

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMEMBERING DR. MARY LACEY

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life of Dr. Mary Lacey, a pillar of our community who passed away this month at the age of 80.

Dr. Lacey made an indelible mark on our communities by tirelessly serving those at the margins. Across Lake County, children in need, the homeless, and inmates and their families directly benefited from her generosity and boundless energy.

Dr. Lacey broke multiple barriers throughout her life. She was born to humble beginnings, as one of ten children in rural Mississippi. At age 21 she moved to Florida to further her education, where she met her late husband William, and eventually settled in his hometown of Waukegan. She found work as a contractor at Naval Station Great Lakes as well as handmaking elegant hats.

Never one to rest, she continued to study and was ordained a pastor, became a foster parent, and earned a certificate in social work.

In Waukegan, her memory lives on as the namesake of Mary's Mission, a homeless shelter she founded that has provided shelter to hundreds of individuals in times of need, and has helped them develop the job training and skills they need to get back on their feet and live independently.

Dr. Lacey was also a fierce advocate for children, bringing joy to young residents during the holidays. She teamed up with the Waukegan police department to start a toy giveaway program for children who might not receive a gift during the holidays. I had the privilege to join several of her annual Christmas parades from Mary's Mission to the Lake County jail, where she handed out turkeys and toys.

Her perseverance in helping vulnerable people, touched and improved the lives of countless Illinoisans. Dr. Lacey truly lived her faith every day, and she will be sorely missed. I extend my heartfelt condolences to her many family and friends who are mourning her passing.

COMMAND WARRANT OFFICER FIVE SEFER STEVE IMERAJ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Command Warrant Officer Five Sefer Steve Imeraj on his retirement.

CW5 Sefer Steve Imeraj was the 6th Command Chief Warrant Officer (CCWO) for the Colorado Army National Guard, appointed in November 2014. Steve retired after 36 years of service in the active U.S. Army and the Colorado Army National Guard. He graduated from Colorado State University in Ft. Collins with a B.A. in Political Science and a minor in History.

CW5 Sefer Steve Imeraj is a son of Albanian immigrants and enlisted out of Detroit, Michigan into the active US Army in 1982. After serving three years with the 1–29 Field Artillery (Nuclear Surety Cohort) Battalion, he enlisted into the COARNG in 1985 with the 2/157th FA BN in Colorado Springs. In 1988, Steve transferred to HHD Headquarters State Area Command and worked various assignments in the Military Personnel Office until he pinned as an AG Warrant Officer One/HR Tech in February 1992.

Later in his career, CW5 Sefer Steve Imeraj mobilized and deployed to Iraq with the 2/135th GSAB (General Support Aviation Battalion) from March 2006 until September 2007 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. During his combat deployment, he served as the Assistance S1 and was later detailed as the AV BN Battle Captain for all combat missions for the COARNG 2/135th GSAB. I am grateful for CW5 Imeraj's brief service in my office and to the constituents of the 7th Congressional District, but I am most grateful for his service to our country.

Steve is married to Victoria and is a proud father of five sons, and grandfather of three granddaughters. I want to extend my deepest gratitude and congratulations to Command Warrant Officer Five Sefer Steve Imeraj.

NICK GRAY TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. TIPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nick Gray of Olathe, Colorado, a World War II veteran of Pearl Harbor and Guadalcanal Campaign who recently celebrated his 100th birthday.

Nick is the grandson of Judge John Gray, who took up a homestead in the Shavano Valley in 1884, became Mayor of Montrose, and received local acclaim for working to get the Gunnison Tunnel built during his time as a District Judge. Judge Gray's son, Joe Gray, was Nick's father. Nick grew up on the family ranch his grandfather built with his mother Addie Hobson, his father, and the rest of his siblings.

In 1940, Nick left his family's ranch and volunteered to serve in the Army. He was stationed at Pearl Harbor with the 25th Infantry Division when the Japanese attacked on December 7, 1941. While overseas he built roads

and bridges on Guadalcanal in the South Pacific and managed a crew of 25 natives who had been bombed out by Japanese forces. After his service was complete, he used his military education to build his ranching operation back home in Colorado and ultimately created the Nick Gray Construction Company.

As a small business owner, he built more than 3,000 miles of power line rights-of-way and roads across three states. In 1963, Nick cleared 220 miles for power line structure sites, building sub-station sites and roads from Wyoming to New Mexico. Another one of Nick's major accomplishments was building the Purgatory Ski Area near Durango, Colorado. Nick built the parking lot, ski course, and by-pass road all the way to Hermosa Park. During the 129-day project, he blasted nearly 40,000 yards of rock.

Nick married his wife Margaret in June 1946, and they had a son, Stephen Gray. Nick and Margaret have two granddaughters, Nicole Lumsden and Lezlee Cox, and six great-grandchildren, Keith Lumsden, Stephen Lumsden, Sarah Lumsden, Talli Lumsden, Caralea Cox, and Kendyl Cox.

Madam Speaker, Nick's service to his country, enduring work-ethic, and love of family will continue to have an impact on the Olathe community for years to come. It is my privilege to acknowledge him here today, and express heartfelt gratitude for the important work he has done throughout his life. I wish him all the best in his future.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLIN ALLRED AND WELCOMING HIS NEWBORN SON

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colin Allred and his wife Alexandra on congratulating them for their newborn son, Jordan Eber Allred.

As Co-Presidents of the Democratic Freshman Class, Colin and I have bonded during this remarkable time in our lives. Colin's successes as an athlete, as a civil rights lawyer, and now in Congress have prepared him to be a remarkable father. Colin's commitment to put others before himself transcends every professional action he has taken. It is my honor and that of our vibrant freshman class to be working by his side at such a special time for his family.

The beauty of life is embodied in Jordan and reminds us of what we're all here for—to make this country a better place for our next of kin, our loved ones, and our fellow citizens. Let us reflect on this miracle and work to make this country a better country for Jordan.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming Jordan into this world. I couldn't be happier.

• 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.

HONORING THE KOREAN
INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the outstanding achievements of the people of South Korea in their fight for independence. This push for Korean independence from Japan would begin in Seoul on March 1, 1919 and spread throughout the country.

Over 100 years ago, the Korean people were inspired by former Governor of New Jersey and United States President Woodrow Wilson's ideas of self-determination to resist the occupation of Japanese military rule. This revolutionary spirit was aided by release of a Korean Declaration of Independence that was written by 33 core activists in the Samil Movement. The declaration was read by the leaders in the Seoul and in townships throughout Korea by supporters of the movement.

Attempts by the Japanese military to suppress the Samil Movement's peaceful gatherings gave their followers a stronger will to keep demonstrating. It is estimated that approximately two million Koreans participated in more than 1,500 demonstrations for independence. Several thousand were massacred, wounded and arrested by the Japanese police force and army in what is known as the Bloody History of the Korean Independence Movement. These acts became the catalyst for the Korean Independence Movement that would help unify the Korean people in their quest for independence in 1945.

