should be standing with them, not with the Mullahs and their thugs.

And that's just the way it is.

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HONORING MANUEL PADILLA

**HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 26, 2018*

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Manuel Padilla, Jr., on the occasion of his recent promotion. Mr. Padilla has been chosen to serve as the Director of the Joint Task Force West, Department of Homeland Security.

For more than 30 years, Mr. Padilla has served in the U.S. Border Patrol, working to create safer and more secure border communities. Most recently, he served as the Chief Patrol Agent of the Rio Grande Valley Border Patrol Sector and the Commander of the Joint Task Force-West, South Texas Corridor. Chief Padilla's dedication and determination will be greatly missed but I know he will continue to protect our communities, and our country as a whole, in his new position.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to represent someone as hard-working as Mr. Manuel Padilla, Jr. The South Texas community is thankful for his dedication not only to our country but also to border communities like ours. I wish him the best as he begins a new chapter of his life and thank him for his time.

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HONORING KATHIE O'CALLAGHAN

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 26, 2018*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, communities draw their strength from individuals who are willing

to work hard for the greater good. The Pelham community which I represent has no doubt been strengthened by the work of Kathie O'Callaghan, who has done so much not just to help her fellow Pelham residents, but also people from all over the world.

A Pelhamite for over 30 years, Kathie is a visionary who has broken conventional barriers and applied her talents to a wide range of charitable causes that have truly made a difference. Kathie's most recent accomplishment is being the Founder & President of Hearts and Homes for Refugees, an innovative grassroots non-profit that supports U.S. Department of State designated agencies in welcoming, protecting and advocating for refugees resettling in U.S. communities. Inspired by the crisis in Syria, Kathie created a group to advocate for resettlement in Westchester County. HHR is now comprised of 400 volunteers that welcomed the first refugee family to Westchester County: a Syrian family of six that was resettled in Pelham. In 2018, Kathie led HHR in creating the Westchester Refugee Initiative, a county-wide coalition to support and grow the network of over 20 community and interfaith organizations and 1,500 individuals who support the welcoming movement in Westchester. Under Kathie's leadership, the Westchester Refugee Initiative's volunteers continue to welcome and advocate for new refugee arrivals and supports refugees who are already in the country and need of help.

Beyond her incredible work with refugees, Kathie has also been an integral part of the formation of the Friends of the Pelham Library; a Member of the Rotary Club of the Pelham; an In-Home Hospice Volunteer at Jansen Hospice & Palliative Care; a Pelham Manor Volunteer Firefighter; a Member of the leadership team of Huguenot Memorial Church; a Lector at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church; and was an honoree at the 2017 Pelham Woman of Distinction event.

Kathie has done it all, and the work she has done in Pelham is nothing short of inspirational. This year, the Pelham Civics are honoring Kathie at their 2018 Dinner. They could not have picked a more deserving honoree. Congratulations to Kathie O'Callaghan on this tremendous honor.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF  
BARBARA HAYMS WEISS

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 26, 2018*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a remarkable woman, Barbara Hayms Weiss, who was born on March 15, 1931 in Chicago and passed away on July 21, 2018, in Palo Alto, California. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Paul.

Barbara and Paul lived in Los Altos Hills and Palo Alto where they raised three children. They supported Jewish causes, arts organizations, and Democrats, especially women candidates.

Barbara earned her B.A. in Sociology from San Jose State University in 1976 at the age of 45. She then completed her M.S.W. with a focus on gerontology in 1981 from U.C. Berkeley. She worked at Little House in Menlo Park and joined Paul's auto dealership, Key Chev-

rolet, as a Dealer-Academy trained potential successor, and helped run the agency until they sold the business in 1988. Barbara was also Board President of the Jewish Community Center of Palo Alto.

Barbara and Paul moved from their large home in Los Altos Hills to a condominium in Palo Alto, where they continued, via their Donor Advised Fund at the San Francisco Jewish Federation, to support causes that were important to them. They enjoyed frequent trips to Santa Fe, New Mexico for the Opera and SWAIA Indian Market, where they collected stunningly beautiful Pueblo pottery.

According to Barbara's son Mark, his parents "just wanted America to continue to give opportunities that they got and wanted to back the right people to accomplish that."

