

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MR. ANTONIO "TONY"
FRIAS

HON. LORI TRAHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mrs. TRAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Antonio "Tony" Frias of Hudson, Massachusetts who is turning 80 years old on Saturday, April 6, 2019. Tony dedicated his life to his community and business, as the co-founder of S&F Concrete Contractors, Inc. Tony has lived his life admirably, and his legacy of hard work and public service continues to inspire many in our community.

Tony Frias was born in Santa Maria Island, Azores and left school after the 4th grade to immigrate to the United States in 1955 with the earnest pursuit to create a better future. Before becoming involved in construction, Tony challenged himself in various positions, building skills, determination, and exploring interests to cultivate. After seven years of working in the concrete construction industry, Tony and his brother Joseph joined forces with Jack Santos to establish S&F Concrete Contractors, Inc. Today, he continues his work with over 50 years of construction experience at the forefront of the company.

Tony's lifetime commitment to our community and his work at S&F Concrete Contractors has been invaluable to Massachusetts. I am proud to rise in honor of Tony's 80th birthday and look forward to his continuing to inspire others in our community.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Mr. Antonio Frias today.

RECOGNIZING THE 70TH
ANNIVERSARY OF NATO

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 70th Anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

NATO emerged out of the ashes of World War II and has been the cornerstone of our security across the Atlantic and around the world. It has also been an important building block for our relationships with transatlantic partners.

NATO remains the most important and critical security link between the United States and Europe. NATO has been an important way for the United States to demonstrate a strong commitment to the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and democratic development of the countries that have emerged from the former Soviet Union, including Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, Georgia, Ukraine, and Moldova. NATO allies and partners in both Central and Eastern Europe have stood alongside the United States in joint

peace operations in the Western Balkans, Afghanistan, Iraq, and elsewhere.

NATO stood with the United States in one of the darkest days of our history when we were attacked on 9/11. When the United States invoked Article 5, the first time done so by a country in the history of the Alliance, NATO joined our fight and are still engaged in Afghanistan to this day.

Last year, I was proud to introduce and see the House of Representatives pass H. Res. 256, a resolution expressing support for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. The House of Representatives sent a strong message that no matter what President Trump says during the NATO Summit in Brussels, Congress strongly supports our treaty allies and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of our friends in Central and Eastern Europe.

We will continue to work to counter Russian aggression in Europe including the occupation of Georgian territory, the annexation of Crimea, continued violations of Baltic airspace and threats to Moldovan territorial integrity and sovereignty.

We will stand by our allies, as they have stood by us.

DYLANN ADAMS CHAVEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

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

Dyllann Adams Chavez is a student at North Arvada Middle High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Dyllann Adams Chavez 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 Dyllann Adams Chavez 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.

THE 51ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE
ASSASSINATION OF THE REV.
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, today, April 4, 2019, marks the 51st anniversary

of one of the darkest and most sorrowful days in American history, the assassination in Memphis, Tennessee of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.

The mortal life of one of the towering figures of the 20th century may have been cut short on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel a half century ago, but the spirit that animated that life and inspired a nation lives on and reminds us that nothing is impossible when we are guided by the better angels of our nature.

In remembering the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we commemorate a man of action, who put his life on the line for freedom and justice every day.

We honor the courage of a man who endured harassment, threats and beatings, and even bombings.

We celebrate the man who went to jail 29 times to achieve freedom for others, and who knew he would pay the ultimate price for his leadership, but kept on marching and protesting and organizing anyway.

Dr. King once said that we all have to decide whether we "will walk in the light of creative altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness."

"Life's most persistent and nagging question," he said, is "what are you doing for others?"

And when Dr. King talked about the end of his mortal life in one of his last sermons, on February 4, 1968 in the pulpit of Ebenezer Baptist Church, even then he lifted up the value of service as the hallmark of a full life:

"I'd like somebody to mention on that day Martin Luther King, Jr. tried to give his life serving others," he said. "I want you to say on that day, that I did try in my life . . . to love and serve humanity."

We should also remember that the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was, above all, a person who was always willing to speak truth to power.

There is perhaps no better example of Dr. King's moral integrity and consistency than his criticism of the Vietnam War being waged by the Johnson Administration, an administration that was otherwise a friend and champion of civil and human rights.

Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in Atlanta, Georgia on January 15, 1929.

Martin's youth was spent in our country's Deep South, then run by Jim Crow and the Ku Klux Klan.

For young African-Americans, it was an environment even more dangerous than the one they face today.

A young Martin managed to find a dream, one that he pieced together from his readings—in the Bible, and literature, and just about any other book he could get his hands on.

Not only did those books help him educate himself, but they also allowed him to work through the destructive and traumatic experiences of blatant discrimination, and the discriminatory abuse inflicted on himself, his family, and his people.

As a youngster, Dr. King learned to use his imagination and his dreams to see right

• 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.

through those “White Only” signs—to see the reality that all men, and women, regardless of their place of origin, their gender, or their creed, are created equal.

Dr. King was a dreamer and through dreams he was able to lift his mind beyond the reality of his segregated society to a beloved place where it was possible that white and black, red and brown, and all others live, work, and prosper together in harmony.

But the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was not an idle daydreamer.

He shared his visions through speeches that motivated others to join in his nonviolent effort to lift themselves from poverty and isolation by creating a new America where equal justice and institutions were facts of life.

In the Declaration of Independence in 1776, Thomas Jefferson wrote, “We hold these truths to be self evident, that all Men are Created Equal.”

At that time and for centuries to come, African-Americans were historically, culturally, and legally excluded from inclusion in that declaration.

Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King’s “I Have a Dream” Speech, delivered 54 years ago, on August 28, 1963, was a clarion call to each citizen of this great nation that we still hear today.

His request was simply and eloquently conveyed—he asked America to allow of its citizens to live out the words written in its Declaration of Independence and to have a place in this nation’s Bill of Rights.

The 1960s were a time of great crisis and conflict.

It was the decade of the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Vietnam War, and the assassinations of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Malcolm X, Presidential Candidate Robert Kennedy, and the man we honor here today.

The dream expressed and shared by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. helped win major victories in the battle for civil rights.

It started when Dr. King led the Montgomery Bus Boycott, with Rosa Parks and others, which lasted for 381 days, and ended when the United States Supreme Court outlawed racial segregation on all public transportation.

But the dream did not die there.

It continued with a peaceful march for suffrage that started in Selma, Alabama on March 7, 1965, a day that was immediately known and will always be remembered as “Bloody Sunday,” when a peaceful march for voting rights ended in bloodshed and violence at the hands of law enforcement officers as the marchers crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

When the life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King was stolen from us, he was a very young 39 years old.

People remember that Dr. King died in Memphis, but few can remember why he was there.

On that fateful day in 1968 Dr. King came to Memphis to support a strike by the city’s sanitation workers.

The garbage men there had recently formed a chapter of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees to demand better wages and working conditions.

But the city refused to recognize their union, and when the 1,300 employees walked off their jobs the police broke up the rally with mace and Billy clubs.

It was then that union leaders invited Dr. King to Memphis.

Despite the danger he might face entering such a volatile situation, it was an invitation he could not refuse.

Not because he longed for danger, but because the labor movement was intertwined with the civil rights movement for which he had given up so many years of his life.

The death of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will never overshadow his life.

That is his legacy as a dreamer and a man of action.

It is a legacy of hope, tempered with peace. It is a legacy not quite yet fulfilled.

I hope that Dr. King’s vision of equality under the law is never lost to us, because without that vision—without that dream—we can never continue to improve the human condition.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. understood that a life well lived, and all of the noblest virtues—courage, wisdom, grace, love—were rooted in service to others.

And he memorably expressed this idea in his last sermon, the one given at Mason Temple in Memphis on April 3, 1968, the evening before he was felled by an assassin:

But then the Good Samaritan came by. And he reversed the question: “If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?”

