

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING DARIUS ASSEMI

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Darius Assemi, a home builder, businessman, philanthropist, and Central Valley resident of more than 40 years. Darius has been a close friend and confidant for many years, including my time in the State Senate and here in the United States House of Representatives.

Darius is currently President and CEO of Granville Homes, a real estate development company established in 1977. Over the last 40 years, Granville Homes has built more than 6,000 single-family residences in the Fresno metropolitan area, and has been involved in the acquisition, financing, and development of over 100 construction projects. Through these experiences, Darius's knowledge of building codes and resilient construction has been an important influence on me as I have pursued disaster mitigation policies.

Darius is actively engaged in public policy work at the local and state level. He is passionate about legislation that affects transportation, agriculture, health care, education, and the environment. In 2009, Darius was appointed to the California Transportation Commission by Governor Schwarzenegger, and reappointed by Governor Brown in 2012. During his 6-year term, Darius was actively engaged with legislators and key stake holders in securing much-needed transportation funding for the Central Valley. In addition to public policy, Darius is driven to educate his fellow citizens about the complex issues that affect everyone in the community.

The lack of health care options available in the Central Valley and across the world is an issue that Darius and I have focused much of our time on. In 2009, he helped to establish the Alliance for Medical Outreach and Relief (AMOR), a non-profit with a mission to build healthier communities. AMOR constructed and continues to operate a 100-bed hospital in Kabul, Afghanistan that provides medical services and health education to over 80,000 people annually. High amongst Afshar Hospital's key accomplishments is their success in reducing the maternal and infant mortality rates in the Kabul metro area. In addition to their work in Afghanistan, AMOR is in the process of building a wellness clinic and community resource center to serve the impoverished Central Valley farming community of Mendota.

Darius views his various business endeavors as vehicles to further his true passion: helping to improve the lives of those in the community and around the world through strategic partnerships and philanthropic giving. The Granville Foundation's mission is to provide food, shelter, healthcare, and education to the underserved. In 2006, Darius initiated the Granville Home of Hope, a program in which a new home is raffled off, with 100 per-

cent of the proceeds from ticket sales given to local non-profits. Over the last 12 years, the Granville Home of Hope has raised more than \$5.2 million dollars, providing food, clothing, scholarships, and resources to those in need. In addition to Home of Hope, the Granville Foundation provides support to various organizations—in 2017 alone the foundation sponsored more than 70 non-profits.

I am proud to call Darius a friend and I am grateful for his companionship throughout my years in public service. Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending Darius Assemi for his outstanding contributions to the Central Valley, our state, and nation.

HONORING JERRY AND VIRGINIA MORALES' 65TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the marriage of two outstanding individuals who have contributed to the growing diversification and development of Kansas City and Missouri's Fifth Congressional District. In mid-July of 1951, Kansas City and its citizens were one of several areas that fell victim to major flooding in the Midwest United States. Following the "Great Flood of 1951," and during a trying time in which communities were facing a variety of obstacles, including family relocation, Mr. Jerry Morales and Ms. Virginia Gloria Alvarez first met.

Following the devastating events that unfolded from the flood, Mr. and Mrs. Morales would soon meet again as teenagers in their shared place of employment to support and provide assistance to struggling families. Receiving the approval of both parents to marry, in 1953, the couple began their lifelong commitment to value, respect, and cherish one another.

To join their brothers and sisters, and to start a family of their own, the Mr. and Mrs. Morales relocated from the Westside Community of Kansas City, Missouri to the thriving Historic Northeast community. The opportunities provided by increased diversity and affordable housing contributed to their decision to relocate and, ultimately, thrive in the growing community.

Since their move, Mr. and Mrs. Morales have seen their family grow just as they wished when they first married. Their eleven children all live in the greater Kansas City area and have given Mr. and Mrs. Morales the large family they always dreamed of with 22 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

Apart from being loving parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Morales share a history of being both politically and civically involved in the community. Mr. Morales was a two-time Golden Gloves

champion, a boxing coach, and a referee. Furthermore, he grew up along Southwest Boulevard and went on to train other young, aspiring boxers in the community. Moreover, they continue to assist local organizations and contribute to the community through their longtime involvement with the Sheffield Neighborhood Association and as members at Our Lady of Peace Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Morales share their worldliness with their friends, family, and community. They have traveled the world in every way possible—by plane, train, canoe, and automobile. The couple have traveled from the Americas to Europe numerous times and have demonstrated their love of family by purchasing a home in Mexico for their family to spend quality time together.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. and Mrs. Morales are a shining example of what marriage is meant to be, as well as the power of civic engagement within a community. I urge all of my colleagues to please join me and all of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District in honoring the marriage between Mrs. Virginia Morales and Mr. Jerry Morales.

HONORING FRED FEHSENFELD, SR

**HON. TODD ROKITA**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a veteran, business leader, pillar of the community, and close friend, Fred Fehsenfeld, Sr. Fred passed away on November 28 at the age of 94.

Fred was the epitome of the Greatest Generation. Fred was born in Indianapolis in 1924, the third of four brothers. Fred enrolled at Purdue University at the age of 17. He found a passion for flying, joining the Purdue Glider Club and learning from, among others, Amelia Earhart. Ever the patriot, on his 18th birthday, Fred left Purdue and enrolled in the Army Air Corps. Just a few months later, he was assigned to the 354th Pioneer Mustang Fighter Group in France, a famous fighter group of P51 Mustangs and P47 Thunderbolts. Fred flew 89 missions in Europe and was awarded the Air Medal with three silver clusters and a silver star.

After the war was over, Fred returned to Purdue and graduated with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. Fred began his career at Rock Island Refining as a Process Engineer. A few years later, he was asked by his dad, to join the original family business, Crystal Flash Petroleum, a company that operated gas stations and sold home heating oil.

He then took over the business from his father and showed his true entrepreneurial spirit. He grew Crystal Flash Petroleum from 100 employees, operating gas stations and home heating oil sales in Indiana and Michigan into what has evolved as The Heritage Group. The Heritage Group currently employs 6,500 people around the world, with operations across

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

North America, Europe and China. In 2017, in recognition for his work on behalf of the State of Indiana, I-895 was renamed the "Fred M. Fehsenfeld Highway."

I know his passion for improving our highways firsthand. He knew that America needed to change how we managed traffic and freight movement. This knowledge led to the creation of Critical Commerce Corridors. Critical Commerce Corridors are a simple idea that we separate cars and trucks using physical barriers. Fred presented this idea to me, and his enthusiasm convinced me that this idea was something our country should pursue. It was because of him that Critical Commerce Corridors were included in the most recent highway bill reauthorization, passed into law in 2015.

Fred was a devoted, loving husband to his wife of 57 years, Midge Fehsenfeld, who passed away in 2003 and to his surviving wife, Barbara Fehsenfeld, of 15 years. He is survived by Barbara, brother Mac, five children, twenty grandchildren, and twenty-four great grandchildren. All of us who knew him and were impacted by his generosity, kindness, and loyalty will truly miss him. I ask everyone to keep his family in your prayers.

REP. JEB HENSARLING FAREWELL

### HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize Representative JEB HENSARLING who has accomplished so much in only eight terms in Congress.

JEB served six years as Chairman of the Financial Services Committee where he has continued to ensure that free markets thrive. Interestingly, his portrait features four books: The Bible, Atlas Shrugged, Hayek's The Road to Serfdom, and Friedman's Capitalism and Freedom. These works have guided his commitment to free markets and individual liberties.

JEB HENSARLING is as articulate of a speaker as I have ever encountered. Inevitably, his remarks reveal his perceptive views on subjects ranging from job creation and economic development to our Constitutional rights.

JEB leaves the Hill the same way that he came, a principled man with the strongest of ideals. I thank JEB for his years of service to our country and to his constituents in the fifth district.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. BLAIR ALEXIS ROTERT FOR HER DEDICATED CAREER OF PUBLIC SERVICE

### HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Blair Alexis Rotert, an outstanding member of my staff who has served my office with distinction for three years.

A California native, Blair graduated from the University of California, Berkeley where she

earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. Blair started her career on Capitol Hill in Representative DAVID VALADAO's office, who represented part of her home county of Fresno, California.

I am thankful that DAVID was kind enough to let Blair come to work for me, as she has been an integral part of my team, and has served dutifully as a public servant. I personally would like to thank her for her work on the Veterans Dignified Burial Act, the Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act, the Chinese American World War II Veterans Congressional Gold Medal Act, and a national monument proposal. She also has played an integral role in my work as Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, serving as a liaison between my personal office and the committee.

Blair managed her duties with professionalism, integrity, and a high degree of respect for the people we serve. Her dedication to the 39th Congressional District of California and the U.S. House of Representatives is an extraordinary example of her strong commitment to her country and fellow citizens. Even though I am retiring from office, Blair will always be part of the "Royce Team" and I will be forever grateful for her work.

She will be missed by all who worked with her. And I wish her the very best of luck as she sets forth on the next chapter of her life.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE JUDGE WALTER H. RICE

### HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Honorable Judge Walter H. Rice in conjunction with House passage of legislation to name the Federal Building and United States Courthouse in downtown Dayton, Ohio in his honor.

Judge Rice was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Northwestern University in 1958 and then attended Columbia University School of Law, earning a Juris Doctorate degree in 1962. Exhibiting the intelligence and hard work that would serve him so well throughout his career, Judge Rice also received a Master of Business Administration from Columbia University's Graduate School of Business Administration that same year.

Judge Rice began his legal career in 1964 in Dayton, Ohio, as an Assistant County Prosecutor for Montgomery County. In 1966, he entered private practice, joining the law firm of Gallon & Miller. In June of 1969, Judge Rice returned to public service as First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for the Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office.

Judge Rice's distinguished judicial service commenced in November 1969 when his fellow citizens elected him Judge of the Dayton Municipal Court. He held that position until 1971, when he was appointed Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Montgomery County. His exemplary judicial record and steady presence on the bench earned him reelection to the Court of Common Pleas in 1972 and 1978.

Federal officials took note of Judge Rice's impressive track record and experience, and President Jimmy Carter appointed Judge Rice

to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio. After confirmation by the United States Senate, Judge Rice was sworn in as a Federal District Court judge in Dayton on June 4, 1980. During his tenure, Judge Rice spent seven years as Chief Judge for the Southern District of Ohio, leading that bench from October 13, 1996 to October 12, 2003. He assumed senior status in 2004, maintaining a full docket.

A recipient of numerous awards, honors, and recognitions, Judge Rice received the Thomas J. Moyer award for judicial excellence in 2014. This award recognizes a current or former Ohio state or federal judge who displays outstanding qualities of judicial excellence, including integrity, fairness, open-mindedness, knowledge of the law, professionalism, ethics, creativity, sound judgment, courage, and decisiveness. In receiving the award, Judge Rice was lauded for his commitment to serving the needs of the most vulnerable in our community and for his efforts to encourage dialogue among his fellow citizens.

Judge Rice has been a tireless advocate for our community. He received the Citizen Legion of Honor Award from the Presidents Club of Dayton in recognition of his efforts as a champion of peace, inclusion, and civil rights. His volunteer efforts have included service with Wright Dunbar Inc., Inventing Flight, Aviation Heritage Foundation, American Veterans' Heritage Center, and the Montgomery County Ex-Offender Reentry Policy Board. He was a founding member of the Montgomery County Volunteer Lawyers Project and Dayton's Dialogue on Race Relations. He taught for many years at the University of Dayton School of Law and Wright State University, and received an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the University of Dayton in 1991 and an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree from Wright State University in 2000.

It is only fitting that the chambers in which Judge Rice continues his long service to the Dayton community, the state of Ohio, and the American public at large as a Senior Judge for the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio should be in a building that bears his name. I thank Judge Rice, for his numerous contributions to the greater Dayton community and congratulations on this well-deserved honor.

HONORING DR. FRANK LUNTZ, PhD

### HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Dr. Frank Luntz, PhD, a talented communications professional and linguist whose unique talents have moved the needle on some of our nation's most critical issues. Frank has been an excellent advisor and close personal friend of mine throughout my time in Congress. His guidance has been invaluable.

Frank grew up in West Hartford, Connecticut and graduated from Hall High School before going on to get his Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Political Science from the University of Pennsylvania. He then earned his Doctorate in Politics from none other than Oxford University. He has since gone on to

council presidents and prime ministers, Fortune 100 CEOs and professional sports franchises, nonprofit directors and Hollywood creatives. He served as a consultant to NBC's *The West Wing*, one of the most popular and universally-loved television shows in recent memory.

Dr. Luntz is a celebrated author, with three books on the New York Times Best Sellers list: *Words that Work: It's Not What You Say it's What People Hear*, *What Americans Really Want Really*, and *WIN*. Additionally, he has written about the power of language for *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Financial Times*, *The Times of London*, and *The Washington Post*.

Luntz is dedicated to teaching the next generation of thought-leaders, instructing young scholars at the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard University and The George Washington University.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending Dr. Frank Luntz for his outstanding contributions and dedication to communications and political scholarship, our nation and the people who serve it. We wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

REP. JOE BARTON FAREWELL

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize my fellow Texan, Representative JOE BARTON. The longest serving member in the Texas delegation and eighth most senior in the House, he has spent his 34 year career working for our country and the people of the sixth district.

JOE has a passion for politics and Texas A&M that is rarely matched. Since his time as a fellow in the Reagan White House almost four decades ago, he has continually championed conservative principles.

JOE has been a coach, manager, and player for the Republican baseball team since 1986 and has received several MVP Pitcher awards.

Last year, he and two of his sons were at what seemed like a typical early morning baseball practice that soon became a field of violence. During the ten minutes of shooting, and in the weeks following, he showed perseverance and resolve.

JOE has represented his constituents well for many years. I wish him a happy retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF KRISTA JOY  
MARTINELLI

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Krista Joy Martinelli as she ends her service as City Clerk of the City of South San Francisco. It's unusual to have an attorney as a city clerk, but Krista is unusually committed to helping others.

A California city clerk has many important duties. The clerk runs local elections, docu-

ments the development and passage of local ordinances, provides public records under the Public Records Act and the Political Reform Act, and ensures that public meetings are held in compliance with California's open meeting law known as the Brown Act. On ceremonial occasions, the clerk's office will often organize events. In all circumstances, a city clerk must be accountable to the public and supportive of the efficient operations of all city departments.

Krista Martinelli excelled in the performance of her duties. As an attorney, she recognized that a foundation of good government is accurate recordkeeping and ready access to information by all. As the duties of her job multiplied under numerous new mandates, she and her team managed compliance despite a tripling of compliance obligations. She advocated for the public and offered efficient administration of local elections. Residents could always count on Krista to produce records in a timely and accurate manner.

In her extended professional life, Krista served on numerous statewide committees that support the duties of a city clerk, including the League of California Cities' Administrative Policy Committee and she worked in the state legislature to support needed changes in the law. As if all that wasn't enough to occupy her time, she has co-authored five publications and authored two.

She is leaving public life to again work as an attorney and to advocate for children with special education needs. Her hard-working autistic son, Noah, is the inspiration for her next phase in life. Using skills honed as a seasoned litigator during her early years out of law school, she will be negotiating and mediating on behalf of children who need representation before school districts. She will be a powerful advocate for parents seeking equal education opportunities for their children. She hopes to build collaborative relationships between teachers, school administrators and parents throughout all phases of the IEP process. She holds a BS in Human Development and Family Studies from Cornell University and a Juris Doctor from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. She is a member of the State Bar of California.

Life tosses us curveballs. In Krista's case, she's excelled in every undertaking. Now, out of dedication to others like Noah, she will begin a new phase and we will all be better off due to this new way in which she will serve the public's interest. We want to thank her husband, Greg Elliott, and her children Noah, Lucca, Santino, and Pia, who have allowed us to share Krista's time with them. She is a woman of faith and active in All Soul's Church. Her faith and her optimism will buoy her during this next adventure. I have always been impressed with Krista, her work ethic and professionalism. We in the community wish her well and we are blessed that she will remain a neighbor and friend for years to come.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2,  
AGRICULTURE AND NUTRITION  
ACT OF 2018

SPEECH OF

**HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2018*

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I will vote in support of H.R. 2, the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, also known as the Farm bill.

The bill contains many of my priorities. As the author of the 1990 Organic Food Production Act and co-chair of the House Organic Caucus, I am pleased the conference report includes robust funding to help conventional producers transition to organic farming, strong research funding, and new authority for organic producers to be eligible for conservation programs when previously the programs were only available to conventional farmers. The bill also maintains current SNAP benefit levels, increases funding for food bank programs, including The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), and keeps separate funding streams for the Environmental Quality Incentive Program and the Conservation Stewardship Program.

However, the bill maintains the current agricultural subsidy programs, which I strongly oppose. The subsidies are only supposed to go to those "actively engaged in farming." Yet under the bill, the nearly \$900 billion in subsidies continue to be skewed towards wealthy individuals and mega-farms at the expense of small and medium-sized farms. In fact, the Environmental Working Group found that 18,000 Americans living in urban areas received more than \$63 million in subsidies in 2015 and 2016.

Not only do the subsidy loopholes from previous Farm bills remain, they are made even worse in this newest Farm bill, which expands the definition of "actively engaged in farming" to nieces, nephews and cousins—even if they have never set foot on the farm.

Real farmers, especially small- and medium-sized family farms, are in the middle of one of the worst economic downturns in decades, and they need and deserve our help before they are forced to sell their farms and lose their way of life. While the Farm bill contained many improvements to previous bills, the lack of reform and the expansion of subsidy program eligibility is outrageous. I will continue working to reform agricultural subsidy programs to ensure that the benefits go to small- and medium-sized farms, and only to those that actually work the land.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DAVID  
G. QUEEN, JR.

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of David G. Queen, Jr., and commemorate the noticeable impact that he made on the lives of others.

Mr. Queen excelled in athletics at a young age. He trained with the elite Miami Northwest Express Track Club under the tutelage of legendary Coach Jesse Holt, Jr. As a member of

Miami Northwest Express, he participated in the National Jr. Olympics where he placed first in his age group by posting the fastest time in the nation. His prowess allowed him to earn many medals, ribbons, and trophies. He was also a standout in football for the Boys and Girls Club. His dream was to become a professional athlete. He is worthy of commendation for his most recent goal of starting a mentoring program to share his experiences with young people.

Mr. Queen's greatest joy in life was his daughter, Zanaa Queen, and he treasured every moment they were together. He dedicated his life to being an ever-present and responsible father after her birth and he had a particular delight in his voice whenever he spoke about his beloved Zanaa. Now, he leaves his precious little girl in the trusted care of her mother, Britney Houston, her grandparents, and extended family. He will rest well knowing that she will be given the attention and care that he always strived to provide.

Mr. Queen comes from a family with deep roots and strong ties in South Florida. His mother, Tangela L. Sears, is a dedicated community activist who has invested her heart and soul into improving her community. She was the motivation for Mr. Queen's desire to mentor youths through sports and education. His grandmother, Vera Lawrence, who he affectionately called "Granny," was a longtime Miami Dade County employee, and his aunt, Sandra Sears, were important figures in his development and providing him a strong foundation.

Mr. Queen was born in Queens, New York, on February 27, 1986, to David G. Queen, Sr., and Tangela L. Sears, and the family relocated to Miami, Florida, soon after his birth. He began his education at Sparks Kindergarten and continued his studies at Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School, Charles R. Drew Middle School, and Northwestern Senior High School, all a part of Miami Dade County Public Schools, before graduating from Godby Senior High School in Tallahassee, Florida.

Please join me in acknowledging the life and lasting contributions made by David G. Queen, Jr., and expressing the need to use his dreams and aspirations to further promote transformative efforts to enrich the lives of young people.

**LIEUTENANT ANTONIO PENA RETIRES FROM THE CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL**

**HON. PAUL COOK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary law enforcement career of California Highway Patrol (CHP) Lieutenant Antonio Pena. On December 18, 2018, Lieutenant Pena will retire from the CHP after 29 years of service.

Antonio Pena began his career of public service by serving in the United States Air Force, where he attained the rank of sergeant. Following his military service, Antonio graduated from the CHP academy in 1989 and was assigned to the CHP South Los Angeles Office. After 11 years, Antonio moved on to

the Inland Division Office and assumed the role of Sergeant in the Victorville CHP office. In 2001, he began working out of the Santa Fe Springs office, a position that allowed him to coordinate the Impaired Driving Task Force. His assignments during the final phases of his law enforcement career included Alta Dena and Barstow. He finished his career with the CHP as the Commander of the San Bernardino County Auto Theft Task Force.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I would like to congratulate Antonio for his service to our nation, state, and community. His dedication and commitment to the profession of law enforcement reflects great credit upon himself and the California Highway Patrol.

**HONORING PASTOR GLEN BERTEAU**

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Pastor Glen Berteau for his many years of service to his community. A longtime church leader, he has touched thousands of lives. On September 9, 2014, Pastor Berteau led the House of Representatives in its opening prayer. In a rare honor, he was afforded the opportunity again on May 18, 2017.

In addition to being a pastor, he is also an author of multiple books. He wrote the youth manual "Strategies for Advancing Youth Ministries" as well as the books "Christianity Lite" and "Christianity To Go."

Pastor Berteau's parish, known as The House Network, has ministries in all communities throughout Modesto, CA. The church runs Nineveh Outreach, Cross Recovery and various worldwide mission trips. They have also opened Heart and Soul Coffee, a coffee shop in Downtown Modesto that uses coffee to advance its ministry.

Pastor Berteau has led The House Network to grow into a multi-campus organization, with churches in Modesto, San Jose, Slidell, Hilo, Downtown Modesto, and Fort Worth. The House in Modesto was featured in Outreach Magazine in 2009 for being the Second Fastest Growing Church in America and it is now on the list of the Top 50 Largest Churches in America.

Mr. Speaker, Pastor Glen Berteau has impacted the lives of everyone in his congregation and community. His commitment to serving Jesus Christ has helped him change communities for the good all over California. Please join me in recognizing his lifetime of service to God.

**REVEREND CANON GEORGE L. BONNER'S 40TH ORIENTATION ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Reverend Canon George L.

Bonner's 40th Orientation Anniversary at St. Albans Episcopal Church in Canarsie, New York on Sunday, December 16th.

In 1973, Reverend Canon Bonner left Belize for Codrington College in Barbados to study theology. He went on to the University of the West Indies for a Bachelor in Theology and a Master of Science in Education at Brooklyn College in New York.

In 1978, Reverend Canon Bonner was ordained as a Priest at the Cathedral of St. Michael and All Angels in Barbados. A decade into his spiritual journey, he was called to relocate to Brooklyn, New York and joined the All Saints Parish in East New York.

Upon arriving in New York, Reverend Canon Bonner was propelled into a position at St. Albans Episcopal Church and has proudly served the congregation ever since. He has provided spiritual guidance to the Canarsie community with admirable dedication and passion. Under the leadership of Reverend Canon Bonner, St. Albans Episcopal Church has overseen multimillion dollar renovations and expansions of the church.

Reverend Canon Bonner has the love and support of his wife, Ms. Marjorie Bradley-Bonner, his sons George and Kurt and six grandchildren: Marquise, Roshika, Geante, Bryanna, Owen and Matthew.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of the legacy of this great leader, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating the Reverend Canon George L. Bonner on his 40th Orientation Anniversary.

**REP. SAM JOHNSON FAREWELL**

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I'd like to recognize a true American hero, SAM JOHNSON, who has demonstrated exceptional valor, service, and patriotism. Before he came to Congress he spent 29 years in the Air Force where he flew almost 100 combat missions in the Korean and Vietnam wars.

I encourage all of my interns to read Congressman JOHNSON's autobiography, *Captive Warriors*, which recounts his seven years of torture, including 42 months of solitary confinement as a prisoner of war.

SAM JOHNSON's service to his country didn't end in Hanoi. In his 28 years in Congress SAM continued to demonstrate his unshakable principles and the courage of his convictions.

Congressman JOHNSON is the last Vietnam POW in Congress and remains a true patriot. I thank SAM for his lifetime of service.

**IN RECOGNITION OF JONATHAN SHARKEY**

**HON. JULIA BROWNLEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Jonathan Sharkey, a dedicated public servant to the City of Port Hueneme for the past 24 years. As a city councilmember and mayor, Jon has been a

leader on improving both the physical and cultural infrastructure of the city, and he has consistently and effectively work towards improving the quality of life of the many people that call the City of Port Hueneme home.

As a city councilmember, Jon led the effort to write and pass the city charter, making Port Hueneme the second charter city in Ventura County. Additionally, Jon was instrumental in securing funding to rebuild the city's aging wastewater system, and has been a strong advocate at both the state and local level for library funding. He also led the successful effort to grow housing availability within Port Hueneme, revitalizing the city's core.

