

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.