congratulating Tom Connaughton on his retirement from a distinguished career

Hon. Cheri Bustos
Of Illinois
In the House of Representatives
Monday, December 3, 2018

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tom Connaughton, who is retiring from Cook Medical Group in Canton, Illinois. Mr. Connaughton served as Vice President of Government Affairs for Cook Medical Group for 15 years, and has had a stellar career in public service.

Mr. Connaughton served as a staff member for Senator Birch Bayh for many years. He began working for Sen. Bayh in 1969, and in 1970, was called to active duty in Vietnam as a captain in military intelligence, where he was awarded a Bronze Star. He returned to Sen. Bayh’s staff in 1974, where he served as Counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee. He then served as Issues Director for Sen. Bayh’s reelection campaign in 1974 and presidential campaign in 1976. Mr. Connaughton moved to Sen. Bayh’s personal staff in 1978 taking on the position of Legislative Director, and later becoming an Administrative Director from 1979 to 1988. After leaving Sen. Bayh’s staff, Mr. Connaughton became a founding partner and managing partner of Bayh, Connaughton, and Stewart. From 2000 to 2003 Mr. Connaughton was the President of the American Association for Homecare, and from 2003 to 2018 he served as the Vice President of Government Affairs for Cook Group. I commend Mr. Connaughton on his outstanding career of public service and wish him the best as he begins to enjoy a well-earned retirement. It is because of dedicated leaders such as Mr. Tom Connaughton that I am especially proud to serve Illinois’ 17th District. Mr. Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Mr. Tom Connaughton for an exceptional career and thank him for all of his contributions and service to the community of Canton.

Honoring Amy Burke

Hon. Luke Messer
Of Indiana
In the House of Representatives
Monday, December 3, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a longtime member of my staff, Amy Burke, for her work in my office and her service to our state.

Amy has been on our team from the very beginning, working as our office manager and scheduler in our Washington, D.C. office. Amy is a rock star and has been making sure the trains run on time for years. She is an invaluable part of our team and her service and hard work have been unparalleled.

On a personal note, words cannot express the appreciation my family has for Amy’s extraordinary commitment to us over the past six years. We literally could not have made this journey without her.

I want to thank Amy for her friendship and dedication to our work. I wish her and Sean continued success in all that God has planned for their family.

Honoring Jenna Knepper

Hon. David Scott
Of Georgia
In the House of Representatives
Monday, December 3, 2018

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Arya Karnik. Arya and her fellow teammates created the winning app in Iowa’s Third District for the Congressional App Challenge 2018. Their team attends Waukee High School and Prairie View Middle School in Waukee, Iowa.

The Congressional App Challenge encourages students to learn how to code through annual district-wide competitions hosted by Members of Congress for their district. The team’s app was entitled “FastLane.” It was designed to give students and parents information about their bus routes, bus delays and assist with changing routes.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Arya for creating the winning app with his team. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Arya and wishing him nothing but continued success.

Honoring Larry Cotter

Hon. Don Young
Of Alaska
In the House of Representatives
Monday, December 3, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, upon the occasion of his retirement, I rise today to give special recognition to Lawrence “Larry” Cotter, a great friend and an outstanding, hardworking, and dedicated Alaskan.

Larry has contributed tremendously to the positive evolution of our fisheries management in Alaska, the Pacific Northwest, and indeed the entire country. Larry has lived in Alaska and worked in the commercial fishing industry since 1974. He spent over four years as a seafood processing worker in Juneau, and eight years as a labor organizer and representative for seafood processing workers and longshoremen. Larry served on the Advisory Panel to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council for six years and then as a voting member of the Council for an additional four years. The time of Larry’s service on the Council was during the transition years when foreign fishing was being phased out, our U.S. domestic fishing and processing capabilities were stepping up to replace the foreign fleets, and allocation issues among U.S. fisheries interests were stepping up to the forefront. These were difficult, challenging, and exciting times—during which Larry was chair of several committees, including the Bycatch Committee and Crab Management Committee. Larry also served as chair of the Council’s Steller Sea Lion Mitigation Committee and Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute’s Responsible Fisheries Management Committee.