Throughout his career in public service, Jon has been recognized as a regional leader in coastal advocacy. Jon has continually provided the City of Port Hueneme with guidance and leadership in his roles as chair and boardmember of the Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (BEACON), one of the first regional organizations in the country dedicated to providing a public response to the challenges of coastal erosion and resiliency. I have also had the opportunity to work closely with Jon and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to ensure continued sand replenishment at Hueneme Beach.

Jon has also contributed to prosperity of our region as a whole. As chair and boardmember of the Ventura Regional Sanitation District (VRSD), he led the effort to secure approval from the State of California to site and operate the only publicly owned landfill in Ventura County. Subsequently, the Toland Road Landfill has been recognized as a national leader in the use of landfill gas for electricity generation; and, the biosolids processing facility, during its operation, not only provided a local solution to biosolids disposal but also took nine million truck miles per year off the road.

In addition, Jon has served as Port Hueneme's representative to the Regional Defense Partnership for the 21st Century (RDP-21), a public-private partnership formed to support the military mission in Ventura County. RDP-21 has been instrumental in enhancing the mission of Naval Base Ventura County, bringing thousands of jobs to the area.

As he heads into retirement, Jon is representative of a steadfast dedication and tireless commitment to serving his community. For these reasons, it is with great enthusiasm that I join a grateful city and its residents in offering Jonathan Sharkey our heartfelt appreciation for his countless contributions to the City of Port Hueneme throughout his 24 years of public service. I wish him continued success and only the best in all of his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF THE  
ZEELAND RECORD AND THE VAN  
KOEVERING FAMILY

**HON. BILL HUIZENGA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Van Koevering family and their many contributions to the West Michigan Community through their newspaper and print shop, The Zeeland Record.

As a well-known and highly-regarded West Michigan business, The Zeeland Record has

earned the respect of the greater Ottawa County community through dedication to quality and service for over 125 years.

The Zeeland Record was started in 1893 by Adrian Van Koevering as a newspaper and print shop, and through the lifetime of the company, has expanded to include a full digital printing operation with the addition of ZR Graphics. When the newspaper and print shop was founded near the end of the 19th century, there was no local printing business. Recognizing the lack of regular circulation for news periodicals, and at the advice and counsel of his mother's uncle, Adrian Van Koevering started his own commercial printing company. He was able to obtain a loan from this same relative, Jacob Den Herder, to buy his own printing equipment, and within a few months, Adrian was hard at work in a business that would span generations of the Van Koevering family. Today, the company is in its fourth generation of family ownership and is led by brothers Kurt and Kraig Van Koevering who continue the Zeeland Record's legacy in West Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Second Congressional District of Michigan, we thank and honor the contributions of the Van Koevering family to West Michigan communities and families.

RECOGNIZING STEVEN T. REEDER

**HON. TODD ROKITA**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and salute fellow Hoosier Steven T. Reeder, an extraordinary teacher and citizen. Mr. Reeder has taught at Monrovia High School in Morgan County, Indiana, for twenty-years. He was recently awarded "History Teacher of the Year" by the Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution. This honor is well-deserved as his passion for teaching History is unmatched.

Colleagues, students, and members of the community have nothing but positive accolades when speaking about Mr. Reeder. I am told by his principal that students in his classes are on the edge of their seats each day from start to finish, and higher-level thinking is abundant. The classroom is filled with historical artifacts in a museum-like setting, but it is Mr. Reeder's ability to story-tell and cultivate critical thinking that makes his teaching style so special. In addition, he is known for hosting study groups after hours at local restaurants and also for lending support to students through small acts of kindness. It is no surprise that Mr. Reeder has been invited to the school's "Top Ten Teachers Banquet" every single year of his career at Monrovia High School.

Mr. Reeder's passion for history has not been limited to his classroom. He has been instrumental in leading students and residents of the community in unearthing information and artifacts about the town of Monrovia and its schools. He initiated and sponsors the organization "Students for the School" whose purpose is to research local history and make it visible in the community. As a result, artifacts celebrating the community's rich history in sports, agriculture, education, art, and the un-

derground railroad have been displayed in multiple cases in the school and town library. The group was also responsible for establishing the town's first official Indiana Historical Marker celebrating the life of former-resident IU Basketball Coach Branch McCracken.

Mr. Reeder uses historical opportunities to encourage a sense of community for citizens in Monrovia. He has worked with local organizations on projects that recognize and honor area veterans and active-duty members of America's armed forces. He recently hosted classes for the public about Monrovia's history, and he currently is working with civic leaders to establish more historical markers at noteworthy sites in the area. The loyalty Mr. Reeder has for his community and school is commendable.

As the Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, & Secondary Education, I am especially honored to recognize Mr. Steve Reeder as one of Indiana's finest teachers. He embodies the true spirit of a dedicated and caring educator, and I wish him the very best as he continues to be a positive influence for generations to come.

HUMBLE HISTORY

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it has been an honor and a privilege to represent the great City of Humble and the best folks in Texas. I live right outside the city line, over in Atascocita. But I have always considered Humble my home. If folks ask me where I live, I reply Humble. There are two ways to pronounce Humble—the right way and the wrong way. The right way is Umble (the H is silent). Towns like Humble, Texas are why so many new folks and businesses continue to move to Texas. It is only fitting that Humble was founded by a little-known hero, Joseph Dunman, who some believe is the true father of Humble.

In 1836, William Barret Travis penned his famous letter from the Alamo, "The Travis Letter." Travis pledged he would "never surrender or retreat," swearing "victory or death." Travis's letter requesting reinforcements at the Alamo was delivered by Joseph Dunman. The most famous letter in Texas history was delivered by horseback from the Alamo to Liberty, Texas by a volunteer. Dunman not only volunteered but he survived. Dunman like Travis believed in these words that the cause for independence was his life. Dunman was a true freedom fighter that understood America is worth fighting for and that defeat is not an option.

Unfortunately, Travis' call for help was not answered in time. Commander Travis and 187 volunteers sacrificed their lives after 13 glorious days at the Alamo. After delivering the letter to Liberty, Texas, Dunman rode on to Anahuac to spread the message to the colonist. Now the rest is as they say—Texas history. The Battle of San Jacinto was fought. General Sam Houston and his men defeated Santa Anna winning Texas' Independence.

In the 1840s Dunman received a land grant that would later become the city of Humble. In 1844, he acquired over 177 acres on the

banks of the San Jacinto River. He also raised cattle. By 1854, more than sixteen families settled around what was known as the Joseph Dunman settlement.

After the war, Dunman continued working for the Republic of Texas by driving and fencing cattle for Fort Galveston.

Because of men like Joseph Dunman, Texas is the great State that it is today. His legacy embodies the passion and loyalty that make Texans stand out around the world. The backbone of our nation was formed from hard-working citizens like Joseph Dunman. He is an example not only to those from Humble, but to all citizens of our great Nation.

The Dunman family always found a way to give back to their beloved Humble. They used their home as a polling location for the Republic of Texas and Harris County elections. Joseph Dunman's son, Joseph W. Dunman, opened the very first school in 1873. The school was called Joe Dunman's Schoolhouse. It was the only school in the district. The district is now called the Humble Independent School District.

Beginning as a small sawmill town, Humble was home to rugged Texas ranchers, farmers, and loggers. In 1869, a Civil War veteran named Pleasant Humble moved to Harris County. He purchased prime land from the Dunman family along the south side of the San Jacinto River. Humble opened a grocery store and ran the existing ferry. He soon took over the responsibility of the mail.

One of the best things about Texas is the fact that Texas towns each have their own unique history. There are hundreds of stories about towns and their colorful past and the settlers who founded them. However, the most interesting part of their unique history is how each town received its name. According to local historian Dr. Robert Meaux, "legend states that mail carriers from other towns were instructed to "deliver to Humble" meaning Pleasant Humble. Through continued use of this phrase, "Humble" eventually became the name of the town." In 1886, Pleasant Humble became the first postmaster of Humble. He was also Commissioner of Harris County and elected to Justice of the Peace for Harris County Precinct 4 in 1887 to 1895.

The name Bender should sound familiar to Humble folks. Bender Avenue, Aldine-Bender Road, and Charles Bender High School were all named after Charles Bender Sr. In 1889, Bender purchased a sawmill and moved it to Humble. The sale included thousands of acres of timberland. C. Bender and Sons became a very successful lumber company. They shipped wood all over the world. Bender was a very generous man. He built houses for his employees and allowed them to purchase them from his company.

In 1904 Bender filed an official street plan for the town of Humble, which is still in use today. The four main streets in town were named after four oil pioneers drilling in Humble: Higgins, Barrett, Granberry, and Staiti. The Bender family were hardworking, well-educated, God fearing Americans who emigrated from Germany believing the impossible. Recently the City of Humble renovated the abandoned Charles Bender High School and converted it into the Charles Bender Performing Arts Center. Hung over the top of one of the doors at Charles Bender High School read "Impossible Is Un-American." This motto was true of the Bender family.

Modern amenities were brought to Humble at the turn of the 20th century. They opened a bank, a theater and skating rink known as the Opera House, utility companies, a hardware store and saloons. Influential leader and citizen, Ross Sterling, moved to Humble in 1904. After completing a fourth grade level education, he began working as a clerk at the age of 12. The experience led him at the age of 21 to launch his own feed store. Sterling could have taught a course about the hard-working man—Work Ethic 101. In 1910, Sterling's big break came when he purchased two oil wells, leading to the charter of The Humble Oil and Refining Company, which later became Exxon. Sterling went to open many banks, one of which is Humble State Bank. He also was a newspaper publisher after buying the Houston Post, and owned KPRC radio station. He went on to become the governor of Texas from 1931 to 1933. In all of his endeavors, he always found a way to give back to his community. He left a legacy long after his death. Ross Sterling Middle School in Humble is named in his honor.

The 10s and 20s roared in with the founding of oil. Oil derricks made of wood covered Moonshine Hill and Humble. The first oil boom in Humble was made up of shallow wells that formed lakes of oil around the derricks. What a sight. As a result, Humble grew along with the refinery when oil roughnecks began purchasing homes in and around the town.

They weathered the depression better than most in the 30s and the 40s. And they solidified the Greatest Generation in our Nation's history. Humble is home to many heroes who served in the military during this time. One such hero who lives in Humble is Tom Morgan. Tom volunteered to serve his country during WW2. He joined the Marines in 1942 and was deployed and assigned to island hopping along Southeast Asia. Despite contracting malaria, he continued to serve our country. He then served as a reservist, and again deployed for his country in the Korean War. But he was not done serving. He worked the pipelines for 30 years and raised 3 kids in Humble. He retired, but felt lazy, so he answered an ad in the paper for positions with the Harris County Sheriff Office as a reserve officer. At the age of 72, he was the oldest cadet to ever graduate from the academy.

For 26 years, he has put on a badge and a gun to protect and serve the people and communities that he loves. At the age of 98, Tom Morgan is retiring as the oldest active lawman in the state of Texas. He still lives in Humble.

The McKay family name is well-known in Humble. Dr. Haden Edwards McKay II brought his family to Humble in 1919. He practiced medicine and served on the Humble ISD School Board. His son, Haden Edwards McKay III, followed in his father's footsteps by becoming a physician, too. He became known as Dr. McKay Jr. He started practicing medicine in 1938 in Humble. He met his wife, Lillian, a nurse at St. Joseph's hospital and they were married in 1941. That same year, Dr. McKay built a white limestone house for his new bride, in Humble. This home is considered a piece of local history. Another Humble landmark is the McKay Clinic, which is now a museum thanks to the efforts of Mrs. McKay. Dr. McKay saw patients at that clinic until his death in 1996. I cannot imagine what Humble would be like today, had it not been for the

McKay's. The city thrives because of their work and tireless efforts. Dr. McKay served as the mayor of Humble for 24 years and Lillian was the First Lady.

Bringing in air conditioning, the baby boom, and the Vietnam War the 50s and 60s presented many more changes to the small town. The 50s was the beginning of an economic boom in Humble. Population of Humble increased as many families moved to the suburbs to escape the City of Houston. In 1969, Houston's largest airport, now called George Bush Intercontinental Airport, was built on the west side of Humble. The 70s saw the biggest rise in fame and fortune with the oil boom, but was followed by the biggest fall from grace in the 80s. Nonetheless, Humble emerged unscathed in the 90s and continued to thrive. Not to say there were not hard times over the years. They had their share of hurricanes and fires—the latest was Hurricane Harvey. And we all know the damage Harvey poured onto Humble. But Humble proved Texas Strong. It is truly a city rich in history, pride, and perseverance.

Humble's fire and police departments are among the best in Texas. As a prosecutor and Judge for over 30 years, I have had the privilege of working alongside some of America's best, the men and women in blue. Each day they wake up, place the badge—the shield—over their heart and head out into our communities to protect us. It has been an honor to call many first responders in Humble, my friend.

It has been an honor to represent the citizens of Humble, Texas in the United States House of Representatives. I am proud to have worked with Retired Humble Mayor McMannes, Humble Mayor Merle Aarons, and the city council on numerous projects concerning the city. I commend them for their leadership in helping Humble grow.

I look forward to seeing Humble continue to prosper in the future.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING ISAAC APPLBAUM

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Isaac Applbaum, an active investor, enthusiastic venture capitalist, and senior advisor to the Mayor of Jerusalem for Public Private Partnerships.

Isaac grew up around Brooklyn, New York, where he attended Yeshiva University. He then moved on to earn his degree in Computer Science from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. After graduation, he joined Bell Labs as a programmer. He has since gone on to launch Concorde Solutions, a software assets management firm. The firm was bought by Bank of America, which landed him a role as a senior vice president responsible for strategic investments. From there, Applbaum has spent over 20 years in the Bay Area's venture capital universe.

Mr. Applbaum works with a variety of investment firms and continues to push investment in Israel. He is a major contributor to partnerships between American and Israeli companies. He also cofounded Teal Lake Cellars,

which produced a variety of high quality kosher wines that to bring together friends, leaders and colleagues from all walks of life.

Isaac is happily married to Hilda, his wife of 31 years, and together they have three children. He has dedicated himself to teaching the world about the beauty of Israel and its culture. To that end, he has spent much of his time working tirelessly to build flourishing Jewish communities in Israel and the United States.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending Isaac Applbaum for his outstanding devotion, contributions and dedication to his community. We wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

REP. JOHN CULBERSON FAREWELL

### HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I'd like to recognize Congressman JOHN CULBERSON. For almost two decades he has been an advocate for the Texans of the seventh district.

Chairing the House Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, JOHN has maintained or increased the budget for funding NASA. When it comes to space issues, his interest, knowledge, and enthusiasm is unmatched.

A lawyer by trade, JOHN has always fought for NASA to ensure America remains the world-leader in space exploration. His expertise and good counsel will continue to be needed even after his time in Congress comes to an end.

I thank JOHN for his public service. It has been a pleasure working on space issues with him in Congress.

### INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION TO COMBAT SEXUAL HARASSMENT ACT

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the National Commission to Combat Sexual Harassment Act to establish a national commission to examine and combat sexual harassment in the workplace.

I have modeled this bill on legislation Congress has passed to address other national problems considered to be serious, such as gambling. The almost daily exposure of allegations of sexual harassment, many not denied, more than qualifies sexual harassment for national attention and priority. This bill would create a national commission to focus on sexual harassment in major industries and workplaces throughout the United States.

Congress recently adopted a bill that addresses harassment in the congressional workplace. It requires Members of the House and Senate to be personally liable for settlements and awards resulting from harassment and retaliation claims, removes the mandatory counseling, mediation and "cooling off" periods

for accusers that is currently required, mandates publicly reporting awards and settlements and covers unpaid staff as well. This is a step in the right direction beginning here in the Congress. However, nothing equivalent has been done for sexual harassment that affects the American people. We have largely neglected our own constituents, despite the increasing number of troubling reports in the news of sexual harassment claims.

A national commission would assure the American people that Congress takes sexual harassment affecting them—the typical worker—seriously, beyond the high-profile examples, such as allegations against Harvey Weinstein and the Congress itself, that have garnered the headlines. Most importantly, the commission would hear from a cross section of the public—from office and factory workers to retail and food service employees—whose experiences with sexual harassment have received almost no attention. The commission could travel or invite witnesses to Washington from throughout the country to recommend changes in laws or regulations and best practices for preventing, training, investigating, responding to and penalizing sexual harassment in the private and public sectors.

Our constituents expect Congress, which represents every sector, to take on the national problem of sexual harassment, which we now know has infected every major sector of the economy, including private and public (federal, state and local) workplaces. A national commission could help reach and reduce sexual harassment, a form of gender discrimination, where the average woman and man works.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

### HONORING THE 45TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF DALLAS A. WALKER, JR.

#### HON. BRENDA JONES

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Ms. JONES of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 45th Pastoral Anniversary of Dallas A. Walker, Jr., Minister of Detroit's Wyoming Avenue Church of Christ.

Born in Vernon, Alabama, Pastor Walker comes from a strong lineage of faith leaders. His grandfather was a pioneer minister in Northwest Alabama and his father served as a church elder at the Mayfield Church of Christ in Fayette, Alabama. His mother was a devout Christian that lived to see her two youngest sons fulfill a family legacy proclaiming the Gospel of Christ.

Pastor Walker graduated from Lamar County Training School, and went on to attend Southwestern Christian College. He later earned a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from the University of Detroit Mercy and a Master's Degree in Professional Counseling from Wayne State University in Detroit. Pastor Walker began his formal ministry at the Church of Christ in Athens, Alabama. He has also served two other Alabama congregations, the Woodland Park Church of Christ in Birmingham, Alabama and the Farris Drive Church of Christ in Huntsville, Alabama.

Pastor Walker and his wife of 54 years, Beverly MacDonald Walker (deceased), have

three kids, Pamela Spear, Jennifer Leake, and Dallas A. Walker, III.

Widely known as a "Preacher's Preacher", he is an international evangelist, that has traveled firsthand to numerous biblical sites, among them the Mountain at Nebo, Bethlehem, the Sea of Galilee, Jericho, and the Garden of Gethsemane.

Pastor Walker is a stalwart spiritual compass in the city of Detroit. He can be seen all over the district sharing the scripture and hosting revivals. His dedication to the community was honored with secondary street naming of Wyoming and Chippewa Avenues. He also sits on the board of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Celebrated Seniors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in applauding Pastor Dallas A. Walker, Jr. for his 45 years of service in ministry at the Wyoming Avenue Church of Christ.

### TRIBUTE TO MRS. LUZ GONZALEZ TORRES—EIGHTY-THREE (83) YEARS OLD AND STILL WORKING AS A LETTER CARRIER

#### HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, age is relative, and many people look at it in very different ways. Many people look forward to being old enough to work, and of course, many of us look at it in terms of opportunity to retire. Work is indeed a virtue and it is indeed a dignified way of contributing to the well-being of society.

Today we highlight and honor Mrs. Torres for her longevity, her dedication to service and her inspiration to human kind. Mrs. Luz Gonzalez Torres was born in Trujillo, Peru on January 2, 1935, which marked her almost 84 years old. She came to the U.S. in 1963 and married Victor Torres in 1966. She and her husband have six (6) children, three (3) boys and three (3) girls and five (5) grandchildren. She widowed in 2007. Prior to becoming a letter carrier, Mrs. Torres worked for Walgreens, Illinois Bell, Western Electric and a travel agency. In 1985, Mrs. Torres was hired by the postal service and worked until 1989. She took a break and came back in 1992 as a PTS. Luz became a regular in 1994, and has had her current route since 2010. She had two knee surgeries and a broken left hand, yet she is still an active carrier.

What a woman. What mail carriers do for all of us.

### HONORING STANISLAUS COUNTY SHERIFF ADAM CHRISTIANSON

#### HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Stanislaus County Sheriff Adam Christianson, who is retiring after nearly three decades of public service, including 12 years serving as Stanislaus County Sheriff.

In 1988, Sheriff Christianson began his storied law enforcement career by joining the



Ceres Police Department. He was sworn into the Sheriff's Office in January of 1996, where he has served ever since. As Deputy Sheriff he filled an impressive variety of roles as Patrol, K9 Handler and Supervisor, Bailiff, Field Training Officer and Detective. As Sergeant he was assigned to Patrol and supervised the High Tech Crimes Unit. As Lieutenant he worked in Homeland Security, Internal Affairs, and was the Northwest Area Commander.

Sheriff Christianson has been a mainstay of the community throughout his time in office. Public Safety facilities have been expanded with more jail beds, a medical and mental health care unit, and a day reporting center, while the significant Public Safety Restoration Plan was completed with the support and funding of the Board of Supervisors. Sheriff Christianson capped off his tenure in office with the completion of the Coroner's Facility and the Re-Entry and Enhanced Alternatives to Custody Training (REACT) Center.

Sheriff Christianson began a stellar academic career by earning a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice Management. He later graduated from the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Course, the POST Executive Development Course and West Point Leadership in Police Organizations. He also received an Executive Certificate from the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

Sheriff Christianson is married to the love of his life, Yvonne. Together they have two children, Nicole and Kyle. He is looking forward to spending more time with his family after retirement.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending the outstanding contributions made to public safety and Stanislaus County by Sheriff Adam Christianson and hereby wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

REP. TED POE FAREWELL

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I'd like to recognize the first Republican to represent the second district of Texas, TED POE.

Before coming to Washington, TED was a felony court judge in Harris County where he was one of the youngest judges in the state. Known for his practical sentencing, his reputation for telling it like it is accompanied him to Congress.

TED has always put his country first. From his time as a prosecutor to a Congressman protecting our borders and combating human trafficking, he has always prioritized American's safety.

I thank TED for his 14 years of public service. His patriotism will be missed and as he often says, "that's just the way it is."

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF BILL NEWSOM

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I include the following obituary from the San Francisco Chronicle honoring Bill Newsom:

Justice William A. ("Bill") Newsom, paterfamilias of a pioneering San Francisco family and a revered figure to his children, grandchildren and expansive clan, ardent defender of the environment, longtime San Francisco civic leader and retired Justice of the California Court of Appeal, died on December 12 from complications of old age.

Bill was a brilliant man of letters and linguistic genius who could bend the English language to his will like few others. Avuncular and sweet-natured, possessed of a wry and irreverent wit, fluent in French and Italian, a master of allusion and superb with impressions and accents, he was unexcelled as a raconteur and bard. He was devoted to an astounding variety of literary and intellectual pursuits, peripatetic in his extensive travels, and indefatigable in his commitments to civic and charitable endeavors, particularly to conservation and environmental causes. A noted bibliophile and oenophile, he frequently combined those loves with a third, his great love of music, particularly opera. Bill liked his poets Irish, but his food Italian. He possessed an encyclopedic knowledge of natural history and natural science and loved adventuring in the out of doors with family and friends locally in California, on the Colorado River through he Grand Canyon, in Alaska, Africa and beyond. He was an irrepressible patron of lost causes who almost invariably took up on behalf of the underdog and the "little guy." His empathy and compassion were perpetually on display; it would be foolhardy to try to catalogue his countless initiatives on behalf of the unfortunate, the downtrodden and the wronged, much less his constant individual acts of kindness. It is perhaps best simply to observe that never did someone come to him for help and leave without it.

A wonderful father to his own children and "Papapapap" to his six grandchildren, Bill was also a superb builder and cultivator of family. Be it in Squaw Valley (a central gathering-place for the extended Newsom clan since the 1960 Winter Olympics), at the Monte Vista Inn or his treasured mountain retreat in Dutch Flat, or on any of innumerable family trips, he was never happier than when surrounded by family in conviviality, holding court with a fire roaring, recounting adventures and tales, offering unforgettable impersonations, describing the San Francisco of his (and his father's) youth, quoting Chesterton and Belloc, Yeats and Heaney. Bill adored children and they in turn were drawn to him as to the Pied Piper. He related to them in the most authentic and endearing way, not speaking at them but with them, neither at his level nor theirs, but in some kind of magical blarney in between that riveted them, made them laugh, and yet taught them something at every turn. They left his company—usually holding an armful of books, and some money—knowing he was their ally, including especially in whatever mischief they might be planning with his consent, or perhaps even his connivance. (Bill loved to tweak the establishment, even if that meant the parents of his co-conspirators!)

A fourth-generation San Franciscan, Bill was born into a large Irish Catholic brood in

Depression-era San Francisco on February 15, 1934 and raised on Jefferson St. at Baker, in the shadow of the Palace of Fine Arts. He was the second and last surviving of six children (Carole A. Onorato, Belinda B. ("Barbara") Newsom, Brennan J. Newsom, Sharon C. Mohun, Patrick J. Newsom) born to William A. Newsom, Jr. and Christine Newsom. Bill's parents were Mission District Irish. His father, William A. Newsom, Jr., (b. 1902) was a developer and civic leader who survived the 1906 earthquake and was closely associated with the late Gov. Edmund G. ("Pat") Brown. Bill's paternal grandfather, also William A. Newsom, born in San Francisco in 1865, was a contractor and early city father who later became an associate of A.P. Giannini and opened the first branch office of the Bank of America at 29th and Mission Streets in San Francisco. His maternal grandfather (b. 1872) was a longshoreman on the San Francisco waterfront who had made his way from Ireland to San Francisco in the 1880s.