That’s the question before you tonight. Not, “If I stop to help the sanitation workers, what will happen to my job. Not, “If I stop to help the sanitation workers what will happen to all of the hours that I usually spend in my office every day and every week as a pastor?” The question is not, “If I stop to help this man in need, what will happen to me?” The question is, “If I do not stop to help the sanitation workers, what will happen to them?” That’s the question.

Let us rise up tonight with a greater readiness. Let us stand with a greater determination. And let us move on in these powerful days, these days of challenge to make America what it ought to be. We have an opportunity to make America a better nation. And I want to thank God, once more, for allowing me to be here with you.

So in these difficult days of challenge, let us remember and take inspiration from the remarkable, extraordinary, and consequential life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and move forward together, with greater readiness and determination, to make America a place where all of her people enjoy the blessings of justice, equality, and human dignity.

Let us, the living, continue that struggle today and forever, in the incandescent spirit of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

RECOGNIZING JUSTIN DOWNS OF MOLT

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Justin Downs of Molt for rescuing a severely injured man amid harsh winter conditions.

A rancher from northwest of Billings, Justin is a volunteer firefighter with the Broadview Fire Department. On a day in early March with challenging winter weather, he was called upon to aid a man injured in a ranching accident. The man was immobile, and because of

snow-drifted roads and fields, emergency vehicles were unable to reach him.

As he has done countless times before, Justin responded to the call. Using his farm tractor, he and a medic began crossing the fields of deep snow about two miles from where conditions had forced emergency vehicles to stop.

Upon arrival, the medic provided initial treatment for the man’s injuries. Justin and the medic then loaded the man into the cab of Justin’s tractor. Justin drove through the snow-covered fields to the rescue vehicles where he left the man with emergency personnel. He then crossed the fields again to get the medic, who had stayed behind because of limited space in the tractor’s cab.

“I know people would help me out if I needed it. We just do what needs to be done when it needs to be done,” Justin said.

Winters in Montana can be harsh and produce dangerous conditions, especially in rural areas where travel can be disrupted for days. It’s encouraging to know neighbors stand ready to lend a hand in times of need.

Madam Speaker, for his selfless service to his community and for coming to the aid of an injured rancher without hesitation and amid hostile winter conditions, I recognize Justin Downs for his spirit of Montana.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE WYOMING SEMINARY FIELD HOCKEY TEAM, 2018 PIAA STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Wyoming Seminary Field Hockey team on winning their state championship in Pennsylvania. The Blue Knights were named the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association’s Class 1A Field Hockey State Champions on November 17, 2018, after they won the final game against the Newport Buffalos by a final score of 2–0. The team also earned the WVC Division 1 and District 2 Class A Field Hockey Championships.

Head Coach Karen Klassner, Assistant Coach Kim Barbacci, and Assistant Coach Margaret Kerrick led the team to victory during the season. The state champions team roster includes: Grace Aiello, Kate Barilla, Maggie Barilla, Emma Bean, Ava Bufalino, Cristiana Burcovschii, Reese Butcher, Shawna Casey, Julia Christian, Ahna Dinsmore, Halle Kehl, Bari Lefkowitz, Mia Magnotta, Hannah Maxwell, Tyra McCormick, Abby McDaniel, Quinn Medico, Anna Mozeleski, Aubrey Mytych, Grace Parsons, Coty Pinero, Dani Reiser, Kelsey Reznick, Katie Ritsick, Abby Santo, Elisabeth Seyfarth, Alex Wesneski, Emily Williams, Tyler Wood, and Tiana Wren.

Senior midfielder Kelsey Reznick scored the initial point during a penalty stroke in the final minutes of the first half. In the opening minutes of the second half, forward Hannah Maxwell scored the additional point for her team. Keeper Mia Magnotta made two saves for Wyoming Seminary throughout the course of the game.

It is an honor to recognize the outstanding achievement of these young women and their

coaches. It is with great pride that I congratulate them on their winning season. Go Blue Knights.

BOB AND JACKIE HUNT'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I am honored to congratulate Bob and Jackie Hunt of Leesburg, Florida on their 70th anniversary of marriage.

Bob and Jackie are lifelong residents of Lake County Florida. Bob served in the Navy during World War II. After the war, Bob returned to Florida and joined the Citrus industry. Jackie was a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) and working together, they raised and put their three children through college.

Marriage and strong families are indispensable contributors to the prosperity of our nation. Bob and Jackie, I am honored to recognize your loyalty and faithfulness to one another and your family. I offer my sincerest congratulations for 70 years of marriage. May God continue to bless them and their family in the years to come.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY MORALE, RECOGNITION, LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 1, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1433 the "DHS MORALE Act", which would help improve morale among the 240,00 employees of the Department by creating and cataloguing leadership development opportunities, identifying and addressing factors that impact employee engagement, and recognizing employee contributions through the many plans it offers such as the employee effort recognition award plan which recognizes employees for their efforts over the year and through the DHS Rotation Program to create opportunities for employees.

As a senior member of the Committee and a former chair and ranking member of the Homeland Security Committee and Transportation Security Subcommittee, I understand how important this bill will be in enhancing employee engagement.

H.R. 1433 addresses and is responsible to the needs of DHS employees by developing frameworks to create leadership opportunities and by assessing the needs of the employees in supervisory as well as non-supervisory roles.

The DHS Rotation Program is one of the many programs that this bill has helped steer employees towards by having the Chief Human Capital Officer maintain a catalogue of development opportunities.

The bill also establishes an Employee Engagement Steering Committee—through which

factors are identified that affect employee morale comprised of representatives and individuals throughout the department and labor organizations representing the DHS employees and involvement and solutions sought to counter-act those problems.

This process enhances employee morale as it requires a Department wide Engagement Action Plan to be implemented which comes through the input from the Steering committee.

The bill directs that employees be recognized for their efforts over the year by establishing an Employee Award Program which help with the goals of the department.

This bill greatly helps DHS move in a positive direction when it comes to addressing its longstanding problems of the morale concerns of employees.

I strongly support this bill and urge all my colleagues to join me in voting for its passage.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF AMY DICKINSON AND FOR RECEIVING THE HORATIO ALGER AWARD

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the career of Amy Dickinson and for receiving the Horatio Alger Award.

Amy exemplifies perseverance in the face of adversity and provides an example of the strength which can come from that adversity. Overcoming the challenges of growing up with a single parent, she received a scholarship and worked her way through college to earn a diploma from Georgetown University. Following her graduation in 1981, Amy worked as a producer for NBC and then as a successful writer. Her career represents her ability to overcome the unexpected challenges of life and to grow because of them. Amy has found great success despite the challenges she has faced from a young age and should serve as a reminder of the importance of hard work and dedication.

For nearly forty years, Amy's work has appeared in some of our nation's leading publications, including the New York Times, the Washington Post, and Time magazine. Since 2003, she has written the "Ask Amy" column for the Chicago Tribune which is syndicated throughout North America and reaches an estimated twenty million viewers a day. Her first memoir reached the New York Times best seller list within two weeks of publication. Her work has consistently highlighted her compassion and wisdom.

Amy has dedicated her time to several charitable organizations and initiatives. She has worked tirelessly for library fundraising and literacy projects throughout the nation and has created her own initiative, A Book on Every Bed which encourages family to gift books during the holiday season. She is involved in community organizations such as the State Theatre in Ithaca and has raised money to help children from backgrounds similar to hers. Amy should serve as an inspiration not only to the Horatio Alger scholars, but to all Americans.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to

celebrate Amy Dickinson and her extraordinary career.

KAREN COWLING

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Karen Cowling for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce's Image Award.