Most recently, until late this year, Larry has served as founding CEO of the Community Development Quota (CDQ) Group, known as the Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association, or “APICDA.” It is in this area of service to APICDA and his helping to develop, implement and sustain, not only APICDA, but the entire CDQ program, that Larry did perhaps his best work, accomplishing goals that will have positive impacts on Western Alaskan Communities for generations to come. Larry’s work on the formation of Alaska’s CDQ program has benefited all of the participating communities and his more than twenty-five years with APICDA has helped to develop the workforce, build infrastructure, and improve the economy throughout the Western Alaska Region.

Larry’s longtime leadership in the seafood industry has helped to guide and shape the policies and programs that many enjoy today. Many observers, myself included, have correctly noted that Alaska has the best managed fisheries in the country, perhaps in the world, and I know we could not have achieved that status without Larry’s tireless dedication and devotion to making our seafood industry sustainable for the long haul. Thank you Larry for your tremendous contributions to sustainable management of our coastal communities in those fisheries. Enjoy your retirement, and best of luck in your continuing endeavors.

Honoring Arya Karnik

Hon. David Young
Of Iowa
In the House of Representatives
Monday, December 3, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Arya Karnik. Arya and her fellow teammates created the winning app in Iowa’s Third District for the Congressional App Challenge 2018. Their team attends Waukee High School and Prairie View Middle School in Waukee, Iowa.

The Congressional App Challenge encourages students to learn how to code through annual district-wide competitions hosted by Members of Congress for their district. The team’s app was entitled “FastLane.” It was designed to give students and parents information about their bus routes, bus delays and assist with changing routes.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Arya for creating the winning app with his team. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Arya and wishing him nothing but continued success.

Honoring Jenna Knepper

Hon. Luke Messer
Of Indiana
In the House of Representatives
Monday, December 3, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a former member of my staff, Jenna Knepper, for her work in my office and her service to our state.

Jenna worked in my Indiana office for nearly a year, serving as our political director. Jenna has an incredible work ethic and was a treasured asset to our organization. She brought a wealth of experience and knowledge to our team and was someone I could rely on for on the ground political advice.

On a personal note, Jenna is one of the most positive people I have ever met. She is the kind of leader that makes every team better. And, I have no doubt that her biggest achievements are yet ahead.

I want to thank Jenna for her friendship and her hard work in our office. I wish her continued success in all that God has planned for her family.

Honoring the 50th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act of 1968

Hon. David Scott
Of Georgia
In the House of Representatives
Monday, December 3, 2018

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1968. The Civil Rights Act of 1968, also known as the Fair Housing Act, was enacted to eliminate housing discrimination and to ensure equal access to housing for all Americans. It prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of housing because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or familial status.

The Fair Housing Act was a landmark achievement that removed a barrier to equal opportunity and helped to break down the institutionalized housing segregation that was so prevalent in our country. It was a crucial step towards ensuring that all Americans have the right to choose where they live, and to live in communities that are safe, healthy, and supportive.

The Fair Housing Act has had a significant impact on the housing landscape. It has helped to create more diverse, inclusive, and vibrant communities. It has also contributed to economic development and neighborhood revitalization. The Fair Housing Act has been a key component of the civil rights movement, and I am proud to honor its legacy.

As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act, let us remember the sacrifices and courage of those who fought for this legislation. Let us also continue to work towards creating a society where every American has the right to choose where they live, and to live in communities that are safe, healthy, and supportive.

In conclusion, I want to thank all those who have been involved in the struggle for fair housing. Let us continue to build upon the progress that has been made, and to ensure that the Fair Housing Act continues to be a beacon of hope and equality for generations to come.

Thank you.