

IN HONOR OF 40 YEARS OF YES TO  
YOUTH: MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
YOUTH SERVICES

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 6, 2019*

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Fortieth Anniversary of one of my community's finest service organizations, Yes to Youth—Montgomery County Youth Services.

Established on February 2, 1979, Yes to Youth (Y2Y) has faithfully served the Montgomery County community for four decades. Their noble mission is to empower teens and their families by building up their existing strengths, expanding their access to opportunities, and overall, enhancing their lives. Their selfless service, hard work, and dedicated commitment to this mission has inspired and positively affected countless lives in our community.

Y2Y first began providing services to teens facing crises through the launch of their crisis hotline. As the organization expanded over the years, so too did the scope of the services offered to those in need. Today, the organization offers a wide variety of resources and initiatives to serve teens and their families. To name just a few, Y2Y offers group and family mental health counseling, school presentations on crisis situations, suicide prevention, emergency youth shelter, outreach program from homeless teens, and a support program for young adults.

These services have not only saved countless lives, but they have made Montgomery County a better place to call home. The qualities that Y2Y and its volunteers embody represent the best in our society, and today is about making sure they know the tireless work they do to improve our community does not go unnoticed.

It is my absolute honor to congratulate the Y2Y team today as they celebrate four decades of extraordinary service. I know I speak for the entire Eighth Congressional District of Texas when I say, thank you. Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Y2Y's Fortieth Anniversary and their positive impact on the Montgomery County community.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL  
MICHAEL "MOSES" THOMPSON

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 6, 2019*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Colonel Michael "Moses" Thompson. As a member of the United States Air Force, "Moses," his call sign as an F-16 pilot, plans his retirement after 24 years of dutiful service to his country.

With his long and successful career in a many number of leadership positions, Colonel Moses Thompson will officially retire in the summer of this year. His career began at the United States Air Force Academy in 1991 where he majored in Political Science and International Relations. He became an F-16 Pilot of the 14th Fighter Squadron, then joined

the 79th Fighter Squadron in 1999 as Chief of Standardization and Evaluation. Continuing his love of flight and earnest ability to help others, Moses started instructing young and hopeful pilots, then becoming an Air Liaison and Flight Commander in Fort Benning, Georgia. In 2007 he received an MBA from the University of Maryland University College, and soon after finished another master's degree, this time from the United States Air Force Command and Staff College. After more positions in leadership as a commander in Germany and senior advisor to the Iraqi Ministry of Defense in Baghdad, Moses Thompson is now the Chief of Advanced Weapons Systems at the U.S. Air Force Headquarters Air Combat Command.

After a lengthy and dedicated career, Colonel Thompson will now retire with his wife Ali. He has been described as a "powerful, inspirational, and effective leader," known for his integrity and ability to "make the difficult look easy." As previously stated, he has had many titles and many honorable positions, but his selfless action and dedicated service are what keep Americans safe. People like Moses are special and rare, and our country is blessed to have had him serve our people.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the many accomplishments of Colonel Michael "Moses" Thompson, honoring his love of country and service he has given to our great nation.

CELEBRATION AND RECOGNITION  
OF NILDA L. WILSON

**HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 6, 2019*

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, Nilda L. Wilson has been a longtime leader in the Dominican community. She was among the original co-founders of many non-profit charities including the Dominican Medical Society Women's Chapter, Dominicanos Pro-Ayuda A La Niñez, and many more philanthropic activities supporting the community.

Nilda L. Wilson with her husband Dr. James A. Wilson, have for over 40 years managed and operated one of the earliest Dominican medical practices in Washington Heights in New York's 13th Congressional District.

They were among the first Dominican medical practices in Northern Manhattan first established in 1966 on the corner of 178th St. & Audubon Ave. and remained in the same location serving the Dominican community through their retirement in 2006.

Nilda L. Wilson has always felt a strong and enduring responsibility to care for those in need of health care especially in Washington Heights and Northern Manhattan. Ms. Wilson and Dr. Wilson have maintained and strengthened their ties to the Dominican Republic helping sponsor medical students and trainees coming to the United States.

Nilda L. Wilson and her remarkable family have reached extraordinary professional success and continue to give back to the Dominican-American community.

RECOGNIZING THE EIGHTEENTH  
CONGRESS OF KAZAKHSTAN'S  
NUR OTAN PARTY

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 6, 2019*

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Nur Otan party in Kazakhstan for its twentieth anniversary and the convening of its eighteenth Congress in Astana, Kazakhstan later this month. The Nur Otan party has made Kazakhstan's growth in the region, and around the world, its core mission through "Kazakhstan 2050".

This strategy seeks to place the country in the top 30 global economies by 2050 by investing in not only economic sectors; but through social initiatives as well. For instance, President Nazarbayev, Chairman of Nur Otan, has singled out investments in public housing, education, small business, economic diversification, and energy.

Madam Speaker, we must encourage such development, but we must also never forget the role Kazakhstan has played in our fight against terrorism and the immense role the country has played in the global cause of non-proliferation. In Afghanistan, Kazakhstan has provided invaluable support for supply lines used by the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) Coalition, while also conducting joint military training programs with American and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) forces in the Central Asian steppes. As for non-proliferation, Kazakhstan, under President Nazarbayev's steady leadership, has not only relentlessly championed the cause of nuclear disarmament, but it has also established the world's first-ever Low Enriched Uranium Fuel Bank, in order to ensure stable civil nuclear energy use worldwide.

Madam Speaker, it is abundantly clear that Kazakhstan has been, and continues to be, a strong partner of ours in Central Asia, and it is my hope that the U.S.-Kazakhstan relationship will continue to strengthen to the benefit of both countries.

HONORING MAYOR JOE D. HERMES

**HON. MICHAEL CLOUD**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 6, 2019*

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Joe D. Hermes, an Edna native who dedicated his life to public service and his community.

Mayor Hermes first moved to Edna when he was six years old and has considered it his home ever since. His first public service role came as council member from 1979 to 1987. He was then elected Mayor in 1987. After forty devoted years of serving the people of Edna, Mayor Hermes has decided to retire.

Since Mayor Hermes took office, Edna has built three parks and a swimming pool, purchased and restored property for the city, moved City Hall from the building that now accommodates the Edna Police Department, and navigated the community through difficult economic times.