Our alliance with the Republic of Korea has always been firm. Korea has remained one of the United States' closest and most steadfast allies and partners. Our shared belief in self-determination is pivotal to our joint success. I am proud to rise today to honor that history.

I look forward to joining my constituents on February 26, 2019 for a ceremony recognizing the Centennial of the March 1st Movement. I hope my colleagues will recognize the importance of the Korean March 1st Movement as a reflection of our own values of freedom of assembly, freedom of speech, and freedom to self-govern.

CHET HITT RECEIVES THE DISTINGUISHED
COMMUNITY SERVICE
AWARD

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and commitment of Chet Hitt, who received the Distinguished Community Service Award from the Victor Valley College Foundation on February 23, 2019.

Chet was born in the High Desert and has lived in Apple Valley for most of his life. Always ambitious and driven, Chet's entrepreneurial spirit came alive when he began to control High Desert mortuary business market. In 1997, he became partners with the owner of a prior competitor, Victor Valley Mortuary, and within three years they were able to purchase

four additional mortuaries in the High Desert. Chet has served on the Board of Trustees of St. Mary Hospital, where he is the only Board Member to have been born at that hospital, and also sits on the Board for Friends of the Fair for the San Bernardino County Fairgrounds. He was named the Apple Valley Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in 2002, and was named Service-Based Entrepreneur of the Year at the 2017 Spirit of the Entrepreneur Awards for the Inland Empire. Chet serves as Chairman of the Board of the Sunset Hills Children's Foundation and the Topock 66 Children's Foundation.

Chet Hitt is one of the most kind, generous, and hard-working people in the High Desert, and is eminently deserving of this award. I offer my sincere congratulations to Chet on this recognition and my thanks for all the outstanding work he does in our community.

HONORING STEPHEN PHILIP
SPERNAK

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the distinguished public service career of Mr. Stephen Philip Spernak. Mr. Spernak has dedicated over 20 years to serving and benefitting our community in Orange County. In 1982 Mr. Spernak began working for the Cypress Police Department, and here is where his strong leadership and hard work began to take notice.

Mr. Spernak served 14 years with the Cypress Police Department, during this time he was named Officer of the Year in 1988 and received the Medal of Valor in 1993 for rescuing an infant from a burning structure. Officer Spernak was nationally recognized by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) in 1990 for creating a drunk driving education program for teens, which is still used today. MADD recognized Mr. Spernak as Officer of the Year in 1989 and he has since served as a spokesman and lecturer for MADD for 24 years. He also created and launched a notable public affairs program related to crime prevention, drunk driving, traffic safety, and neighborhood watch through public appearances and cable TV. Mr. Spernak has also served as an Orange County Sheriff Reserve Deputy.

Outside of law enforcement, Mr. Spernak acted as Executive Assistant and Policy Advisor to Orange County Supervisor Todd Spitzer during his two terms in office. In these roles he aided the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) in their efforts to incorporate Rancho Santiago Margarita into cityhood. His successful role led him to serve as Deputy City Manager of this new city in 2000.

While serving the Orange County Supervisors, he played a lead role on Supervisor Spitzer's staff, serving as his Southern California Liaison. In this role he collaborated with anti-airport committees and successfully defeated a plan to build an international airport at El Toro Marine Air Corps Station.

REMEMBERING THE 27TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE KHOJALY
MASSACRE

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 27th anniversary of the Khojaly Massacre, which took place on February 26, 1992, and remember the 613 men, women, and children who were brutalized during this despicable act of violence.

Khojaly, a town in the Republic of Azerbaijan, was home to an unprecedented act of brutality that desecrated the norms and principles of international law, human rights, and freedoms. Armenian forces, with the support of the 366th motorized rifle regiment of the Russian army, stormed the besieged town of Khojaly engaging in acts so violent that their effects are still felt in the community, indeed the entire country, to this day.

Madam Speaker, although a ceasefire was achieved in 1994, more than 20 percent of Azerbaijani territory including Nagorno Karabakh remain occupied and more than 1 million Azerbaijanis remain refugees and internally displaced persons. Over the past 20 years, Azerbaijan has spent over 6 billion dollars to ensure the social welfare of the internally displaced. Notably, while providing this crucial and costly support, Azerbaijan has still taken significant and impressive strides to improve economic development in their region.

Indeed the Government of Azerbaijan has not only contributed to regional stability, but has continued to be a reliable ally for the United States in combating terrorism around the world. In the days after September 11, 2001, Azerbaijan quickly conveyed its solidarity with the American people and provided crucial assistance to our fight against terrorism by granting unconditional clearance to our military to use Azerbaijan's airspace as part of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. This is in addition to the naval and ground routes the country provides for the international coalition's supplies that are to be delivered to forces in Afghanistan.

Madam Speaker, marking the anniversary of a tragedy is always a solemn occasion. However, as a member of the Azerbaijan Caucus, I believe it is important to recognize and remember those whose lives were lost. I ask my colleagues to join me in offering condolences to the people of Azerbaijan.

IN HONOR OF ANTONIO VACCARO'S
100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Antonio Vaccaro, who celebrated his 100th birthday this past Saturday. A longtime resident of Portsmouth and a communicator like no other, Mr. Vaccaro spent much of his career working as chief engineer at the radio station WHEB in Portsmouth.

During World War II, Mr. Vaccaro answered the nation's call and served as a member of

the elite Flying Tigers. As a member of the Flying Tigers, he took charge of communications, using his unique skillset to send many messages, including the first message announcing the end of the war. He is a father, grandfather, great grandfather, and great-great grandfather to a loving family who worked tirelessly to ensure that Mr. Vaccaro was finally recognized with the Purple Heart more than half a century after his service.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to wish Mr. Vaccaro a very happy birthday. I hope that he had a wonderful celebration with his friends and family, and I want to thank him for his service to our country and his dedication to our community.

DILLON LESOVSKY RECEIVES THE YOUNG ALUMNI HALL OF FAME AWARD

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today recognize the service and commitment of Dillon Lesovsky, who received the Young Alumni Hall of Fame Award from the Victor Valley College Foundation on February 23, 2019.

Dillon is an entrepreneur at heart and has been since he was in his teens. In 2006, Dillon founded and operated a small business for six years which developed video content for the action sports industry as well as corporate projects throughout the U.S. He managed all aspects of production: developed budgets, drafted business proposals, negotiated with distributors, and managed contract staff. In 2013, I hired Dillon to serve as a Field Representative in my Apple Valley District Office, where he worked with federal agencies like Social Security and the Export-Import Bank to answer constituent questions, represented me at events in the High Desert community, and helped manage my social media accounts. In February of 2018, Dillon was recruited and hired by ComAv Asset Management to develop international business relationships within the commercial aircraft industry. Dillon has consistently exceeded his monthly sales quota in his region, and has also developed sales processes for a team of 17 sales staff to help them meet and exceed their sales goals. In his personal life, Dillon has a love of inside jokes and wishes to be a part of one someday.

Dillon was one of the best employees I have had, and it was a pleasure to have him on my staff. On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I congratulate Dillon on his entrepreneurial spirit and his admission to the Young Alumni Hall of Fame.

