

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING DAVID MINGUS ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM MAYOR OF EAST PEORIA

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize David Mingus for his retirement from the position of mayor in East Peoria, Illinois. Mayor Mingus has served as the mayor of East Peoria for 12 years.

Mayor Mingus' retirement from this position brings to an end a long chapter in his outstanding career in public service. As a certified counselor and social worker, Mayor Mingus has used his knowledge and expertise to better the East Peoria community. In addition to serving as the city's mayor, Mayor Mingus spent three terms on the City Council and served on the local School Board. Serving his community has always been a passion of Mayor Mingus' ever since he earned a master's degree in counseling and human development, and went on to begin a career in the mental health field. He served as director of Neighborhood House in Peoria, as well as CEO of the Tazwood Mental Health Board. I commend Mayor Mingus for all of his efforts to better the community of East Peoria and wish him well as he takes on new professional opportunities in his career.

It is because of dedicated leaders such as David Mingus that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate David Mingus on his retirement as mayor and thank him for his service to the community.

HONORING TWENTY-TWO TEACHERS OF THE GREATER BOCA RATON AREA

**HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the twenty-two outstanding teachers in South Florida who have been awarded the Teacher of the Year award from the Rotary Club of Boca Raton Sunrise.

For the past 33 years, the Rotary Club of Boca Raton Sunrise has offered this annual distinction to one teacher at each of the twenty-two schools in the greater Boca Raton area. Each awardee is selected by the school's principal. These teachers have dedicated their time to inspiring, empowering, and bettering the next generation of youth in our community. Their passion in this effort is truly worthy of our recognition.

These twenty-two exemplary teachers have made a profound impact on their students through their caring, commitment, and profes-

sionalism. They are a cohort defined by integrity, excellence, and the highest marks in all they do. The City of Boca Raton is fortunate to have such outstanding faculty.

Congratulations to Jennifer O'Sullivan, James Wade, Theo Wiles, Mary Donnelly, Sarah Call, Scott Johnson, Mary Cavaioi, Laurel Cash, Mary Giddings, Sunshine Grunstein, Kimberly Attias, Scott Fontaine, Susan Kinderman, Richard Andreacchio, Bogdan Paraschivoiu, Kathleen Kaminsky, Kevin McEnroe, Joann Tatham, Anna Lombado, Catrina D'Annunzio, Jennifer Napuli, and Melissa Romero on being nominated for this year's teacher of the year award.

I am pleased to honor them, and I thank them for their continued service.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL DELWYN SEVERIO MERKERSON

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, our brave men and women of the Armed Forces continuously make sacrifices to keep our nation strong and free. Among the ranks is Colonel Delwyn Severio Merkerson, who I want to recognize today for his 30 years of service in the United States Army and the United States Army Reserve.

General Colin Powell once stated, "Success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty and persistence." Colonel Merkerson's military service is a shining example of success at its finest. He made numerous substantial and lasting contributions to the quality, effectiveness, and readiness of the United States Army and the United States Army Reserve at operational and strategic levels.

Colonel Merkerson served in various positions over his 30-year career, as an artillery officer, budget officer, Deputy J-1 during a deployment in Afghanistan, Battalion Commander, Deputy Director for Reserve Component Policy, and finally as Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1. Colonel Merkerson's entire career was characterized by strong leadership, resolute mission-focus for achieving intrinsic excellence, and a genuine commitment to the welfare of soldiers, civilians, and families. He served as a model to the many who served with him and is nothing short of a transformational leader.

The cost of freedom is always high. However, our military personnel do not shoulder the stress and sacrifice of military service alone. The backbone of their commitment lies with their families. Colonel Merkerson's wife Noel, sons Delwyn Jr., Kolby, Kaden and Staff Sergeant Daven Gates and daughters Raisha and Private Deja McCree have stood proudly by his side throughout the years. To them also, we offer a warm and heartfelt thank you.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Colonel Delwyn Merkerson.

HONORING BETH KILLIAN FOR HER SERVICE TO SYRACUSE MEALS ON WHEELS

**HON. JOHN KATKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Beth Killian's dedicated involvement with Meals on Wheels Syracuse. Throughout her nine years with the organization, Ms. Killian has worked as both a volunteer and treasurer, playing an integral role in updating and managing the organization's records.

Meals on Wheels Syracuse is an important part of our Central New York community, providing home delivery food service to seniors throughout the region. Volunteers like Ms. Killian are the foundation of Meals on Wheels Syracuse, and are a vital part of delivering healthy meals, nutrition education, and resource assistance to the most vulnerable members of our community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in honoring Beth Killian and her philanthropic spirit. Through Ms. Killian's involvement with Meals on Wheels Syracuse, senior citizens in Central New York have the ability to continue living independent lives while not having to worry about their next meal. Ms. Killian's service has contributed to a better Central New York and it is volunteers like her who strengthen communities around the country.

LARRY KIKER

**HON. FRANCIS ROONEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lee County Commissioner Larry Kiker, who passed away early Tuesday, April 23 at Hope Hospice.