Karen Cowling has been an active participant in the Arvada community for many years. She works with Dental at Your Door and Benefits in Action and is receiving this award for her commitment to the Arvada community and the positive image she displays for the city.

The involvement and generosity demonstrated by Karen Cowling is exemplary of the type of positive image that can be displayed for the City of Arvada. She provides dental care to the Arvada homeless and assists people in need with court hearings, hospital visits and mental health services.

I extend my congratulations to Karen Cowling for this well-deserved recognition by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce and deepest appreciation for her contributions to our community.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREENVIEW CHRISTIAN CHURCH

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the Greenview Christian Church of Greenvue, Illinois, for celebrating their 150th anniversary.

In 1869, the Greenview Christian Church was officially opened as a place of worship for the residents of the city. Since then, the church has grown immensely; it now provides the community with far more than a place to pray. This is where the residents of Greenvue come to make strides towards improving their local area, as well as to help those less fortunate than themselves abroad, through their partner missionary program, Faith Promise Rally.

The Greenview Community Church is known throughout the area for the services that it has provided for the community over the last 150 years. Today, we celebrate the church for their dedication to serving Greenvue. I extend my sincere congratulations to the Greenview Christian Church for a successful 150 years, and I wish them even more success going forward.

TRIBUTE TO ZYGMUND KOWALEWSKI

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. YOUNG. Madam Speaker, today I'd like to congratulate Zygmund Kowalewski on the

occasion of his 99th birthday on April 7th, and thank him for his service to the United States Navy and to the United States of America.

Mr. Kowalewski enlisted as a gunner on a twin-engine PBM flying boat in October of 1941, just two months before the ambush at Pearl Harbor would launch the U.S. into World War II. As a part of Torpedo Squadron Eight present at the Battle of Midway, he and his fellow crew members earned commendations for bravery in engagements at Guadalcanal, Midway, and the British Solomon Islands.

Attempting to fly a mail route off the coast of the Fiji Islands, Mr. Kowalewski's plane stalled on takeoff and crashed into the Pacific Ocean. He was forced to free himself from the downed plane and paddle from the wreckage, fearful the ship's 500-pound depth charges would detonate. Madam Speaker, even after receiving combat honors twice for his heroics, Mr. Kowalewski once again piloted a U.S. Navy plane, instead hunting German submarines in the North Atlantic Ocean.

Mr. Kowalewski moved out to Alaska in 1967 after fulfilling his Naval service, continuing to fly as an FAA Airway Systems Inspection Pilot. But whether he was piloting a torpedo bomber or a twin-engine Cessna, he always conducted himself with valor and should be considered among Alaska's finest Naval Aviators for his service.

An aviator needs quick decision-making and a cool head to fly a plane in combat. Many of us will not know the kind of mental toughness required to see a mission to its conclusion, even under the most dire flight conditions.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Zygmund Kowalewski, who now at the age of 99, will have spent nearly one quarter of his life's work in service to his country having flown missions from Dutch Harbor to the Panama Canal. There are few people that can claim to have sacrificed as much under our flag, and he is owed the thanks and gratitude of all of us here in Washington and in Alaska.

RECOGNIZING THE COUNCIL ROCK HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Council Rock High School South Symphony Orchestra. Beginning April 10, 2019, the Council Rock High School South Symphony Orchestra will be traveling throughout Spain for a nine-day tour.

Notably, the symphony orchestra will perform in three public concerts: at the Teatro Auditorio Riberas del Guadaira in Seville, the Auditorio Manuel de Falla in Granada, and the Plaza Ayuntamiento in Toledo.

These performances not only give these young students the opportunity to perform in historic venues, but allow them to immerse themselves in Spanish music, culture, and history.

I would like to applaud Mr. Christopher Simon, the Orchestra Director at Council Rock High School South, for his visionary leadership. I wish him and all the talented musicians under his direction an eye-opening and rewarding trip.

CONSTITUENTS OF THE MONTH FOR APRIL

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eric and David Groos, two constituents from San Juan Capistrano, as my Constituents of the Month for April.

Each month, I recognize constituents who have gone above and beyond to help their neighbors, give back to their community, and make the country stronger. As co-founders of a non-profit that provides under-served and at-risk youth with outdoor recreational activities, there is no question that Eric and David are deserving of this recognition.

The brothers' non-profit, Great Opportunities, has served over 3000 young people in my district, mainly coming from San Juan Capistrano's geographically identified gang induction zones where kids are most at-risk of being drawn toward gang activity. Organizations like theirs play a critical role in generating opportunity in socioeconomically disadvantaged communities, and I am extremely grateful for the services they provide.

Eric and David provide kids in my district with more than just recreational activities—they are providing experiences that will help kids develop leadership and problem-solving skills, which will serve them well throughout their lives. I believe we must do more at the local, state, and federal levels to support organizations like theirs that provide under-served youth with the skills they need to succeed in life, and that will continue to be one of my priorities.

I am proud to recognize Eric and David as my constituents of the month for April, and I am deeply grateful for everything they do to give back to our community.

MARY JO GIDDINGS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Mary Jo Giddings for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce Pioneer Award.

Mary Jo is a former Woman of the Year Award recipient and has had a positive impact on the Arvada community for nearly 50 years. She is well-deserving of this award as she has served as a leader in Arvada for many years and has contributed in many unprecedented ways.

The leadership demonstrated by Mary Jo is exemplary of the type of positive impact that can be made on the Arvada community with hard work and dedication. She has volunteered at the Arvada Center since it opened in 1976 and sits on the Board of Directors for the Arvada Historical Society and the Arvada Vitality Alliance as well as organizes Arvada Garden Tours.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Mary Jo Giddings for this well-deserved recognition by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce and appreciate his ongoing contributions to our community.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE OF ROMANI AMERICANS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, this body has long recognized the accomplishments and unique heritage of cultures that make up and enrich the United States. Today, I, along with my colleague Representative STEVE WATKINS of Kansas, am proud to introduce a resolution recognizing and celebrating the heritage of Romani Americans.

Few cultures are as geographically diverse as the Romani people. Tracing their ancestry to the Indian subcontinent, the Romani people migrated and settled throughout Europe over the last millennia. Often, they faced scorn, hatred, persecution and discrimination. Nevertheless, they maintained their unique language and culture while enriching the culture and economies of the countries in which they became citizens. They have made distinct and important contributions in many fields including agriculture, art, crafts, literature, medicine, military service, music, sports, and science.

In 2005, the European Parliament estimated that there were 12 to 15 million Roma in Europe. Roma were among the many groups of people that suffered at the hands of the Nazis and their allies during World War II. It is estimated that between 200,000 to 500,000 Romani people were killed in death camps and elsewhere throughout Europe. In an attempt to liquidate the so-called "Gypsy Family Camp" at Auschwitz-Birkenau, on August 2 to 3, 1944, between 4,200 and 4,300 Romani men, women, and children were murdered in gas chambers in a single night. This year marks the 75th anniversary of that tragic event.

Roma have also been a part of every wave of European migration to North and South America. In the United States, there may be as many as 1 million Americans with some Romani ancestry, whether distant or more recent.

Representative STENY HOYER was the first Member of Congress to raise concern about the situation of Roma, doing so in meetings with Romanian government representatives during a 1990 congressional visit to Romania not long after the execution of Nicolae Ceausescu. In 1994, the late Congressman Tom Lantos, himself a Holocaust survivor, convened Congress's first hearing regarding the situation of the Romani people. That hearing, before the Subcommittee on International Security, International Organizations and Human Rights, received testimony from Dr. Ian Hancock, Andrzej Mirga, Klara Orgovanova, and Nicolae Gheorghe.

Though a great deal has changed since then, sadly, Romani people still face widespread human rights abuses and discrimination in employment, housing, and education. However, there is greater urgency for Roma to advance their causes today than ever before as evidenced by organizations such as the European Roma Rights Center and the still new European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture.