HONORING WILLIAM MORIN'S RETIREMENT FROM APPLIED MATERIALS, INC.

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication and commit-

ment of William G. Morin as a technology policy leader and champion of the Silicon Valley innovation ecosystem who retired from Applied Materials on February 1, 2019 after representing the company for more than 23 years in Washington, D.C.

With a history degree from Pennsylvania State University, Mr. Morin chose to launch his career in the service of our nation. He trained intensively as an Arabic linguist and intelligence analyst in the U.S. Army and was posted to the Presidio in Monterey. This gave Bill his first taste of California and forged lifelong links to the region that would become Silicon Valley. Following four years of service in the military, he joined the National Association of Manufacturers where he worked to create American jobs by advancing intellectual property, trade and technology policy.

In 1996, Bill joined the small team of R. Wayne Sayer and Associates, one of the first Washington firms specializing in issues to support the rapidly expanding U.S. high technology industry and began to represent Applied Materials. In 2002, he opened and led Applied's first direct office in Washington, D.C. Over the years, he advocated for public policy that would allow high-tech manufacturers like Applied to maintain a strong footprint in the United States while accessing fast-growing overseas markets and reinvesting in the innovation and R&D that would ensure American leadership in technology. The policies he advocated for on behalf of Applied Materials helped it develop into a major U.S. manufacturer and exporter, a world leader in materials engineering solutions and a model Silicon Valley corporate citizen.

Madam Speaker, upon Bill's departure from our nation's capital, he has wisely chosen to spend his retirement in California, returning to the shores of Monterey Bay where he began his career. I congratulate Bill on his retirement, for his service to our country and for his service to Applied Materials where his contributions helped open the world's markets to the innovations of Silicon Valley.

COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF DR. RICHARD H. PEARL

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, today I would like to congratulate Dr. Richard Pearl on his retirement as the OSF Children's Hospital Surgeon-in-Chief.

Dr. Pearl has committed his life to the practice and growth of medicine. He studied at Wright State University College of Medicine, where he was first in his class. After his schooling, Dr. Pearl completed his surgical residency at the Harvard Surgical Service at the New England Deaconess Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts.

In his career, Dr. Pearl has made it his priority to do all that he can for others. He served honorably in the U.S. Army, reaching the rank of Colonel, with a distinguished career spanning nearly thirty. He served his country first as an Infantry Officer and then as a helicopter pilot. He was given command of a helicopter company in the First Cavalry Division in Vietnam. Dr. Pearl has received nu-

merous Military Honors and awards including three Bronze Stars, the Legion of Merit and The Air Medal for Valor. Dr. Pearl has also devoted a great portion of his time to sharing his knowledge and research. He has published over 85 articles in peer-reviewed journals and 22 book chapters.

During his tenure, the medical community has had no better champion than Dr. Pearl. He has always been a fierce advocate for the advancement of Pediatrics. Central Illinois will forever be grateful for Dr. Pearl's years of service.

MARFAN AWARENESS MONTH

HON. THOMAS R. SUOZZI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. SUOZZI. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Americans affected by Marfan syndrome and related connective tissue disorders in observance of February as Marfan Awareness Month.

Marfan syndrome is a rare genetic condition. About 1 in 5,000 Americans carries a mutation in gene called fibrillin which results in an overproduction of a protein called transforming growth factor beta or TGFβ. The increased TGFβ impacts connective tissue and since connective tissue is found throughout the body, Marfan syndrome features can manifest throughout the body. Patients often have disproportionately long limbs, a protruding or indented chest bone, curved spine, and loose joints. However, it is not the outward signs that concern Marfan syndrome patients, but the effects the condition has on internal systems. Most notably, in Marfan patients the large artery, known as the aorta, which carries blood away from the heart is weakened and prone to enlargement and rupture, which can be fatal. It is for this reason that increased awareness of Marfan syndrome can save lives.

I am proud to represent The Marfan Foundation, which is headquartered in Port Washington. The Marfan Foundation is the nation's foremost organization working to raise awareness of Marfan syndrome and supporting the Marfan community. The Marfan Foundation has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of individuals affected by Marfan syndrome and related connective tissue conditions by advancing research, raising awareness, and providing support.

While there is currently no cure for Marfan syndrome, efforts are underway to enhance our understanding of the condition and improve patient care. I applaud the National Institutes of Health, particularly the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute and the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases for their research efforts in this regard. I encourage NIH to expand research efforts in this area.

Early diagnosis and proper treatment are the keys to managing Marfan syndrome and living a full life. I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting a Marfan education and awareness program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. We can facilitate proper treatment by raising awareness leading to early diagnosis. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing February as Marfan Awareness Month.

DANIEL “DANNY” M. BARBER

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. SERRANO. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor Mr. Daniel “Danny” M. Barber for his many years of tireless advocacy to improve the lives of Bronx residents. He is a great example of everyday contributions that African-Americans have made in my district in the Bronx and the Nation.

Mr. Barber was born in 1969 to the late Dan Walker and Janie Barber-Walker and is the youngest of five children. He attended the De Witt Clinton High School and was a member of the football team. He began his love for community work when he joined the ranks of the Salvation Army during his early years and went on to excel as Director and afterward became Assistant to the Commanding Officer.

Mr. Barber currently serves as the President of the Andrew Jackson Houses Resident Association, Inc., and is the Founder of SOY, Inc. (Save Our Youth). Recently, he was elected to serve as the Chair of the City-Wide Council of Presidents, which oversees all of the NYCHA Resident's Associations, and also serves as the Chair of The South Bronx Council of Presidents. While serving in these capacities, he also serves on several other agencies and organizations boards giving technical support and principled guidance.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Daniel M. Barber for his steadfast dedication and years of public service to our NYCHA residents, and for his longstanding commitment to improving our community.

TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, February been dedicated as the National Children's Dental Health Month. This is such an important cause and we are glad to bring awareness to promote good oral health for children. Tooth decay is the number one chronic infectious disease among children in the U.S. The impact of not treating decay can lead to other bad outcomes beyond just oral health. The Congressional Oral Health Caucus is pleased to support National Children's Dental Health Month and any activities taking place throughout the month of February.

Give Kids A Smile, which is sponsored by the ADA Foundation, is at the center of National Children's Dental Health Month. Give Kids a Smile day is such an important event for all children and dentists throughout the country. Because of this program, the ADA Foundation is able to provide assistance to more than 6,000 dentists and 57,000 dental team members, and other volunteers who proudly give their time and effort to make a difference in the health of children. Since this program has started, volunteers have graciously provided services to over 5.5 million kids across the country, and to all 50 states as

well. They have truly made a huge impact in their communities and improved the oral health of so many children.

Throughout National Children's Dental Health Month, dentists and dental team members across the country will be providing oral health services for children in need, and this will continue throughout the year. These services will include oral health education, screenings, preventive care and restorative services. Some will provide this in their own dental practice, others will go right into schools and the community to reach the kids that need it most. There are also many major events at dental hygiene schools where hundreds of kid may receive oral health services.