Mr. Kiker grew up in Clovis, New Mexico and moved to Southwest Florida two decades ago. After moving to Florida, he became a charter boat captain and then owned and operated a Fort Myers Beach realty company with his beloved wife, Paula.

Larry was first elected to the county commission in 2012—defeating a 24-year incumbent commissioner—and won re-election in 2016. Prior to his service as commissioner, Mr. Kiker had a long career in managing customer service at several high-tech companies, and served as a Fort Myers Beach Town Councilman and as mayor. Larry's leadership and team building skills were well recognized by his peers and the citizens of Southwest Florida.

Larry served our community with honor. We are all grateful for his contributions and commitment to our community. His passion, intellect, and wit will be long remembered, and

• 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.

greatly missed. Our prayers are with his wife, Paula, and his entire family.

HONORING THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORLD RECORD WIND ON MOUNT WASHINGTON

**HON. CHRIS PAPPAS**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 85th anniversary of the world record wind. On April 12, 1934, civilian scientists at the top of Mount Washington observed wind speeds of 231 miles per hour. For over 60 years, this stood as the fastest wind gust ever recorded, and today it remains the fastest surface wind speed ever observed by humans.

New Hampshire's way of life is rooted in our natural surroundings, and few sites are as closely associated with the Granite State as Mount Washington. As a lifelong resident of New Hampshire, I have always marveled at the might of Mount Washington. At 6,288 feet, it is the tallest peak in the Northeast. And while there are certainly taller, snowier, and even colder places on Earth, Mount Washington has mesmerized Granite Staters and people around the world for decades because of its ruggedness and sheer unpredictability.

While the world record wind is certainly notable in its own regard, it also serves as a testament to the dedication, hard work, and public service of the Mount Washington Observatory. Since 1932, the Mount Washington Observatory has not only monitored the weather on top of the mountain but also served as a critical educational and climate research resource.

The Mount Washington Observatory has pioneered innovative forms of weather research and wind tracking data for over 85 years. Their pioneering curiosity has led to universal intrigue about Mount Washington, and today, people from all over the world, visit New Hampshire for the opportunity to hike or drive to its summit. The Observatory's continuing contribution to science and education are immeasurable.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to congratulate the Mount Washington Observatory on the anniversary of this groundbreaking feat. I look forward to continuing the celebration when I hike Mount Washington this summer. Once again, I thank the Mount Washington Observatory for all that they do to make the Granite State such a wonderful place to live, learn, and hike.

CONGRATULATING PAUL RUMLER ON WINNING THE QUAD-CITIES MALE CHAMPION OF CHANGE AWARD

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Paul Rumler for winning the Quad-Cities Male Champion of Change Award

for his work as president and CEO of the Quad-Cities Chamber of Commerce.

The Quad-Cities Athena Awards are given to one woman and one man who are committed to gender diversity and empowering women in leadership. Under Mr. Rumler's leadership, 13 women have been hired or promoted within the Quad-Cities Chamber of Commerce, which was one of his top goals in the role. These efforts to make the organization more inclusive and, as a whole, more representative of our community. Mr. Rumler is dedicated to his work in the Quad-Cities region and is an asset to the community where he has fought for women's aspirations and goals. I commend Mr. Rumler for his work and look forward to seeing his future accomplishments.

It is because of dedicated leaders such as Paul Rumler that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Paul Rumler for winning the Quad-Cities Male Champion of Change Award and thank him for empowering women in our community.

HONORING MR. CHARLES "CHUCK" CORJAY

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the exemplary life of Mr. Charles "Chuck" Corjay.

Mr. Corjay was born in 1932 in Springfield, MA to John and Helen Solenski as the youngest of three sons. He served in the U.S. Air Force for over seven years, including during the Korean War. Mr. Corjay later dedicated his life to helping others pursue an education. As a lifetime member of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association he was the first recipient of the NoVa AFCEAN of the Year Award, now known as "The Corjay Award", for raising over \$10 million in STEM scholarships and financial assistance for veterans.

Mr. Corjay also forged a lifelong career in Information Technology. As the Senior Vice President of DoD Strategy with CACI International Inc., he built successful relationships at senior levels within the Department of Defense. In 2007, he was named to Federal Computer Week's Federal 100 list of IT leaders.

Mr. Corjay passed away peacefully on March 17, 2019 and is survived by his wife Diane and his daughter Marcy. He was known as a friend, mentor, and coach to all, and his spirit and character are reflected in his vast network of friends.

Madam Speaker, I extend my deep condolences to Mr. Corjay's family and friends and ask that you join me in recognizing his life and legacy.

COMMEMORATING THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GENEVA ROTARY CLUB

**HON. TOM REED**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the Geneva Rotary Club.

On May 12, 1919, twenty-five Genevans became the charter members of the Geneva Rotary Club. As they installed their first officers, President Edward Dean, Vice President John Farwell, and Secretary William Gracey, this newly founded branch of Rotary International made a commitment to service in their community.

The Rotary International motto is Service Above Self and Geneva Rotary has embodied that principle over one hundred years of raising money and supporting community service projects. Their fundraisers such as Pancake Suppers, the Poinsettia Sale, the Santa Train Express, and the Service Above Self Dinner have brought together the community in Geneva to support a variety of good causes. Over the years their work has supported the likes of Geneva General Hospital, the Boys and Girls Club, United Way, the Community Dinner Program, Happiness House, and the Geneva Public Library.