The Helsinki Commission has maintained robust engagement on these issues and, as

chairman during this Congress, I will build on those practices.

The resolution I am introducing today does four things. First, it celebrates Romani American Heritage. Second, it supports International Roma Day and the Department of State's robust engagement in related activities. April 8 marks "International Roma Day" around the world and is a day to celebrate Romani culture and raise awareness of the issues facing Romani people. Third, it commemorates the 75th anniversary of the destruction of the "Gypsy Family Camp" at Auschwitz. Fourth, it commends the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum for its critically important role in promoting remembrance of the Holocaust and educating about the genocide of Roma.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask all Members to support this resolution and for its timely consideration on the House Floor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, I missed votes on Monday, April 1. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call Vote Number 137 (Passage of H.R. 1593, the Coordinating and Leveraging for School Security (CLASS) Act of 2019): YES;

Roll Call Vote Number 138 (Passage of H.R. 1590, the Terrorist and Foreign Fighter Travel Exercise Act of 2019): YES; and

Roll Call Vote Number 139 (Approval of the Journal): YES.

HONORING THE BIRTHDAY OF SAMUEL S. LIONEL

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise with Representative ERIC SWALWELL today to offer our congratulations to Mr. Samuel S. Lionel, a resident of Las Vegas, Nevada, who is celebrating his 100th Birthday on April 7, 2019.

The son of immigrants, Sam Lionel grew up in the Bronx in New York City. He graduated law school at St. John's University in 1940. Shortly after he finished law school, the United States entered WWII, and Mr. Lionel joined the war effort. He fought with the 5th Army in the campaign to liberate Italy. After the war, Mr. Lionel taught at the United States Military Academy at West Point. He retired from the reserves as a Lieutenant Colonel Judge Advocate General.

Mr. Lionel passed the Nevada Bar exam in 1954. Together with the late former Nevada Governor Grant Sawyer, he founded the Lionel, Sawyer, and Collins Law Firm in 1967. The firm quickly became one of the largest and most prestigious in the state, and Mr. Lionel represented many key gaming operators and resorts on the Las Vegas Strip. Through-

out the course of his more than a half-century career, Mr. Lionel has been widely considered the "Dean of the Nevada Bar," and he served as the Chairman of the Board of Bar Examiners for several years.

Mr. Lionel has accumulated numerous awards and honors, including three honorary doctorate degrees from St. John's University, the California Western School of Law, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He is the first recipient of the Jurisprudence Award from the Nevada Anti-Defamation League. He won the 2012 Liberty Bell Award, and in 2013 he was named Las Vegas Best Lawyers' Lawyer of the Year.

Samuel Lionel is a fellow with the American College of Trial Lawyers, a member of the American Bar Association, the State Bar of Nevada, and the Clark County Bar Association. He served as a member of the Ninth Circuit Senior Advisory Board from 1990 to 1996.

Remarkably, Mr. Lionel still practices law as a Director at Fennemore Craig, and can be found at the local courthouse waiting his turn to argue a case before the judge. Mr. Lionel, along with his wife Lexy, continue to be active members of the Southern Nevada community. On the occasion of this centennial birthday, we wish him the very best.

COORDINATING AND LEVERAGING ACTIVITIES FOR SCHOOL SECURITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 1, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1593, Class Act of 2019, which addresses the increasing risks of security in schools.

As a senior member of the Homeland Security Committee, I ensure you that this bill will improve the safety plans and policies within our schools as well as the communication between the homeland security and the Homeland Security Committee.

This Class Act will ensure a council within the Department of Homeland Security that coordinates with school security departments of their policies, plans, and activities in regards to security, and require the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a report to Congress on the council's effort.

Between January and May 2018, school shootings averaged one per week.

Schools need to be buildings of safety where children can gain an education in peace.

During Homeland Security Committee markups of H.R. 1593, the "Coordinating and Leveraging Activities for School Security Act."

I want to thank and recognize Chairman PAYNE for his tireless work to improve the Department of Homeland Security's capability and capacity to provide services to our youngest citizens.

His dedication to meeting the homeland security needs of children is greatly appreciated.

The amendment I offer to H.R. 1593, the "Coordinating and Leveraging Activities for School Security Act," directs that any engagement with stakeholders should be reflected in the final report provided by this bill.

There are many factors that contribute to school security that we should acknowledge in the bill's report.

I am particularly interested in the work of school architects who design schools and, for decades, have worked successfully to address difficult safety challenges in school design.

As a direct result of school architects, schools are engineered to be resilient against fires, and high winds caused by tornadoes.

School architects are taking on the challenge of addressing the threat of active shooters in schools by developing designs that create visual blind spots in classrooms and hallways as well as engineering features that would delay an active shooter long enough to allow first responders to arrive.

It is my hope that stakeholders will also include students and teachers who can provide different perspectives on what constitutes school safety.

For these reasons, I urge all my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 1593.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, on April 4, 2019, I missed Roll Call vote 153. Had I been present for Roll Call 153, on passage of S.J. Res. 7, a joint resolution to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Republic of Yemen that have not been authorized by Congress, I would have voted "Yes."

I am deeply dismayed and saddened by the ongoing civil war in Yemen. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, this conflict has resulted in almost 22 million Yemenis in need of humanitarian assistance due to the worsening violence, including over 2 million internally displaced persons, as well as over 190,000 refugees that have fled to neighboring countries, such as Saudi Arabia, Djibouti, and Somalia. I firmly believe that it is important for the U.S. to continue to support an end to the worsening violence and prevent further human suffering.

JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER AUTHORITY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Jefferson County Communications Center Authority on their one-year anniversary of establishment.

Jeffcom 911 is an emergency dispatch center that increased production, reduced overhead cost, and created a more efficient public safety system by regionalizing eight emergency service agencies across Jefferson County. The company has overcome obstacles in staffing shortages, technology updates, and changes to policies, procedures, and workflow processes in order to eliminate delays and accomplish their role in public safety.

A workforce of 136 qualified call-takers, dispatchers, and supervisors were required to

manage the eight-member agencies, along with an additional 15 user agencies from surrounding areas. Jeffcom 911 staff persevered through over 25,000 hours of overtime to provide additional training, lectured courses, and individual observation to produce, cultivate, and develop a qualified workforce capable of providing professional support required by the agencies Jeffcom 911 serves 24 hours a day.

Jeffcom 911 commenced operations on April 4, 2018 and is now the single Public Safety Answering Point in Jefferson County, serving a community of 600,000 citizens and covering 774 square miles that range from densely populated metropolitan areas to mountainous landscapes.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jefferson County Communications Center Authority for this well-deserved recognition.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1585) to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, and for other purposes:

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Chair, today I will vote to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), historic landmark legislation with a proven track record of assisting abused and battered women. VAWA must be reauthorized.

As a matter of fact, I was the prime author of the law that provided for the first reauthorization of the VAWA in 2000—a five-year \$3.3 billion comprehensive program that was part of my anti-trafficking law, the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Prevention Act (PL 106–386/TVPA).

Today, I will vote to ensure that VAWA reauthorization overcomes expected difficulties in the Senate and moves to enactment. I will vote to reauthorize, through 2020, critical VAWA programs: legal assistance for victims; addressing housing needs for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking; grants to combat violent crimes on campuses; grants to encourage arrest policies and enforcement of protection orders; grants for enhanced training and services to end abuse later in life.

I will also vote to extend: the critical STOP grants to educate and train law enforcement personnel to address sexual assault; the CHOOSE grants, i.e. Creating Hope Through Outreach, Options, Service, and Education for Children and Youth; training and services to end violence against people with disabilities; the sexual assault services program; rural domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking and child abuse enforcement assistance; grants for strengthening the healthcare system's response to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; as well as extending other key programs.