Continued public awareness on this issue is so critical. On behalf of the Congressional Oral Health Caucus, I would once again like to state our full endorsement for the month, and push for continued care for good oral health of children.

DR. DEREK KING RECEIVES THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO EDUCATION AWARD

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and commitment of Dr. Derek King, who received the Distinguished Service to Education Award from the Victor Valley College Foundation on February 23, 2019.

Dr. King currently holds the position of Assistant Superintendent of Student Services for Excelsior Charter Schools and has long been passionate about education and community service. A proud veteran of the U.S. Army, Dr. King began his teaching career with the Department of Defense Dependent Schools in Babenhausen Germany as part of the Troops to Teachers program. As an educator, Dr. King has served as a Teacher, Principal, Assistant Superintendent, Treasurer for the local Association of California School Administrators, and member of the California State School Attendance and Review Board. Dr. King was also elected to the Victor Valley Union High School District Governing Board, where he held the positions of Trustee, Clerk and Vice President. Dr. King has also been a fixture in our local community, and has held positions on the Victorville Military Affairs Committee, the Victor Valley Community Service Council, and served as Director and Chairman of the Board for the Victor Valley Chamber of Commerce.

I thank Dr. Derek King for his service to our community and country, and his commitment to educating our next generation. With educators like Dr. King, our local students will be well-equipped as they make their way into adulthood.

RECOGNIZING PATIENT ADVOCATE BILL HAHN AND THE MANY SELFLESS AMERICANS WHO WORK ON BEHALF OF THOSE STRUGGLING WITH KIDNEY DISEASE

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, on March 5, 2019, Citizens from across the country will gather in our nation's Capital to help raise awareness about kidney disease and advocate for public policy solutions as part of the National Kidney Foundation's Annual Patient Advocacy Summit. In all my years of service, I have yet to meet more caring and tireless advocates.

Their advocacy is important because of the number of people kidney disease affects—nearly one in three adults are at risk of developing kidney disease. Nearly thirty million Americans have kidney disease and approximately ninety percent don't even know it. It sneaks up on you and that's why raising awareness is a key component to combating this disease and ultimately saving lives.

Sadly, on October 10, 2018, we lost one of our great advocates and champions—our friend Bill Hahn of Rockledge, Florida, passed away. Bill was one of those unspoken heroes who got up every morning and fought to keep going, for himself, and so many other people struggling with kidney disease, recovering from transplant surgery and waiting to receive the special gift of life.

From an early age, Bill believed in physical fitness and leading a very active and healthy life. As a young man he was a male model and later a professional surfer with the famous Salick surf team winning numerous awards. A graduate of Florida State University, he owned and operated a successful health fitness business selling exercise equipment in Melbourne, Florida. Even with his dedication to a daily exercise regiment, at the age of twenty-six, Bill was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes.

Living with Diabetes can be a difficult struggle, even for someone as physically fit as Bill Hahn. Over time the disease began to take a toll on Bill's health as he suffered from many of its complications including blindness, nerve damage and even coma. Unfortunately, Bill suffered renal failure at age fifty-one, but his physical routine never stopped. When Bill was on dialysis, he was walking ten miles a day. And because of his fitness level, he was a good candidate for transplant surgery. On New Year's Eve 2008, Bill received a true gift of life—a new kidney and pancreas.

Since his surgery, Bill dedicated his life to helping patients struggling with kidney disease and other serious medical conditions. In 2012 he joined with surfing legend and fellow transplant recipient Rich Salick and co-founded the annual Cocoa Beach “Footprints in the Sand” Kidney Walk. Katie and I have been involved in the Kidney Walk each year and it continues to grow and draw participation from all over Central Florida thanks in large part to Bill's work and other volunteers from our community.

Bill was a constant advocate for this cause, especially in the last years of his life. And, if you knew Bill Hahn, helping others is what

kept him going. He worked closely with my office on various projects throughout the years and brought to my attention many important pieces of legislation moving through Congress that are critical to winning this battle. In 2017 Bill lead a successful effort to declare May 13th "Living Kidney Donor Day" in the State of Florida. He is also the author of three books including *More Than A Conqueror Legacy*, a spiritual healing guide for patients; *The Silver Lining*, a chronicle of Bill's journey through recovery; and *The Window Box*, a book of poetry.

I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the efforts of Bill Hahn and the many other Americans who have worked tirelessly to raise awareness about kidney disease and advocate for patients in need.

IN RECOGNITION OF PATRICK MORAN, HIBERNIAN OF THE YEAR

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Patrick Moran, who was celebrated as the Hibernian of the Year by the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Monsignor Farrell Division on February 23, 2019. The Monsignor Farrell Division No. 2 Chapter of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and its founders exemplify the core principles of charity, concern for our fellow man, and commitment to educating students about the sacrifices and accomplishments of prior generations.

A Carbondale native, Pat was born on August 31, 1953 to Joseph and Margaret Moran. Pat is a graduate of St. Rose High School, Class of 1971. A veteran of the Navy, Pat worked at Tobyhanna Army Depot after discharge. He then moved to the greater Denver Area where he worked for Continental Air Lines before owning and operating his own business.

Upon his retirement in 2012, Pat returned to Northeast Pennsylvania and became active in several local community organizations. Today, he is a member of the Columbia Hose Co. and the American Legion in Carbondale. Pat's involvement with the AOH began when he joined the organization's Golf League. He became increasingly involved in volunteer efforts by the AOH. He is currently a member of Ring and Shuffleboard leagues, as well as a volunteer bartender every Monday evening and for many Division functions.

It is an honor to recognize Patrick Moran as he is named Hibernian of the Year by the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Monsignor Farrell Division. I thank him for his service to his country in the U.S. Navy and his continued service to our community with the AOH. I congratulate him for receiving such an honor from his fellow brothers in the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

IN HONOR OF ANDREW AND ILLA MARTINEZ

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the memory of Andrew and Ila Martinez of Huntsville, Texas.

Andrew and Ila, beloved parents and lifelong Texans, spent their lives in service to others, and today, we remember all that they stood for. Andrew "Andy" Martinez was born in Galveston, Texas and later became a proud member of the Huntsville community. His multifaceted career path included time spent as a proud small business owner of Martinez Tire and Supply, a construction safety supervisor for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ), and as an ordained minister. A faithful and steadfast Christian, Andy served as the interim pastor of Faith Memorial Baptist Church, and was an active member of several other churches in the Huntsville area.

Andy's faithfulness, generosity, and love for those around him was not only evident on Sundays—it was visible every day of his life. Andy served the Huntsville community in a variety of public roles. He was an elected member of the Huntsville City Council, the Director for Trinity River Authority's Walker County Area, a member of the Board of Trustees for Huntsville ISD, and Chairman of the Republican Party of Walker County. Andy also acted as a Prison Ministry Volunteer in Huntsville—a position he held for over 30 remarkable years. Those who knew Andy will attest to his sincere selflessness. He always worked towards leaving the Huntsville community better than he found it.