Geneva Rotary has helped to ensure that the spirit of service is alive and well in the city of Geneva. Rotarians are active volunteers and more than eighty men and women belong to the club today.

One hundred years of service in the community is certainly a cause for celebration. I congratulate the Geneva Rotary Club on this impressive milestone and look forward to their continued success in the years to come.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the Geneva Rotary Club.

RECOGNIZING BARBARA MARKLEY RECIPIENT OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROWARD COUNTY'S 2019 EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP AWARD

**HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Barbara Markley, and congratulate her on receiving the League of Women Voters of Broward County's 2019 Excellence in Leadership Award. Barbara is well-deserving of this recognition for her efforts to reduce firearm deaths throughout Broward County, Florida.

Barbara Markley is a practicing attorney and gun safety advocate. She is the Co-Chair of the Gun Safety Committee for the League of Women Voters of Broward. Her innovative Lock it Up! Gun Safety Program, created in partnership with the Miami VA, has distributed 23,000 educational brochures and 11,200 gun locks in Broward in just 6 months with the help of 180 community partners. Her goal is to educate everyone about the dangers of unlocked guns and to save lives.

With our unacceptably high rates of gun thefts and teen and veteran suicides, there is no doubt that Barbara's efforts have already achieved that goal. While it has already seen great success in Broward, Lock It Up! has tremendous potential to save countless more lives as it grows across Florida and beyond.

I am pleased to honor Barbara, and I thank her for her service to our community.

REMARKS ON H.R. 1957, THE  
TAXPAYER FIRST ACT OF 2019

**HON. KATIE PORTER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, while there are many beneficial provisions in H.R. 1957, Section 1102 should be stripped from the legislation. This section would prohibit the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) from ever establishing a free file system for taxpayers by codifying an existing contract between the IRS and private taxpayer preparation software companies (e.g. TurboTax, H&R Block, Intuit).

The National Consumer Law Center has previously written an opposition letter on this provision in the bill. Such a free filing system could save American taxpayers billions of dollars per year otherwise spent on taxpayer preparation services.

While individuals earning less than \$66,000 are currently eligible for free federal filing via private software companies due to the contract with the IRS, only 3 percent of such individuals take advantage of free filing, and millions more households outside the very modest income limit could benefit from an IRS-built system.

An IRS free file system could also have the benefit of ending a current, predatory practice: low-income taxpayers are upsold by taxpayer preparation services into costly add-on products like refund anticipation loans, which are essentially payday loans backed by future tax refunds.

Finally, even if the IRS does not have the capacity to build their own free file system, H.R. 1957 would preclude renegotiation of the current contract with private software developers in order to get better terms for taxpayers in a future, Democratically-controlled IRS.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. MAMIE  
HUGHES' 90TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor a dynamic woman in my district. On May 3, 2019, Mamie Currie Hughes will celebrate her 90th birthday. While turning 90 is a major feat in itself, it's what she has done during these years that makes her so special. Mamie Hughes has been a civil and women's rights champion in Kansas City since the 1950's.

Born in Jacksonville, Florida, Ms. Hughes graduated from Stanton High School at sixteen years of age. At that young age, she left

Florida to attend Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee where she met her husband Leonard Hughes, Jr. Upon graduation in 1949, the couple married and moved to his hometown of Kansas City, Missouri.

Ms. Hughes taught elementary school upon arriving in Kansas City. By 1958, as a member of Community Committee for Social Action, she became part of a movement to abolish discriminatory practices of the major department stores in downtown Kansas City, Missouri.

During the 1950's and 60's she continued to fight segregation while also raising a family, after giving birth to five children. Even so, her commitment to her community never wavered. From 1957 through 1975, Ms. Hughes served with women of all races on the Panel of American Women, an organization that gave presentations describing how discrimination, racism and bigotry affects lives. These community discussions were often held in areas that blacks and other minorities were not welcomed. In 1972, Ms. Hughes was the first black woman elected to the Jackson County legislature where she served two terms. During her time in the legislature, Ms. Hughes was the Chair of the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Board of Directors and its Commission on Aging. While at MARC, she assisted with the implementation of the 911 emergency assistance development and worked on the establishment of the Meals on Wheels program that provides food delivery for senior citizens.

In 1978, my House colleague, Rep. JOHN LEWIS, interviewed Ms. Hughes and recommended her to President Carter, who appointed her the Regional Administrator to ACTION/VISTA, the predecessor of AmeriCorps VISTA and the United States government agency that serves as the federal domestic volunteer agency. The agency's responsibilities included the domestic volunteer programs established under the Office of Economic Opportunity including the Foster Grandparents programs and the Peace Corps. It also assumed logistical support responsibilities for the volunteer programs of the SBA's Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) and the senior companion programs that later became the Senior Corps.