This is consistent with my long record of support for VAWA.

I strongly supported passage of VAWA when it was first introduced in 1993, and again

in 1994, when this crucial legislation was signed into law. I have supported multiple re-authorizations of VAWA, and I continue to strongly support this law as it was originally intended.

As I said earlier, I was the prime author of the law that provided for the first reauthorization of the VAWA in 2000 when I included the five-year \$3.3 billion comprehensive program in my Victims of Trafficking and Violence Prevention Act (PL 106–386/TVPA).

I also cosponsored the 2005 reauthorization, fought to ensure these programs are fully funded to assist the maximum number of victims, and voted for seven of the first seven VAWA reauthorization bills offered through 2012.

Two versions of VAWA reauthorization are under consideration by the House today. As I noted, the version I will support extends the VAWA until 2020. The other—H.R. 1585—weakens several carefully crafted protections for women and girls.

By granting biological men—who self-identify as women—access to women's shelters, H.R. 1585 removes the hard-fought gains to protect women and girls from abuse and to provide them with physical, emotional and psychological security.

Under the current version of H.R. 1585, women will no longer have a secure place of their own as they flee from male-inflicted physical and emotional abuse and intimidation.

Rather, these heroic women will now have to share their place of refuge, a shelter previously reserved for women seeking protection from male abusers, with biological men who self-identify as women.

Mr. Chair, these brave women and children deserve a place where they can feel protected and secure, so they can begin the difficult process to heal as they deal with post-traumatic stress. Forcing them to share a shelter and its facilities, including showers and sleeping areas, with biological men who self-identify as women will cause these women and children to experience insecurity, discomfort, confusion, and fear of additional assault.

VAWA has always prioritized the challenges and unique needs of battered women and children but this version, if passed, no longer will.

These women's shelters—there are about 1,500 nationwide—offer a safe space where a woman does not have to fear or worry about violence and intimidation and instead allows her to take steps toward rebuilding her life.

Mr. Chair, we must first and foremost protect victims of violence.

I oppose this provision of H.R. 1585 out of genuine concern for the women and children who are forced to flee to domestic abuse shelters and base my concern on evidence from California.

In late 2018, nine female victims residing in a women's shelter in Fresno, California—Naomi's House, operated by Poverello House—filed a lawsuit against the shelter for admitting a biological man because he had self-identified as a woman. These victims stated that they had been sexually harassed by this biological man. They said that he had made “sexual advances” on them and would “stare and leer” and make “sexually harassing comments about their bodies” while they were forced to undress in the same room with him.

After repeatedly confronting the staff of Naomi's House—both verbally and in writing—with their extreme discomfort, these women were

told that they would be expelled from the shelter if they refused to comply.

Mr. Chair, if we allow biological men who self-identify as women to receive access to these women-only shelters, abused women and children will lose the ‘safe space’ they so desperately need.

These victims deserve better. They deserve our protection and support. We must work to ensure the safety of women, girls, and children.

Other shelters designed to help victims of diverse sexual orientations and identities who are victims of domestic abuse ought to be considered by separate legislation.

We can, and we must create bipartisan legislation which seeks to protect all women and girls, as this law originally intended.

We can, and must, do better.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1585) to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, and for other purposes:

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Chair, I rise today to speak about the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, or VAWA.

For the last several decades VAWA has been a positive force in our nation for the protection of some of our most vulnerable populations. Providing grants to domestic violence organizations, increasing access to housing for survivors, supporting law enforcement, addressing the scourge of sex trafficking, and reducing the rape kit backlog—these are just some of the ways VAWA has helped victims of violence in our communities.

While this should be a bipartisan effort to reauthorize VAWA, the new Democratic majority here in the House has decided to insert provisions into the legislation that advance a political agenda at the expense of sexual assault and domestic violence survivors.

Because of the importance of reauthorizing VAWA and protecting vulnerable women across the nation, I will still be supporting final passage of the Democrat-authored bill. The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey has found that over 43 percent of women experience some form of sexual violence in their lifetime. Sexual and domestic violence are pervasive problems and reauthorizing VAWA is critical to the fight against these crimes.

However, I wanted to take a minute to highlight some of the provisions included in this legislation that I remain firmly opposed to, and would vote against if given the opportunity.

Fourth Amendment due process rights and the protection of our Second Amendment rights are inherent rights that should not be infringed upon lightly. Ensuring that due process rights are protected prior to removal of fundamental constitutional rights should not be up for debate.

The majority, however, has done just that in their version of VAWA before us today.

We agree that victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and other types of violent behavior should have protections under the law from their abusers and stalkers. Many states have enacted measures to codify limitations on firearm possession following judicial action as it relates to domestic violence and stalking, oftentimes called red flag provisions. Let me be clear, I support such red flag provisions when the accused has the protections of due process and judicial action. But this is an effort that is best handled at the state, not federal, level.

Congress must address violence against women and girls. Restricting constitutional due process and Second Amendment protections, however, is not the right way to legislate.

While I plan to vote for the underlying bill before us today, I must reiterate my strong opposition to these provisions. It is my hope that the House majority's partisan provisions—including the firearm possession provisions and other sections that may compromise the safety of women's prisons and shelters—will eventually be removed during conference committee with the Senate and I can cast my vote for a final version that protects women and girls and maintains protections for our Fourth and Second Amendment rights.

HONORING JOE BRAMAN

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Joe Braman, a Refugio rancher, for his impressive accomplishments and dedication to the preservation of law and order.

Joe Braman, the great-great-grandson of Thomas O'Connor, an Irish farmer who moved to Refugio, Texas, in 1836, has received international recognition for his commitment to protecting endangered animals from poachers, as well as aiding law enforcement officers in protecting our border.

In 2018, Mr. Braman worked to assist South African National Parks with the protection of black and white rhinos. Because of the keratin in their horns, poachers had been hunting these South African rhinos to the verge of extinction.

Mr. Braman spent more than a year and a half training dogs to track the poachers and donated 20 free-running pack dogs to the Southern African Wildlife College. The trained dogs could track human scent several hours old and take down hunters more than 20 miles away.

Thanks to meticulous training, Mr. Braman's dogs successfully assisted with 27 arrests and the recovery of 10 rifles in Kruger National Park, leading South African National Parks to recognize Mr. Braman's substantial contribution to their efforts. Mr. Braman received two letters of commendation, one from the Section Rangers at Kruger National Park, and the other from South African National Parks and Southern African Wildlife College.

Mr. Braman's dogs have proved immensely valuable in Texas as well. His dogs often locate individuals with Alzheimer's and Dementia who have become lost.

They have also successfully assisted local law enforcement in manhunts and border se-

curity. This past year, two of his dogs tracked a group of illegal immigrants after the group scattered into the brush. When the available technology tools failed to get the job done, Mr. Braman's dogs led law enforcement to the immigrants, at least one of whom admitted to being a gang member. The results speak for themselves. Mr. Braman and his dogs have a 98 percent success rate with locating and capturing targets, demonstrating their potential usefulness in future border security efforts.

Joe Braman's unique and incredible ability to train dogs has made a positive difference not just in Texas but around the world, and I would like to extend to him my thanks and appreciation for his excellent work and devotion to justice.

JERRY MARKS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jerry Marks for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce's Man of the Year Award.

An Arvada native, Jerry Marks has served his community as a volunteer firefighter and board member of the Arvada Chamber of Commerce, Arvada Vitality Alliance, Arvada Economic Development Association, and Arvada City Council.

The involvement and generosity demonstrated by Jerry Marks is exemplary of the type of positive impact that can be made on the Arvada community. He has donated his time, treasure, and talent and has consistently supported local organizations including Community Table, The Arvada Colts, and many more.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jerry Marks for this well-deserved recognition by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce and appreciate his ongoing contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING DANIEL T. LYDON

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of Daniel Thomas Lydon, on the occasion of his passing on Monday, March 18, 2019.