Ila Martinez was Andy's wonderful wife of over 63 years and was not only a devoted partner to him, but was a loving mother and active in the community as well. A leading member of the Republican Party of Walker County, Ila was involved in the Red Hat Ladies and the Calendar Girls, a group of friends from Conroe High School that would meet once a month at lunchtime. Ila had a great love for volunteering and was often working with the Walker County Republican women or at her church library. Ila was a doting grandmother and her greatest pleasure was teaching her beloved granddaughters how to sew and bake.

Andy and Ila had two daughters, Andrea Scott and the late Debbie Martinez, and a son, Russell Martinez. Andy and Ila are survived by Andrea and her husband Wayne; their son, Russell; two beautiful grandchildren, Angela Stacks and husband Jared; Mika Spears and her husband Neal; and three great-grandchildren: Draper Stacks, Megan Anthony, and Trent Spears.

The legacy of Andy and Ila will always be a part of the Huntsville community, kept alive in the hearts of those who knew and loved them. Both were selfless servants dedicated to bettering the lives of those around them, and they will be greatly missed.

COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF DR. STEPHEN E. BASH

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, today I would like to congratulate Dr. Stephen Bash on his retirement from the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria.

Born in Indianapolis, Indiana, Dr. Bash decided to dedicate his life to medicine at a young age. He attended Indiana University at Bloomington before receiving his MD from Indiana University Medical School at Indianapolis. After his schooling, Dr. Bash served honorably in the U.S. Navy as a Lieutenant Commander.

In his career, Dr. Bash has made Pediatrics a top priority. In private practice and in public service, Dr. Bash has made a lasting impact at every stop. He has held Directorships at both the Regional Sleep Apnea Center and at the Pediatric Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at the Children's Hospital of Illinois at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria, Illinois. Dr. Bash has also dedicated time to research. He has been a Principal Investigator for two clinical studies and has been the author of many articles. To give back to his community, Dr. Bash has served on the Board of Directors for the Marvin Hult Health Education Center and Heartland Community Health Center.

During his tenure, the medical community has had no better champion than Dr. Bash. He has always been a fierce advocate for the advancement of Pediatrics. Central Illinois will forever be grateful for Dr. Bash's years of service.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE RESTORING THE PARTNERSHIP FOR COUNTY HEALTH CARE COSTS ACT OF 2019

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to restore the partnership between the federal government and counties for the health care costs of inmates who have not been convicted of a crime. This legislation will provide some relief to our nation's local economies, while strengthening the fundamental principles of our justice system.

In almost all states, a person who is incarcerated in a county jail or juvenile detention facility loses their Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP or SSI benefits even if they have not been convicted of a crime. The U.S. Supreme Court's interpretation of the 8th Amendment requires government entities to provide medical care to all inmates. As a result, local governments are burdened with the expense of providing health care to thousands of men, women, and children currently awaiting trial.

Providing health care for inmates constitutes a major portion of local jail operating costs. Requiring county governments to cover health care costs for inmates who have not yet been convicted of a crime places an unnecessary

burden on local governments, which have their fair share of widespread budget deficits and cuts to safety net programs and other essential services to deal with as it is.

Terminating benefits to inmates who are awaiting trial undermines the presumption of innocence, which is a cornerstone principle of our justice system. The current practice does not distinguish between persons who are awaiting disposition of charges and persons who have been duly convicted and sentenced. Moreover, this reality disproportionately affects low-income and minority populations who are often unable to post bond, which would enable them to continue receiving benefits.

Madam Speaker, my legislation addresses this problem by prohibiting the federal government from stripping individuals of their Medicare, Medicaid, and SSI benefits before the inmate has been convicted of a crime. It preserves the partnership between the federal and local governments and ensures that local governments are not burdened with an unfair cost of meeting the constitutional mandate to guarantee medical coverage. I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this commonsense bill that addresses a problem affecting communities all across the nation.

MONICA MAJOR

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. SERRANO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor Ms. Monica Major for her many years of advocacy and public service in the Bronx. She is a great example of the countless contributions that African Americans make to our Nation every day.

Ms. Major previously served as the Bronx Representative on the Panel for Educational Policy of the New York City Department of Education. In addition, she volunteered for Bronx Community School District 11 for several years, and served as President of the District 11 Community Education Council. One of Ms. Major's greatest accomplishments has been serving on the Citywide Parent Commission on School Governance as a parent advocate to ensure that the voices of Bronx parents were heard in addressing school governance issues. She is still committed to addressing quality of education throughout the Bronx.

A tireless and dedicated public servant, Ms. Major currently serves as the Director of Education and Youth Services for Bronx Borough President Rubén Díaz, Jr. She is a graduate of Baruch College and is a certified mediator. Ms. Major is also a member of the National Council of Negro Women, North Bronx Section. She is the mother of two and still remains very active in her community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Ms. Monica Major for her strong commitment to students and for her vigorous advocacy on education issues.

COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF DR. JITENDRA J. SHAH

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, today I would like to congratulate Dr. Jitendra Shah on his retirement from the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria.

Originally from India, Dr. Shah decided to dedicate his life to medicine at a young age. He studied Preparatory Science and Pre-Medicine at Maharaja Sayajirao University in Baroda, India, where he also attended Medical College. After his schooling, Dr. Shah made his way to Philadelphia to complete his residency at Philadelphia General Hospital.

In his career, Dr. Shah has made Pediatrics a top priority. While teaching and in practice, Dr. Shah has made a lasting impact at every stop. He has held Directorships at the Pediatric Cardiac Noninvasive Services, Regional Sleep Apnea Center and Pediatric Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at the Children's Hospital of Illinois at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria, Illinois. Dr. Shah has also dedicated his life to research. He has received approval for four Medical Grants through the American Heart Association. To recognize his ability, in 1986 and 1992 the Pediatric Resident Physicians at St. Francis Medical Center and University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria presented Dr. Shah with awards for his impressive teaching methods.

During his tenure, the medical community has had no better champion than Dr. Shah. He has always been a fierce advocate for the advancement of Pediatrics. Central Illinois will forever be grateful for Dr. Shah's years of service.

ROGER WAGNER RECEIVES THE PRESIDENTS' AWARD

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and commitment of Roger Wagner, who received the Presidents' Award from the Victor Valley College Foundation on February 23, 2019.

Roger served as the Victor Valley College Superintendent and President for over four years and officially retired at the end of 2018. Prior to his retirement, he was instrumental in Victor Valley College receiving full accreditation from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges. Roger has a passion for education and understands the importance of the college providing local students with an affordable and high quality education. Roger was responsible for a number of successes for the college, including hosting the 2017 Youth Poverty Symposium, opening the Automotive and Welding Facility, and developing new programs including Industrial Maintenance and Manufacturing programs. He is married to his wife Stacy and together they have two children.

Before my career in politics, I had the privilege of working with Roger at Copper Moun-

tain College in the Morongo Basin. I can say from experience that Roger is an incredibly intelligent and hard-working individual with a true passion for education, and I can guarantee that he will be sorely missed at Victor Valley College. I congratulate Roger on receiving this award, and wish him all the best as he heads into retirement.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JUDGE RUSSELL B. SUGARMON, JR.