After her federal service, Ms. Hughes' became President of the Black Economic Union (BEU) of Greater Kansas City, one of the country's oldest community development corporations. During her tenure at BEU, Ms. Hughes's efforts focused on the stabilization and preservation of buildings with historic significance. That work ultimately laid the foundation for the Cleaver Plan, which resulted in Kansas City's Historic 18th and Vine Jazz District.

In 1986, Ms. Hughes resumed her governmental service and became the City of Kansas City, Missouri's Ombudsman for the Bruce R. Watkins (BRW) Roadway. Her responsibilities included working on behalf of residents affected by the construction of the BRW Roadway. During her tenure with the city, Ms. Hughes' reputation as a fierce neighborhood liaison grew because of her tireless dedication to assisting those adversely affected.

Over her lifetime, Ms. Hughes has received various awards and honors too numerous to mention here. Most recently, however, she was included in a special group honored by former First Lady Laura Bush and inducted

into the University of Missouri at Kansas City's Starr Hall of Fame recognizing women who have made the Kansas City community a better place through impressive lifetime accomplishments.

In 2016, Ms. Hughes penned her autobiography entitled Mamie Who? The Life and Times of a Colored Woman, chronicling her efforts against racism and championing women's rights. For over 70 years she has fought for equal rights for all and for the improvement of Kansas City as a whole. Because of her incredible service to our community, I would like to congratulate her on celebrating her 90th birthday and thank her for making Kansas City a better, more just place for all to live.

HONORING THE 17TH INTERNATIONAL  
FESTIVAL OF LANGUAGE  
AND CULTURE

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the 17th International Festival of Language and Culture (IFLC).

The International Festival of Language and Culture has been bringing talented youth from around the world together to express their cultures in song, dance, and other artistic performances since 2002. The first festival was launched in Turkey, and since 2013 it has been held in countries all over the world, including Germany, Australia and Romania. The IFLC has also hosted shows in the United States since 2015, when IFLC became established in Washington, D.C. and registered as a U.S.-based nonprofit organization. The IFLC is committed to contributing to world peace and dialog by gathering young people from around the world regardless of their race, religion or language to share music and dance performances together.

This year, the IFLC will host a show and reception in Washington, D.C. on April 29, 2019 with more than 80 participants from over 16 countries performing.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring this annual celebration and showcase for diverse talent from across the world.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF  
ELIAS W. "CHUCK" HADDAD

**HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Chuck Haddad, who passed away on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at the age of 85. The namesake of the Haddad car dealerships in Bakersfield, California, Chuck was an esteemed local businessman and philanthropist and most importantly, a friend to many in our community including myself.

Chuck's life story is a true embodiment of the American dream. Having grown up in Lebanon, he moved to the United States to attend

Wabash College in Indiana. However, as Chuck soon found out, the Midwest gets a bit colder than the Mediterranean climate where he was raised. Fortunately, he found a suitable alternative in the great state of California, where he moved shortly thereafter to attend Stanford University in Palo Alto. It was here that Chuck's automobile career began when, while shopping for a car of his own, the dealer was so impressed with his bargaining skills that he offered Chuck a salesman position on the spot. Within a year he was the dealership's General Manager. Chuck went on to open his own dealership in East Los Angeles in 1973, followed by Haddad Dodge in Bakersfield, California in 1974. Chuck and his family owned the Dodge dealership, Haddad Kia, and have ownership stakes in Nissan of Bakersfield, BMW of Bakersfield, and Bakersfield Chrysler Jeep FIAT.

Outside of his dealerships, perhaps the professional accomplishment Chuck was most proud of was winning a landmark court case against the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). In *Bakersfield Dodge Inc. v. The IRS*, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that car dealerships have the right to allocate certain financial resources for tax purposes, benefitting automotive dealers across the country. Anyone that knew Chuck would be unsurprised to hear how proud he was to have been able to help others. In fact, Chuck helped countless people in the Bakersfield area by his generous contributions to charitable causes such as research for juvenile diabetes, arthritis, heart disease, cancer and leukemia. He also provided leadership and guidance on the California State University Bakersfield's business advisory panel, the Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce, and the Kern County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, just to name a few.

But Chuck was most proud of the great love story of him and his late wife, Inger. Together as parents to James and Lisa, John and Meredith, and Jeff and Tina, and grandparents to Michael, Ryan, Allie and Ryan, Jacob, Joshua and Maci, their lives were filled with many memorable moments. As a husband, father, grandfather and friend, we will always remember Chuck's devotion to family. As a philanthropist, Chuck's commitment to community was evident through his many civic contributions as well, most notably through the National Automobile Dealers Association. Through the association, he was dedicated to fostering relationships with our local, state and federal elected officials recognizing the importance of effective leadership. Chuck held true to his conservative principles as was evident in his support of helping candidates who shared these values pursue successful campaigns. As a member of the Kern County Republican Party, he received the 2016 Republican of the Year Award, where his tireless efforts on behalf of a grateful party were recognized.

The measure of a man's life can be found in his character, in his optimism, in his joy and humor, in his courage and passion for what is good and right and in his love for family, neighbor and country. This was the life of Chuck Haddad.

