

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.