Bill was privileged to have a superb education, first under the tutelage of the good Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange and the French Marists (most of sturdy Breton stock) at Ecole Notre Dame des Victoires, then under the Jesuits at St. Ignatius High School, from which he was graduated in 1951. It was at SI that Bill first encountered many of his boon companions, including Lloyd Fabbri, Lou Felder, Gordon Getty, Paul Getty, Jim Halligan, Chris Malarkey, John Mallen and many more. Bill received his undergraduate degree in French Literature from the University of San Francisco in 1955; a Masters in English Literature from Stanford in 1961; and his law degree from Stanford in 1960.

Bill married the former Tessa Menzies in 1966. They were blessed with the birth of a son, Gavin, in 1967 and a daughter, Hilary, in 1968. While Bill and Tessa were divorced in 1973, they maintained a close, familial relationship for the rest of their lives.

In his professional life, Bill was a Commissioner of the San Francisco Superior Court following law school before entering private practice as an attorney, first with the Lillick firm in San Francisco (1963-1965), then as an associate of the celebrated San Francisco trial attorney, James Martin Macinnis (1965-1966), and finally opening his own private law practice in Tahoe City, CA (1967-1975). He also served as an attorney for Getty Oil Italiana (based in Rome) in the late 1960s. Bill was appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown first to the Placer County Superior Court in 1975, and subsequently to the California Court of Appeals (First Appellate District) in March 1978. He retired from the Court of Appeal in 1995.

Throughout his adult life, Bill served as a legal and business advisor to his great childhood friends, Gordon P. Getty and J. Paul ("Paul") Getty, Jr., and later to many other members of the Getty family. Among other formal roles, he served as Trustee of the Ronald Family Getty Trust from 1988 to 2011; as Trust Administrator for the Gordon Getty Family Trust from 1994 to 2009; and as a Director and President of the Ann and Gordon Getty Foundation from 2011 until his passing. However, his most valuable service was in his informal capacity as a trusted confidant and, first and foremost, a friend. Bill played an important role in the negotiations for the release of Paul Getty's son, J. Paul Getty III, following his kidnapping in 1973.

At one time he considered a career in politics, but Bill lost his first race for the State Senate in 1968. (When asked why he lost, his answer was usually: "Because I ran against the unbeatable Milton Marks.") Despite a later movement to draft him as a mayoral candidate in the early 1980s, Bill had come to see himself in roles outside politics.



Bill's civic and charitable commitments were substantial. He served on the Board of Regents of the University of Santa Clara; the Board of Directors of the International Bioethics Institute, and on the boards of numerous environmental organizations including Earthjustice (San Francisco), Environmental Defense Fund (New York and San Francisco), Friends of the River (Sacramento), Sierra Watch (Nevada City) and the Mountain Lion Foundation (Sacramento). A visionary conservationist from an early age, he was an avid supporter of dozens of individuals and organizations working to protect our public resources—clean air, clean water, biodiversity, wildlife and wild places, especially our forests, rivers, and oceans.

Bill was endowed with great decency and humanity; indeed, these were his defining traits. He took the Golden Rule literally, regarding indignities to others as indignities to himself. A close friend from Bill's youth used to say of him that "the milk of human kindness flows by the quart in every vein."

Sometimes we lose someone whose passing makes it seem like an entire era is washed away. Bill was a proto-San Franciscan who often spoke of a city we sometimes now see only through a gauzy lens, where civic virtue, pride and neighborliness predominated; boasting a vibrant waterfront and teeming with middle class families; led by citizens who, Republican or Democrat, shared many core values; and having colorful characters at every turn. He was certain that he lived in the most magical place possible and, as was said of one of Bill's literary heroes, Belloc, "No man of his time fought so hard for the good things."

He is survived by his beloved children of whom he was so proud, governor-elect Gavin Christopher Newsom and his wife Jennifer Siebel Newsom, and Hilary Callan Newsom and her husband, Geoff Callan; his grandchildren, Talitha and Siena Callan and Montana, Hunter, Brooklynn and Dutch Newsom; his sisters-in-law, Cindy Asner, Cathy Newsom Goodman, Franza Newsom and Anne Scherer; his brother-in-law, Ronald V. Pelosi; a passel of nieces and nephews, grandnieces and grand-nephews in the Mohun, Fink, Newsom, Onorato, Pelosi and Scherer families; many beloved cousins and relations; and his legion of dear friends, including Gordon and Ann Getty and other, lifelong companions such as Jim Halligan and John Mallen; his longtime personal assistant, Lisa Belforte; and so many others. In addition to his siblings, Bill was predeceased by his former wife, Tessa Newsom.

Private services and burial to be held near Bill's longtime home in the community of Dutch Flat, CA. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Justice William Newsom Fund at the San Francisco Foundation ([www.justicewilliamnewsomfund.org](http://www.justicewilliamnewsomfund.org)), which will be used to carry on Bill's legacy of environmental stewardship for generations to come, or to your favorite charity.

"When You to Acheron's Ugly Water Come

Then go before them like a royal ghost  
And tread like Egypt or like Carthage  
crowned;

Because in your Mortality the most

Of all we may inherit has been found—

Children for memory: the Faith for pride.

Good land to leave: and young Love satisfied"

Requiescat in pace.

TRIBUTE TO GABRIEL CRISTIAN  
VIVEROS, III

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Mr. Gabriel Cristian Viveros, III for his service to my office and the people of California's Twenty First Congressional District.

Mr. Viveros was born on July 12, 1993 in Fresno, California to Enequina Patlan Viveros and Gabriel Viveros, II. Growing up in the Central Valley with his two older sisters, Andriana and Marissa, Mr. Viveros always had a sense of curiosity, a unique eye for art, and immense empathy for others—enabling him to connect deeply with people from all walks of life. Early on, Mr. Viveros learned to juggle multiple tasks at once while maintaining keen attention to detail managing his school work and participating in speech, debate, and water polo teams at Clovis East High School. Upon graduating from Clovis East High School in 2011, Mr. Viveros continued his studies at California State University in Fresno, California. During this time, Mr. Viveros used his curiosity, creativity, artistic ability, and confident speech background to find his way into political arenas and social groups, such as the Sigma Chi Fraternity.

Following his graduation from California State University in 2015 with a Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration, Mr. Viveros began his professional career as a Board Assistant for the Fresno County Board of Supervisors. In this role, Mr. Viveros applied his unique skillset to meet the various needs of the office providing administrative support, representing the Supervisor at community events, and expanding social media presence of the Supervisor.

In February of 2017, Mr. Viveros drove cross-country to Washington, D.C. joining my team as Scheduler. As Scheduler, Mr. Viveros was not only integral in managing my daily schedule but also to the overall function of my office. Mr. Viveros' ability to connect with others was evident whenever he interacted with constituents or those looking to schedule a meeting by going above and beyond to accommodate every request. Beyond scheduling, Mr. Viveros frequently volunteered his artistic talents to create digital media content for many of my social media platforms.

Mr. Viveros is also a small business owner, running Gabriel Cristian Photography in Washington, D.C. and Central California. Outside of politics, Viveros spends his free time growing his business and expanding his portfolio. In addition to photography, Gabriel enjoys graphic design, drawing, and interior design. For fun, he enjoys traveling to new cities, hiking, and spending time back home in California with his family.

Mr. Viveros' time with my office will come to an end on January 3, 2019 when I leave my office as the 116th Congress begins. I have no doubt he will continue to be successful and grow professionally in his future endeavors. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Mr. Gabriel Cristian Viveros, III for his public service to the people of California's Central Valley and wishing him well as he embarks on the next chapter of his life.

REP. MICHAEL CAPUANO  
FAREWELL

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank Congressman MICHAEL CAPUANO for his many years of service to his constituents in Massachusetts's 8th district.

MIKE and I served together on then Speaker PELOSI's Task Force on Ethics Enforcement in the 110th Congress. I developed a great appreciation for MICHAEL's candor and honesty while we both worked together. I have the highest respect for his integrity, judgement, and ability to find the truth on contentious or complicated issues.

Congressman CAPUANO earned the respect of his colleagues during his time on the Task Force and now as the current Ranking Member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials.

It has been an honor serving with him over the years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, On Tuesday, December 11, 2018, due to a death in my family, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

on roll call no. 428, YEA; on roll call no. 429, YEA; and on roll call no. 430, YEA,

TRIBUTE TO CAITRIONA  
RAFFERTY

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Ms. Caitriona Rafferty for her service to my office and the people of California's Twenty First Congressional District.

Ms. Rafferty was born August 7, 1993 in Westwood, New Jersey to her parents, Brian and Maria Rafferty. One of four children, Caitriona grew up in Tenafly, New Jersey with her three siblings Ciara, Angela, and Thomas who she remains close with today. Growing up, Caitriona played an active role in her church and giving back to the community; attending mission trips and making time to be a Sunday School teacher. During her time at home, she helped repair houses and loved to play sports. In high school, Caitriona was captain of the Tenafly Tigers Volleyball team and co-captain of the St. Brigid's Ladies Gaelic Football Junior Team. Her hard work and dedication to the sport was a driving force that led her fellow teammates to the Junior Gaelic Football Championship and the World Games Championship in Ireland as a part of the New York Gaelic Athletic Association "All Stars" team.

After graduating with honors from Tenafly High School, Ms. Rafferty went on to attend Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Connecticut. While in college, Caitriona developed an interest in politics and began volunteering for local campaigns including Paul Vagianos for State Assembly and Christine Orday for State Assembly. In Spring 2016, Caitriona studied abroad at John Cabot University in Rome, Italy where she had the opportunity to expand her worldly views, attend a Catholic Easter Mass at the Vatican, and make lifelong friendships. In May 2017, Caitriona graduated from Sacred Heart University with her Bachelor of Science in Political Science.

Caitriona joined my team as an Intern in my Washington, D.C. office in September 2017 and was quickly offered a full-time position on my staff as Staff Assistant in November 2017. As Staff Assistant, Ms. Rafferty was instrumental to my team through managing my D.C. internship program, assisting my constituents by planning tours in the nation's capital, and assisting staff with legislative and communication projects. In February 2018, Ms. Rafferty was promoted to Legislative Correspondent. In this capacity, she ensured every constituent concern or question was promptly addressed.

Ms. Rafferty's laid-back personality and steadfast work ethic was a valuable asset to my office. She was greatly respected by her peers for attention to detail and dedication to her work. Outside of work, Caitriona enjoys going to the movie theater, listening to podcasts, wandering through museums, but above all, she loves spending time with friends and family.

Ms. Rafferty's time with my office will come to an end at the beginning of the 116th Congress on January 3, 2019. I have no doubt she will continue to be successful and grow professionally in her future endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Ms. Caitriona Rafferty for her public service to the people of California's Central Valley and wishing her well as she embarks on the next chapter of her life.

REP. ELIZABETH ESTY FAREWELL

### HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank Congresswoman ELIZABETH ESTY for her productive years in Congress and on the Science Committee in particular. Representative Esty has served her constituents in Connecticut proudly during her time in Congress.

Among other accomplishments, she enacted H.R. 255, the "Promoting Women in Entrepreneurship Act", in the current Congress. She also sponsored on H.R. 1020, the "STEM Education Act of 2015", which became law. It promoted educational opportunities for students in STEM subjects.

It is because of her principled approach that 33 of the Science Committee's 35 bills that were approved on the House floor were bipartisan.

ELIZABETH was willing to work across party lines to get legislation passed. It has been a pleasure serving with ELIZABETH in Congress.

THANKING DYLAN COLE  
CHANDLER

### HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Mr. Dylan Cole Chandler for his service to my office and the people of California's Twenty First Congressional District.

Mr. Chandler was born on July 17, 1992 in Huntsville, Alabama. As a child, Mr. Chandler was always supported and encouraged to learn by his parents, Christie Chandler Barclay and Douglas Hines Barclay II.

Growing up in Alabama with his sister, Emma, Mr. Chandler enjoyed being active and challenging himself academically as he held the position of Class Officer and played varsity soccer while attending New Hope High School. Upon graduating in 2010, Mr. Chandler attended the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa where he became an active member of the University's Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity. During the spring semester of his junior year, Mr. Chandler furthered his interest in American politics, gaining firsthand experience of the political process in Washington, D.C. while interning for Congressman MO BROOKS of Alabama.

Mr. Chandler graduated from the University of Alabama with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 2015 and soon returned to Capitol Hill beginning his career as a Legislative Correspondent in my Washington, D.C. office. In this position, Mr. Chandler successfully developed and maintained relationships with the constituents of California's Twenty First Congressional District, ensuring every voice was heard and concerns were thoroughly addressed.

Proving himself an integral member of my team, Mr. Chandler quickly moved up to take on the role of Senior Legislative Assistant. Mr. Chandler's dedication to the people of the Central Valley was unwavering as he worked tirelessly on legislative issues impacting my district including Agriculture, Financial Services, and Healthcare. These efforts were instrumental in securing millions of dollars in federal funding, improving the lives of countless people residing in my district.

Outside of work; Mr. Chandler is very active and enjoys skiing, golf, traveling, exploring local restaurants with various cuisines. His family and friends are incredibly important to him and he makes frequent visits to Alabama a top priority.

Mr. Chandler's time in my office will come to an end this January and he will begin a new chapter serving as Legislative Assistant to Congressman SEAN DUFFY of Wisconsin's Seventh Congressional District. While the Central Valley is losing a strong and reliable advocate, I have no doubt that Mr. Chandler will achieve many great things and continue working to help the lives of many others in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Mr. Dylan Cole Chandler for his public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing him the very best in this next chapter of his life.

REP. GENE GREEN FAREWELL

### HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank Representative GENE GREEN for his years of service in Congress. He and I have been members of the Texas delegation for years and I consider him to be both a colleague and a friend.

GENE has selflessly dedicated years of his life to represent the constituents of the 29th district of Texas. He has listened to their concerns and focused on the issues they care about.

GENE has worked with his colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee to pass legislation that has the support of both parties. His current leadership position as the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Health, as well as his previous leadership roles on the Committee has garnered him respect from his peers throughout Congress.

I wish GENE the best as he starts his next chapter.

TRIBUTE TO ANNA RAQUEL  
VETTER

### HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Ms. Anna Raquel Vetter for her service to my office and the people of California's Twenty First Congressional District.

Ms. Vetter was born on July 27, 1989 in Houston, Texas to Maria Santucci Vetter and Bruce Gary Vetter. Although Ms. Vetter spent parts of her childhood in Texas, Georgia, and Colorado, she spent the majority of her formative years in Champaign, Illinois. As the eldest growing up with her three brothers; Anthony, John, and Daniel, Ms. Vetter was always responsible, reliable, and, when needed, stern—making her a natural leader.

After graduating from The High School of Saint Thomas Moore in Champaign, Illinois in 2007, Ms. Vetter went on to continue her studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. While attending the University of Illinois, Ms. Vetter also worked at a local boutique and in the Sports Marketing and Promotions Office for the University's Athletic Department. Balancing her studies and working two jobs, Ms. Vetter graduated in 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in Advertising and Political Science. Soon after, Ms. Vetter began her career on Capitol Hill working as Deputy Communications Director for her hometown Congressman, Timothy V. Johnson.

Ms. Vetter joined my team in February 2013 as my Communications Director. In this role, Ms. Vetter oversaw all outgoing communications and served as my formal spokeswoman and media liaison, cultivating and maintaining relationships with local, state, and national media outlets.

After demonstrating her natural leadership abilities, Ms. Vetter took on the position as Deputy Chief of Staff in April 2016. Through this, Ms. Vetter was a trusted advisor on my

long-term legislative plan and was integral in overseeing all operations and staff in my Washington, D.C. office. As a member of my team, Ms. Vetter was greatly respected by her coworkers for her professionalism and dedication to her work.

Outside of work, Ms. Vetter enjoys golfing, going to the gun range, hiking, and like a true Italian, making and eating pasta. However, she spends most of her freetime with her Labradoodle, Sullenberger "Sully" McCormack who she and her fiancé, Ryan James McCormack, brought home on June 12, 2018. Additionally, Ms. Vetter is looking forward to her marriage to Mr. McCormack, which will take place on November 2, 2019.

Ms. Vetter's time in my office will come to an end as she becomes the Communications Director for Congressman Van Taylor at the beginning of the 116th Congress. Knowing Ms. Vetter's work ethic, professionalism, and undeniable love for the United States of America, there is no doubt that she will be successful in her new office and in all of her future endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Ms. Anna Raquel Vetter for her public service to the people of California's Central Valley and wishing her well as she embarks on the next chapter of her life.

---

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, December 13, 2018, due to a death in my family, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On roll call no. 435, YEA.

---

REP. JARED POLIS FAREWELL

### HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to congratulate Representative JARED POLIS on his victory in the Colorado gubernatorial race even though it means he is leaving Congress.

I have worked with Representative POLIS on Science Committee issues over the years given his district contains both a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and a National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) office. Congressman POLIS has shown an acute knowledge regarding High-Tech issues given his experience running internet-based companies in the private sector and his philanthropic work in the area.

I wish him the best of luck as he starts this new chapter serving the constituents of Colorado.

CELEBRATING THE BOLD VISION AND STEWARDSHIP OF OMAR BROWNSON DURING HIS TENURE AS FOUNDING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND PRESIDENT AT RIVER LA

### HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the bold vision and stewardship of Omar Brownson during his tenure as founding Executive Director and President at River LA. Omar led efforts to transform the Los Angeles River, bringing renewed interest and a holistic approach to restoring its 51-mile expanse.

Since 2010, Omar has helped forge new partnerships that traverse public, private, and philanthropic sectors, fostering creativity and innovation. The vastness of the Los Angeles River and the diversity of the communities it connects create unique challenges that demand unique leadership. Through forward-thinking initiatives, Omar has been able to tackle these challenges through a wider lens—seeing opportunities to address inequity and climate change.

The history of the Los Angeles River is written by many and Omar has become squarely embedded in that history. Through the passionate collaboration of all those committed to its future, our children and grandchildren will be able to enjoy the beauty of this natural resource. As policy makers, advocates, and community leaders, we must all continue working together to create policies that ensure the protection and vitality of all of our planet's natural resources, including the Los Angeles River.

I ask all members to join me in commending Omar Brownson for his incredible dedication to the Los Angeles River.

---

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, December 12, 2018, due to a death in my family, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on Roll Call no. 431, YEA; On Roll Call no. 432, YEA; on Roll Call no. 433, YEA; and on Roll Call no. 434, YEA.

---

THANKING COLE JONATHAN ROJEWSKI

### HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Cole Jonathan Rojewski for his near decade of service to the Central Valley Congressional Delegation, and particularly, for his work in various roles over the last six years for California's Twenty First Congressional District.

Mr. Rojewski was born in Clovis, California to parents Cynthia and Al Rojewski. Cole enjoyed growing up in Clovis countryside with his sister, Dena, and the family's many animals. From an early age, Mr. Rojewski had a love for animals and being outside. As a child and young adult, Cole was an active member of Future Farmers of America (FFA), something he continues to participate in today as a mentor to young FFA members. Cole attended Clovis High School and Clovis East High School, where he was a member of the school's men's golf team and graduated in 2006. Following his graduation from High School, Mr. Rojewski attended California State University, Fresno, where he graduated in 2011, receiving a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science.

It was while attending CSU Fresno that Cole found an interest in politics. Beginning in 2010, Cole worked for Congressman DEVIN G. NUNES as a Field Representative in his Clovis District Office. Mr. Rojewski continued to work for Mr. NUNES throughout his time in college, and also had an active role on campus as Vice Chair of the Central Valley Region of the California College Republicans.

In 2012, Mr. Rojewski played a vital role in my first campaign for Congress. Following my election that November, Mr. Rojewski joined my team in Washington D.C. Throughout the last six years in my office, Mr. Rojewski has played a vital role in our success representing the Central Valley, having served as my Office Manager, Campaign Manager, Deputy Chief of Staff, and most recently as my Chief of Staff from 2015 to the end of 115th Congress.

Cole's natural leadership abilities, supreme work ethic, and keen political instincts have made him a truly invaluable member of my team, and an excellent public servant elevating the needs of the people of the California's Central Valley throughout the halls of Congress and our nation's Capitol.

Following the 115th Congress, Cole's time in my office will come to an end, but I look forward to seeing what the future has in store for him. I have no doubt he will continue his great work in politics and will have many great achievements in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Cole Rojewski for his public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing him the very best in this next chapter of his life.

---

SPEAKER PAUL RYAN FAREWELL

### HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize PAUL RYAN's 20 years of exemplary Congressional service with great appreciation and gratitude.

I think Speaker of the House may be the toughest job in America. A Speaker has to gather 218 votes to approve any measure, unlike executives who can simply issue orders.

PAUL may be the first Speaker who didn't seek the office and, instead, was drafted by the Republicans in Congress—a true testament to the respect his colleagues have for him. And he has handled the speakership with humility, dignity, and confidence.

Speaker RYAN also has consistently made his family a priority, even forgoing political activities on weekends to be with them.

I thank PAUL for his leadership and heartfelt commitment to our nation.

REP. DANA ROHRBACHER FAREWELL

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize the gentleman from California for 30 years of service in Congress. He cares deeply for California's Orange County and his constituents.

DANA ROHRBACHER has been an active member of the Science Committee and has been the Chair of the Space Subcommittee. In fact, he was such an able Chairman, I requested a waiver to keep him in that position for two years beyond the regular six-year term limit.

After beginning his career as a speechwriter for President Ronald Reagan, DANA, who is an avid surfer, continued to ride the wave of political service by running and winning his first campaign for Congress in 1988.

A true public servant, DANA has an infectious personality and a sense of humor that brightens any room. In fact, some of his jokes are even funny.

I thank DANA for his friendship and for his service.

REP. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN FAREWELL

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize my friend and colleague, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, or, as she allows me to call her, LILY.

When I first met ILEANA, I asked her if she had a nickname. She told me her friends call her LILY and so could I.

Her accomplishments as a Congresswoman from Florida's 27th congressional district are historic. She was the first Cuban-American elected to Congress and also had the distinct honor of serving as the first Chairwoman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

She has left a positive and indelible mark on Congress and on her colleagues. I thank LILY for her dedicated service to our country.

REP. KEVIN YODER FAREWELL

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, Congressman KEVIN YODER for his years of service to Kansas's 3rd congressional district.

KEVIN's childhood on a family farm in rural Kansas gave him strong values and a work ethic. As the student body president at the University of Kansas, he showed an early affinity for politics before he entered Congress.

His work here on the Appropriations Committee has focused on balancing the budget, reducing our national debt, securing our borders, and spurring private sector job growth, all in the best interests of our country.

I've enjoyed working with him on these shared goals, and I've also enjoyed our friendship off the Floor when we regularly play doubles tennis matches with BOB GOODLATTE, FRED UPTON, and SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO.

Whether on the tennis court or in the halls of Congress, KEVIN is a team player, exhibiting determination and a good attitude. I thank KEVIN for his service in Congress and for his friendship.

REP. RANDY HULTGREN FAREWELL

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize the gentleman from Illinois for his eight productive years in Congress.

RANDY HULTGREN has been passionate about public service from a young age. He got his start as an intern in D.C. and was then elected to the Illinois House of Representatives, the Illinois Senate, and as the representative of Illinois' 14th district.

Over the years, there have been few, if any, members who rival RANDY's steadfast commitment to supporting the U.S. research system. His district is home to a Department of Energy National Laboratory, FermiLab, and he has played a pivotal role in keeping the United States at the forefront of high energy physics.

I thank RANDY for his efforts in promoting American innovation. His service has made an impact that will continue to benefit his constituents and our country.

REP. BARBARA COMSTOCK FAREWELL

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize the gentlewoman from Virginia for her years of service in the U.S. Congress.

BARBARA COMSTOCK has been an active and effective member of the Science Committee and Chair of the Research and Technology Subcommittee for four years.

She worked tirelessly to promote STEM education and opportunities for American students. Her commitment to empowering women in STEM fields motivated her to author the INSPIRE Women Act, a law that enables NASA to encourage young women to pursue a STEM education.

No doubt Barbara honed her skills while attending high school in my home state of Texas, where she also met her husband. But I know her heart has always been with her constituents in Virginia. I thank her for her public service and the influence she has had on the education of our young women.

REP. BOB GOODLATTE FAREWELL

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize a best friend in Congress, BOB GOODLATTE of Virginia.

I often cite BOB as an example of an ideal Member of Congress. Over his 26 years, he has proven himself to be a dedicated public servant, resilient leader, and exemplary statesman.