On behalf of the 23rd Congressional District of California, we remember my friend, Chuck Haddad, and extend our most heartfelt condolences to the Haddad family.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CARL  
MCGEE, JR.

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, today, I rise in recognition and celebration of the life of a fellow Texan and decorated WWII Veteran, Carl McGee, Jr. His commitment to his community, the Great State of Texas, and the United States of America represents the best of our country and I encourage all members to join me in honoring this American hero's life.

In December of 1941, as the world inched ever closer to the Second World War, 18-year-old Carl McGee, Jr. made the decision to enlist and serve his country. He began training at the Army Air Forces Technical School, at Chanute Field III, and was later appointed to the Air Corps Advanced Flying School in Lubbock, Texas.

Following his success in flight school, First Lieutenant McGee received his wings on January 14, 1943 and subsequently moved to California to join the 450th AAF Base Unit Squadron-A at Hammer Field. As a C-47 pilot, Lieutenant McGee operated in the Pacific Theater, including the Western Pacific, Southern Philippines, New Guinea, and the Bismarck Archipelago. By the remarkable young age of 20, Lieutenant McGee had participated in 50 flight missions where hostile contact was not only probable, but expected.

In recognition of his service and dedication, Lieutenant McGee was awarded the prestigious Distinguished Flying Cross to commend his efforts in safely transporting troops and supplies through adverse weather, low altitudes, and dangerous mountain terrain. Upon receiving this award, he became the youngest member of the Distinguished Flying Cross Society. Lieutenant McGee was also awarded the Air Medal, with three Oak Leaf Clusters, as well as the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, with four bronze service stars, and the American Defense Service Medal. His many awards and recognitions serve as important reminders of the dedicated years he served our nation.

Lieutenant McGee then went on to begin his professional career as a pilot for Pioneer Airlines, which later became Continental Airlines. After many years of service to both our country and the aviation community, Lieutenant McGee began his well-deserved retirement on his 60th birthday in 1983. Lieutenant McGee passed away on April 8, 2019, surrounded by his friends and family, beloved by all who knew him. He is preceded in death by his parents, Carl and Florence McGee, and his son, Patrick McGee. He is survived by his wife, Cinda McGee; and his wonderful children, Dennis McGee, Andrew McGee, and Michelle Ciancio.

Today, it is my honor to celebrate the long life of a decorated veteran, devoted father, and extraordinary Texan. He is a member of the Greatest Generation, and I know I speak for the entire Eighth District of Texas when I say: Thank you for all you have done for our Country, you will be deeply missed.

HONORING COHUTTA, GEORGIA

HON. TOM GRAVES

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the town of Cohutta, Georgia and commemorate the 50th anniversary of its incorporation.

Though incorporated relatively recently, Cohutta has a history that stretches back to when Northwest Georgia was first settled.

Its name, Cohutta, comes from the Cherokee word for foggy weather, and it served as the capital of the Cherokee nation from 1832 to 1838.

Boasting Red Clay State Historic Park, Cohutta has truly embraced the rich history of the Cherokee nation that first settled there, allowing visitors to appreciate 630 acres of natural beauty and historical significance.

Like many towns in Georgia, Cohutta came to be through the growth of the railroad, and Norfolk Southern continues to link it with the rest of the state.

Today, it boasts a population of over 600, and the University of Georgia's Cohutta Fisheries Center continues to provide research and education opportunities for folks from across Georgia and our nation.

As all of Georgia celebrates with Cohutta this Saturday for a day of parades, BBQ, and family fun, I offer the students of Cohutta Elementary a hearty 'Go Dogs' and congratulate the town on the 50th anniversary of its incorporation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ENSURING  
SUCCESSFUL REENTRY ACT OF  
2019

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, in recognition of April as Second Chance Month, I introduce the Ensuring Successful Reentry Act of 2019, a bill to eliminate so-called "subsistence fees." Federal law currently requires the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to impose a subsistence fee on the income of offenders living in residential reentry centers (RRCs), supposedly to promote financial responsibility by requiring RRC residents to pay a portion of their housing costs. The fee is currently 25 percent. However, many offenders living in RRCs often work minimum wage jobs, so the loss of 25 percent of their paychecks is a significant hurdle to successful reentry, and it makes it extremely difficult for them to save money for rent, pay child support, or fines and fees associated with their conviction (such as restitution). Recently, BOP eliminated the subsistence fee for offenders on home confinement, who cost BOP almost nothing for maintenance. Far from promoting financial responsibility, subsistence fees actually prevent returning citizens from meeting their financial obligations.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) has already recognized how "counterproductive" subsistence fees are, both for offenders and BOP. In a November 2016 memo, then-Deputy Attorney General Sally Q. Yates noted that

BOP's "process for collecting these subsistence fees is costly and administratively burdensome for both RRC's and [BOP]," and called for DOJ to "develop a plan to limit the use of counterproductive 'subsistence' fees imposed on indigent residents." BOP can already waive subsistence fees in certain situations for residents of RRCs, but only a change in federal law can remove this unnecessary barrier to reentry.