The son of two Irish immigrants, Daniel was born in Oakland, California on October 30, 1941. His roots grew deep in our community through his schooling in Oakland and Berkeley as well as his work at the Oakland Tribune, all occurring before he joined the Fremont Fire Department in March 1963.

Almost immediately Daniel sought to make a difference for his fellow firefighters. He played an instrumental role in organizing his department's personnel to establish their labor union, Fremont Firefighters Local 1689. Once formed, Daniel rose to serve as the organization's first president.

Throughout the course of his career with the Fremont Fire Department, Daniel held the rank of firefighter, inspector, lieutenant, captain,

and battalion chief before being trusted to lead the entire department as fire chief, where he served until his well-deserved retirement in 2002.

Under his leadership, the Fremont Fire Department grew to meet the needs of a large, modern, and rapidly developing city. Chief Lydon began to incorporate licensed paramedics among the fire department staff. This enabled them to begin to provide life-saving treatment of patients if they were the first to the scene of an emergency. Daniel expanded the size of the department, in the most literal sense, by adding four new stations to serve the community. Additionally, he helped ensure the safety of his personnel by assisting with key bond measures, ensuring funds were dedicated to retrofitting outdated infrastructure.

Chief Lydon's public service did not end with his retirement from the fire department. He continued to help his community grow by serving as a planning commissioner for the City of Fremont. His legacy continues as the projects he helped shape go on under construction to meet the needs of our community.

Chief Lydon passed away at home, surrounded by his loving family. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Patricia, as well as his children, Bridget, Daniel, Kevin, Margaret, and Michael. His legacy will live on through them, his five grandchildren, and the everlasting impact he made on our community.

RECOGNIZING THE CAPE GIRARDEAU ROTARY CLUB'S 100TH YEAR OF SERVICE

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Cape Girardeau Rotary Club as they celebrate their 100th year of service to the Cape Girardeau, Missouri community.

The Cape Girardeau Rotary Club was organized on January 28, 1919 and received its charter on March 1, 1919. For 100 years, the Rotary club has promoted Cape Girardeau's history, culture, and quality of life in countless ways, including its efforts to establish Cape Rock Park, its city beautification drives, and its historical marker projects.

The Rotary Club has devoted itself to the youth of the community through its unflagging support of the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys State, Girls State, the Crippled Children's Society, the Civic Center, and numerous other youth organizations. For the last 60 years, the Rotary Club has held the Academic Excellence Banquet which honors high school seniors in the top ten percent of their academic class.

The Rotary Club has expanded its reach in the region through the establishment of the Jackson Rotary Club and Cape Girardeau Rotary Club-West. They have supported the mission of Rotary International through hundreds of thousands of dollars in contributions to the Rotary Foundation. They have also aided the mission of Rotary International through participation in dozens of foreign exchange programs as well as medical, dental, and other humanitarian relief missions.

The Rotary Club has been an incredible force for good in Cape Girardeau. They undoubtedly foster the Rotary ideal of "Service

Above Self". I thank the members of the Cape Girardeau Rotary Club for their tireless effort and unwavering dedication to serving members of their community.

IN MEMORY OF MAYOR SHIRLEY
SPELLERBERG

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and legacy of former Mayor Shirley Cunyus Spellerberg, a dedicated Texan who committed her life to serving others.

Shirley Cunyus graduated from Waco High School in 1945 and enrolled at Baylor University to study business administration. In 1949, she married U.S. Air Force pilot Herman Spellerberg, and together they raised two sons.

The Spellerbergs were stationed in Miami, Florida during Herman's tenure as a PanAm pilot. There, Mrs. Spellerberg became an engaged member of the community, and she hosted a talk radio program called "Speak Out Miami" from 1974 to 1979 as well as co-hosted the weekly television show "To the Point" from 1977 to 1979.

In 1979, they returned to Texas, where Mrs. Spellerberg continued to be an active participant in her community. In 1983, she was elected Mayor of Corinth, a role in which she served for 16 years. In addition to her official capacities, Mayor Spellerberg served as president of the Denton Republican Women's Club, as a member of the State Republican Executive Committee and Republican Party of Texas Platform Committee, as president of Denton County Republican Assembly, and as a founding member of Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum in 1972. For her efforts, she received numerous awards for her political activities in Florida and in Texas. In 2018, she was awarded the "Yellow Rose of Texas" award.

Mayor Spellerberg was a valued North Texas leader for more than thirty years. I am grateful for her steadfast service and appreciate her many years of dedication to our region.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE WILDLIFE
VETERINARIANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ACT OF
2019

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the Wildlife Veterinarians Employment and Training Act of 2019. This bill will provide incentives for students to pursue wildlife and zoological medicine and increases the number of positions available at wildlife and zoological facilities.

Wildlife and zoo veterinarians are the primary source of essential health care and management that is required for animals in both their natural habitat and in captivity. These physicians preserve natural resources and the

lives of animals, while also protecting human health by preventing, detecting and responding to exotic and dangerous diseases.

With the intensification of globalization and climate change, along with the growing interaction among humans, livestock and wildlife, the threat posed by emerging infectious diseases to humans and wildlife continues to increase. Controlling pandemic and large-scale outbreaks of disease has become more challenging over the years, yet there has never been a time where this is a more pertinent issue.

We must take preventative measures to ensure the well-being of both animals and humans. In spite of these threats to public health, the United States faces a shortage of positions for wildlife and zoo veterinarians. According to the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), less than one percent of AVMA members identify themselves as wildlife or zoological veterinarians.

On average, veterinarian graduates owe \$143,000 in student loans. Relatedly, salaries for wildlife and zoological professionals are relatively low compared to those who practice companion animal medicine, ranking second to the bottom for salaries paid to veterinarians as a whole. Lower salaries, combined with high educational debt and the small number of positions available, discourage students from becoming wildlife or zoo veterinarians. The number of internships, practical training programs, and formal education programs specializing in wildlife and zoological veterinary medicine are also insufficient.

My bill directly addresses the aforementioned issues, by doing the following:

Create new positions for wildlife and zoo veterinarians.

Limit the amount of educational debt for veterinary medicine students, while providing incentives to study and practice wildlife and zoo veterinary medicine through a scholarship program and a loan repayment program.

Help schools of veterinary medicine develop curricula and training programs specializing in wildlife and zoo veterinary medicine.

Develop affordable and well qualified opportunities for individuals to become wildlife and zoo veterinarians, spur job growth, and promote public health policy across the nation.

Madam Speaker, as you know, wild animals play a very critical role in our natural resources and contribute to maintaining a balanced ecosystem. The number of endangered species has only increased. Invasive non-native species and infectious disease threaten our public health. Therefore, wildlife and zoological veterinarians must be prioritized and given the resources and recognition necessary to protect both animal and human lives.

I urge my colleagues to extend a helping hand to America's veterinarians by supporting this important piece of legislation.

PATSY PFAFF

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Patsy Pfaff for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce Woman of the Year Award.

Patsy has been an active participant in the Arvada community for many years. She donates to Mother's Milk, serves on the PTA, and tutors math students at Arvada West High School. She served on the advisory board for All Out Multisport and is active in the ET Chapter of PEO, a group that provides educational opportunities for women through scholarships.

The involvement and generosity demonstrated by Patsy is exemplary of the type of positive impact that can be made on the Arvada community. Being an avid walker, she spends a lot of time on the Ralston Creek Trail, completing over 60 half marathons and is well on her way to reaching her goal of 100 half marathons.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Patsy Pfaff for winning this well-deserved recognition by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce and appreciate his ongoing contributions to our community.