During his congressional career, BOB served as Chairman of both the Agriculture and Judiciary Committees, one of the few members of Congress to chair two committees.

He also is a leader on Internet and high-tech issues. BOB's work to foster innovation in the technology sector has contributed to our nation's economic growth.

He is knowledgeable, smart, persistent, cheerful, and a strategic thinker. That's why he is a great Member, a great Chairman, and an inspiration to friends, family, and colleagues.

It has been a privilege to serve with BOB and know him as a close friend.

REP. TREY GOWDY FAREWELL

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize the gentleman from South Carolina for his eight years of distinguished service in Congress and for his successful Chairmanship of the Oversight Committee.

TREY GOWDY has one of the sharpest legal minds I have ever encountered. He possesses that rare combination of smarts, confidence, and humility.

TREY is a skilled debater and a masterful cross-examiner on the Judiciary Committee. Perhaps it goes back to his education at Baylor University in the great state of Texas.

He will leave a legacy as one of the most capable and versatile experts of law we have in Congress.

I thank TREY for his leadership and service that has benefitted his constituents, the Congress, and our country.

REP. DARRELL ISSA FAREWELL

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize the gentleman from California for his 18 years of service in Congress.

DARRELL is intellectually gifted, and his knowledge of electronics and technology is unmatched in Congress. And, as a holder of 37 patents, DARRELL knows the importance of protecting the property rights of artists and inventors.

He is also a skilled representative and leader. His time as Chairman of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform was one of the Committee's most productive and effective periods. In fact, I appreciate him allowing some of his best staff to join me on the Science Committee.

DARRELL will continue to excel as Director of the Trade and Development Agency and I wish him well with his new responsibility.

REP. STEVE KNIGHT FAREWELL

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize the gentleman from California for his long-time service to our country.

STEVE KNIGHT is an active member of the Science Committee and Vice Chair of the Energy Subcommittee. He authored several bills to advance research initiatives, improve STEM education, and promote opportunities for women in aerospace.

His father was an Air Force test pilot who still holds the world record for top speed in a winged aircraft. STEVE also followed the patriotic calling by joining the Army and serving 18 years with the Los Angeles Police Department.

He has dedicated his professional life to the people of California, holding office in the State Assembly, State Senate, and here in the House of Representatives.

I thank STEVE for his commitment and service.

#### RECOGNIZING KATIE DASINGER OF SIDNEY

#### HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Katie Dasinger of Sidney for her efforts to engage young professionals in Eastern Montana to serve their communities and develop their skills.

Dasinger is founder and president of Sidney Young Professionals (SYP), a group focused on community service as well as personal and professional development. The program coordinator for the Richland Economic Development Corporation (REDC) in Sidney, Dasinger launched SYP in 2016.

SYP recently held its annual winter school benefit which was dedicated to helping teachers replenish their classrooms with supplies, equipment, and other items for the new school semester. SYP collected more than 25 large shopping bags of supplies as well as donations from the public and local businesses.

SYP regularly organizes entrepreneurship panels, roundtable discussions, public forums, training programs, and tours of area businesses.

When a court ruling threatened the Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project (LYIP) at nearby Intake, SYP and REDC coordinated bus tours,

organized educational outreach, and bolstered community support for the vital irrigation project. Their efforts contributed to a positive outcome for the thousands of area residents who rely on the LYIP to irrigate crops and provide water for their municipal systems.

"We want to engage young adults to invest in their communities, get to know the local business and community leaders, serve on local boards, and take part in community events. It's important young people have a reason to stay connected to the area," said Dasinger, who Montana Young Professionals recognized as the Young Professional Woman of the Year for 2018.

Mr. Speaker, for her leadership, commitment to promoting community service, and efforts to develop young professionals in her community, I recognize Katie Dasinger for her spirit of Montana.

#### HONORING THE INNOVATIVE WORK OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS IN ILLINOIS'S 10TH DISTRICT

##### HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the creative accomplishments of our local municipalities who have gone above and beyond to serve our communities. Innovation is alive and well in the cities, towns and villages of Illinois's Tenth Congressional District.

Some of these local achievements were recently recognized by the Lake County Municipal League highlighting the commitment, vision and ingenuity of our civic leaders.

The City of North Chicago, Illinois won top honors for their work creating a Summer Youth Employment program titled "Learn, Earn and Return." The program has employed over 100 local low-income youth in summer internships through public and private partnerships in its first four years. Working alongside city staff, these summer interns develop valuable leadership and career skills that are crucial in an increasingly competitive job market. According to the City, since "Learn, Earn and Return" started, youth crime in North Chicago has decreased by 80 percent.

The Village of Mundelein was also honored for the successful launch of their revitalized 1–2-3 building permit program that will allow for greater efficiency. The improvement earned an Honorable Mention at the awards dinner.

Other Lake County municipalities made significant strides in the past year to bolster their local small businesses, improve public safety and beautify their communities. In an effort led by Mayor Terry Weppler, the Village of Libertyville highlighted over 100 of their local businesses with personal visits and were featured on the Village website. The Village of Beach Park partnered with the City of Waukegan to design, install and implement an early warning outdoor notification system. Finally, the Village of Buffalo Grove, the Buffalo Grove Park District, and the Living Lands Conservation Company collaborated to construct a nursery to grow native aquatic plants.

We all strive to live in vibrant, healthy and dynamic communities. The work of these, and other, municipalities are helping to realize that dream.

I applaud these municipalities and the dedicated civil servants for their commendable efforts to serve our communities. I look forward to learning more about these innovative efforts, and to continuing to work closely together in the months ahead.

#### SUPPORTING HOUSE RESOLUTION 1091

##### HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, the House passed H. Res. 1091, offered by my friend from Ohio, STEVE CHABOT. I support this resolution and commend my colleague for his leadership on a pressing issue of concern. If democracy dies in darkness as the Washington Post masthead daily reads, surely the release of the Reuters journalists will bring a little light back to Burma. But only a little light unfortunately.

We all believed that Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Sui Kyi would govern differently from past Burmese leaders. Unfortunately, she has not. The democratic icon has become an extremely disappointing politician. On her watch one of the world's largest ethnic cleansings has occurred—the forced and violent removal of Rohingya from Burma. The blood of Rohingya is on her hands. Over half a million Rohingya were removed and untold numbers killed by a military that long planned for this operation.

I commend the Administration for using Global Magnitsky sanctions to target Burmese military leaders and units. But with atrocities continuing against the Rohingya and other Burmese minorities, more clearly needs to be done. Expanding sanctions against companies and cronies linked to the military leadership is a potential game changer in any punitive approach to this issue. And the U.S. should be urging the EU and other nations to do the same.

I understand the arguments made by those who urge caution, fearing that too much pressure on Aung San Sui Kyi will lead to a military coup, with the full backing of Beijing no doubt. But at what price, silence? Thousands of deaths? Half a million people forcibly removed? Condoning crimes against humanity and genocide? We cannot be bystanders to genocide. As with the mass detention of Uyghur Muslims in China or the genocide experienced by Christians and Yazidis at the hands of ISIS, U.S. leadership is needed to create a global response to this crisis. I again commend the gentleman from Ohio for this resolution. Preventing and addressing genocide and mass atrocities are a core national security interest and a core moral responsibility of the United States.

#### COMMEMORATION OF THE MITRE CORPORATION'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

##### HON. SETH MOULTON

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. MOULTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to note that 2018 marks The MITRE Corporation's

60th anniversary. MITRE is a not-for-profit company that operates seven federally-funded research and development centers. Its 8,700 employees work in the public interest, free from commercial conflicts of interest, at two primary locations in Bedford, Massachusetts and McLean, Virginia, and at other sites around the world. MITRE's principal sponsors include the Department of Defense; the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services; the Department of the Treasury and the IRS; the Department of Veterans Affairs; the National Institute of Standards and Technology; the Federal Aviation Administration; the Department of Homeland Security, and the federal courts.

The company's staff works on some of the most challenging technical problems facing our nation, performing analysis, planning and concept development; R&D; engineering; and systems acquisition work. Since its earliest work to develop the nation's first air defense system, MITRE has generated countless innovations to address emerging threats, improve healthcare, defend cyberspace, secure our borders, ensure aviation safety, protect financial integrity, support our veterans, and more.

I congratulate MITRE's employees for their vital work over six decades to solve problems for a safer world, and wish them continued success in the years to come.

#### HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORDHAM RAM, FORDHAM UNIVERSITY'S JOURNAL OF RECORD SINCE 1918

##### HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to celebrate and honor the 100th anniversary of The Fordham Ram, a publication of true purpose and high achievement, whose exemplary programs and accomplishments have made many contributions to the Nation and our communities.

The Fordham Ram, hosted by one of New York City's distinguished institutions of higher education, Fordham University, is the newspaper of record and student voice at Fordham's Rose Hill Campus. The newspaper has served students, staff, alumni, and The Bronx community through award-winning, fair, and professional journalism since 1918. The staff and alumni of The Fordham Ram have remained dedicated to objective journalism in the public's interest for 100 years.

The Fordham Ram's 100th anniversary is an auspicious occasion to recognize the accomplishments of the distinguished alumni who have also written for the newspaper during their time at Fordham University. Notable alumni include Louis D. Boccardi ('58), the former President and CEO of the Associated Press; Loretta Tofani ('75), Pulitzer Prize winner at the Washington Post; Malcolm Moran ('75), former reporter for the New York Times and USA Today; Thomas Maier ('78), author and prize-winning investigative journalist for Newsday; Jim Dwyer ('79), two-time Pulitzer Prize winner and columnist for the New York Times; Michael Kay ('82), the voice of the New York Yankees on the YES Network and ESPN Radio host; Jack Curry ('86), analyst for the YES Network; and the legendary Vin

Scully ('49), the voice of the Los Angeles Dodgers, Baseball Hall of Fame broadcaster, and Radio Hall of Famer. The significant contributions these individuals have made to the field of journalism are a testament to the true spirit of excellence instilled in them at The Fordham Ram.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that my distinguished colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in honoring the Fordham Ram for its 100 years of remarkable dedication to fair journalism and its longstanding commitment to improving The Bronx.

IN RECOGNITION OF JUDGE DAVID  
GARCIA

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable David Garcia, Judge of Denton County Criminal Court No. 3, for his service to Denton County and to the many combat veterans he has impacted through his work with the Denton County Veterans Treatment Court Program (VTCP).

Judge Garcia was appointed to the Denton County Criminal Court No. 3 on September 1, 1997 and will conclude his tenure at the end of December after 21 years of service to our community. Since 2012, he has presided over the Veterans Court. After his appointment to the Court, Judge Garcia not only completed a backlog of cases, but he also built a new model for veterans courts that prioritizes improving the quality of mental health care available to justice-involved veterans. Under his guidance, the veterans court provided evaluation and treatment for certain veterans' combat-related mental illnesses. In his role, Judge Garcia shifted the focus in sentencing from the pursuit of judicial compliance and reduced recidivism toward a regimen that allows combat veterans suffering from the impact of PTSD and MST to graduate from the VTCP program and return to their families and communities with charges dismissed.

As a Member of Congress, one of my greatest privileges is to support veterans in North Texas and around the country. During his two decades of service, Judge Garcia has advocated for broader veteran health care access by supporting the Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014 and the VA MISSION Act of 2018, legislation that improves care for those who have sacrificed and served for our country. On behalf of the 26th District of Texas, I extend my sincere appreciation to Judge Garcia for the contributions he has made to the Denton County community and to our region's veterans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MAC THORNBERRY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, December 19, 2018, I was unable to be in Washington and missed roll call votes No. 436 "Concurring in the Senate

Amendment to H.R. 1222—Congenital Heart Futures Reauthorization Act of.", No. 437 "Concurring in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 6615—Traumatic Brain Injury Program Reauthorization Act of 2018.", No. 438 "To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the expansion of activities related to Alzheimer's disease, cognitive decline, and brain health under the Alzheimer's Disease and Healthy Aging Program, and for other purposes.", No. 439 "To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants to improve health care in rural areas.", No. 440 "To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a security vulnerability disclosure policy, to establish a bug bounty program for the Department of Homeland Security, to amend title 41, United States Code, to provide for Federal acquisition supply chain security, and for other purposes.", No. 441 "To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide for an integrated planning process, to promote green infrastructure, and for other purposes.", No. 442 "Concurring in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 6227—National Quantum Initiative Act.", No. 443 "To direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain facilities, easements, and rights-of-way to the Kennewick Irrigation District, and for other purposes.", No. 444 "To expand recreational fishing opportunities through enhanced marine fishery conservation and management, and for other purposes.", and No. 445 "To reauthorize the Museum and Library Services Act." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on all ten bills.

LIBERALISM EXPLAINED

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I now have a unified theory that I believe explains the ideology of liberals.

It covers their views of virtually any subject—higher taxes, open borders, more regulations, and the traducing of traditional values.

The reason liberals want more government control is so they can control our daily lives. The reason liberals want to control our daily lives is because they think they are smarter than the American people. The reason they think they are smarter than the American people is . . . well, there is no good reason.

I'm sure many liberals are well-meaning. They want what they feel is best for the country. But that's the problem. They want to impose their views on the American people.

Conservatives want to conserve values and protect freedoms—free speech, freedom of religion, and freedom from excessive government control. That, I believe is what Americans want too.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on Roll Call vote 437. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 437.

RECOGNIZING THE VALDOSTA  
STATE FOOTBALL TEAM

**HON. AUSTIN SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on December 15, 2018, the Valdosta State University Blazers football team secured their fourth NCAA Division II Football National Championship in a 49–47 thriller over Ferris State University in McKinney, Texas. The Blazers 2018 season was anything but ordinary, finishing 14–0 and scoring 50+ points in eight out of 14 games this season.

Valdosta, Georgia in Georgia's Eighth District is affectionately known as "Title Town," home to football powerhouses in the state and across the nation at both the high school and collegiate levels.

I want to congratulate the Blazers, Coach Kerwin Bell, Valdosta State President Richard Carvajal, and the entire football and athletics staff at Valdosta State for this accomplishment. Georgia is very proud of you, and I hope you will take time to celebrate another title in Titledtown.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MR.  
CURTIS RAY GOODE

**HON. JAMES COMER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mr. Curtis Ray Goode of Marion County in the 1st District of Kentucky who passed away on December 17, 2018. Born November 8, 1946, Mr. Goode valiantly served in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. After serving his country, he was not only a talented diesel mechanic with UPS in Louisville but steadfastly worked for the betterment of his fellow veterans as a devoted member of the Marion County Veterans Honor Guard, the Lebanon VFW, and the American Legion.

Mr. Goode's service in the United States Marine Corps is evidence of his dedication to safeguarding our nation's freedoms and values and is worthy of our deepest respect and admiration. His patriotic spirit and dedication to his country were rivaled only by his fervent commitment to his family and his enthusiasm for serving others.

I join with his family and loved ones—including his wife of 51 years, Christine Goode, his children, and his extended family—in celebrating his lifetime of accomplishments and recognizing his noble service to our nation. His outstanding legacy of service and compassion lives on in each member of his family and in all those who knew him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. McHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and could not make it to votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 436, 437; YEA on Roll Call No. 438, 439; YEA on Roll Call No. 440, 441; YEA on Roll Call No. 442, 443; and YEA on Roll Call No. 444, 445.

CHINA IS CHEATING ITS WAY TO  
THE TOP

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Communist China is a growing threat to the United States and global peace. Its values and interests do not match our own. This is evident by recent reports of a atheist China imprisoning thousands of Muslim Uighurs in reeducation camps and the ongoing persecution of Tibetans and Chinese Christians. China's interests completely conflict with our democratic principles and the international order that has kept the peace since the end of the Second World War. China is cheating, stealing, and bullying its way towards great power status. It is our duty to stand up to Beijing's bad behavior.

Two decades ago, America, as the leader of the free world and the largest economy on Earth, gave the People's Republic of China a chance to prove itself as member of the global economy. We believed they were making free market reforms and potentially ending their communist system which had kept millions in poverty. By granting Beijing permanent normal trade relations, many in Congress hope that opening the global market to China would encourage further liberalization within the repressive state. But instead of the world changing China, China has been working to change the world to get ahead. While it did embrace some elements of capitalism, it bent the rules using state-owned enterprises and corruption to cheat. It made investments in innovative American companies so it could steal technology. It forced American companies wanting to do business in China to surrender certain rights, including intellectual property. And Beijing instituted a widespread cyber theft campaign to steal trade secrets and cutting-edge research. Beijing made the decision to cheat the international system it was invited into so that it could gain strategic dominance.

Until now, China's deception worked. It even tried to export its unfair business practices through the Belt and Road Initiative. But this too proved to be a giant debt trap that Beijing sold to developing nations. Countries like Sri Lanka and Malaysia have ended their participation in China's ambitious plan because they realized that all of the projects the People's Republic was building in their countries benefited only China. Even the workers employed to construct Belt and Road infrastructure in these countries were Chinese rather than local workers. Instead they were left with were roads to nowhere and crushing debt to China. Fortunately, the world is waking up to Beijing's modern colonialism.

But China's ambition to pull ahead at others expense did not end there. Within all of Beijing's economic malpractice, it has aimed to seize technology and strategic positioning that would also give it a military edge over the United States. By stealing American technology, China has been able field advance

weapon systems before our own forces. Meanwhile through Belt and Road, China acquired ports and airports around the globe that can be used as military bases that then enable them to control strategic chokepoints and resources without firing a shot. We have most evidently seen this in illegal island building in the South China Sea. Combined with its rapid military build-up, which will give China a fleet that outnumbers the U.S. Navy by 2020, we are quickly losing our military supremacy to China. The ramifications of such a dramatic shift in power from the U.S. to China will be devastating to our way of life.

Against an authoritarian China that can overmatch our own forces, American will be severely limited in how it protects its interests abroad and respond to Chinese aggression. Principles such as freedom of the seas and free flow of trade will be in jeopardy, having a direct impact on the daily lives of Americans. We must also remember that throughout history such major shifts in geopolitical power rarely came peacefully. In humanity's enduring battle between tyranny and democracy, America has played a decisive role in creating world where freedom preserved over evil. That world is now again in danger.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REV.  
DENNIS WAYNE WOOD

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of Rev. Dennis Wayne Wood.

Dennis served in the United States Army Military Police Corps for 21 years and retired as First Sergeant. He was married to Judy for 53 years and was blessed with three daughters: Kim, Lori and Misty and nine grandchildren.

Dennis owned and operated American Awards in Anniston, Alabama, for over 30 years. He served as pastor of several churches in Calhoun County and was a faithful member of First Baptist Church of Weaver. Dennis served as a deacon there and one year as chairman of the deacons. He taught Sunday School, lead the Operation Christmas Child Program at the church and served as a volunteer chaplain at Regional Medical Center.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the life of Rev. Dennis Wayne Wood.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the chamber on Wednesday, December 19, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll call votes 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444 and 445.

TRIBUTE TO DARRIN SCHRADER

**HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and thank Darrin Schrader, who has served this House proudly for over 25 years. He began his career in the office of Representative Bill Baker (R-CA), and then transitioned to my office in 1997. Darrin has been by my side, as my aide-de-camp, for the last 22 years, and I would have it no other way.

His loyalty and dedication to the job of serving the people of Southern California is unsurpassed. As my special assistant, Darrin personally oversaw millions of constituent correspondence; a task that grew exponentially with the advent of email. He also helped secure millions in funding for important infrastructure and homeland security projects.

My office has been served well by Darrin's encyclopedic memory and masterful research skills. He has often known the answer to my question before I even ask it. Few can match his resourcefulness or reliability.

While sometimes presenting a stoic façade, Darrin's subtle charm and hidden humor have permeated my office for the last two decades. He has earned the respect of his peers and become an integral and irreplaceable member of Team Royce.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Darrin Schrader for his selfless sacrifice to public service.

IN HONOR OF MRS. PEARL  
SEIDMAN FOR HER DEDICATED  
CAREER OF PUBLIC SERVICE

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and show my utmost gratitude to a deeply valued member of my staff, Mrs. Pearl Seidman. On Friday, December 21, 2018, Pearl will bid her final farewell after a year as my Brookings Legislative Fellow to continue her career at the National Security Agency. Since her first day on the job in January, Pearl has overseen a legislative portfolio that includes: healthcare, energy, environment, natural resources, labor, pensions, social security, and postal issues, some of the most critical issues facing my constituents. Over the past year, Pearl has dedicated her time to serving the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Missouri with nothing short of unconditional integrity and drive. Now, I would like to take this opportunity to give thanks on behalf of myself and the constituents she has served so honorably.

Pearl was born in Newark, New Jersey, however, she spent the majority of her upbringing split between Philadelphia and Baltimore, respectively. Following her graduation from high school, Pearl would embark on a lifelong commitment to learning and serving others. Pearl would go on to receive her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Maryland, a Masters in Applied Behavioral



Science from Johns Hopkins University, a masters in human and Organizational Systems from Fielding Graduate University, and a Doctorate in Human and Organizational Systems from Fielding Graduate University. That passion for knowledge has continued with her time in my office, as she regularly attends briefings, seminars, and classes. Now you can see why I was so pleased to have her join my staff.

Professionally, Pearl has spent 37 years working for the National Security Agency, doing various jobs for a critical agency in the federal government. Born to two Holocaust survivors, Pearl has always had a passion for helping others. At the NSA she primarily served in roles that pertained to workforce development, working to evolve and advance the skills of future leaders of America. Over the year she has worked on my staff, I can say I have seen personally her passion and talent for developing young minds. The way she has worked with congressional interns and junior staffers to not only help them serve my congressional district, but to cultivate abilities that will serve them down the road has been remarkable to watch.

Personally, Pearl has spent the past 42 years married to Alan Seidman. She has two very fortunate children, Lee and Ross, who are impressive men in their own right. Having the curious mind that she does, Pearl loves to spend her time traveling, going to museums, trying new activities, and, of course, sharing all of her experiences with those who "just need to try it!" A perfect example of her love for expanding her horizon is her decision to move to England, where she wound up living for nine years, until home came calling. For the sake of myself and my constituents, I'm certainly glad she did return.

Having known Pearl for a year now, I can say she is one of the most kind-hearted, passionate, and curious individuals I have ever had the pleasure of having on staff. Her perpetual upbeat attitude and friendly nature have been a tremendous asset to the office, and something that we will all work to carry on as a legacy to her impact on me and my staff. We are sad to see her move on to other endeavors, but so thankful for the opportunity to have worked with her for the past year. Mr. Speaker, please join me in showing our appreciation for the fantastic work Pearl Seidman has provided, not only to the Fifth Congressional District of Missouri, but to the nation as a whole.

---

TRIBUTE TO GREG GALLION

**HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Greg Gallion on his retirement after a long, fruitful career as CEO of Houchin Community Blood Bank.

Greg was born and raised in Bakersfield, completing his education at Marymount College in Salina, Kansas. Greg's future in bettering the lives of others was foreshadowed when he moved to Albany, New York, to work with delinquent children at the St. Francis Homes for Boys and Girls. He would make his return home to Bakersfield in 1975, working

for two years at Three-Way Chevrolet and then an impressive 24 years in the title insurance industry. For all of Greg's successes, his greatest impact came with his hiring as Houchin Community Blood Bank's Chief Executive Officer. As CEO, Greg worked tirelessly for 17 years to help local healthcare providers meet the needs of the Kern County community.

Greg saw nothing but potential in Houchin Community Blood Bank and quickly worked to build the company infrastructure and increase the scope of Houchin's presence across Kern County. Greg oversaw the construction of a new headquarters for Houchin in Bakersfield, doubled the number of employees and introduced the use of six-bed buses during blood drives. These actions not only helped put more Kern County citizens to work, but also increased the accessibility of the blood bank as well as better supplied local hospitals. Not content to rest on Houchin's laurels, Greg expanded the company's life-saving services, collecting and providing blood, plasma, platelets, and other blood derivatives. Where some CEOs would be content maintaining a status quo, Greg always strove to innovate for the sake of his employees, customers, and the community he served.

More than anything else, Greg will be remembered as a leader who put his community first, factoring the wellbeing of his patients and clients in every decision he made as CEO. As CEO, he established Houchin's slogan, "people live when people give," words that continue to inspire thousands across Kern County to donate blood each year. Greg's community involvement did not end at his desk, as he maintained an impressive community presence, having led as President of Bakersfield Downtown Rotary and Director of the Kern County Fair Board, as well as active involvement with the Executives Association of Kern County and the Kern Advisory Council for Valley Public Radio.

Greg Gallion departs Houchin Community Blood Bank a stronger and more impactful institution than when he joined it. Through his work, Greg left an unmistakable impression on our community that I know will be felt for years to come. It has been a pleasure getting to know Greg over the years both in his official capacity with Houchin and as a fellow member of Bakersfield Downtown Rotary. While it is the community's loss to see Greg leave Houchin, I know that that he will now have the time to enjoy the things he loves most, such as traveling with his beloved wife of 38 years, Sheryl. I wish Greg all the best as he and his family begins this new chapter of his life.