We should not be imposing additional burdens on returning citizens, setting them up to fail, especially those who are employed and working toward independence from the criminal justice system. Jobs and affordable housing are crucial components in ensuring successful reentry—charging subsistence fees is antithetical to this goal. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

COMMEMORATING THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FINGER LAKES TOURISM ALLIANCE

**HON. TOM REED**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance.

On April 25, 1919, Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance's founders came together in Auburn, New York to organize a cooperative to promote tourism in the region. They sought to cooperatively market the Finger Lakes region, develop signage to direct tourists, and ensure service stations were equipped to accommodate travelers. One hundred years later, the Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance continues to serve the Finger Lakes Region and is considered the oldest regional destination marketing organization in the United States.

Spanning fourteen counties, the Finger Lakes Region is home to more than four hundred registered historic sites and landmarks, one hundred thirty-five museums, eighty art galleries, fourteen professional theatre companies, one hundred wineries, three hundred bed and breakfasts, one thousand sixty-three waterfalls and gorges, twenty-six state parks, two thousand miles of hiking/biking trails and six hundred fifty miles of shoreline. The Alliance partners with attractions and tourism-related businesses to showcase this beautiful and unique area.

We recognize the importance of the Finger Lakes Region to our local communities and we support designating the region as a National Heritage Area. The Finger Lakes National Heritage Area Study Act passed the House of Representatives with our support, taking an important first step in achieving that goal. We will continue to be a strong advocate for the Finger Lakes Region.

One hundred years of promoting our local communities is certainly a cause for celebration. I congratulate the Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance on this impressive milestone and look forward to their continued success in the years to come.

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

celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance.

HONORING DALE FREEMAN

**HON. A. DREW FERGUSON IV**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the passing of Mr. Dale Freeman. Mr. Dale Freeman was, simply put, the best teacher I ever had at any level of education. More than any other instructor, he taught me how to think independently and creatively. He taught me how to be disciplined in the basic foundations of writing and critical thinking. Having a solid foundation is essential to creativity because it provides a place to return to after exploring new ideas. Mr. Freeman truly loved learning and teaching. He cared deeply about his students and made them better equipped to handle the world around them. In fact, his work with students has given them the tools to shape the world around them. He was a compassionate person and I am grateful to have had him as an instructor. As we mark his passing here today, I wish his family healing in this season of loss.

HONORING MARTINEZ ADULT EDUCATION

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Martinez Adult Education on its 100th year of providing comprehensive adult education programs to our community.

Martinez Adult Education began in 1919 when local Shell refinery employees sought evening classes to learn new skills and further their education. Today, Martinez Adult Education offers programs and classes on career readiness, college transition, literacy, and educational enrichment. Martinez Adult Education provides English as a Second Language and citizenship courses, high school completion opportunities, adult literacy resources, and trainings for adults seeking career changes or enhancements. Martinez Adult Education works to serve the needs of each individual that utilizes its services.

Martinez Adult Education serves more than 1,900 students annually and the English as a Second Language program enrolls students from 46 countries. It is the only adult education school in California to offer Peace Officer Standards and Training modules. Additionally, it serves as the Local Education Agency for seven apprenticeship programs.

Martinez Adult Education is fully accredited by the Schools Commission of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and has formed partnerships with six other local adult schools. Additionally, Martinez Adult Education collaborates with Contra Costa Community College and the County Office of Education.

Madam Speaker, Martinez Adult Education strives to provide access to education, career training, and other community resources to underserved and diverse populations in our community. It is committed to providing community members with the needed skills and education to further their careers and thrive in other aspects of their lives. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor Martinez Adult Education here today.

CONGRATULATING LA GRANDE AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 43

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the La Grande American Legion Post No. 43 on 100 years of service to eastern Oregon, and for their continued support and leadership in my home state.

In Oregon, we understand how important it is to support our veterans. The La Grande Post No. 43 has been a steadfast partner in this effort. With over 117 Posts and 17,000 fraternal members in Oregon—and over 2 million affiliate members—the American Legion is a strong advocate for the veteran community in our great state of Oregon and across the country.

The La Grande Post No. 43 has been a vital part of the community during these last one hundred years. They place American flags on veterans' graves on Memorial Day and organize and participate in local veterans' parades. They also lead donation efforts for local firefighters' organizations, make monthly visits to veterans in retirement homes in our community, mount up the Patriot Guard to attend funerals with aims-firing details, and volunteering thousands of hours at VA medical facilities.

A little over a year ago, I had breakfast with a group of veterans—some of whom are members of Post No. 43—that spend time every week serving ice cream to disabled veterans throughout La Grande and the surrounding community. They call themselves the "Vets Ice Cream Patrol," and the time and energy they spend with veterans every week is a simple, but powerful, gesture of camaraderie and service.

Over the past 100 years, the American Legion has assisted over 700,000 veterans and families across the nation in collecting their benefits; honored our veterans and led memorial tributes for fallen comrades; and volunteered thousands of hours at VA medical facilities. La Grande Post No. 43 has been a valued part of that tradition.

Being a champion for our veterans is an endeavor that transcends party lines and is a small expression of gratitude for all they have done to protect our freedoms. The American Legion has led the effort in this, with an emphasis on service to the local community and volunteerism to improve the quality of life for Oregon veterans.