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Russell B. Sugarmon—a great American jurist, Civil Rights leader, political pioneer and elder statesman from my hometown of Memphis, Tennessee. Judge Sugarmon died Monday after a long illness at the age of 89 but will be remembered forever as a crusading legal scholar who worked to end segregation in the Memphis public schools and for being a political genius who helped behind the scenes to elect the African American and progressive candidates who reshaped Memphis. In 1959, Sugarmon was one of the first African Americans to run for city-wide office when he sought to be commissioner for public works. In 1966, he was elected to become Tennessee's second African American state representative since Reconstruction and was later elected a General Sessions Court judge after serving as a partner in Memphis' and Tennessee's first integrated law firm—Ratner, Sugarmon, Lucas and Willis. Other legendary attorneys such as Bill Caldwell, Irvin Salky, Troy Henderson, Walter Bailey, Jr., Russell X. Thompson and Tom Arnold hung their hats and licenses there. From 1976 to 1987, Judge Sugarmon was a referee in the Memphis Juvenile Court system, stepping down in May 1987 when he was appointed a General Sessions Court Judge. He was elected to the bench in 1988 and was re-elected in 1990 and 1998. Russell Bertram Sugarmon, Jr. graduated from the city's Booker T. Washington High School in 1946 at the age of 15. Sugarmon spent a year at Morehouse College—in the class a year behind Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.—and transferred to Rutgers University, where he received his undergraduate degree in Political Science in 1950. He received his J.D. from Harvard University in 1953 and spent the following two years in the U.S. Army based mainly in Japan. After returning to the United States, he did further graduate studies at Boston University, then came back to Memphis in 1956 to establish a private legal practice. Judge Sugarmon worked tirelessly even when victory wasn't in the cards and kept the faith, knowing that it would come in time. He was one of the most learned strategists on politics and history in our community, avoiding the limelight but holding sway as the influential wise man behind the scenes in collaboration with a biracial and tolerant group of progressive leaders. Judge Sugarmon was a mentor, supporter and friend of mine my entire life and I am eternally grateful to have been so fortunate to have shared time with this remarkably knowledgeable, judicious and beloved man. Last year, Congress

passed and the President signed into law my bill designating the post office at 1325 Autumn Avenue as the Russell B. Sugarmon Post Office. I had hoped Judge Sugarmon would be on hand for its dedication later this year but its existence will stand as a lasting physical monument to his stature in our city, in our state and in our nation. No one is more deserving. Supporting Russell Sugarmon's great work and providing encouragement and strength was the Sugarmon family. Russell was a beloved husband and father of six children, sadly preceded in death by his dear daughter Tina Spence. I extend my sincere condolences to his devoted wife and companion, Gina; his children Judge Tarik Sugarmon, Elena Williams, Erika Sugarmon, Monique Sugarmon and Carol Spence; his extended family and his many friends.

JUSTICE ELIZABETH TAYLOR

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. SERRANO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Justice Elizabeth Audrey Taylor for her many years of compassionate service and tireless work to improve the lives of our Bronx residents. Justice Taylor is a great example of the countless contributions that African Americans make every day to the Bronx and our Nation.

Justice Taylor was born and raised in the Highbridge Section of the Bronx and is a product of the public school system. She received a Bachelor of Arts in English from Binghamton University and her Juris Doctor from Ohio Northern University School of Law. She began her career as a legislative aide in the New York City Council and then went to work in private practice, where she specialized in landlord and tenant issues. Thereafter, Justice Taylor returned to the public sector as the Senior Court Attorney to Justice Edgar G. Walker, who at the time was serving in the Bronx Criminal Court. Until 2008, she continued her commitment to public service by serving as Principal Law Clerk to New York Supreme Court Justice Kenneth L. Thompson, Jr., who is currently serving in the Civil Term of Bronx County Supreme Court.

In addition, Justice Taylor was recently elected Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York. She was first elected in 2008 to the Civil Court of the City of New York and has been honored as Judge of the Year by the Bronx County Bar Association and the Bronx Advocates for Justice.

Justice Taylor is also a member of the Military Academy Review Committee for the 15th Congressional district. She has been a member of this committee since 2014 and has been instrumental in helping our office make military academy recommendations since then. This has allowed numerous students from the 15th Congressional District to attend these prestigious schools with full scholarships.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues join me in honoring Justice Elizabeth Audrey Taylor for her consistently remarkable dedication to the law and commitment to serving her community.

REMEMBERING THE KHOJALY TRAGEDY

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join with the Republic of Azerbaijan in its commemoration of the Khojaly Tragedy, also known as the Khojaly Massacre.

I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the town and people of Khojaly who died on those fateful days and in offering our deepest condolences to Azerbaijan on this tragic anniversary.

In doing so, we remember the 613 Azerbaijani men, women, and children killed in Khojaly on February 25 and 26, 1992. The Government of Azerbaijan continues to act as a valuable partner of the United States and serves as a bulwark against America's adversaries in the region. We solemnly remember this anniversary and honor the lives lost.

ASSISTANT SHERIFF LANA TOMLIN RECEIVES THE ALUMNI HALL OF FAME AWARD

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and commitment of Assistant Sheriff Lana Tomlin, who received the Alumni Hall of Fame Award from the Victor Valley College foundation on February 23, 2019.

Assistant Sheriff Tomlin is a dedicated public servant who has worked for the San Bernardino County Sheriffs Department for over twenty-nine years. Soon after her graduation from the San Bernardino County Sheriffs Department Training Academy, Assistant Sheriff Tomlin was assigned to the Barstow Station as a patrol deputy where she quickly excelled in her duties while simultaneously attending Victor Valley College. She is the first woman in the history of San Bernardino County to be appointed to Assistant Sheriff and oversees several departments and operations. Locally, Assistant Sheriff Tomlin has served multiple assignments at different High Desert stations, including serving as Captain of the Apple Valley Sheriffs Station. She has also volunteered throughout the community, from coaching the women's basketball team at Victor Valley College to giving back to our next generation through the Police Activities League program.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I would like to congratulate Assistant Sheriff Lana Tomlin on this award. Lana is an exemplary law enforcement officer and community leader. I thank her for her years of dedication and service to the people of San Bernardino County.

TRIBUTE TO THE 2018 ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2018 recipients of the prestigious Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

Presented annually, the Ellis Island Medals of Honor pay tribute to our Nation's immigrant heritage, as well as individual achievement. The Medals are awarded to U.S. citizens from diverse ethnic backgrounds who exemplify outstanding qualities in both their personal and professional lives, while continuing to preserve the richness of their particular heritage and culture. We honor these outstanding individuals because the important work they do today, creates a better world for all of us tomorrow. This momentous occasion was celebrated with a patriotic ceremony on Ellis Island and a recommitment by the leaders of the organization to their mission of honoring diversity, fostering tolerance and promoting religious and racial unity across America.