---

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SETH MOULTON**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. MOULTON. Mr. Speaker, due to personal reasons, I was unable to vote on Wednesday, December 19, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 436; YEA on Roll Call No. 437; YEA on Roll Call No. 438; YEA on Roll Call No. 439; YEA on Roll Call No. 440; YEA on Roll Call No. 441; YEA on Roll Call No. 442; YEA on Roll Call No. 443; YEA on Roll Call No. 444; and YEA on Roll Call No. 445.

THANKING ANDREW GABRIEL RENTERIA

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Andrew Gabriel Renteria for his service to my office and the 21st Congressional District of California over the past three years.

Mr. Renteria was born in Fresno, California to parents Rudy and Yolanda Renteria on August 25, 1998. He attended Jackson Elementary and Sanger High School, both located in Sanger, California, where the Renteria family still resides to this day. It was Renteria's experience serving as Sophomore Class Vice President, Junior Class President, and ASB President, that he first became interested in politics. After graduating from Sanger High School in 2016, he went on to attend California State University, Fresno where he enjoyed cheering on the Bulldogs at every chance he got. In May 2011, Andrew graduated from Fresno State with Bachelor of Science in Political Science.

Mr. Renteria has been a member of my team since 2013, first serving as a Field Representative in my Hanford, California office. In 2015, he relocated to Washington, D.C. to serve as my Senior Legislative Assistant, analyzing and drafting public policy to benefit California's San Joaquin Valley. Dedicated to the success of the Republican Party throughout California, Renteria took a leave of absence in 2014 to serve as Field Director for the California Republican Party and again in 2016 to serve as my Campaign Manager. In March 2018, Andrew Renteria returned to Washington to serve as my Legislative Director. In this position, Mr. Renteria brought a wealth of legislative experience and professionalism to my team and has been a very dependable and resourceful advisor and friend. Throughout his career, Mr. Renteria has been an invaluable asset to Team Valadao and the people of the Central Valley.

On January 2, 2019, Mr. Renteria's time in my office will come to an end and he will begin his next chapter serving as Chief of Staff to Congressman BRIAN FITZPATRICK. While I know he is very excited about this opportunity, he will be greatly missed as a member of my team.

Knowing Mr. Renteria, his character, and his work ethic, I have no doubt that he will achieve many great things in his future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Andrew Renteria for his public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing him well in this next chapter of his life.

---

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FRED M. FEHSENFELD, SR.

**HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Fred M. Fehsenfeld, Sr., a decorated World War II

pilot and founder of The Heritage Group who died on November 28, 2018 at the age of 94. He was a pillar of the Indianapolis community and an outstanding patriot, businessman, family man, friend, trusted advisor and mentor to many, including myself. Fred was known for his ingenuity and hard work which he displayed throughout his tremendous life. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District are forever grateful for Fred's significant contributions to our City of Indianapolis, the State of Indiana, and our United States of America.

A life-long Hoosier, Fred was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1924 to John and Ruth Fehsenfeld. He was a graduate of Shortridge High School, where he and his three brothers loved sports and music. He went to Purdue University at the age of 17 and majored in mechanical engineering. It was there where Fred had his first flying experience with the Purdue Glider Club. At the age of 18, in the middle of World War II, Fred enlisted in the US Army Air Corps and at the age of 20 he was assigned to the 354th Pioneer Mustang Fighter Group in France, a famous group of P51 Mustangs and P47 Thunderbolts. A true patriot, Fred courageously flew 89 missions in Europe during World War II and was awarded the Air Medal with three Silver Clusters and a Silver Star. Fred led his squadron on the last official flight in the European Theater of Operations, barrel rolling over an Austrian prisoner of war camp to let his fellow pilots know the war in Europe was over. Ever dedicated to our country, he later served in the Indiana Air National Guard.

Fred later earned his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering at Purdue University. In 1946 he married his college sweetheart Mildred (Midge) Cornelius and throughout their life together had seven children. Fred began his career at Rock Island Refining as a process engineer. A few years later, his father John asked him to join the family business, Crystal Flash Petroleum, a company that employed 100 people and operated gas stations and sold home heating oil. An extremely hard worker and creative problem solver, Fred quickly grew the family business and entered into the asphalt industry. Dedicated to success, he taught himself how to manufacture asphalt by conducting research at the public library. In 1960, he built an asphalt facility, which is still in operation today. With his passion for business and an entrepreneurial spirit, Fred transformed Crystal Flash Petroleum into the Heritage Group, which today employs 6,500 people worldwide. With operations in North America, Europe, and China, the Heritage Group grew to include interests in Environmental and Remediation, Specialty Chemicals and Fuel Products, as well as Construction and Materials. Fred, who earned the reputation as an extraordinary boss, was dedicated to prioritizing the well-being of his employees and treated them as partners. Known as an incredible relationship builder, he was able to draw remarkably talented people to the company and regarded them as members of the extended Fehsenfeld family.

Fred's commitment to improving the American economy was equaled by his desire to tackle challenges with national implications. This passion led him to develop the concept of Critical Commerce Corridors, which separate car and truck lanes on interstate highways. The corridors will save lives while reducing pollution and congestion. The concept of Critical Commerce Corridors was included in the

Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act which was signed into law on December 4, 2015. Due to his efforts, Indiana's Governor Eric Holcomb recognized Fred in 2017 for his many contributions to the State of Indiana, naming Interstate 865 the "Fred M. Fehsenfeld, Sr. Highway."

In his personal life, Fred was a committed member of his community, a member of Junto for over fifty years, a former Chairman of the Asphalt Institute and a loyal supporter of his alma mater, Purdue University. With gifts to Purdue, he established the Purdue Energy Fund, the Fehsenfeld Family Head of Environmental and Ecological Engineering and expanded the Division of Environmental and Ecological Engineering. He also received an honorary doctorate in Civil Engineering from Purdue University. In addition, Fred was the recipient of many Sagamoses of the Wabash from several Indiana governors, the highest honor the governor of Indiana can bestow upon a citizen.

Fred was preceded in death by his first wife, Mildred (Midge) and two of his children, Jan (John) Dillow and Mike (Robin) Fehsenfeld all of whom are greatly missed. On behalf of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District, I extend my deepest condolences to Fred's wife, Barbara, his brother, Mac Fehsenfeld, his additional five children, Jo (Nick) Rutigliano, Fred (Suzie) Fehsenfeld Jr., Jim (Becky) Fehsenfeld, Frank (Judy) Fehsenfeld, Judee Fehsenfeld as well as his twenty grandchildren and twenty-four great grandchildren.

---

THE MAJESTIC METRO—  
HOUSTON'S HISTORICAL HUB

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, after speaking on the House floor more than 2,000 times since joining Congress some fourteen years ago, I can promise you the majority of the many hours spent in this chamber were focused on history. This comes as no surprise. You could say I am a history buff of sorts. Heck, everyone knows it. My walls at home in Texas and here in Washington have been filled with memories from the past. Texas history in particular is what I love most.

Well, Mr. Speaker, today I want to talk about a little piece of Houston, Texas history that many Houstonians may not know about, the Majestic Metro. The Majestic Metro is the last remaining in-tact theater in Houston built before 1930. It is safe to say that parking garages have taken the place of many former historical theaters. But, not for the Majestic Metro. It still stands strong in the vibrant heart of downtown Houston.

Originally owned by sisters Stella and Lillian Scanlan, and opened April 15, 1926 under its maiden name, the Ritz, the primary role of this theater was to entertain the masses. Its grand opening showcase was the Buck Jones feature, "The Fighting Buckaroo." What better way to start off its tenure than with a country-western film. But, there is one unique aspect about this movie and others during its time, there was no sound, except for that of the live music in the background. That's right, no fancy high tech sound systems, just a pipe

organ. So, the only thing movie-goers were hearing was the chuckles, snuffles, and gasps of their neighbors with the organ in the background. With tickets ranging from 5 cents and 15 cents during the beginning of the Ritz, many Houstonians found their way to Preston Street in downtown Houston for a night out.

The history of the Ritz is so rich because of the many stories its walls can tell. From different owners and styles such as silent country-western films to Spanish films, the Ritz became the Cine Ritz during the 1940's. Decades later, in the 60's and 70's, the name that Houston now knows, the Majestic Metro, was born. The Majestic Metro at this time saw a transition from the old fashion silent country-western and Spanish films to exploitation and kung fu films, then to more mature films, a little too explicit for the RECORD I'm afraid.

Well Mr. Speaker, times were tough, and the theater came to a close. However, like every good feature film, or at least the ones I like, there was light at the end of the tunnel for this Houston landmark. Local businessman, Gary Warwick, and history buff like me, had a vision for this unique piece of the past.

Instead of allowing the theater to be demolished or showing those old westerns the theater had once known, Gary turned this historical landmark into a place where history would continue living. Today, the Majestic Metro captures the beauty of the past by maintaining many stylistic features of the original architecture.

The Majestic Metro wasn't Gary's only historical contribution to Houston. He was also a pivotal player in the project to restore the Market Square Clock in Houston's Market Square, just a few feet from the Majestic Metro. The Market Square Clock which is a part of the Louis and Annie Friedman Clock Tower is on the corners of Travis and Congress in downtown. For Gary's efforts in the restoration project, he was able to be the first person to hand wind the clock upon its completion in the restoration.

Mr. Speaker, this is exactly why I love history. The Majestic Metro saw the best of times and the worst of times, but it has withstood time as one of Houston's most authentic historical landmarks. The walls of the Majestic Metro have quite a few stories to tell, and thanks to Houstonian Gary Warwick, they can continue to share their history and beauty for years to come.

And that's just the way it is.

---

HONORING LUKE ROMANG

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Luke Romang. Luke is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Luke has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Luke has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Luke

has become a Brotherhood member of the tribe Mic-O-Say. Luke has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Luke organized and built a wood shed for the Antioch Community Christian Church with the assistance of his fellow Scouts.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Luke Romang for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### THANKING PERRY FINZEL

### HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Perry Finzel for his service to my office and the 21st Congressional District of California over the past year.

Mr. Finzel was born in El Paso, Texas on May 18, 1979. Soon after graduating high school in 1997, Mr. Finzel joined the United States Marine Corps. In his seventeen years of service, Mr. Finzel was involved in enlistment recruitment, military operations, and the supervision of components crucial to the success of personnel. He was known as a hardworker, adept multitasker, efficient manager, and dedicated soldier. Perry was honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant, after participating in Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). We are forever grateful for his service to our nation.

Perry's commitment to excellence extended far beyond his military career. He was successful in obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Business, concentration in Management, from the University of Phoenix. Beginning a new chapter in Bakersfield, California, Perry also worked as a supervisor for a solar company and customer service associate for a hardware store.

Perry became a member of my Congressional Team in 2017, serving as our Wounded Warrior Fellow and Kern County Field Representative. He proved to be a strong asset in Kern County, creating meaningful connections with community leaders and representing my team with charisma and professionalism. Local leaders consistently praised Perry for his genuine care for the community and willingness to show up to countless meetings and events. His dependability in field representation combined with his powerful ability to connect with people made Mr. Finzel an invaluable member of my team and a true public servant to the people of California's Central Valley.

Outside of work, Perry enjoys staying involved in veteran service organizations. He also loves spending time with his family. Perry and his wife, Julie, have two beautiful children: Cadence and Nate. Raising his children with his wife has become one of the greatest joys in his life. This January, Mr. Finzel will be moving on to new ventures. Knowing Perry, his character and worth ethic, I have no doubt he will achieve many great things in his future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Perry Finzel for his public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing him the very best in this next chapter of his life.

#### TRIBUTE TO KATE BARLOW

### HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to commend Kate Barlow, who has loyally served on my staff as director of scheduling and operations for over six years. Previously she served in a similar role for Rep. Wally Herger (R-CA).

Kate has simultaneously served as expeditor, gatekeeper and manager of my daily schedule. Given my dual role, as Representative of the 39th District of California and Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, this has never been an easy task. As we can all attest, the trajectory of a day on Capitol Hill is never a straight line nor does it end as planned.

In her role, Kate has brought order out of chaos and extinguished daily fires with technical skill and humor. Given the sheer volume of meeting requests from embassies and foreign dignitaries, she has learned to say sometimes "yes" and often "no" with grace and professionalism in many languages. She has shown daily kindness and patience in a place lacking in both.

Over the last year, Kate's role in my office has grown to serve as director of protocol and member services for the House Foreign Affairs Committee. She successfully organized and took part in a bipartisan congressional delegation trip to South America and coordinated committee-wide meetings with visiting Heads of State.

I have no doubt she will continue to grow and succeed in her future endeavors.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Kate Barlow for her service.

#### TRIBUTE TO HERB JACKSON OF THE BERGEN COUNTY RECORD ON HIS RETIREMENT

### HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take a moment today to praise the work of a longtime New Jersey reporter who has announced his retirement from The Bergen Record. Herb Jackson is one of New Jersey's most cherished reporters. He has covered my state's congressional delegation in Washington for over 20 years and reported on critical issues and concerns for New Jerseyans encountered. At a time when reporters are under attack, it is essential to honor the role that journalists play—in telling stories that need to be heard and holding elected officials accountable. Herb has done that with fervor and pride, giving insight on issues that matter in New Jersey and beyond. I greatly value the work that Herb put in each day here in D.C. to keep my constituents informed of the work that we do here in Congress. The news community is losing a successful journalist who is respected by many. He will be hard to replace and we are eternally grateful for all the time that he put in with the Record. The New Jersey delegation will

miss Herb, and I wish him good luck in the next chapter of his life.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARK V. BOZIGIAN

### HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mark V. Bozigian on his retirement after a long distinguished career in public service, serving most recently as City Manager for the City of Lancaster, California.

While he is best known for his extensive career in public service, Mark cultivated his business and managerial acumen in the private sector after graduating from Loyola Marymount University with a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Business Administration. It was during his time in the private sector that Mark developed the tireless work ethic that would define his tenure at the City of Lancaster. For ten years, Mark worked for Hughes Aircraft, where he held a variety of management positions, most notably as Business Manager for two of Hughes Aircraft's laser production programs. Mark also gained experience as a realtor and as a small business partner, forging pivotal personal and business relationships that he carried with him into his career in the public sector.

Mark has served the City of Lancaster for 24 years, building a portfolio of accomplishments across his roles as Lancaster's Transportation Programs Coordinator, Redevelopment Director, Assistant City Manager, and City Manager. During his eleven years as Lancaster's City Manager, Mark has dedicated his time and energy to bolstering public safety, economic development, transportation, neighborhood revitalization, and obtaining Federal and state grant funding for city projects. Most notably, Mark has overseen Lancaster's impressive development in renewable energies, working to make the city the solar capital of California and courting companies to bring jobs and clean energy technology to our community. Mark's efforts have been a great success—Lancaster's economy has grown under his guidance, and the city now produces more solar power per capita than any other city in California. Mark also worked to revitalize Lancaster's downtown BLVD district and has been a key player in the recent, rapid growth of Lancaster's booming aerospace industry.

More than anything else, Mark routinely demonstrates a love for his city and the people he represents, working around the clock to better Lancaster without ever seeking credit or commendation for his service. Once, following heavy rains that caused flooding on Lancaster's east side, Mark was among the first on the scene. Knee-deep in water in his suit, he walked door-to-door informing and reassuring citizens that help was on the way. During a Fourth of July celebration, city traffic was so heavy that it reached a standstill, but Mark was there acting as a traffic guide, doing his best to ensure that Lancaster's citizens could get home a little more easily. Mark always took responsibility, and always put the interests of the people of Lancaster first.

I have known Mark as a tireless advocate for the needs of his city. Over the years, it has been an honor to work with him to improve the

lives of every resident of Lancaster. I have always been impressed by his tenacity to ensure that the people and businesses he represents have their voices heard at the highest levels of government and the successes he has achieved over the course of his public service. Over the past ten years, Lancaster has undergone a period of unprecedented economic growth, and this is undoubtedly in no small part because of Mark's steady hand and dedication to his community. While it is Lancaster's loss to see Mark leave city government, I am confident that he has laid a foundation that will contribute to the city's success for years to come. As Mark begins this new chapter of his life, I wish him, his wife, Karen, and their family all the best.

---

HONORING DARLENE GUTHRIE

**HON. JACKIE WALORSKI**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor retired Elkhart Police Officer, Darlene Guthrie. Her acts of selflessness, sacrifice, and public service have distinguished her among her peers, and she is well-deserving of recognition.

For 20 years, Darlene served as a police officer with the Elkhart Police Department, displaying a dedication to public safety and commitment to service that have truly made northern Indiana a better place to live. Now Darlene is serving her fellow Hoosiers by joining the Indiana Guard Reserve.

Darlene has also spent countless hours rescuing animals, helping her neighbors get back on their feet, and volunteering in her community. She combined her experience in law enforcement with her passion for animals to become a nationally certified Animal Cruelty Investigator, eventually taking on the role of rewriting Elkhart County's Animal Ordinance and updating the Elkhart Police Department's animal law summary. And she served on the Elkhart County Humane Society's Board for four years and even became interim director.

She goes above and beyond in everything she does, and her drive to make a difference has not only shined light on the causes closest to her heart but has made her a local leader that organizations and institutions look to for guidance. Her distinguished leadership and love of family, community, and country are what brought her to her most recent accomplishment at the age of 52: graduating from the Indiana Guard Reserve Basic Training on December 15, 2018.

Darlene's determination to never give up no matter what life brings is an inspiration to us all and teaches a positive message of perseverance. We can all learn from someone who never shies away from a challenge and always strives to do what is right. It is a privilege to represent Hoosiers like Darlene who continue to strengthen our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Darlene Guthrie for her honorable service to the northern Indiana community, and congratulating her on her graduation to become a member of the Indiana Guard Reserve. Darlene is a role model, a leader, and a dedicated public servant who inspires us all.

STAND FIRM BRAVE IRANIANS

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this year has been another important year in pushing back on the tyrannical Iranian regime. The passion and determination of the Iranian people in the face of a corrupt and despotic regime provides much needed inspiration to us all.

We are witnessing historic times in Iran. The Iranian people are still fighting for their rights in the streets. As much as the regime tries to hide it, or use violence to suppress it, change is coming to Iran. The world is more aware that the Supreme Leader and his thugs are not moderates that should be welcome among other responsible nations. Instead, through the bravery of the Iranian people, the world knows they are murderers and thieves.

There is a reason why Iran has earned the title of the world's number one state sponsor of terrorism. It sends millions of dollars to fuel wars in Syria and Yemen and enriches its proxies in Lebanon, Iraq, Bahrain and Gaza. A few weeks ago, the Coordinator for Counterterrorism Bureau at the State Department told my subcommittee that Iran spends \$1 billion dollars a year to support its terrorist proxies. It steals this money from the Iranian people and responds with brutality if they dare speak out. But they continue to speak out.

I have always been proud to stand with them. The cause of freedom in Iran is just and righteous, and it will never be silenced. Together we are having an impact. The people of Iran, including the MEK, have sacrificed so much for the cause of liberty. They have spoken the truth and have exposed this regime for the evil it is: a state run by terrorist thugs. Iranians have been imprisoned, tortured, and murdered fighting for the cause of freedom. Iranian dissidents have been forced to flee their homes, refugee camps in Iraq, and the wider region to escape the Mullahs reach. Fortunately, many Iranians have found safety in the West and we are working tirelessly to make sure Iran's evil intentions can no longer hurt them. Throughout all of it, these Iranians have stood firm with remarkable courage.

But the fight is not over, because the fight for freedom in Iran is not over. The regime continues to find ways to evade sanctions, and so we must continue to pursue them. With the help of the Iranian people, we will find how they cheat and expose them.

The Mullahs are relentless, so we must be too. In the end democracy and justice will prevail as it always has. The American people stand with the people of Iran, because we believe in freedom, liberty, and the American way. They must keep their heads high, and remember they are on the right side of history. The tide is turning. Iran will be free.

And that's just the way it is.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO MRS. ELSIE  
MAYER

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend the happiest of birthday wishes to Mrs. Elsie Mayer, a resident of the Williamsburg, Brooklyn, New York, and a centenarian, who will be celebrating her 107th birthday on December 23, 2018.

Elsie was born in Poland on December 23, 1911. It was a world much different from today. From an early age, she learned to endure famine, poverty and the human cost of war. Elsie's life is characterized as one of a survivor and a woman with great strengths and unyielding selflessness.

She came to America at the age of 10 with her family who first settled in Manhattan, and later moved to Williamsburg, Brooklyn. It is in Williamsburg years later that she meets her future husband Joseph. Together they raised three children, their sons Martin and Stuart and daughter Marsha. Elsie worked hard, enjoying sewing and baking, especially apple pies for her family.

Over the course of 107 years, Elsie has experienced countless remarkable events in New York and our country. Elsie symbolizing decades of longevity and hard work, this occasion reflects an important milestone in a growing segment of American life: the Centenarian. Over the years, special individuals like Elsie have contributed to our nation and witnessed remarkable changes and extraordinary progress. She has lived through some of the most exciting times in our nation's history.

Today, Elsie enjoys the company of her surviving and beloved children, grand-children and community. She has many friends at the Independence Neighborhood Senior Center. As we celebrate her birthday, we celebrate her faith, her optimism, her health and the innumerable lives she has touched throughout her life. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Elsie Mayer on this special occasion of her 107th year birthday.

---

TRIBUTE TO KAYLA ANN RILLO

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Ms. Kayla Ann Rillo for her service to my office and the people of California's Twenty First Congressional District.

Ms. Rillo was born on September 19, 1994 in Paterson, New Jersey to Diane and Anthony Rillo. Growing up in Totowa, New Jersey with her three sisters, Alyssa, Reanna, and Tia, Ms. Rillo always had immense love and pride for her family. Coming from a large family, Ms. Rillo has a natural competitive drive, a strong sense of self-awareness, and the ability to distinguish herself from others. Through that, Ms. Rillo succeeded academically with ease as she competed in varsity track, basketball, and softball at Passaic Valley High School in Little Falls, New Jersey.

After graduating from Passaic Valley Regional High School in 2012, Ms. Rillo went on

to attend Seton Hall University in South Orange, New Jersey where she was able to pursue her love for helping others and giving back to the community by joining Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority. During her time at Seton Hall University, Ms. Rillo developed a strong interest in law and politics, gaining firsthand experience as an intern for the Honorable Judge Dennis Cavanaugh while he served the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey's Third Circuit. Given Ms. Rillo's competitive nature, she graduated early with her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

Kayla joined my team as a Legislative Correspondent in my Washington, DC office in July 2016. In this role, Ms. Rillo was instrumental to my team through composing constituent correspondence that was critical to building relationships with the citizens of California's Twenty First Congressional District. In February 2018, Kayla was promoted to the position of Legislative Assistant, where she worked on critical pieces of legislation, especially the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill. As a member of my team, Ms. Rillo was greatly respected by her peers for her professionalism, loyalty, and dedication to her work.

Outside of work, Kayla participates in a local softball league, enjoys exploring DC with friends, travelling to new places, and spending time with her family. Most recently, Ms. Rillo became a proud aunt to her new nephew, Cesar Ricardo Correa, IV.

Ms. Rillo's time with my office will come to an end on January 3, 2019 when I leave my office as the 116th Congress begins. I have no doubt that she will continue to be successful and grow professionally in her future endeavors. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Ms. Kayla Rillo for her public service to the people of California's Central Valley and wishing her well as she embarks on the next chapter of her life.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BILL FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, due to flight scheduling, I was unable to vote on December 19, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call Nos. 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, and 446.

#### RECOGNIZING MR. PARKER GREENE

### HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, December 18, 2018, one of South Georgia's most influential and storied residents, Mr. Parker Greene, passed away. I, like many, was saddened to hear the news of his passing and offer my continued prayers to his wife Lucy, as well as his family and community, during this time.

In 1970, Parker and Dr. Lucy Greene moved to Valdosta, Georgia and quickly be-

came integral members of the local community. Shortly after coming to town, Parker signed up to serve on the Chamber of Commerce military affairs board where he worked to maintain a strong relationship between the community and Moody Air Force Base, which calls the surrounding Lowndes County and South Georgia region home. Over the years, Parker and Lucy continued in various roles to strengthen the partnership between Moody, Lowndes County and Valdosta. They worked with military officials and local, state and federal leaders to prevent the base from being closed or realigned with other missions.

In 2005, Parker was named by then-Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue to the Georgia Military Affairs Committee, where he advocated for all Georgia military installations and facilitated communication between the Governor's office and Pentagon and Air Force officials. Parker also served on the first Air Combat Command's civilian advisory council, where he acted as a liaison between the Air Combat Command and local community leaders.