In celebration and gratitude for all that they do, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the La Grande American Legion Post No. 43 on 100 years of unwavering service to Oregon veterans.

CONGRATULATING FOUR MEMBERS OF TROOP 146 FOR EARNING THE EAGLE SCOUT RANK

**HON. DOUG COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor four outstanding young men, Ryan Calhoun, James Hicks, James Hunt and Evan Welch of Troop 146 in Braselton, Georgia, for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America.

Eagle Scout is the highest honor a Boy Scout can attain, and only a small fraction of Boy Scouts ever reach the rank. This achievement requires years upon years of tireless work and dedication to develop the requisite leadership, service and outdoor skills.

Each of these young men have earned their Eagle Scout rank by completing hundreds of hours of community service, earning merit badges and completing a final Eagle Scout project. For his final project, Ryan completed a bird sanctuary at his local church which featured an inspiring biblical theme. James Hicks built a bee habitat to educate his community about the importance of supporting declining bee populations. James Hunt repaired two picnic tables and an entire bridge in the Georgia State Arboretum to ensure the forest can continue meeting the safety needs of its visitors. Evan Welch completed the landscaping and construction of an entire picnic area which will surely provide guests enjoyment for years to come.

On behalf of the people of Northeast Georgia, I want to congratulate these young men for becoming Eagle Scouts. I am incredibly proud of the many hours they have dedicated to making a difference in their communities, and I look forward to watching them continue to serve as exceptional leaders.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF FRED STARRH, SR.

**HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Fred Starrh, Sr., who passed away on April 16, 2019 at the age of 89. Fred was a renowned farmer in California's Central Valley whose career spanned nearly seventy years. He was also a devoted family man, philanthropist, follower of Jesus Christ, and my dear friend.

Born to a family of cotton farmers at the onset of the Great Depression and having come of age during the Second World War, the value of hard work and the importance of serving one's country were instilled in Fred at a young age. In fact, Fred answered the call to serve when his draft number was selected during the Korean War. Stationed in Fort Lewis in Washington State, it was there he met his first loving wife of 54 years, Nancy Johnson, who passed away in 2009. Fred then fell in love with and married Linda.

Fred returned to his roots after the war, managing the 35-acre family cotton farm in Shafter, California, that his father founded in

1935. The operation quickly expanded and diversified under Fred's guidance, with an additional location in Buttonwillow, California, and the production of specialty crops, including pistachios and almonds. Today, the Starrh Family Farms operation spans over 9,000 acres.

Fred was also a staunch advocate for Kern County and Central Valley farmers and the farming industry generally. For instance, when the U.S. Department of Agriculture closed a research facility in Shafter, California, that was doing critical research on a cotton disease, Fred, through the San Joaquin Valley Quality Cotton Growers Association, stepped up to the plate and led the charge to keep the facility open and in operation by partnering with Kern County and the local community college.

Throughout his 68-year career, Fred also advanced agricultural interests by serving on countless boards and councils, and joining numerous associations. Among these, Fred was particularly proud to sit on the Kern County Water Agency Board of Directors. In this capacity, Fred played a critical role and was a key decision-maker advancing commonsense water policies in Kern County and California. For those of you who know California water politics, things can get heated quickly, but Fred, the consummate gentleman, could draw on his vast experience and detailed knowledge to find common ground to bring people back to the table to get solutions—all without raising his voice.

Fred also served on the Kern County Farm Bureau's Board of Directors, was a Director for the California Farm Bureau Federation, and was appointed to serve on the Cotton Agricultural Trade Advisory Committee and the Cotton Marketing Committee by then-Secretary of Agriculture Ed Madigan, where he advised the Secretary and other officials at the U.S. Department of Agriculture on the landmark 1990 Farm Bill. Fred further served his beloved Central Valley community on the board of the Kern High School District for 17 years, and was a founding member of the Shafter Recreation District, where he both supported and participated in local music and arts programs.

Fred held unwavering faith in the goodness of God. As a member of the Shafter Congregational Church, Fred could always be found singing in the choir with his family and friends.

Fred is survived by his wife, Linda, his four children, Fred Jr. and his wife Cris, Larry and his wife Shana, Carol and her husband Jay, and Anne and her husband Dale, his seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and an entire family that loved him deeply. Fred Starrh was truly a larger-than-life personality, and when I would seek his counsel on any issue big or small, he always had sage advice. I am honored to have been able to call Fred one of my close friends.

On behalf of Kern County and our friends and neighbors throughout the 23rd Congressional District of California, Judy and I extend our deepest condolences to the Starrh family as we remember and honor the life of Fred Starrh, Sr.

CELEBRATING THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the International Festival of Language and Culture (IFLC). For the past 16 years, the IFLC has been showcasing both international diversity and the talent of our youth through poetry, song and dance from their cultures.

This year, Washington, D.C. is one of many world capitals co-hosting the IFLC. More than 80 participants from over 16 countries are invited to perform. This event brings together young students, parents, teachers and volunteers to promote diversity. These talented student-performers work tirelessly for several months in anticipation of meeting American audiences, including members of the U.S. Congress.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the students, parents, teachers and volunteers of the International Festival of Language and Culture for their efforts.

