

to team work. I am thankful for Charlotte's time on my staff, and I am grateful to call her a dear friend.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to join Charlotte's colleagues, family, and friends in honoring her successful career serving Alabama's Second District. I wish her all the best in all her future endeavors. Congratulations, Charlotte.

RECOGNIZING CLARK COUNTY'S BICENTENNIAL

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, Illinois' Clark County was formed in 1819 out of Crawford County. At the time of its formation, Clark County included about a third of Illinois and extended as far north as the present state of Wisconsin. Clark County was so large that it gave birth to many of its sister counties: Pike County and Fayette County in 1821, Edgar County two years later, and Coles County in 1830.

Clark County enjoys an illustrious history. The county was named for George Rogers Clark, the older brother of William Clark of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. George Rogers Clark was an officer of the army of Virginia that captured the Northwest Territory from the British during the Revolutionary War.

Clark County's first courthouse was a log house located in Aurora, and the county seat was in Darwin Township, but by popular vote Marshall was designated the new seat in 1839. In the late 1800s, county leaders believed they were outgrowing their latest building, so a fourth courthouse was built in 1887. The current courthouse, which is the county's fifth, has been in place since 1903.

The people of Clark County have planned many festivities to celebrate their bicentennial this year. The celebration began on January 9th with Clark County Trivia Night, and commemorative activities will extend to October. I am honored to be a part of that celebration.

Madam Speaker, I ask that we pay tribute to those hearty people who first settled in Clark County, and to the pioneering spirit that lives today in all its citizens. I stand today to salute Clark County on its 200th anniversary and to wish it the very best in the future.

ABBIGAIL KING

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Abigail King for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Abigail King is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Abigail King is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels

strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Abigail King for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIONS CLUB OF MONTCLAIR, VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I am honored to use this time to recognize the Lions Club of Montclair, Virginia. The club will celebrate their forty-first year anniversary in June 2019. The Montclair Lions club was founded in 1979 at the Montclair Country Club and elected their first president, Mr. Ron Milam, soon thereafter. As part of the June 2019 celebration, the one remaining active charter member, Mr. Terry Tallent, will be assuming the role as the club's 41st President.

Over the past forty-years, the club has raised upwards of a half million dollars and provided hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours in support of various charitable organizations and community service projects within the First District. The Montclair Lions Club has supported the Old Dominion Eye Bank, training of leader dogs for the blind, high school scholarships, Action in Community Trough Service (ACTS), Boys and Girls Club of Prince William County, little league baseball teams, the Boy Scouts of America, Special Olympics and many more.

The men and women of the Lions Club of Montclair exemplify the best of the spirit of the First District. Their lives of patriotism, service, and selflessness stand as an example to the ideals founded in the Lions Clubs motto "We Serve." Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing this momentous occasion for the Lions Club of Montclair and to wish them the brightest future.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT AND BLACK EUROPEANS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution with my good friends and colleagues, Representatives GREGORY MEEKS of New York, GWEN MOORE of Wisconsin, and JOHN LEWIS of Georgia, which recognizes People of African Descent and Black Europeans.

Our resolution would observe the history and current situation of People of African Descent living in Europe and Black Europeans during the United Nations designated International Decade for People of African Descent. It also encourages the U.S. Secretary of State to take a number of steps to ensure

their situation is improved following recommendations from last year's People of African Descent Week (PADWEEK) held by our colleagues in the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium May 13–17, 2018.

As it was quite rightly put by European Parliamentarian Cecile Kyenge, "The People of African Descent Week reaffirms European values by developing strategic and coherent responses to make our society more inclusive in the face of rising racial prejudice and violence across Europe." Recommendations from the week included a European Black History Month and Remembrance Day for Victims of Colonialism and Enslavement; a fund for Black European led initiatives to address continuing disparities and discrimination and support for empowerment initiatives; European-wide strategies for the inclusion of People of African Descent; and support for transatlantic exchanges on common issues of racial prejudice and discrimination.

The need for recognition of Black populations in Europe became clear ten years ago when I chaired a U.S. Helsinki Commission hearing entitled, The State of (In)visible Black Europe: Race, Rights, and Politics, where we learned that the situation in Europe is very similar to the one in the United States. While the presence of Blacks in Europe can be traced to enslavement, colonization, military deployments, voluntary or forced migration, the movement of refugees and asylum seekers, or educational and other professional exchanges, the story of Europeans of African Descent and Black Europeans still remains largely untold, rendering many of their past and present contributions to the very fabric of Europe unseen or forgotten, which is unacceptable.

Madam Speaker, it is my hope that when we gather in the years to come to review the efforts of the United Nations designated International Decade for People of African Descent, we will not only speak of how our efforts resulted in our respective nations publicly recognizing the injustices and long-term impact of slavery and colonialism, but also of how our societies reconciled these issues in a manner that ensured equal opportunity, access, and justice for all people of African descent.

SADIE KRAMER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sadie Kramer for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Sadie Kramer is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sadie Kramer is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sadie Kramer for winning the Arvada Wheat