For this stalwart service to our nation and South Georgia, Parker was awarded the Loyce W. Turner Award for Public Service given by Valdosta State University Public Administration Advisory Council and the Air Force Distinguished Public Service Award, the highest honor the Air Force bestows on a civilian. Greene was also awarded the first ever Chief of Staff of the Air Force Award for Exceptional Public Service by Gen. T. Michael Moseley, the 18th Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force.

In his passing, countless U.S. Air Force leaders, including Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein, have offered their condolences and thanks for nearly 50 years of civilian service to our nation's Airmen.

Earlier this year, the South Georgia region was named a "Great American Defense Community" by the Association of Defense Communities and USAA. This honor is a testament to the years long, tireless work of local leaders in South Georgia, including Mr. Greene and his wife Lucy.

While we mourn the loss of Mr. Greene, we also celebrate his life well lived and his invaluable contributions to South Georgia which will be remembered for decades to come.

Goodspeed, Parker Greene.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JEAN FULLER

### HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize California State Senator Jean L. Fuller, who retires this year from the California State Senate following an exemplary career of public service. Over her career, Jean served two terms in the State Senate and two terms in the State Assembly representing portions of Kern, Tulare, Inyo, and San Bernardino counties.

Born and raised in Shafter, California, Jean began her long career of public service as an educator, teaching elementary school in Lemoore, California. Later, Jean moved to Los Angeles County where she served in a variety of roles in the Keppel Union School District,

culminating in her service as the District Superintendent from 1990 to 1999. Over her career in education, Jean gained firsthand knowledge of the issues impacting students and their teachers, building a passion that pushed her to dedicate her life to public service. From 1999 to 2006, Jean returned home to Kern County to serve as Superintendent of the Bakersfield City School District (BCSD), the largest elementary school district in the State of California. During her time with BCSD, Jean managed the district's 3,500 staff members to foster a safe and constructive learning environment for the 28,000 students the district served.

In 2006, Jean brought her years of knowledge and experience in education to Sacramento, representing the 32nd State Assembly District for four years. By 2010, Jean was successfully elected to represent the 18th and later 16th Senate Districts, where she became known as a consensus-builder among her colleagues. Jean was elected by her colleagues to serve as the Republican Leader of the California State Senate in 2015, becoming the first woman to hold this important top leadership post. During her tenure in the State Legislature, Jean achieved significant legislative success despite Republican minorities in both legislative chambers. Among her achievements, Jean secured tens of millions of dollars in funding to benefit public schools near military bases when her bill, SB 111, was signed into law with broad bipartisan support. Additionally, Jean advanced significant legislation to fight Valley Fever, a rare but potentially life-threatening disease that is endemic to our community. Through her efforts, Jean secured \$3 million for Valley Fever research for use at the Valley Fever Institute at Kern Medical Center in Bakersfield. Jean's success in the fight against this disease is a significant step forward in finding a cure for an ailment that impacts so many in California's Central Valley.

Anyone wishing to serve the public would do well in emulating Jean's tireless work ethic, can-do attitude, and sagacious command of the issues impacting our communities and our state. Jean is unquestionably one of California's most beloved legislators and has paved a career exemplifying the best of public service. Her commitment to fight for her principles with civility, and her constant search for consensus and solutions among her Senate colleagues reflects the deep and enduring respect and admiration she has across the political spectrum. But perhaps one of the most honorable traits of a public servant is one that Jean is universally known for: keeping her word. From hard-fought policy battles on the Senate Floor to her annual travel commitment to her friends with the Camp Fire Girls of America, Jean could always be counted on, and her presence will be sorely missed in and around our community and in the California State Legislature. Jean's transition to a private life is a loss to our community, though I know she will spend her well-deserved retirement to focus on the things she loves most: her family and friends, and traveling and flying with her beloved husband, Russell. As Jean begins this new chapter of her life, on behalf of a most grateful community, state, and nation, I would like to express my profound appreciation to her and to wish her and her family all the best.

TRIBUTE TO ALEXANDER EDWARD  
TAVLIAN

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Mr. Alexander Edward Tavlian for his years of service to my office and the 21st Congressional District.

Mr. Tavlian was born on April 1, 1992 in Fresno, California. After graduating from Clovis West High School in 2010, Alex received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from University of California, Davis in 2014. He continued his education soon after, earning his Juris Doctor from California Western School of Law in 2017. He is now a member of the State Bar of California and a licensed attorney.

Alex first became a member of my Congressional Team in 2013 when he served as a summer intern in Washington, D.C. Mr. Tavlian's hard working demeanor and extreme talent left a strong impression on me and my staff, maintaining a close relationship with my office as he pursued other ventures. He re-joined my Congressional Team in 2017, serving as our Deputy District Director. Alex managed special projects and strategic initiatives, advising staff on pertinent district-level issues and coordinating media opportunities. He proved to be a strong asset across the 21st Congressional District, creating meaningful connections with community leaders and leading staff with wisdom and inspiration. Alex's wide breadth of policy knowledge combined with effective organizational leadership made him an invaluable member of my team and a true public servant to the people of California's Central Valley.

Throughout his professional career, Mr. Tavlian has shown strong passion and immense talent in the field of politics. He founded Sultana Media in 2014, a strategic communications and digital media firm serving political and public affairs campaigns. Servicing campaigns, presidential and local, Alex has become well known for his dedication and commitment to his clients. This past election cycle, Alex served as team Valadao's Campaign Manager.

Aside from politics, Alex also has a passion for the Nation's legal system. He has worked for and studied under multiple legal entities, including private law firms, the Fresno County District Attorney's Office, and the U.S. Attorney's Office. Being a licensed attorney himself, Alex brings a fresh legal perspective into each of his professional avenues.

Outside of work, Alex enjoys traveling across California, taking advantage of the sights to perfect his photography skills. He also is an avid sports fan, taking every opportunity to watch San Francisco Giants base ball and Oakland Raiders football.

This January, Mr. Tavlian will be moving onto new ventures. Knowing Alex, his character and work ethic, I have no doubt he will achieve many great things in his future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Alexander Edward Tavlian for his public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing him the very best in this next chapter of his life.

MASTER SERGEANT JOSHUA  
WHEELER

**HON. ROBERT PITTENGER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, Joshua Wheeler, a Master Sergeant in the United States Army, was killed in Iraq in October 2015 during a battle with ISIS. A highly-decorated combat veteran, he was awarded the Silver Star, Purple Heart, and Medal of Patriotism. Shortly before his death, he and his wife constructed a new home where they planned to raise their infant son together. The Wheeler's mortgage lender and servicer, Ditech Financial LLC, partnered with Lt. Colonel Richard Cantwell (Ret.), Chairman of the Patriot Military Foundation, to ensure Ashley was financially able to keep the home. I am happy that entities like this recognize the enormous sacrifice of all service members and their families, particularly Gold Star families like the Wheelers.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE EASTERN  
HANOVER VOLUNTEER FIRE DE-  
PARTMENT

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the Eastern Hanover Volunteer Fire Department, a brave group of men and women who every day put their service to the community above self.

The Eastern Hanover Volunteer Fire Department was formed in October of 1967 with four charter members who placed second mortgages on their homes to pay for the new station. Since its founding the members of the Eastern Hanover Volunteer Fire Department have operated primarily on donations from the community for many years while also hosting fund raising events including Bingo games, chicken dinners, crab feasts and door-to-door fund drives. Since then, the Eastern Hanover Volunteer Fire Department has experienced significant growth and currently has twenty-four volunteer members and twenty lifetime members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of the Eastern Hanover Volunteer Fire Department. Words alone cannot express our gratitude. May God bless the operations of the Eastern Hanover Volunteer Fire Department, and I look forward to seeing their excellence for many years into the future.

THANKING JACQUELINE "JACKIE"  
HURDA FOR HER SERVICE TO  
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-  
TIVES

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Jackie Hurda for more than forty years

of outstanding service to the United States House of Representatives in several administrative and support roles. She lives in Virginia's 11th District, and I am proud to represent her in Congress.

Jackie is retiring after working for the House of Representatives for more than four decades. Her career with the House began when she moved from Pennsylvania to the Washington, D.C. area in March 1978 to work for the Honorable Richard Taylor "Dick" Schulze of Pennsylvania. Jackie served as the systems administrator until Congressman Schulze's retirement in 1993. She worked in the same capacity for the Honorable Jim Kolbe of Arizona from 1993 until 2000.

In 2000, Jackie transferred to the Office of Financial Counseling under the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), where she remained until her retirement. She started as a data entry specialist, but her work ethic and eye for detail resulted in a promotion to Financial Counselor within one year. She provided financial guidance and services to House offices to help ensure their expenditures adhered to applicable rules and accounting standards. Jackie's knowledge, experience, and attentiveness made her an invaluable asset to the House of Representatives over the years. She is well respected by her co-workers and colleagues.

Jackie and her husband Gary have four children; Abby, Randy, Maggie, and Gretchen; she has two grandchildren, Jake and Emma. Her parents, Fred and Rachel Graeff recently moved from Pennsylvania to live with her in Springfield, Virginia. Jackie is also active in her church and teaches Sunday school to three-year-olds.

I congratulate Jackie, and I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking her for her distinguished service to the House and the nation it serves. I wish her and her family all the best as she begins this new chapter in her life.

HONORING PASTOR KENNY  
FOREMAN

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pastor Kenny Foreman, who passed away on December 16, 2018. I spoke three years ago on the impact he made on Santa Clara County and it saddens me that he has left us so soon. He was a beloved member of our community whose passing is deeply felt.

Pastor Kenny Foreman dedicated his life to the ministry. He started to travel the country at age seventeen as an evangelist minister. With his wife, Shirley, he continued his commitment to his beliefs and established the Cathedral of Faith in 1965. Since then Pastor Foreman was a pillar in our community's spiritual life. He has touched thousands of lives with a congregation of more than 12,000 members with over 70 ministries.

As his life's work, the Cathedral of Light, serves the spiritual needs of the community and gives help to those in need. One of the ministries, "Reaching Out," is a food assistance program that operates one of the largest and most efficient food programs in the state of California. Their mission is to serve the low-

income, disadvantaged, and homeless in Santa Clara County. Other ministries serve those recently released from incarceration, give support to those with addiction, and aid parents with children who have special needs. These programs are just a few that support our community and are emblematic of Pastor Foreman's life-long service to others.

I first met and worked with Kenny Foreman nearly forty years ago. I know personally of his love for God and his dedication to our community and especially to those in need. He was a remarkable man and someone I was privileged to consider a friend.

Pastor Kenny Foreman is survived by sons, Ken and Kurt; their mother, Shirley; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and countless friends. Mr. Speaker, our Santa Clara County community mourns his passing, but we are grateful for his life, his generosity, and his contributions. He has left our world a better place and will be dearly missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF DALLAS  
"DALLY" LEON WILLIS

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Dallas "Dally" Leon Willis—a husband, father, and friend.

Dallas Leon Willis was born in Dallas, Texas to Eunice Williams Willis and John Albert Willis. Mr. Willis joined the United States Marine Corps on October 6, 1941, after graduating from Cleburne High School. His duties during his military service included an assignment as a tail-gunner on a B-24 Liberator. Additionally, he served as a photography specialist, a role in which he helped map the South Pacific. Over time, he rose through the ranks to become Master Technical Sergeant before concluding his time with the Marine Corps on November 13, 1945.

He then worked for Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, now known as AT&T. His leadership skills led him to join the Communication Workers of America (CWA) as the organizer of the annual Labor Day celebration in Odessa, Texas. He later assumed a legislative lobbyist position for CWA, during which he was instrumental in the passage of landmark telecommunications legislation. For his efforts, Mr. Willis was selected for the Texas AFL-CIO Labor Hall of Fame in 2015.

Mr. Willis was one of the most admired people to ever walk the halls of the Texas State Capitol. He was an individual who was always helpful. I recall when I joined the Texas Legislature, I could go to him for advice. In a resolution, the Texas Senate recognized him as the Dean of Texas Lobbyists.

CENSORED . . . ON SOCIAL MEDIA

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Media Research Center has released a report showing online media companies suppress conservative speech.

Their report found that "War is being declared on the conservative movement . . . and conservatives are losing—badly. It's the new battleground of media bias. But it's worse. That bias is not a war of ideas. It's a war against ideas. It's a clear effort to censor the conservative worldview from the public conversation.

Twitter Leads in Censorship.  
Facebook's Trending Feed has been Hiding Conservative Topics.

Google Search Aids Democrats.  
YouTube is Shutting Down Conservative Videos.

Tech Firms Are Relying on (advisory) Groups That Hate Conservatives.

Liberal Twitter Advisors Outnumber Conservatives 12-to-1.

Tech Companies Rely on Anti-Conservative Fact-Checkers."

Conservatives are right to be suspicious of these social media/tech media companies.

COMMENDING MR. JACOB  
BENNETT MIZNER

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Mr. Jacob Bennett Mizner for his service to my office and California's Central Valley.

Mr. Mizner was born on July 16, 1994 in Tulare, California to Kevin and Sharon Mizner. From an early age, Mr. Mizner developed a strong love for music, which led him to participate in productions at his local community theater and join Tulare Western High School's band and choir. After graduating from Tulare Western High School in 2012, Mr. Mizner furthered his love for the arts while participating in the musical and theater programs at Fresno Pacific University in Fresno, California in 2016. While attending Fresno Pacific University, Mr. Mizner, a lover of music, was involved in Fresno Pacific Concert Choir.

Upon graduating Magna Cum Laude in 2016 from Fresno Pacific University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Mr. Mizner joined my team as a Field Representative in Kings and Tulare Counties. As Field Representative, Mr. Mizner was known for his friendly, optimistic personality throughout both counties and his ability to create and foster connections with constituents, business leaders, and public officials.

In addition to participating in local musical groups, outside of work Mr. Mizner is an active member in Visalia First Assembly of God Church in Visalia, California. At Visalia First Assembly of God, Mr. Mizner leads small groups through the church's young adult program while also assisting in the planning and implementation of events within the church's community.

Mr. Mizner's faith and inherent love of helping those in need empowered him to volunteer with The World Race in January of 2017. Through this eleven-month mission trip, Mr. Mizner traveled to twelve countries throughout Africa, Asia, and Central America. In this role, Mr. Mizner was able to assist poverty-stricken areas by completing various tasks including working in orphanages and local prisons, overseeing and participating in manual labor projects, and teaching English in local schools.

In December of 2017, following this challenging and rewarding experience, Mr. Mizner continued his pursuit of helping others becoming the Constituent Services Representative in my District Office. Mr. Mizner's ability to listen to and connect with the people of California's 21st Congressional District is unlike that of anyone else and made him an invaluable member of my team. Mr. Mizner's determination, thorough work ethic, and genuine kindness did not go unnoticed by those he served and enabled him to truly excel in this position by going above and beyond to ensure the needs of every constituent were met. While Mr. Mizner's work for the 21st Congressional District will come to an end this January, his service to the Central Valley will continue as he becomes the Fresno County Field Representative for Congressman Devin Nunes. Knowing Mr. Mizner, his character, and his work ethic, I have no doubt that he will be successful in this new role and all future endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Mr. Jacob Mizner for his public service to the people of California's 21st Congressional District and wishing him well as he embarks on the next chapter of his life.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
LISA GREEN

**HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lisa Green on her retirement after a long, accomplished legal career and her eight years of service as the District Attorney of Kern County in California, which I represent.

Born and raised in Buffalo, New York, Lisa moved west to attend Fresno State University. Upon graduating in 1980, Lisa attended San Diego Law School, where she quickly made a name for herself at the San Diego Law Review and for her membership on the law school's Moot Court. Lisa graduated law school in 1983 and notably received the Order of Barristers award for her exceptional skills in trial advocacy, oral advocacy, and brief writing. She then deepened her roots in the Golden State, moving to Bakersfield to work for the Kern County District Attorney's office and immersing herself in a community she has since called home.

As Deputy District Attorney, Lisa quickly gained a reputation as a talented prosecutor. In 2001, Lisa was promoted to Supervising District Attorney, and she was again promoted to Chief Deputy District Attorney in 2009. In 2010, Lisa ran and won a historic election for District Attorney of Kern County, becoming the first woman in Kern County history to hold the position as the county's chief prosecutor.

Over her 35 years of practicing law, Lisa has blazed a career to be proud of. As a trial lawyer, Lisa fought to put some of the worst members of society behind bars. Throughout her career, Lisa prosecuted over 110 felony trials, most of them being for homicides and sexual assaults. Despite the inherent difficulty of these trials, Lisa handled each of her cases through strategic preparedness, composure



and poise. During her tenure as a county prosecutor, Lisa prosecuted a number of high-profile cases which she handled with great determination and innovation. Notably, she successfully prosecuted a gruesome murder case by using the species of insect found on the suspect's car windshield to pin the suspect to the scene of the crime. Lisa's tenacity for justice proved time and time again that she was among the best in her field.

Lisa Green leaves her post at as Kern District Attorney having made her community a better, safer place. I will remember Lisa for her dedication to her department and her unflagging loyalty to local victims of crime. During a multi-year county budget crisis, Lisa guided her department with professionalism and skill, upholding the court's obligation to speedy trials without delay. She is a fixture at the annual Crime Victims' Rights March, and was renowned for the transparency and accessibility of her office. Lisa's retirement will be felt immediately in the Kern County legal community, though I am confident that the impact of her career of excellence will be felt for years to come. I wish her and her family all the best as she begins this next chapter of her life.

APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL TO  
NATIONAL SECURITY COMMISSION  
ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise, to withdraw my appointment of November 13, 2018, and to appoint Mignon L. Clyburn to the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence. My authority to effectuate this appointment as the Ranking Member of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce is set forth in Section 1051 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (P.L. 115–232).

RETIREMENT OF SAINT PAUL  
CITY COUNCIL MEMBER DAN  
BOSTROM

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who has dedicated his life to his family and serving his community and all residents of Saint Paul, Minnesota. As 2018 draws to a close, Council Member Dan Bostrom will leave the Saint Paul City Council after 22 years of distinguished service on behalf of his constituents, having made his city, and Saint Paul's Ward 6, more prosperous, safe and vibrant. His retirement caps a remarkable five-decade commitment to public service.

Dan Bostrom is a true son of Saint Paul's East Side. From a young age, he first met his neighbors by delivering papers for the Pioneer Press, and the now defunct evening paper, the Dispatch. After graduating from Saint

Paul's Johnson High School, then from the University of Minnesota, Dan went on to become a police officer in the Saint Paul Police Department. Described by his colleagues as "a very thoughtful guy, even under extreme pressure," Dan earned a reputation for treating everyone with respect and dignity during the turbulent 1960s and 1970s as Saint Paul and the nation were experiencing unprecedented racial tension and growing challenges of economic disparity. His respect for others, honesty, patience and empathy, not only made him an excellent keeper of the peace, but opened doors to a new level of public service.

During his service on the police department, Dan began serving on the District Two Community Council, which is an official community representative body that is charged with engaging with city projects in their neighborhoods. While serving on the district council, he was encouraged to run for the school board. He eventually went on to serve on the school board for 9 years, where he established soccer as a team sport in schools, introduced truant officers in Saint Paul schools, and helped to save the Monroe School from closure.

Witnessing his passion for the community and ability to deliver results, neighbors urged Dan to run for City Council, and was elected to the Saint Paul City Council in 1996. He went on to serve there for 22 years, six of which as Council President. During his time on the Council, Dan advocated for increased economic development on the East Side of Saint Paul, a historically working-class neighborhood which is one of the state's most diverse as well. Dan was instrumental in the creation of the Phalen Boulevard corridor, which serves as crucial connection from the East Side to the rest of Saint Paul. Whenever asked why, after so many years of exemplary and successful public service, he remained an active and engaged Council Member, he would often respond, that despite his successes, there were too many things left undone or at critical stages.

Nothing is more important to Dan than his family and neighbors. Throughout his life, he has been a devoted husband, father and grandfather. As his late wife Rosann faced a heroic battle with breast cancer, Dan was a constant support and caregiver. His commitment to others is fundamental to who he is, and that legacy has been passed along to his family, including his son Matt who is the former Ramsey County Sheriff. It is a privilege to call Dan a friend. I am grateful to have been able to count on him as a consistent partner on behalf of the East Side and Saint Paul residents throughout my service in the Minnesota Legislature and in the U.S. House of Representatives. His work ethic and dedication to public service is a model to our entire community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me paying tribute to Councilman Dan Bostrom for his exemplary career in public service. I wish him and his family all the best in his retirement, and to honor him for his lifetime of service to residents of Saint Paul.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND  
SERVICE OF MINISTER HOWARD  
J. WOOLING

**HON. MARK DeSAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of long-time community leader, Minister Howard J. Wooling.

Minister Wooling received his Bachelor's degree in 1965 from Eastern Nazarene College where he majored in psychology, anthropology, and sociology. In 1967, he received his Master's degree from Boston College where he specialized in teaching the blind to walk with a cane. By 1972, Minister Wooling had his Master's of Public Health degree in Hospital Administration from U.C. Berkeley's School of Public Health.

Minister Wooling was baptized by Grover Wilson in 1968. From 1969 to 1976, he was the Assistant Minister for the Laurel Street Church of Christ. Minister Wooling was then the Assistant Minister at the Fremont Church of Christ before becoming a Minister at the Southside Church of Christ in Richmond in 1985, where he has continued to serve and strengthen our community to this day.

Minister Wooling has also served in various hospital administration roles, including as the Associate Director at both Highland Hospital and Stanford University Hospital, and as a group counselor at the County of San Mateo Juvenile Hall. In his capacity as a congregation leader, Minister Wooling led at least nine missionary groups to Nigeria, and several more to Cameroon and Panama. A part of Minister Wooling's legacy will be his guidance of at least four great preachers working today.

Minister Wooling and his wife, Ernestine, have four children: Renee, Collette, Valerie, and Anthony. Please join me in congratulating Minister Howard J. Wooling on a life full of love, faith, and dedicated service, and in wishing him great luck and joy in retirement.

CONGRATULATING WILLIAM  
RATLIFF ON HIS PROMOTION TO  
ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF

**HON. BRENDA JONES**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Ms. JONES of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor my constituent William "Bill" Ratliff for his commitment to public service and congratulate him on being named Assistant Chief of Police at Inkster's Police Department.

In 1987, while still attending high school, Mr. Ratliff got an early start to a career in public service as a Police Explorer for the Inkster Police Department. In 1991, he joined the Inkster Police Department as a Communications Assistant and Dispatcher. Mr. Ratliff excelled in that capacity and was rewarded with a promotion to Ordinance Officer.

In 1995, Mr. Ratliff would join the Detroit Police Department as their Spokesperson. He would remain with the department until he left for a private sector job in public relations.

In 2004, the Michigan Senate recognized Mr. Ratliff for courageous actions in donating a kidney to his best friend Omie Smith.

Mr. Ratliff's affinity for public service would eventually lead him back to public service. In 2006, he was named Chief of Staff for a Detroit City Council Member. A year later, he would return to his roots, becoming Inkster Police Department's Director of Emergency Management and Chief of Auxiliary Police.

In 2010, as a police officer, Mr. Ratliff was assigned to community policing. In 2014, his relentless hard work and tireless dedication to ensuring public safety while taking heed to the needs of the community led to his promotion to the rank of Sergeant. Just two years later, he would be promoted again to Commander.

In 2018, Mr. Ratliff's commitment to service and public safety would be rewarded with a promotion to Assistant Chief of Police of Inkster's Police Department.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Assistant Chief of Police William "Bill" Ratliff on his well-earned promotion and over two decades of selfless service to the people of Southeast Michigan.

THE TASTE OF FREEDOM—THE  
REPUBLIC OF FREDONIA

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, December 21, 1826 marks the beginning of the Fredonian Rebellion. This was the result of a conflict between the Mexican government and Haden Edwards, a settler in Texas, and reflected the growing tension between Mexico and settlers in Texas. Settlers that Mexico had wanted to live in Texas.

Haden Edwards received his empresarial grant in 1825, which allowed him to settle up to 800 families in East Texas, near Nacogdoches. The land this grant included was surrounded by a mixture of Native American tribes and other settlers. From the beginning of Edwards' time in Texas, he was a controversial figure. He posted signs around Nacogdoches demanding that all landowners show evidence of their claims or forfeit their land. Some of these landowners held earlier grants from Spain and Mexico that dated back more than 100 years, but not all of these landowners possessed the necessary legal documentation.

Tensions between Edwards and Mexico escalated even more in March 1826, when Edward's son-in-law, Chichester Chaplin, won the mayoral election in Nacogdoches. The election was contested, and the political chief in San Antonio, José Antonio Saucedo, reversed the election results and ordered Chaplin to turn over his mayoral duties to his opponent, Samuel Norris.