Since the Medals' founding, more than 2,500 American citizens have received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, including seven American Presidents, numerous United States Senators and Congressmen, two Nobel Laureates, and many athletes, artists, clergy, and military leaders. This Medal is not about material success, nor is it about the politics of immigration; it is about the people who have committed themselves to this nation, embraced the opportunities America offers, and most importantly, who have used those opportunities to not only better their own lives but make a difference in our country and in the lives of its people.

Citizens of the United States hail from every nation known to man. The iconic metaphor of this nation as a veritable melting pot of cultures continues to ring true, and it is this diversity that adds to the unique richness of American life. It is the key to why America is the most innovative, progressive and forward thinking country in the world. The Ellis Island Medals of Honor not only celebrate select individuals but also the pluralism and democracy that enabled our forbearers to celebrate their cultural identities while still embracing the American way of life. This award serves to remind us all that with hard work and perseverance anyone can still achieve the American dream. In addition, by honoring these remarkable Americans, we honor all who share their origins and we acknowledge the contributions they have made to America. I commend National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations and its Board of Directors headed by Nasser J. Kazeminy, for honoring these truly outstanding individuals for their tireless efforts to foster dialogue and build bridges between different ethnic groups, as well as to promote unity and a sense of common purpose in our nation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the good works of NECO and in congratulating all of the 2018 recipients of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. I include in the RECORD the names of this year's recipients.

2018 ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

Ziauddin Ahmed, MD, Nancy Anschutz, Phil Anschutz, Dr. Bahman Atefi, Maryam

Banikarim, Michael Barnard, Marta Batmasian, Diana L. Bennett, Nicolas Berggruen, John P. Bilezikian, MD, Lieutenant General Gwen Bingham, Dr. Ed Bosarge, Vanu C. Bose, Denis A. Bovin, Kay Buck, Sanford R. Climan, William A. Colon, Armand C. Dellovade, Peter P. Dhillon, Robert Dilenschneider, General Larry R. Ellis, USA (Ret), Akram Elias, Adam S. Falkoff, Farnaz Fassihi, David S. Ferriero, Captain Liam J. Flaherty, Honorable Albert A. Frink, Honorable Edward M. Gabriel, Larry Gagosian, Professor Henry Louis Gates, Major General Cedric George, Charles M. Ghailian, Barbara Grapstein, Murat Guzel, Rosemary Hanley, Franco Harris, Dottie Herman, Dave A. Isay, John W. Jackson, Susan G. Jackson, Naveen Jain, Francisco S. Jin, Dean Kamen, Farooq Kathwari, Bibiji Inderjit Kaur Khalsa, James K. Kim, General Joseph Lengyel, Sheriff Joseph M. Lombardo, Jacob Lozada, PhD, Mun Y. Lum, Colonel Patrick Mahaney, USA, Commissioner Robert Manfred, Honorable Michael McCaul, Scott L. Menke, Rita Moreno, Chief Terence A. Monahan, Jeanne D. Mrozek, MD, Angella Nazarian, David Nazarian, Steven D. Nerayoff, Esq., Hadi Partovi, Rear Admiral Steven D. Poulin, Eduardo Rodriguez, Michael Rogers, USN, Jerrold F. Rosenbaum, MD, Albeti I. Salama, Qiongzhaio E. Schicktan, PhD, Jeff Schottenstein, Khosrow Semnani, Vicken P. Sepilian, MD, FACOG, Sir Bruno Serato, Rahmat A. Shoureshi, PhD, Mark Solazzo, Jeffrey Sonnenfeld, Shari Staglin, Garen Staglin, Philip E. Stieg, PhD, MD, Richard W. Stocks, Daniele C. Struppa, PhD, Jon Stryker, Dennis W. Sullivan, Ardeshir Tavangarian, Dr. Masoud Tayebi, Anthony K. Tjan, Major General Hugh Van Roosen, Marica F. Vilcek, Jan T. Vilcek, Josef H. von Rickenbach, Vincent Wang, DO, MD, Arieh Warshel, PhD, Honorable James W. Zigar, Anita G. Zucker.

INTERNATIONAL ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR
RECIPIENTS

Stefan W. Hell, Hinduja Foundation, Albert II Prince of Monaco.

BENJAMIN B. TUCKER

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. SERRANO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor First Deputy Commissioner Benjamin B. Tucker of the New York Police Department for his years of public service and tireless work to improve the lives of our community and our city. He is a great example of the countless contributions that African Americans make every day to the Bronx and our Nation.

First Deputy Commissioner Tucker began his career with the New York City Police Department (NYPD) in 1969 as a Police Trainee. In this role, he conducted an innovative school-based drug prevention education program. He became a Police Officer in 1972 and was promoted to Sergeant in 1987. During his 22 years of service with the NYPD, Mr. Tucker performed patrol, school task force, anti-crime, and community affairs assignments. In addition, he served as a Police Academy instructor, legal advisor in the Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Legal Matters; and as the Assistant Director of the Civilian Complaint Review Board.

In 1995, President William Jefferson Clinton appointed Mr. Tucker as the Deputy Director for Operations in the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services at the U.S. Department of Justice. In 2009, Mr. Tucker was nominated by President Barack H. Obama, and confirmed by the United States Senate, as the Deputy Director for State, Local and Tribal Affairs within the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy.

His unique experiences in law enforcement, public service, and academia led in 2014 to Mr. Tucker's appointment as Deputy Commissioner for Training during NYPD Commissioner William J. Bratton's tenure. Proving to be a valued member of the executive staff, Mr. Tucker was promoted to First Deputy Commissioner and entrusted to direct design and implement a broad range of policy, programs, and training to strengthen community relations and improve the performance of the Department.

First Deputy Commissioner Tucker holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, a Juris Doctor from Fordham University School of Law, and is a tenured professor at Pace University.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring First Deputy Commissioner Benjamin B. Tucker for his distinguished public service and extensive contributions in ensuring the safety and well-being of the residents of New York City.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. KINZINGER. Madam Speaker, due to my Air National Guard unit being mobilized to assist operations on the southern border, I was unable to be present and cast votes during the week of February 11. Had I been present, I would have voted: "yea" on Roll Call No. 76; "yea" on Roll Call No. 77; "nay" on Roll Call No. 78; "nay" on Roll Call No. 79; "yea" on Roll Call No. 80; "yea" on Roll Call No. 81; "yea" on Roll Call No. 82; "nay" on Roll Call No. 83; "yea" on Roll Call No. 84; "nay" on Roll Call No. 85; "nay" on Roll Call No. 86; and "yea" on Roll Call No. 87.

CONGRATULATING MAUREEN
MCFADDEN ON HER RETIREMENT
AFTER 40 YEARS AT WNDU-TV

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maureen McFadden and congratulate her on a remarkable 40-year career at WNDU-TV. I want to take a moment to honor the iconic legacy Maureen is leaving behind at WNDU-TV and thank her for all she has done for Michiana communities.