Barbara leaves her son Mark Weiss of Palo Alto and his wife Terry Acebo Davis; Linda Weiss Moulding of San Carlos and her husband Mark Moulding, Rick and Nancy Weiss of Los Altos Hills, and her grandchildren Aaron and Jon Lipinski of San Carlos.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Barbara Weiss, a patriot, a mother and a highly accomplished woman. I will always miss her, as will all those who were privileged to know her and admire the values she lived out so faithfully over a lifetime.

HONORING SISTERS' JOURNEY AS  
THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 20TH  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 26, 2018*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is my great privilege to rise today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Sisters' Journey as they mark the 20th anniversary of this remarkable organization. A faith-based breast cancer support and advocacy group, Sisters' Journey began as a personal journey and continues today as a labor of love.

After being diagnosed with breast cancer, Linda White-Epps felt the fear and frustration so many do when facing breast cancer. She knew she needed to heal not only her body but her soul and searched for others who could relate to what she was experiencing. It was through this search that she educated herself on the disease as well as the health disparities that existed. African-American women are statistically more likely to die from breast cancer than other ethnic groups and they are diagnosed at younger ages and often with a more aggressive form of the disease. Linda also met more women than she ever imagined that were experiencing similar journeys and that there was an unspoken but agreed to code of silence that needed to be broken. It was from all this that Sisters' Journey was born.

Linda began with a calendar created to break the silence among women of color with twelve women sharing their stories of hope and survival. Twenty years later, nearly two-hundred and fifty courageous women have given hope and inspiration to women and their families facing a breast cancer diagnosis. Sisters' Journey has grown and become an invaluable resource of support and advocacy.

Monthly support groups meetings are held at a church parish hall; events include annual survivor cook-outs, a Christmas Party, and a Mother/Daughter "know your family history" brunch; and educational outreach programs include beauty shop chats, participation in community parades, as well as school programs for children from elementary through college. And, of course, there is the annual Pink Tea, an event which has grown to include hundreds of family, friends, and supporters, where the annual calendar is revealed.

Linda White-Epps survived for twelve years before succumbing to a recurrence in 2003. Sisters' Journey and her legacy was carried on by her mother, Phyllis White, until her passing in 2010. Today, it is Linda's daughter, Dawn White-Bracey, who carries on this labor of love. The celebration of Sisters' Journey's 20th calendar is not only a wonderful milestone for this incredible organization, but a celebration of the on-going legacy of Linda White-Epps and her remarkable journey. I consider myself fortunate to have known and worked with Linda, Phyllis, and now Dawn, and I am honored to call them friends. It is with the greatest admiration and my heartfelt congratulations that I rise today to extend Dawn and the Sisters' Journey family my very best wishes as they celebrate this very special occasion.

HONORING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF OLIVE BRANCH BAPTIST CHURCH IN PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

**HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 26, 2018*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 125th anniversary of Olive Branch Baptist Church in Portsmouth, Virginia.

Olive Branch Baptist Church was formed in 1893 when a small group of parishioners separated from Zion Baptist Church and formed Zion's Chapel. Under the leadership of Dr. John Armistead, Zion's Chapel was established in a nearby facility called Copeland's Hall and attracted worshippers two Sundays each month.

By 1897, membership had grown so large that a new and larger location was necessary. With assistance from their mother church, Zion Baptist Church, Zion's Chapel was able to purchase an older sanctuary, previously known as Olive Branch Methodist Church. With the guidance of Reverend H.W. Chiles, the new church was renamed Olive Branch Baptist Church.

It is impossible to commemorate the 125th anniversary of this historic church without recognizing former pastors. Reverend H.W. Chiles served as the first pastor of Olive Branch Baptist Church. Under his leadership, the Sunday School, the Home Mission Circle and the Senior Choir was established.

In 1905, Dr. H. L. Barco took the helm. During his 11-year tenure, the church did very well financially and was able to pay off the church's mortgage. In addition, he organized the Foreign Mission Circle and the Senior Usher Board.

Olive Branch Baptist Church's first male auxiliary was established in 1918 when Reverend A. S. Hoard was installed as the third