In 1826, Mexico revoked Edwards' land grant and ordered him to leave Texas. A Mexican military commander even set out to Nacogdoches from San Antonio with 100 soldiers to enforce this resolution. Instead of leaving, Edwards vowed to recruit an army and win independence from Mexico. He was supported by the settlers he had brought to Texas. He also hastily signed a treaty with the Cherokee to strengthen his claim.

The newly minted republic only survived for about five weeks. When Mexican military forces arrived on January 31, 1827, the revolutionaries retreated back across the Sabine River to the United States. Not a single Cherokee warrior had shown up to join the revolt.

Though the Fredonian Rebellion accomplished little, it is viewed by some to be the true beginning of the Texas Revolution and eventual independence from Mexico. Citizens of Nacogdoches, inspired by the taste of freedom, would go on to welcome Sam Houston to their city and elect him to the first colonists' convention in 1833. General Sam Houston became the commander-in-chief of the Texas army. Thus, setting a course for revolution, independence, and liberty in 1836.

And that's just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for votes Wednesday, December 19, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted: Roll Call No. 436 Aye; Roll Call No. 437 Aye; Roll Call No. 438 Aye; Roll Call No. 439 Aye; Roll Call No. 440 Aye; Roll Call No. 441 Aye; Roll Call No. 442 Aye; Roll Call No. 443 Aye; Roll Call No. 444 Aye; and Roll Call No. 445 Aye.

RECOGNIZING THE DALE CITY  
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2018 installation of officers for the Dale City Volunteer Fire Department. DCVFD is located in Prince William County Virginia, 25 miles from our Nation's Capital. The DCVFD goes on an average of 20,000 calls per year, aiding the 75,000 constituents in Dale City, Virginia.

Incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1967, the DCVFD serves as an organization of committed community members ensuring the safety of the families in Dale City. Funded strictly by the residents in Dale City, the Department has been able to significantly grow, opening up five stations in 50 years and having approximately 250 dedicated volunteers. From their bravery in action, to their presence with the youth in the community, DCVFD is readily available for the families of Dale City.

It is with great honor to include in the RECORD the names of the following Dale City Fire Department Officers:

- Chief—Christopher Hool
- Deputy Chief of Operations—Edgar Van Horn
- Deputy Chief of Administration—James Delaverson
- Deputy Chief of EMS—Barbara Brown
- Assistant Chief of Training—Darrell Hudson
- Assistant Chiefs—Stephen Chappell, Joseph Kerns, Michael Spencer

Captains—Eddy Dumire, Joshua Jensen, The Honorable Jeremy McPike, Marc Sherman, Sandra Sokol, Linda Wortham, Kimberly Batson

Lieutenants—Thomas Borsari, Michael Cajayon, Simon Courtman, Thomas Mazzo, Daniel Moran, Patrick Palacios, Donovan Stewart, John Van Horn

Sergeants—Philip Anthony, Robert Best II, Andrew Kelly, Robert Willis, Jabin Young, Stephanie DeFreitas, Bradley Gray, Matthew Werner

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President—Walter Grochala

Vice President—Kimberly Batson

Secretary—Ricardo Hernandez

Treasurer—Robert Best II

Directors—Victor Angry, Eddy Dumire, James Jones, Gregory Shalawyo II, Edgar Van Horn, Leslie Van Horn, Matthew Werner

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President—JoAnn Ferguson

Vice President—Dorothy Hudson

Secretary—Nicole Foster

Treasurer—Cindy Van Noppen

While a new executive board has been elected and new officers sworn in, the mission of DCVFD remains the same. Their motto, Second to None, amplifies their dedication of preparedness, safety, and strong community service. Over the past 50 years, DCVFD has educated and mentored the youth in Dale City, not only teaching fire safety education, but also strengthening community relations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleague join me in recognizing the men and women of the Dale City Volunteer Fire Department for their service to our country and steadfast commitment to their community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JACKY ROSEN**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. Speaker, on December 19th, on roll call votes 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, and 445, I was not present due to the severe illness of my brother, who sadly passed away later that evening. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on all ten roll call votes.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REBECCA  
MAY WOOD STRINGER HOLBERT

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of Rebecca May Wood Stringer Holbert.

She was born on April 6, 1929, in Decatur, Alabama. Her father relocated his dental practice in 1936 and moved his wife and six children to a former boarding home on South Jackson Street in Montgomery. In 1937, she joined Dexter Avenue Baptist Church.

Her early education began at Alabama State Laboratory High School and Palmer Memorial Institute in Sedalia, North Carolina. She graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in Montgomery. She received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education in 1956 and

Master of Education, AA certification, in 1973 from Alabama State University.

As an educator, she taught at North Highland School, Prattville Intermediate School and Autauga County Training School System. She later taught at Central Alabama OIC under the leadership of Mrs. Consuella Harper.

As an active member of Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church, she was a member of the Young Matrons under the pastorate of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., the sanctuary choir, The Red Circle, a Sunday School teacher, The April Club and Vacation Bible School for over 50 years.

She was involved in Les Voguettes and ISTAP (I Support the Athletic Program) at Alabama State University.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the life of Rebecca May Wood Stringer Holbert.

#### THE THREAT OF TERRORISM IS STILL VERY PRESENT

### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the long war on terrorism is not over. From North Africa to Southeast Asia, radical jihadism fights on from the shadows, waiting for us to grow complacent once again. We have claimed victory and lowered our guard too many times before only to have terrorist groups grow resurgent and deadly again. The scourge of violent Islamism is a multigeneration challenge as the battle against communism was decades ago. While we have had many successes, the threat remains and must be confronted.

Looking at where extremism still lives today we see many familiar battlefields. In the Philippines, a ISIS affiliate was handed a major defeat last year at the city of Marawi. But remnants of this group live on, recruiting and scheming in the jungle. Only by denying them an opportunity to regroup and gain ground again can we prevent them from attracting new supporters and new momentum.

Moving to Pakistan, we still find a state that claims to be an American ally but allows terrorist leaders to operate freely in the open. For too long we have provided billions of dollars to the Pakistani government as they betrayed us. The Taliban, al-Qaeda, Lashkar-e-Taiba, and other violent groups continue to find safe haven in Pakistan. They have injected their violent ideology into mainstream Pakistani politics, causing minorities to be routinely persecuted through despotic blasphemy laws. Pakistan's partnership with terrorism has led to continued violence within its neighbors India and Afghanistan. If Pakistan had truly been our ally, the Taliban would never had a place to run to after our intervention in Afghanistan. Yet, more than 17 years later, the Taliban is resurgent, retaking Afghan districts that we had long ago secured through American blood and treasure. We must not abandon this fight, but instead find a solution that ensures that al-Qaeda is never able to return and that the Taliban lay down their weapons and respect Afghanistan's young democracy.

Nonetheless, Pakistan is not the only terrorist sponsoring state fueling instability in the region. Iran is also playing its part in arming and assisting terrorists fighting our forces in

Afghanistan and across the Middle East. After signing the nuclear deal with the Obama administration, the Mullahs in Iran received billions of dollars in sanctions relief that was diverted directly to their legion of terrorist proxies. Now the Middle East is engulfed in chaos as Iran's militias march against our allies. Proxies like Hezbollah, Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq, Harakat Hezbollah al-Nujaba, Kataib Hezbollah, the Houthis, and others are operating with impunity, massacring thousands in Syria, Iraq, and Yemen. They have targeted Americans in Iraq and Syria and have plans to attack our friends in Israel. This gathering storm will lead to inevitable conflict if we do nothing.

Meanwhile ISIS has gone underground. While we have destroyed the so-called caliphate that inspired dozens of attacks in the U.S. and Europe, the deadly terror group has reverted to its insurgent roots. When President Obama foolishly withdrew our troops from Iraq in 2011, there were no more than 700 fighters remaining in ISIS's predecessor. The State Department even reduced the bounty for ISIS's eventual leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, believing the group was a shell of its former self. But those assumptions proved wrong. Without U.S. forces to stop their advance and local societies plagued with Iranian-backed sectarianism, ISIS rose from the ashes to dominate an area the size of Britain. ISIS still has thousands of fighters dispersed throughout Iraq and Syria. We must not repeat Obama's mistake. A committed strategy to ensure ISIS's enduring defeat is required moving forward. We must send a signal to friends and adversaries alike that America is not turning its back on the region again.

No ally knows the persistent struggle against terrorism more than Israel. Today, terrorists from Hamas, Hezbollah, Islamic Jihad, and ISIS in Sinai are seeking Israel's destruction. Just recently Israel discover attack tunnels crossing from Lebanon into its territory which Hezbollah had built for the sole purpose of causing murder and mayhem in the Jewish State. America continues to stand firmly with Israel, providing the needed aid to keep our shared enemies at bay. But as instability continues throughout the region, Iran and other extremists will plot and recruit to wage war on our Israeli friends. Our duty as allies requires us to be vigilant in addressing these emerging threats before they become major obstacles for peace.

Lastly, looking at North Africa and the Sahel new challenges have risen. Where there were once only about 100 al-Qaeda-linked terrorists, there is now a multitude of extremist networks with as many as 10,000 fighters. Groups like Boko Haram, al-Shabab, ISIS, and Ansar al-Sharia have sowed chaos in places like Nigeria, Libya, Tunisia, and Somalia, preventing poor nations from reaching their full potential. These fragile states need a steady ally to help build their capabilities and lead a joint campaign to seek out and destroy the transnational terrorist threat in the region. Rather than pour endless taxpayer dollars into development efforts that are undone by local extremists, we need to formulate a strategy that addresses the lasting security vacuum terrorists have exploited.

The violent ideology that has motivated thousands to wage a life or death struggle against the United States and its allies is not gone. This ideology has long been present, but it

was not until the September 11th attacks that we woke up to its lethal ability and reach. Since then we have learned that this cancerous radical belief is adaptive and will not be defeated in one decisive battle. This is a long war we have no choice but to fight. We must also adapt our thinking and find committed partners who we can stand with us in this global struggle.

And that's just the way it is.

#### HONORING CARLOS TORRES

### HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my fellow lawmakers: who is protecting those that protected this nation?

Carlos Torres, an Army veteran who served during the Vietnam War, passed away on Sunday, December 9, 2018, at the age of 64. However, Mr. Torres did not leave this Earth in the home he served. Instead, he left us having been isolated by a country that failed to provide him his due citizenship after military service.

Mr. Torres, an immigrant from Mexico, joined the U.S. Army with the promise and hope of becoming an American citizen following his service. However, once he completed his service, he was denied, he was ignored, and he was left unprotected by a system that abandoned so many others. Distracted by this lack of care and naturalization progress, Mr. Torres—like so many others—turned to other means of catharsis.

He was caught with marijuana. He was charged. He was deported. He was sent back to Mexico, making less than a dollar a day. Without VA benefits. Without his family. Without hope.

On Thursday, December 13, 2018, he returned to the United States, but this time, he returned in death.

Mr. Speaker, Members of Congress, my fellow Americans, we failed Carlos Torres and so many like him. We cannot continue to desert these American patriots. The time for retribution is now.

Last year, I introduced H.R. 3429, the Repatriate Our Patriots Act, a bill that would create a pathway to citizenship for deported veterans who held a clean record prior to service. Time is running out. The lives of these men and women depend on our immediate actions. We must pass this bill. We must make amends. We must do so now for the thousands of deported veterans, for their families, for Carlos Torres.

#### COMMENDING MARIA LOURDES BENITEZ

### HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Maria Lourdes Benitez for her service to my office and the 21st Congressional District of California over the past year.

Maria Benitez was born on November 23, 1966 in Los Angeles and was raised in Escondido, California. After graduating from Orange

Glen High School, Maria received her Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration, with an emphasis in Criminal Justice, from National University in San Diego, California.

Maria met her future husband, Mr. Roman Benitez, while attending National University. They married soon after her graduation. At the time, Roman was an officer in the United States Navy. Because of his military service, they have been able to live in a variety of places including San Diego, Monterrey, and Japan.

Mrs. Benitez and her husband moved to Lemoore, California in 2007 with both taking positions at Lemoore Naval Air Station. Maria was hired as a Human Resource Assistant, eventually becoming a Work and Family Life Consultant. In this role, she aided military families through transitions, career searches, professional development, and financial counseling. Mrs. Benitez is also a small business owner, running an esthetician business in Hanford, California.

Maria became a member of my Congressional Team this year, serving as Staff Assistant in my Hanford, California Office. She quickly proved herself to be an invaluable asset, overseeing the daily operations of my district office. This included the production of tens of thousands of congressional certificates and management of the internship program. Maria also presented awards on my behalf at events in Kings County, representing the team's values with poise and professionalism. She was known for her ability to provide the highest level of service to my constituents, aiding hundreds of people with their various concerns.

Maria was also instrumental in the planning and implementation of the 21st Congressional District's 2018 Military Academy Nominations. With responsibilities ranging from informational events to potential nominee interviews, Maria proved herself to be a strong communicator to high school students and educators. She generated high interest throughout the community and aided multiple students with nominations to the academies. Her effectiveness in constituent service combined with her powerful ability to connect with people made Maria an invaluable member of my team and a true public servant to the people of California's Central Valley.

Outside work, Maria enjoys spending quality time with her husband. They remain active in local community organizations and are known as active volunteers. They also enjoy traveling. Their favorite trips are visits with their two beloved children, Alexandra and Roman Jr.

This January, Mrs. Benitez will be moving onto new ventures. Knowing Maria, her character and work ethic, I have no doubt she will continue to achieve many great things. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Maria Lourdes Benitez for her public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing her the very best in this next chapter of her life.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF DUANE  
CHAPMAN

**HON. MARK DeSAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Duane Chapman, a longtime resident of Richmond, CA. Duane was a dedicated volunteer for the Richmond Police Department and a passionate advocate for youth, the LGBTQ+ community, and our homeless population.

Duane began his career of service as a nurse and homeless outreach specialist for Contra Costa County. It was in this role that he formed a deep partnership with the Richmond Police Department and decided to volunteer his time working on crime prevention and raising community awareness of the realities of police work.

Duane demonstrated his passion for serving others through his leadership and participation in important community boards and programs. He served as Chair of both the Human Relations Commission and the Contra Costa County Mental Health Commission. Duane also participated in the Road to the Future Foster Care Youth Conference and the Richmond Police Activities League Scholarship Program.

In addition, Duane was a tireless advocate for the LGBTQ+ community. In 2014, he co-founded the Richmond Rainbow Pride, an organization that encouraged its members to advocate for the interest of their community and to promote their visibility in Richmond.

With his passing, Duane leaves behind a legacy as an ally for marginalized communities.

TRIBUTE TO GARY FRIEDMAN

**HON. KEVIN McCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Judge Gary T. Friedman. Judge Friedman retired this year following 35 years of judicial excellence on the Kern County Superior Court.

Born and raised in Bakersfield, California, Judge Friedman's future in law was foreshadowed by his keen interest in watching his father, an oilman, negotiate with attorneys for the family business. He found the idea of helping people to resolve disputes compelling, and committed himself to his studies at Garces Memorial High School and later Bakersfield College while concurrently working for both his father's oil company as well as shepherding on his family's farm. Upon completing his studies at Bakersfield College, Judge Friedman furthered his education at the University of California, Santa Barbara and later earned his law degree at the University of California, Berkeley. After passing the bar exam, he served as a deputy district attorney, worked in various civil law firms, and became the first federal magistrate judge in Kern County before serving on the Superior Court.

Over his career, Judge Friedman heard a number of cases, many of which stretched on for months. In fact, he bears the unique dis-

tingtion of presiding over the longest gang trial in Kern County history. Other cases he heard encompassed the worst of humanity—criminal cases that inflicted incredible and lasting trauma to victims and their families. Yet through each trial he presided over, Judge Friedman made everyone in his courtroom feel comfortable in even the tensest of moments, using genuine kindness and a gentle sense of self-deprecating humor to keep litigants and witnesses at ease. Judge Friedman treated each person who entered his courtroom with all the dignity and respect owed to them in the court of law and was as tenacious as he was ethical in his dogged pursuit of the equal administration of law and justice. These qualities are all the hallmarks of a great judge, and perhaps even moreso, all the hallmarks of a great person.

There are not many judges like Judge Gary Friedman, and while it is the County's loss to see him leave his post on the Superior Court, it comforts me to know that he plans to transition to practicing civil law and will remain a fixture in the Kern County legal community. I have had the privilege of getting to know Gary and his wife, Gloria, over the years as members of Bakersfield Downtown Rotary, and I am looking forward to many more spirited conversations about his days, as he puts it, "toiling in the vineyards of justice" for years to come. As he embarks on this new adventure, I wish Judge Friedman all the best and thank him for his immense work in service to our community.

CONGRATULATING MITRE CORPORATION ON ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The MITRE Corporation on its 60th anniversary this year.

MITRE is a not-for-profit corporation whose mission is to solve problems for a safer world. The company operates seven federally-funded research and development centers, each of which is sponsored by one or more federal agencies. MITRE works in the public interest, free from commercial conflicts of interest. The company's roughly 8,700 employees are located at its two primary locations in McLean, Virginia and Bedford, Massachusetts, as well as at other sites across the country and overseas. MITRE's employees support their federal sponsors across a full spectrum of analysis, planning and concept development; research and development; engineering; and systems acquisition work. They focus on some of the most challenging technical problems facing our nation—work that requires intimate knowledge of their federal sponsors' operating landscapes, demands objective analysis, and often involves sensitive or proprietary government and industry data.

MITRE has made immense contributions to our nation's security and safety over the last 60 years. I congratulate its leadership and staff and wish them many more years of success.

HONORING JACQUELINE CHARLES

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Jacqueline Charles, who reports on the Caribbean for the Miami Herald and is a recent recipient of Columbia University's prestigious Maria Moors Cabot Prize for outstanding coverage on the Americas. Maria Moors Cabot Prizes are the oldest international journalism awards and are presented to journalists in the Western hemisphere who have made significant contributions to upholding freedom of the press in the Americas and Inter-American understanding.

"Charles' great contribution has been as a narrator of the agonies of Haiti, the hemisphere's poorest country, crippled by misgovernment and battered time and again by nature," the judges wrote in their citation.

Charles was born to a Haitian mother in Turks and Caicos and grew up in Miami's Overtown neighborhood. As a child, she frequently traveled to Haiti to visit her grandparents and other relatives. She began her reporting career as a 14-year old intern at the Miami Herald. As a journalism student at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, Charles co-founded the Carolina Association of Black Journalists.

Charles has worked as a journalist at the Miami Herald since 1994 and has covered the Caribbean for the Herald since 2006, with a special focus on Haiti. After the catastrophic earthquake in 2010, Charles was the first foreign reporter to reach Haiti. She remained in Haiti for the next 15 months to report on the reconstruction process and the ongoing struggles of those living in displaced persons camps. Her work on Haiti was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 2011, the same year she was named the National Association of Black Journalists' "Journalist of Year." Additionally, Charles co-produced a documentary on Haiti, titled *Nou Bouke (We're Tired): Haiti's Past, Present and Future*, which earned a regional Emmy Award and was broadcast nationally.

In addition to covering ongoing humanitarian challenges in Haiti, Charles writes about Haitian politics, music, and immigration. As restrictive immigration policies have prevented many Haitians from seeking a better life in the United States, Charles has taken her reporting on the Haitian immigrant experience to Mexico, Canada, and Chile. Her work has greatly added to everyday Americans' knowledge and understanding of Haiti and its people.

Haitian Americans form a vital part of our community in South Florida and we are fortunate to have an outstanding reporter like Charles covering Haiti-related issues at the Miami Herald. I wholeheartedly commend Jacqueline Charles for her outstanding journalism on Haiti and the Caribbean and congratulate her on receiving this honor.

HONORING WILLIAM "BILL" McBRIDE'S SERVICE TO THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise on behalf of the Michigan Congressional Delegation—Reps. DEBBIE DINGELL, TIM WALBERG, DAN KILDEE, BILL HUIZENGA, BRENDA LAWRENCE, JUSTIN AMASH, MIKE BISHOP, DAVE TROTT, PAUL MITCHELL, and JACK BERGMAN—to acknowledge and commend one of the finest public servants the Great State of Michigan has been blessed to have: Mr. William "Bill" McBride.

There has never been a better friend and advocate for Michiganders than Bill McBride.

Over the past 44 years of Bill's service he has earned immense respect for his integrity, sincerity, and civility. No matter which political party was in power, in any of the branches of government, our constant source of information and enlightenment was—and is still—Bill.

Bill's distinguished career includes serving as chief of staff to Michigan Delegation Members Carl Pursell and Vern Ehlers. He also served as deputy chief of staff for Governor John Engler and most recently director of Governor Snyder's federal office.

Bill is not just a beloved colleague and friend, he is a Michigan institution. "Ask McBride" has become a fond and common phrase for all of us. As loyal as the day is long, Bill has set the gold standard for public service.

Bill exudes kindness, a sense of humor, and a sense of fair play. Always.

They say home is where the heart is and Bill's has certainly always been Michigan. When any issue has arisen affecting our state, Bill has been in the thick of it. His hard work has had a positive impact that will ripple far beyond when he leaves public service. We are sure to confront many situations and challenges where we will dearly miss his sage counsel, wit, and wisdom. He will stay on speed dial for several of us on both sides of the aisle for years to come.

The Michigan Congressional Delegation stands today to wish Bill the very best of luck as he turns the page and moves on to write many more, which we are sure will be just as storied and successful.

God speed Bill, and I thank him from the bottom of our hearts.

HONORING THE 45TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF DALLAS A. WALKER, JR.

**HON. BRENDA JONES**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Ms. JONES of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 45th Pastoral Anniversary of Dallas A. Walker, Jr., Minister of Detroit's Wyoming Avenue Church of Christ.

Born in Vernon, Alabama, Pastor Walker comes from a strong lineage of faith leaders. His grandfather was a pioneer minister in Northwest Alabama and his father served as a

church elder at the Mayfield Church of Christ in Fayette, Alabama. His mother was a devout Christian that lived to see her two youngest sons fulfill a family legacy proclaiming the Gospel of Christ.

Pastor Walker graduated from Lamar County Training School, and went on to attend Southwestern Christian College. He later earned a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from the University of Detroit Mercy and a Master's Degree in Professional Counseling from Wayne State University in Detroit. Pastor Walker began his formal ministry at the Church of Christ in Athens, Alabama. He has also served two other Alabama congregations, the Woodland Park Church of Christ in Birmingham, Alabama and the Farris Drive Church of Christ in Huntsville, Alabama.

Pastor Walker and his wife of 54 years, Beverly MacDonald Walker (deceased), have three kids, Pamela Spear, Jennifer Leake, and Dallas A. Walker, III.

Widely known as a "Preacher's Preacher", he is an international evangelist, that has traveled firsthand to numerous biblical sites, among them the Mountain at Nebo, Bethlehem, the Sea of Galilee, Jericho, and the Garden of Gethsemane.

Pastor Walker is a stalwart spiritual compass in the city of Detroit. He can be seen all over the district sharing the scripture and hosting revivals. His dedication to the community was honored with secondary street naming of Wyoming and Chippewa Avenues. He also sits on the board of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Celebrated Seniors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in applauding Pastor Dallas A. Walker, Jr. for his 45 years of service in ministry at the Wyoming Avenue Church of Christ.

RECOGNIZING THE WASHINGTON REGIONAL ALCOHOL PROGRAM LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE RECIPIENTS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) and to congratulate the recipients of the 21st Annual Law Enforcement Awards of Excellence for Impaired Driving Prevention.

Founded in 1982, WRAP is an award-winning, public-private coalition formed to fight drunk driving, drugged driving, and underage drinking in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan region. Through educational and innovative public outreach programs, WRAP is credited with keeping local alcohol-related death rates consistently below the national average. Its programs educate students and the general public on the dangers of alcohol and drugs, particularly driving while under the influence. Through the WRAP Holiday SoberRide program, individuals who are impaired can request a free cab ride home. Since SoberRide was launched in 1991, 73,123 free cab rides have been provided in the Washington Metropolitan area, preventing potential accidents and deaths.

In 1982, the year that WRAP was founded, 26,173 people in the United States lost their



lives in alcohol-related car accidents, and 60 percent of all traffic fatalities involved drunk driving. Due to the tireless efforts of WRAP, other organizations such as MADD and SADD, local and state police, and enforcement of more stringent anti-drunk driving laws, considerable progress has been made in decreasing the number of alcohol-related traffic fatalities, especially here in the Washington Metropolitan Region. According to the Council of Governments, the number of alcohol-impaired fatalities, injuries, and crashes have all decreased since 2014. However, more work still remains as 28.04 percent of all traffic fatalities in the region in 2016 were alcohol or drug related.