A lifelong Hoosier, Maureen has been a fixture in South Bend as a reporter and anchor at WNDU Newscenter 16 for the past four decades. She has played a vital role in mak-

ing northern Indiana stronger, not only by bringing us the day's news but by always finding ways to serve her neighbors and give back to the community she loves to call home.

Generations of viewers have gotten to know Maureen as she delivers the local news each night. Her career in journalism began in her hometown of South Bend, and though she will soon anchor her last WNDU-TV newscast, her retirement is far from the end of her positive impact. She displays a strong sense of affection and pride for our community when sharing the stories of our fellow Hoosiers. Her steadfast commitment to shining a light on important issues, encouraging community service, and keeping Hoosiers informed and engaged is why Maureen has become such a beloved household name.

I am grateful to Maureen not only for her excellence in journalism, but also for the incredible example she has set for aspiring journalists and young Hoosier women looking to give back and build a brighter future.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the exceptional character, leadership, and compassion Maureen has demonstrated both on and off the air. I wish Mo the very best.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SAVING AMERICA'S POLLINATORS ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, the peer-reviewed journal Biological Conservation recently published a scientific analysis that paints a terrifying picture for the future of insects and our planet. This analysis concluded that largely because of intensive agriculture, and specifically heavy use of pesticides, over 40 percent of insect species are threatened with extinction. Furthermore, this analysis found that around 41 percent of all insect species have seen their populations decline over the last 10 years, and that 3.5 million of the United States honeybee colonies have been lost since 1947.

These alarming statistics foretell a catastrophic collapse of nature's ecosystems. Already we are seeing the impacts of the climate crisis wreak havoc on our natural world, public health and, importantly, our food system. Pollinators and other insects are vital to our economy and our livelihoods. One of every three bites of food we eat is from a crop pollinated by bees. This analysis is a call to action to do all we can to protect these valuable insects, particularly in the face of climate change.

That's why today I am introducing the Saving America's Pollinators Act. This legislation will suspend the use of certain insecticides until they are thoroughly assessed and determined to be safe for pollinators. Furthermore, it establishes a monitoring network for native bees, and clarifies the emergency exemption powers that this Administration is afforded under current law.

This law is much needed, and my hope is that with this new and alarming information, Congress can finally act to adequately protect our future food supply and agricultural and ecological health before it's too late.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR.
JAMES (JIM) LEON STALLINGS

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. James (Jim) Leon Stallings of Selma, Alabama.

Mr. Stallings was beloved by his community and went out of his way to improve the lives of others. Sadly, Mr. Stallings passed away on Friday, February 15, 2019 at the age of 83.

As a child, Mr. Stallings attended Nash County Training School in Nashville, North Carolina where he stood out as an excellent basketball player and athlete.

After graduating from high school, he attended Allen University in Columbia, South Carolina, where he met the love of his life, Bettye Bonner.

Mr. Stallings was drawn to a life of service from a young age. He was involved early in life at his church, Mount Vernon Missionary Baptist and, upon graduating from college, enrolled in the United States Army.

Later, Mr. Stallings continued to give back to his community by helping develop the next generation of Alabamians, working as a teacher in the Wilcox County School System at W. J. Jones High School, in Pine Apple, Alabama, and a teacher and basketball coach in the Dallas County Schools System at Tipton High School, in Selma, Alabama.

After many years of service in the Alabama public schools, Mr. Stallings transitioned to a role with the City of Selma, dedicating 27 years as the first African American Director of General Services. In that role, Mr. Stallings opened doors of opportunity for many young men and women to prosper.

One of Mr. Stallings' passions was DJing at WHBB Radio in Selma where he was fondly known as "Big Jim." He quickly became known for gracing the airwaves with a variety of musical genres, including spiritual, soft rock and R&B music on his shows, "The Spiritual Hour" and the "Jim Stallings Show." Mr. Stallings' music selections helped heal community divisions in the 1960s and laid the pathway for other aspiring African American DJs to enter the local radio scene.

Mr. Stallings' hobbies did not stop at the radio station, though. He was an honorary member of the Twelve High Club; a member of the Alabama Elks Lodge No. 1170 where he served for several years as the Exalted Ruler; an original member of the Tuesday Night Group; Director of the local Beauty and Talent; and the Alabama State Association of Elks; lead singer for Terry and the Fantastics; and a football announcer for the City of Selma and the Dallas County School systems.

While Mr. Stallings has passed from this life to the next, his legacy lives on in his devoted children, Anthony and Bonnie, his five grandchildren and many grand nieces and nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional district and a grateful nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Mr. Stallings' contributions to bettering the Selma community and our nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAHANA HAYES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2019

Mrs. HAYES. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present for votes on February 11th due to unavoidable travel delays.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 76, and YEA on Roll Call No. 77.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, February 26, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 27

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine policy principles for a Federal data privacy framework in the United States.

SH-216

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine S. 383, to support carbon dioxide utilization and direct air capture research, to facilitate the permitting and development of carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration projects and carbon dioxide pipelines.

SD-406

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of The American Legion.

SD-G50

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine assessing the role of the United States in the world.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity

To receive a closed briefing on Department of Defense cyber operations.

SVC-217

Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Personnel

To hold an oversight hearing to examine military personnel policies and military family readiness.

SR-222

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine the Budget Control Act, focusing on a review of cap-adjusted spending.

SD-608

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine protecting the electric grid from an electromagnetic pulse or geomagnetic disturbance.

SD-106

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the 45th anniversary of the Native American Programs Act and the establishment of the Administration for Native Americans.

SD-628

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine the future of American industry.

SR-428A

FEBRUARY 28

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine implementing the Agriculture Improvement Act.

SR-328A

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine nuclear policy and posture.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine addressing the opioid epidemic in America, focusing on prevention, treatment, and recovery at the state and local level.

SD-124

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine legislative proposals on capital formation and corporate governance.

SD-538

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine prospects for global energy markets, focusing on the role of the United States and perspectives from the International Energy Agency.

SD-366

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

To hold hearings to examine China's impact on the United States education system.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Neomi J. Rao, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Joseph F. Bianco, of New York, and Michael H. Park, of New York, both to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Greg Girard Guidry, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana, Michael T. Liburdi, to be United States District Judge for the

District of Arizona, Peter D. Welte, to be United States District Judge for the District of North Dakota, Aditya Bamzai, of Virginia, and Travis LeBlanc, of Maryland, both to be a Member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, and Drew H. Wrigley, to be United States Attorney for the District of North Dakota, Department of Justice.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence
To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

MARCH 5

10 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works
Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety

To hold hearings to examine states' role in protecting air quality, focusing on principles of cooperative federalism.

SD-406

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine vaccines, focusing on preventable disease outbreaks.

SD-430

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights

To hold hearings to examine concentration and competition in the United States economy.

SD-226

MARCH 6

10 a.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs
To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

SD-G50

MARCH 7

2 p.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs
To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to ex-

amine the legislative presentation of multiple veterans service organizations.

SD-G50

MARCH 12

10 a.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs
To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of multiple veterans service organizations.

SD-G50

MARCH 14

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and other emerging health threats.

SD-124