CBRN INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION SHARING ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 1, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1589 the "CBRN Intelligence and Information Sharing Act of 2019" which amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish chemical sharing function of the Office of Intelligence and require dissemination of information to responsible entities relating to the homeland security.

As a Senior member of the Homeland Security committee, I understand how important this bill is in order to establish safety with chemical use. This bill requires examination of terrorist capabilities with these chemicals as well as threats from global diseases.

Terrorist supporters often promote the use of dangerous chemicals online and this bill would help to counter-act that issue.

H.R. 1589 supports the analysis of all chemicals used to ensure safety as well as supporting the analysis of claims of terrorist actors which enhances prevention and protection capabilities.

H.R. 1589 would allow more specific security measures to be implemented to cater to any threats to the State or any other entities.

The Office of Intelligence and Analysis will be coordinating with other required agencies in order to provide information to the department to ensure optimum safety.

H.R. 1589 will be extremely important in order to share information that is paramount throughout the department.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in voting to pass H.R. 1589.

AUDREY E. WILLIS CELEBRATES
100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Audrey E. Willis for her 100th birthday.

Audrey was born on April 9, 1919 in Trenton, New Jersey. She graduated from Trenton Central High School and completed courses at Mercer County Community College.

Audrey's 100 years of life have been filled with great success. She served 34 years with General Motors before retiring; she went on to work, and retire again, for Mercer County government as a Senior Citizen Program aide. Audrey was also an active member of the Neighborhood Civic Association for the Trenton Housing Authority. Despite a busy life, Audrey has always found time to give back to her community, frequently volunteering with Meals on Wheels. Audrey continues to be an active member at my church, Shiloh Baptist in Trenton, and serves as a Trustee Aide Member and Senior Ministry Member.

In 100 years, Audrey has been blessed to see her family grow and prosper. With her husband, the late Lloyd Willis, Sr., Audrey raised two sons, the late Lloyd Willis, Jr. and Forrest Willis. She also has four grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

I have had the pleasure to know Audrey for more than 50 years. As an integral part of our church, she always shares her warmth and caring personality with anyone she meets. Although she has a quiet demeanor, Audrey is a social butterfly who will find a way to go everywhere. I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating Audrey's 100th birthday. We wish you a wonderful and joyful birthday, and many more blessings in the year ahead.

RECOGNIZING THE THAYER LADY BOBCATS HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Thayer Lady Bobcats Basketball team for winning the Class 2 State Championship on March 9, 2019, the first women's basketball state championship in school history.

In his third year, Coach Cecil Meyer led the team to an overall record of 30–3, winning the last 14 games of the year. The Lady Bobcats were full of talented players, notably All-State Seniors Julie Stone and Angela Sorrell along with South Central All-Conference members, Shelby Coursey and Maddy Kerely.

The Lady Bobcats swept through the postseason on their way to a 52–35 win over Mid-Buchanan High School in the championship game, capping the historic run. Their success is a testament to the hard work and preparation the coaches and players put in during the preseason and throughout the year.

On behalf of the Eighth Congressional District of Missouri, it is my great privilege to congratulate the Thayer Lady Bobcats on their historic achievement. We look forward to their continued success. Go Bobcats.

FIGHTING AGAINST SOCIALISM IS A FIGHT WORTH HAVING

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, as we watch the human tragedy that is Venezuela, it should be a stark reminder to everyone that socialism does nothing but destroy the lives of the people while enriching the elites. A recent report out of Venezuela reminded me of a Milton Friedman quote. The famed economist said, "If you put the federal government in charge of the Sahara Desert, in five years there'd be a shortage of sand." These are the words playing out in Venezuela right now.

Venezuela has the world's largest proven reserves of oil, yet the socialists in charge cannot keep the lights on, nor supply the nation with gasoline for their vehicles. It gets worse for the people of Venezuela as there are now potable water shortages. Keep in mind, Venezuela has over 1,500 miles of coastline and part of the country is a rainforest. But the socialist rulers cannot seem to build desalination plants nor transport its vast water resources to the people that need it.

Venezuela's current crisis reinforces my fight to make sure the United States has an all of the above energy grid. To function properly, a nation needs a variety of fuel sources, some renewables, some nuclear, some hydro, some carbon based. That is a reality for a mature economy and civilization.

I fight against rabid environmentalists who want to shut down every coal plant, every gas plant, every nuclear plant and dismantle our dams and hydro power. They accuse me of wanting to destroy the environment, which is a defamatory lie. What is apparent is the leftists in this country want to destroy our civilization, our affordable energy and our prosperity. They want to do to the United States what the same environmentalists and leftists have done to Venezuela—leave us without electricity, without food, without water, without communications.

The emerging socialist movement in this country is an imminent risk of harm to everything that has made us the leader of the free world. The socialists in this country present a clear and present danger to our health and well-being and should be fought at every opportunity.

Our fathers and grandfathers fought against socialists. They fought and died to make sure the United States remained free, capitalist and prosperous. Let the lessons of Venezuela, Cuba, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries that have failed miserably, and inflict death and harm to millions, teach us to promptly reject U.S. socialists and their harmful ideology, their useful idiocy, and their malevolence.

DANIEL RYLEY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Daniel Ryley

for receiving the Arvada Young Professional Leadership Award.

Daniel Ryley has recently been named the Executive Director of the Arvada Economic Development Association and is receiving this award for his innovation and entrepreneurship in the Arvada community. He founded Drynkware, a reusable drink stirrer that is both functional and stylish and helps reduce the use of plastic straws.

The professional accomplishments and community leadership demonstrated by Daniel Ryley is exemplary of the type of positive impact that can be made on the City of Arvada. He serves as Chair of the Community Leaders of Hope Advisory Committee with Extended Hands of Hope, a Human Rights organization that houses and empowers survivors of human sex trafficking.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Daniel Ryley for winning the Arvada Young Professional Leadership Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and leadership in his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NORTH KANSAS CITY HORNETS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Missouri Class 5 State Championship won by the North Kansas City High School Lady Hornets basketball team. Such an achievement is the result of strong leadership and years of dedication by both players and coaches alike. It is truly an honor to recognize this exemplary group of athletes from the Fifth District of Missouri.

Claiming the State Title was the culmination of years of discipline and hard work on the part of the entire Lady Hornets team. For the past three years the Lady Hornets were the District Champions, and for the last four years they were also the Suburban White-Division Conference Champions, unfortunately falling short in the State Playoffs. However, under the leadership of Head Coach Jeffery Lacy, this senior class was not content concluding their high school careers with anything short of a State Championship. The Lady Hornets' tremendous success this past season—with twenty-nine victories compared to a mere two losses—was the fruition of years of hard work and a "never-give-up" attitude cultivated by these remarkable athletes and coaching staff during their time at North Kansas City High School. It brings me great joy in saying that their hard work paid off with a sound victory in the State Championship on March 16, 2019.

Coming to Jefferson City this year, the Lady Hornets were pegged as the underdogs to the high-scoring and hometown Jefferson City Lady Jays. Despite the doubts, the Hornets remained focused on their ultimate goal. They maintained a mindset of excelling, no matter the obstacle, and marched through the State Tournament with an "us-against-the-world" attitude. The Lady Hornets' road to becoming North Kansas City's first female State Champions is a journey that has been followed by the entire community, witnessing what is possible when a group of individuals come together and dedicate themselves in pursuit of a common goal.

But, the great thing about athletics is they help to create opportunities in other aspects of life. The Lady Hornets' success has already paid off in a multitude of ways, opening doors for several players. A number of them will continue their basketball careers, and most importantly their education, at Division I universities such as the University of Kansas. Whether they know it or not, they will take with them the life lessons learned throughout their time at North Kansas City High School and as a part of this team. With the North Kansas City community, I look forward to seeing where each of these players will go and how future players will develop under the leadership of coaches like Jeffery Lacy and John West.