Since 1997, WRAP has sponsored an annual Law Enforcement Awards Ceremony to honor local law enforcement professionals who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in the fight against drunk driving. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of the 2018 Law Enforcement Awards of Excellence for Impaired Driving Prevention recipients:

Officer Joseph Winkler, City of Alexandria Police Department; Officer Michael Mitchell, Arlington County Police Department; Officer Bryce Cooper, City of Falls Church Police Department; Patrol Officer First Class Rashid S. Roberts, Fairfax County Police Department; Officer Jonathan Heavner, Town of Herndon Police Department; Deputy Gerald Presson, Loudoun County Sheriff's Office; Trooper First Class Anthony Wallace, Maryland State Police; Officer Zachary Speck, Metropolitan Police Department; Police Officer III John P. Romack, Montgomery County Department of Police; Police Officer First Class Thomas H. Kosakowski, Prince George's County Police Department; Officer Matthew Sciabica, Prince William County Police Department; Officer Seth A. Carll, United States Capitol Police; Traffic Safety Unit, United States Park Police; and Trooper Lucie Vajglova, Virginia State Police.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the recipients of the Law Enforcement Awards of Excellence and in recognizing WRAP for its 36 years of public service. I commend the staff of WRAP under the leadership of President and CEO Kurt Erickson and Board Chairman Gary Cohen for their tireless dedication to eradicating underage drinking and drunk or drugged driving. Their efforts combined with the support of partner organizations and law enforcement agencies have saved lives and are deserving of our highest praise and gratitude.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COMMANDER EVAN A. KARLIK, USN

### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Lieutenant Commander Evan Karlik, United States Navy, on his final day serving as a legislative fellow in my Washington, DC office. Evan has played a critical role this year supporting my work on the House Armed Service Committee and representing the large Navy community in Eastern Connecticut.

As Ranking Member of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, I have the high honor of overseeing much of our nation's Navy. This year, as our subcommittee considered how best to fund important shipbuilding programs, reform Navy career paths, and review command and control of naval forces, Evan provided important insight and guidance into how our subcommittee could best provide the resources and platforms that our Sailors and Marines need to achieve mission success.

Evan has also seized the initiative in a variety of areas beyond naval affairs. He spurred a review required by this year's National Defense Authorization Act into how the Department of Defense reviews and awards imminent danger pay to servicemembers deployed to dangerous locations around the world. He has also served as the staff-lead for the Friends of Australia Caucus, of which I serve as co-chair, ensuring that the ties between our countries remain as strong as ever as we celebrated 100 Years of Mateship in 2018.

Evan is leaving Congress but he isn't going far. His next assignment will take him just across the river to support rolling out the Navy's fleet of F-35 fifth-generation fighter aircraft. On his final day here in Congress, I wish LCDR Karlik the best of luck in his new role, fair winds, and following seas.

COMMENDING DIXIE VALENTINE LOBMEYER

### HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Dixie Valentine Lobmeyer for her service to my office and the 21st Congressional District of California over the past four years.

Miss Lobmeyer was born on February 8, 1997 in Hanford, California. After graduating from Hanford West High School in 2015, Dixie received her Associates of Arts degree from College of the Sequoias this year. She plans to attend California State University, Fresno beginning in 2019, studying Communications and Media Relations.

Miss Lobmeyer has been a member of my Congressional Team since 2014, serving in multiple roles. After showcasing incredible talent and potential as an intern, Dixie was hired in 2015 as our Staff Assistant. Her responsibilities quickly grew as she proved to be an effective and successful staffer. Dixie managed the daily operations of my district office, overseeing the intern program and producing tens of thousands of congressional certificates for the community. She also acted as my representative at many events, effectively communicating the ideals of our office. It isn't a hyperbole to say Miss Lobmeyer had a role in every aspect of district office operations. She is a hard, dedicated worker who was highly respected by her peers and was able to create and foster connections with constituents, business leaders, and public officials.

In 2017, Dixie transitioned to a campaign-centered role with my team. She became the Republican Party's Congressional Field Director for the California's Twenty First Congressional Race, managing the Kings County Victory program. Dixie recruited, hired, and su-

pervised hundreds of interns and organized voter contact initiatives. She continued to demonstrate leadership and served as an effective communicator. With her many successes and responsibilities, it is often forgotten that Dixie is younger than most of her peers. She is only in her early twenties but commands the respect of veteran political operatives.

Outside of work and school, Dixie enjoys volunteering in her community. Public service is her passion and she strives to give back to the city that has given so much to her. Dixie's family is also very important to her and she loves spending time with her brothers and sisters. For fun, she likes to go hiking with her friends and enjoy the natural beauty of California.

This January, Miss Lobmeyer will be moving onto new ventures. Knowing Dixie, her work ethic and talent, I have no doubt she will achieve many great things in her future. She is a natural leader who will inspire people for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Dixie Valentine Lobmeyer for her public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing her the very best in this next chapter of her life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JOHN K. DELANEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on roll call No. 443 through No. 445.

Had I been present to vote on roll call No. 443, I would have voted aye; had I been present to vote on roll call No. 444, I would have voted aye; and had I been present to vote on roll call No. 445, I would have voted aye.

HONORING DR. HOWARD SIMON

### HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a true Florida civil rights icon, Dr. Howard Simon. Dr. Simon has served as executive director of the Florida branch of the American Civil Liberties Union since 1977. Before his appointment to his current position, Dr. Simon oversaw the ACLU's Michigan branch. Remarkably, his 44 cumulative years of service as a state director is the longest in the ACLU's 98-year history. In this capacity, he has been an outspoken champion for marginalized communities.

During Dr. Simon's tenure, the regional ACLU affiliate has taken on many major cases to defend Floridians' civil liberties. It successfully fought to end the use of paperless electronic voting systems after problems were exposed during a 2006 congressional election. This led to the optimization and standardization of voting across every county in the state.

Under Dr. Simon's leadership, the organization has also filed several lawsuits to halt dangerous initiatives passed by the state legislature. One suit successfully blocked a law requiring all applicants for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families to submit to baseless drugs tests. As the representative of one of the most disadvantaged districts in the country, I am deeply concerned by attacks on public benefits programs on which many of my constituents heavily rely.

In addition to overseeing the ACLU's legal, public education, legislative lobbying, and membership and fundraising programs, Dr. Simon frequently pens editorials for regional publications, challenging policies that undermine Floridians' constitutional freedoms.

I am grateful to Dr. Simon for his work defending Floridians' civil liberties. Unfortunately, it is often the most disadvantaged who are targeted by policies that threaten their rights or otherwise lack the necessary resources to defend themselves.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Dr. Howard Simon and congratulate him on a remarkable career. Dr. Simon recently announced plans to retire after leading the Florida ACLU affiliate for 21 years. I wish him all the best and thank him for his exemplary service to my home state.

---

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TAIPEI AND PHOENIX

---

**HON. PAUL A. GOSAR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the 40th anniversary of the sister city relationship between Phoenix, Arizona and Taipei, Taiwan. Additionally, I would like to congratulate Taipei Mayor Ko Wen-Je on his successful reelection.

For the past 40 years, Taipei and Phoenix have shared a commitment with the goal of promoting cross cultural understanding along with municipal and technical cooperation and business opportunities. This bond has enabled people-to-people relationships between the residents of Phoenix and Taipei. The program has also offered opportunities to our youth who want to broaden their knowledge of different cultures. Taipei's Mayor Ko Wen-Je has been a strong advocate of the program and I commend him for his continual support.

I would like to take the time to show my appreciation to the Sister City Program for its positive impact on Arizona's economy. The program has helped to form international understanding and goodwill between our two nations. I look forward to continued dedication between these great cities. It is my honor to wish these two cities a happy 40th anniversary and congratulate Kon Wen-Je on his victory.

RECOGNIZING THE 2018 STARS OVER DULLES AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce for its ongoing dedication to local businesses and our community and to congratulate the 2018 "Stars Over Dulles" Award recipients.

This year, at the 23rd Annual Stars Over Dulles Awards Luncheon, the Chamber will honor those extraordinary businesses, nonprofit organizations, and citizens who have dedicated their talents and activities to enhancing our economy and our community.

As the former Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and now as a Member of Congress representing this community, I have been proud to partner with the Chamber on promoting the region's pro-business climate and celebrating the service that so many individuals and businesses provide to our community.

It is my honor to include in the RECORD the following recipients of the 2018 Stars Over Dulles Awards:

Arts Community Leader: Evan Hoffmann, NextStop Theatre Company; Distinguished Veteran: Ono Brewing Company; Financial Leader: Northwest Federal Credit Union; First Responder: Chief Maggie DeBoard, Herndon Police Department; Health & Wellness Leader: Meg Donnelly, Meg Donnelly, LMT; Hospitality & Tourism Leader: Westin Washington Dulles; Minority Business Leader: Mike Williams, The Growth Coach; Non-Profit Leader: Chuck Birdie, Loudoun Free Clinic; Real Estate & Development Leader: Tammy Meyer, Stonebridge Title, LLC; Small Business Leader: David Hillelsohn, DHill Financial; Technology Leader: Madhu Garlanka, Allwyn Corporation; Transportation Leader: Doug Pickford, Dulles Area Transportation Association; Workforce & Education Leader: Dr. Anthony Copeland, Westfield High School; Young Professional: Young Kim, McLean Insurance Agency, Inc.; and Eileen D Curtis Lifetime Achievement Award: Dr. Gerald L. Gordon, Ph.D.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2018 Stars Over Dulles Award recipients and in thanking these businesses and individuals for their many contributions to our region's economic success and quality of life. Their efforts are among the many reasons why Northern Virginia remains one of the best places in the country in which to live, work, raise a family, and start a business. I congratulate the honorees on receiving these awards and wish them continued success.

---

RECOGNIZING MR. ANTONIO GONZALEZ

**HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Antonio Gonzalez, who passed away on November 11, 2018. Mr.

Gonzalez hailed from my hometown of San Antonio, and shared his life with his wife of 26 years, Alma Martinez, and their two daughters Ysabel and Sara. He will be greatly missed.

Mr. Gonzalez was born in Norwalk, California on December 17, 1956, and put great emphasis on his education. Mr. Gonzalez completed undergraduate coursework at the University of California San Diego from 1975 to 1977, completed graduate coursework in Latin American History at the University of California Berkeley from 1981 to 1982, and graduated from the University of Texas at San Antonio where her studied American history.

Mr. Gonzalez has been a longstanding advocate for the underrepresented and the less fortunate.

Throughout his career, he was a champion of voter and minority rights, building relationships with Latino communities throughout Mexico, Venezuela, Cuba, El Salvador, and Haiti.

In 1994, Mr. Gonzalez also assumed the presidency of the William C. Velasquez Institute (WCVI), a nonpartisan national Latino public policy and research nonprofit organization, and the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project (SVREP), the oldest nonpartisan Latino voter participation organization in the U.S. During his tenure, Mr. Gonzalez conducted extensive survey research on Latino voter behavior, Latino voter mobilization, and helped triple Latino voter registration from 5.4 million in 1994 to 15.3 million in 2016. With the help of WCVI, Mr. Gonzalez founded the National Latino Congreso in 2006 where thousands of Latino Organizations meet annually.

Mr. Gonzalez was also a fierce advocate for equal representation under the law. Mr. Gonzalez led SVREP in protecting Latino voting against suppressive "Voter ID" laws in Texas and Arizona. From 2015 to 2017, Mr. Gonzalez led a successful campaign which resulted in more than 50 California school boards and cities to replace their outdated election systems with "single member" district election systems.

From 2004 to 2016, Mr. Gonzalez hosted a weekly radio show on Pacifica's KPFK in Los Angeles called "Strategy Session with Antonio Gonzalez," and steered a nonpartisan coalition of 55 organizations during the Los Angeles City Mayoral election that resulted in the first Latino Mayor in America's 2nd largest city.

With the passing of Mr. Antonio Gonzalez, we have truly lost a pillar in the Latino community and a beacon of home in our nation. Mr. Gonzalez's legacy will leave a lasting impact for many years to come, and his lifelong dedication changed the lives of San Antonioans, Texans, and people around the world.

---

COMMENDING MRS. EILEEN GRACE MARTINHO

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Mrs. Eileen Grace Martinho for her service to my office and the 21st Congressional District of California.



Mrs. Martinho was born on December 12, 1994 in Escondido, California. Her father, Jacob De Raadt, purchased a Dairy Farm in 1999 in Lemoore, California and moved the family to California's San Joaquin Valley. Growing up in an agriculturally-rich environment left a lasting impact on Eileen, creating a deep passion for dairy and agriculture issues. After graduating from Central Valley Christian High School in 2013, Eileen received a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from Fresno Pacific University in 2017. While completing her degree, she was employed with Kings County Farm Bureau and Farm Academy Live, where she assisted in the implementation of events and taught agricultural issues to numerous students.

Eileen became a member of my Congressional Team in 2017, serving as our Fresno County Field Representative. She proved to be a strong asset across the Valley, creating meaningful connections with community leaders and representing my team with dedication and charisma. Local leaders consistently praised Eileen for her love for the Central Valley and advanced knowledge on agricultural issues. Eileen also managed the office intern program and served as a caseworker, helping numerous constituents with government-related issues. Her unique ability to communicate the values of our team combined with her strong work-ethic made Mrs. Martinho an invaluable member of my team and a true public servant to the people of California's Central Valley.

Outside of work, Eileen remains actively involved in a variety of community groups. She is a member of the Dairy Princess Committee, Kings Fair Foundation Board, California Women for Agriculture, and Kings County Dairy Women. Her consistent participation in community service groups reflects her genuine care for the community and desire to see it improved. While many speak about bettering their communities, Eileen takes the initiative and leads the way. She is a strong leader who will continue to advocate for her community for many years to come.

Mrs. Martinho recently married to the love of her life, Jonathon, earlier this year. She loves spending her free time with her husband and their friends, hosting dinners, and going on weekend trips. Her community is extremely important to her and she is known as a loyal and dependable friend. Eileen is also actively involved in her church, where she is known for her beautiful singing.

This January, Mrs. Martinho will be moving onto new ventures. Knowing Eileen, her passion and work-ethic, I have no doubt she will achieve many great things in her future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Eileen Grace Martinho for her public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing her the very best in this next chapter of her life.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed a vote. Had I been

present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 436.

### HONORING AMINDA MARQUÉS GONZALEZ

### HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Aminda Marqués Gonzalez, vice president and executive editor of the Miami Herald and el Nuevo Herald, and a highly respected member of Florida's media community.

On July 21, 2018, Marqués was recognized by the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and inducted into the NAHJ's Hall of Fame for her accomplished career and efforts to promote diversity in the newsroom.

Born in New York City to Cuban immigrants, Marqués has dedicated her entire career to journalism in South Florida. Marqués graduated from the University of Florida in 1986 with a bachelor's degree in journalism and began her career at the Miami Herald, where she had previously interned. After covering a range of issues and rising from metro reporter to assistant city editor, she joined People magazine in 2002 as Miami bureau chief. In that capacity, she oversaw People's coverage of the southeastern United States, the Caribbean, and Latin America.

Marqués returned to the Miami Herald in 2007 as an editor and was promoted to managing editor in 2010. Under her leadership, the Herald has earned national recognition for its outstanding reporting. The Herald won two Pulitzer Prizes in 2017, one for work of the editorial cartoonist Jim Morin and one for the paper's series on the Panama Papers. The Miami Herald also has been a finalist for the Pulitzer three times under Marqués' leadership, including for a 2012 investigation into the poor regulation of Florida's assisted-living facilities.

In addition to her post at the Miami Herald, Marqués is president of the Florida Society of News Editors and sits on the Pulitzer Prize Board. She also serves on the advisory councils for The Journalism and Women Symposium, and The Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver Center for the Advancement of Women in Communication at Florida International University.

Marqués has the distinction of being the Miami Herald's first-ever Hispanic and second female executive editor. Her colleagues credit her for recruiting reporters and editors of diverse backgrounds and for challenging the overall lack of diversity in journalism.

I commend Aminda Marqués Gonzalez for her trailblazing work in journalism, and I congratulate her on receiving the National Association of Hispanic Journalists Hall of Fame honor.

#### RECOGNIZING JEFF BELL

### HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, Jeff

Bell, who will be retiring after working for more than 30 years at the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Throughout his tenure at IDOT, Jeff has served in a number of roles and has remained a valuable asset for the citizens of Illinois due to his dedication, hard work, and attention to detail. Most recently, as Bureau Chief for Federal Affairs, Jeff has been an excellent liaison between IDOT and the Illinois Congressional Delegation, helping our offices better serve our State's transportation infrastructure needs when federal policy is developed out here in Washington, D.C.

I have had the privilege of working with Jeff as both a member of Congress and also while serving as an aide to Congressman JOHN SHIMKUS, and Jeff has never been anything but an invaluable resource on transportation infrastructure legislation and projects. Jeff has staunchly advocated for federal initiatives that improve Illinois' infrastructure, and has helped maximize the federal resources our state has received.

It is my honor to congratulate Jeff on his retirement and thank him for his friendship and service to the State of Illinois.

#### RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2018 NORTHERN VIRGINIA LEADERSHIP AWARDS

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2018 recipients of the Northern Virginia Leadership Awards presented by Leadership Fairfax, Inc. (LFI)

LFI is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to finding, training, and growing leaders in Northern Virginia whose mission is to educate, prepare, inspire, and connect leaders to serve and strengthen our community. Graduates from its programs become part of a fast-growing network of civic leaders. I've always said, "When you walk into a crowded room, it's easy to spot the graduates of Leadership Fairfax—they just stand out!"

Each year, LFI recognizes individuals or organizations that have demonstrated exceptional leadership and that have made extraordinary contributions to our community. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the following names of the 2018 Northern Virginia Leadership Awards recipients:

The Regional Leadership Award is presented to Maggie Parker, VP, Comstock Companies, Inc. for her dedicated volunteer service and commitment to improve the quality of life of the area. She has served as Chair of Public Art Reston and has also brought her skills to other organizations in the region including Greater Reston Arts Center, ARTSFAIRFAX, Women's Center, Children's National Medical Center, and Cornerstones.

The Trustee Leadership Award is presented to Major Tyler Corey, Fairfax County Sheriffs Office. As the Division Commander for the Administrative Services Division, Major Corey not only mentors and trains new staff and collaborates with community partners on Sheriff's Office initiatives, but also finds time to commit to multiple volunteer projects, including Volunteer Fairfax and Meals on Wheels.

The Individual Leadership Award is presented to Kerrie Wilson, CEO, Cornerstones. Cornerstones serves tens of thousands of individuals, including over 4,000 families and over 6,000 children in Fairfax County. Kerrie has also served on the board of directors for the Meyer Foundation, Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce, Virginia Housing Alliance, and Virginia Nonprofit Leadership Council. She is co-chair of the Fairfax County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee and served on the executive committee overseeing the design of the 10-Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness by 2018.

The Nonprofit Leadership Award is presented to HomeAid Northern Virginia (HANV) for its efforts to combat homelessness among vulnerable populations. HANV, in collaboration with its partners, has transformed an 8,900 sq. ft. house in Fairfax County into a beautifully renovated home that will provide housing for 10 formerly homeless female veterans and their children and also built a new 5,000 sq. ft. home on Youth for Tomorrow's campus to house girls between the ages of 11-17 who are experiencing homelessness, separated from their families, or survivors of sex trafficking.

The Corporate Leadership Award is presented to Custom Ink. Each year, Custom Ink hosts in-office bowling to support Northern Virginia Family Services (NVFS), raising over \$2,000 in just four bowling sessions. Custom Ink has also partnered with Make-A-Wish Foundation to help support chapters in the local community by participating in Wish Reveals, donating thousands of shirts for Walk-for-Wishes events and volunteering at events. The Custom Ink Fairfax Team has volunteered over 1,700 hours in 30 events and fundraisers in 2018.

The Educational Leadership Award is presented to Dr. Mary Ann Panarelli who has worked to implement police referrals to Restorative Justice Intervention in an effort to reduce student arrests and court involvement. She has also coordinated with school and county staff to plan and host various community information and training sessions that have included mental health and wellness summits and community sessions on drug and alcohol prevention and intervention.

Mr. Speaker, the contributions of these individuals and organizations are one of the reasons why Fairfax is such a sought after community in which to live and work, and this year's honorees highlight the legacy of Leadership Fairfax, Inc. in preparing our community's future leaders to address the challenges we face. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these honorees and thanking them for their service to Northern Virginia.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF  
ANGIE COFFEE

**HON. MARK DeSAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Angie Coffee as the East Bay Leadership Council's 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. She was given this honor in recognition of her dedication as a volunteer, community leader, mentor, and philanthropist.

Angie is a cancer survivor who shared her story of survivorship and strength, and who I was honored to have as a guest speaking at our Biden Cancer Summits. In addition to sharing her experience, she works to promote the well-being of our community, the health of our environment, the education of our children, and the technological innovations of our society. Her love for our community and for the arts is exemplified by her founding the Leshner Center for the Arts—a live theatre venue in our community.

Angie has chaired the Board of Special Olympics: Northern California, served as President of the Board of East Bay Leadership Council, and was a member of the De La Salle High School Board of Trustees, the Diablo Regional Arts Association, and the Walnut Creek Chamber of Commerce. Her recent volunteer efforts include the Contra Costa Family Justice Center and the John Muir Health Advisory Board.

I congratulate Angie for this well-deserved lifetime achievement award, and thank her for her work serving our community.

COMMENDING MR. JUSTIN  
MENDES

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Mr. Justin Mendes for his service to my office and the 21st Congressional District of California over the past six years.

Mr. Mendes was born on September 17, 1986 in Fresno, California to Tom Mendes and Karen Carreiro. After attending Riverdale High School in Riverdale, California, Mr. Mendes went on to receive his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California. Upon his graduation in 2008, Mr. Mendes worked in the banking industry, specifically in agricultural lending.

In 2010, Mr. Mendes began his career in public service with my office in Hanford, while I was then serving in the California State Assembly. Upon my election to the United States House of Representatives in 2012, he continued his service as my District Director. After a brief stint in the private sector, Mr. Mendes rejoined my Congressional Team again as District Director. His knowledge of the Twenty First Congressional District of California was immensely beneficial to my office and my constituents.

In March of 2014, Mr. Mendes and his wife Melissa celebrated the birth of their first child, Alexander. They welcomed their second child, Dominic, in April of 2017. Their family currently resides in Hanford, California.

Mr. Mendes demonstrated his dedication to public service when he was elected Mayor of Hanford in December of 2015 and again in 2018, when he ran for California State Assembly. His service on Hanford's City Council concludes at the end of this year.

I am confident his love of politics and public service have benefited his community and I have no doubt he will continue being a leader for Hanford and Kings County.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to

join me in commending Justin Mendes for his public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing him well in this next chapter of his life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to return to Washington from my district in Texas due to a family obligation on the evening of December 19.

Had I been present, I would have voted: yea on Roll Call No. 436; yea on Roll Call No. 437; yea on Roll Call No. 438; yea on Roll Call No. 439; and yea on Roll Call No. 440.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to return to Washington from my district in Texas due to a family obligation on the evening of December 19.

Had I been present, I would have voted: yea on Roll Call No. 441; yea on Roll Call No. 442; yea on Roll Call No. 443; yea on Roll Call No. 444; and yea on Roll Call No. 445.

HONORING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY  
OF TUSKEGEE AIRMAN FLETCHER  
WILLIAMS

**HON. BRENDA JONES**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Ms. JONES of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th birthday of Mr. Fletcher William.

Mr. Williams served as a Crew Chief (aircraft mechanic) with a rank of Sergeant in the 100th Pursuit Squadron, the all black 332nd Fighter Group known as the Tuskegee Airman.

Born on October 23, 1918, Mr. Williams' has made great contributions to our country through his military service. While serving, his group's mantra was "Keep Em' Flyin.'" Today, he still exudes that same spirit with his presence in the Detroit community.

It is with great pleasure that I honor his life and legacy on his 100th Birthday. May he continue to live a life filled with joy and many blessings.

RECOGNIZING THE YWCA USA, INC.

**HON. BRENDA L. LAWRENCE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 20, 2018*

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the YWCA USA on the occasion of its 160th anniversary.

The YWCA is one of the oldest and largest women's organizations in the United States. For nearly 160 years, the YWCA has worked diligently to empower women, eliminate racism, stand up for social justice, and strengthen communities. They perform valuable work across America, with over 200 local associations. The YWCA provides over 500,000 women with safety services, including sexual assault survivor support programs and eco-

nomic empowerment programs, which serve more than 260,000 women and children. This essential work creates lasting change in peoples' lives.

In addition to providing support for women and children across the nation, the YWCA works to advance racial and gender justice. I applaud the YWCA's great work to empower women and girls of color, including in my district through the YWCA of Metropolitan Detroit.

Women are our country's greatest change agents, and the YWCA helps ensure that women will always have a seat at the table for years to come. On this momentous occasion, I want to congratulate the visionary founders and associates of the YWCA, and all the leaders of the YWCA for their necessary work. I look forward to their continued growth and to seeing the phenomenal work the YWCA will do for future generations.