Madam Speaker, please join with me in celebrating the North Kansas City Lady Hornets and the State Championship they have brought home to Kansas City.

**PASSING OF MS. BESSIE M.
SWINDLE**

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor the life and legacy of a distinguished member of my Houston staff, a constituent, and more importantly a dear friend who passed away on Thursday, March 28, 2019 in Houston, Texas.

Ms. Bessie Swindle was born June 5, 1939 in Loreauville, Louisiana, relocating to Houston, Texas as a young adult where she went on to become a pillar of the Sunnyside community.

Over the course of more than fifty years, she used her skills as a community organizer to make a difference in Houston. Prior to serving as an outreach coordinator in my Houston office, she founded and served as president of the Cloverland Civic Club, representing 400 homeowners in the neighborhood, sponsoring fundraisers, aiding needy families, and raising money for scholarships.

She was involved with several organizations and used her voice to represent Sunnyside residents as a Parent/Teacher Association member, Troop Leader for Girl Scouts of America San Jacinto Council, President of the St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church "55 Plus" Club, Community Liaison for former Harris County Precinct 7 Constable Michael Butler and Constable Perry Wooten, member of Mayor Bill White's Phone Tower Commission, and member of the City of Houston Police Officers Civil Service Commission. She also served as president of Southeast Coalition of Civic Clubs and Precinct Judge for Harris County Voting Precinct 271.

During her distinguished lifetime of service, she was the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions, including Parent of the Year from James H. Law Elementary in 1975, the Mayor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service in 1996, the Texas Legislative Black Caucus Award in 1999, the Sir Knight Dennis Armelin Humanitarian Award in 2004, Mayor Bill White's proclamation of Bessie M. Swindle Day in 2007, the naming of the Bessie Swindle Community Center in Sunnyside, Houston, Texas in 2009, as well as the street naming of Bessie Swindle Way in 2010.

It is eminently clear that Ms. Bessie M. Swindle was no ordinary community servant. She used her influence to constantly stand up for those who needed her assistance—and she made a difference. Ms. Bessie Swindle will be greatly missed for her wit, wisdom, and willingness to work hard. Her contribution will never be forgotten.

I would like to send my condolences to Ms. Swindle's family, friends, and all those who will miss her dearly. I hope that, even in this sad time, Ms. Swindle's record of unselfish dedication to her city and community will serve as a bright light for those who dare to follow in her footsteps.

Ms. Bessie M. Swindle is survived by one daughter: Jackie Swindle. She is also survived by four brothers, one sister, and many beloved nieces and nephews.

**IN RECOGNITION OF ED
SPEAKMON**

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Keller City Councilman and Mayor Pro Tem, Mr. Charles Ed Speakmon, who recently passed away at the age of 71.

A retired Marine, Republican precinct chairman, and former auto repair businessman, Mr. Speakmon spent his life serving both his country and his community in many ways. He was elected to the Keller City Council in 2016, where he was known for his gentle and kind nature as well as his willing participation and resolve to get things done.

Mr. Speakmon also was widely known for the elaborate and award-winning Christmas display that adorned his house every year. He was even given the nickname, "Mr. Christmas" because of the unique gift he annually shared with his community in his passion for the holiday.

Always faithful, Mr. Speakmon was a man of service who was deeply devoted to his country, his community, and his family. To those who knew him, the sense of loss felt in his sudden departure is a tribute to the life he lived. I am honored to have served alongside Councilman Speakmon to represent the community for which he cared so deeply, and I extend my sincerest condolences to his wife, Candy Speakmon, their family, and all who knew and loved him.

JEN SPETTEL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jen Spettel for receiving the Arvada Young Professional Leadership Award.

Jen Spettel is the Executive Director of the Susan M. Duncan YMCA and is receiving this award for her innovation and entrepreneurship in the Arvada community. Jen is dedicated to healthy living in Arvada, working for the YMCA for the past 15 years.

The professional accomplishments and community leadership demonstrated by Jen Spettel is exemplary of the type of positive impact that can be made on the City of Arvada. She serves on the 9 Health Fair Board of Trustees, the Retention Committee for the Arvada Economic Development Corporation as well as the City of Arvada's Healthy Places Initiative.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jen Spettel for winning the Arvada Young Professional Leadership Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and leadership in her future accomplishments.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO AUSTIN
FULTON**

HON. JOHN R. CURTIS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. CURTIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the service and work of Austin Fulton. Austin has played an instrumental role in setting up my Congressional office. He previously worked for Representative Jason Chaffetz and helped through the successful transition after I was elected to Congress. He was later promoted from Staff Assistant to Legislative Correspondent, where he worked diligently on a variety of policy issues, including housing, veterans, and space policy.

Austin had a positive attitude and was willing to help with any task no matter the scope. I am grateful for all his service, and I wish him the best of luck in his next chapter. Despite his departure, he will always be a member of Team Curtis.

MICHAEL SUDAK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Michael Sudak for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce Image Award.

Michael is receiving this award for his commitment to the Arvada community and the positive image he displays for the city. Michael owns and operates an Arvada-based business which employs local residents at above minimum wage and provides local children with healthy and nutritious school lunch meals, serving many schools that participate in the free and reduced lunch program. The meals he offers are of higher quality and nutrition than required to better care for the at-risk children being served.

The involvement and generosity demonstrated by Michael is exemplary of the type of positive image that can be displayed for the city of Arvada.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Michael Sudak for winning this well-deserved recognition by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce and appreciate his ongoing contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING JOHN NAVARRA

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, First Sergeant John Navarra, who is retiring as the leader of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

John V. Navarra is a retired U.S. Army First Sergeant with 22 years of service to our country. During this time, he served in multiple locations including the United States and Germany and primarily worked in the administration and logistics fields.

Coupled with his service, John has demonstrated a life-long commitment to education by earning an Associate's degree in Business and Computer Science, a bachelor's degree in Interpersonal and Group Communications, a Master's degree in Education with Concentrations in Teaching and Evaluation and a MBA in Leadership.

It is not just his own education that John has been committed to. John has served as the Army JROTC Instructor at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School for 12 years, beginning in 2007. In this role, John educated, provided guidance, and mentored the students in the JROTC program. In doing so, he instilled in them the values of citizenship, service to the United States, personal responsibility and a sense of accomplishment.

Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to honor and thank Mr. John Navarra for his

service to his country and his community. I congratulate John on his retirement.

REGARDING MY VOTE ON H.R. 1585

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, while I voted today for H.R. 1585, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, I would like to note that this reauthorization is imperfect. I remain strongly opposed to firearm-related provisions that were included, and I am committed to ensuring the final bill protects the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans. As a strong supporter of Second Amendment rights for Americans, I look forward to working in a bipartisan and bicameral manner to resolve these outstanding issues before this critical legislation to prevent violence and protect survivors is signed into law.

REGARDING MY VOTE ON H.R. 1585

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, today I voted "Yes" on H.R. 1585 because we need to advance legislation designed to protect women who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and other crimes that are all too common. While I voted "yes," I have

grave concerns with some provisions of this legislation involving Second Amendment rights and due process. It is my hope these concerns will be addressed in Senate negotiations.

KATLYN THIEDE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Katlyn Thiede for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce Rising Star Award.

Katlyn is a student at Arvada West High School and received this award because of her extraordinary skills in entrepreneurship, innovation, and community leadership. She is a member of the National Art Honors Society, owns her own photography business, and volunteers with Foothills Animal Shelter.

The innovation and leadership demonstrated by Katlyn is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. She excels academically with a 4.33 GPA and is described by her teachers as kind, welcoming, determined, and one-of-a-kind.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Katlyn Thiede for this well-deserved recognition by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and leadership in all of her future accomplishments.