RECOGNIZING SCHIMELPFENIG MIDDLE SCHOOL

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, each year, the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform in conjunction with the Texas Association of Secondary Schools Principals designate the coveted title of "Texas School to Watch" to a select groups of schools that have consistently moved to fully meet the nationally endorsed criteria for high-performing middle schools.

These schools have demonstrated marked progress in meeting all required criteria, including measurable gains in the academic achievement of their student population, paired with a continual commitment to improvement.

Today, I proudly ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Schimelpfenig Middle School of Plano, Texas as one of thirty named "Texas Schools to Watch." Our state leaders selected Schimelpfenig based on its academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity, and organizational structure and processes. Coupled with their strong leadership, Schimelpfenig Middle School is renowned for its teachers who consistently collaborate to improve programs while creating a positive learning environment.

To Principal Dr. Brant Perry, the staff, students, parents, and the Plano Independent School District under the leadership of Superintendent Sara Bonser, I congratulate them on being named a Texas School to Watch. I am confident they will continue their dedicated efforts to meet the needs of our students by providing a high-quality education while fostering

a caring environment focused on future success.

COMMEMORATING THE 104TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

**HON. TJ COX**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. COX of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 104th anniversary of the Armenian genocide. April 24, 1915 marked the beginning of the Ottoman Turks' systematic deportation and murder of over 1.5 million Christian Armenians, Greeks, and Assyrians, marking the first genocide of the 20th century.

To this day, however, neither the President of the United States nor Congress have recognized this tragedy as what it is: a genocide. This does not do justice to the vibrant Armenian-American community in the Central Valley—a result of survivors settling anew after being displaced. The families of the Central Valley have not forgotten the pain of their ancestors and continue to advocate for justice with passion and persistence. Today, I am proud to be their voice and have joined my colleagues in introducing a Resolution this Congress, recognizing and memorializing the Armenian Genocide.

The Armenian people are a great example of what it means to move forward while remembering who they are and where they come from. Recognizing what happened in 1915 as genocide is the first step towards reconciling with the past, something that is long overdue. We must reconsider our relationship with Turkey and entities that deny the Armenian genocide and uphold our American values by promoting justice and peace. It is our responsibility to ensure our future generations never forget this critical moment in history and that we continue pushing for its official recognition.

Madam Speaker, I call upon my colleagues to join me in condemning all crimes against humanity in the past, present, and future. We must learn from this atrocity and continue to advocate for the protection of human rights for the Armenian people, and for all.

TRIBUTE TO I.A.T.S.E. LOCAL 728

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees Local 728 upon its 80th anniversary.

Chartered in 1939, Local 728 has served thousands of studio electrical lighting technicians in the motion picture community. Today, Local 728 provides its members with a myriad of services such as legal, medical, and financial assistance. The union also works hard to ensure its members receive the best retirement benefits and disability insurance. With a rich and long history, Local 728 has been involved in both federal and state political action

on behalf of its members, including lobbying efforts to keep jobs in California. Their advocacy for worker-centered initiatives has pushed California to be a leader in raising wages and improving education for its workers. Since its inception, Local 728 has grown to represent over 2,700 studio electrical lighting technicians and has been a shining example of what a strong labor union can achieve.

For eighty years, Local 728 has not only supported backlot technicians with assisted services but has also offered various occupational safety and job skills trainings to ensure that members are always performing the industry-best practices. These include helpful resources on Rigging for Wet Locations, LXBeams Software Training, and assistance in completing the Entertainment Technician Certification Program. Through these services, Local 728 continues to demonstrate their strong commitment to the well-being of its members. Their efforts exemplify the ever-important values of civic engagement, respect for the rights and safety of others, and to instill hard work in all members.

It is my pleasure to honor I.A.T.S.E. Local 728 for eighty years of dedication and service to the Los Angeles area's studio electrical lighting technicians. I ask all members to join me in commending their efforts.

HONORING KEVIN BARR

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Congressman JARED HUFFMAN to recognize Kevin Barr as the recipient of the 2019 Viticulture Award of Excellence. This award recognizes grape growers who have made significant contributions to our Sonoma County wine community and Sonoma County overall.

Mr. Barr attended the University of California, Davis where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Management with a specialization in Viticulture and has since been committed to sustainability and conservation. Mr. Barr started his company, Redwood Empire Vineyard Management (REVM), in 1983, which sustainably develops farms and other properties. Mr. Barr is committed to sustainable farming and conservation. REVM was the first vineyard management company to be certified sustainable in California and has 22 clients that have been certified by the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance.

Mr. Barr has been an active and involved community member since he first moved to Sonoma County in 1979. He is a current board member and past chairman of the Sonoma County Winegrape Commission Board. His expertise played no small role in the Commission certifying 100 percent of Sonoma County's vineyards as sustainable by 2019. Mr. Barr is also the current chairman of the Santa Rosa Junior College Viticulture Advisory Board and the Sonoma County Grape Growers Foundation Board.

The 2019 Viticulture Award of Excellence is not the first time Mr. Barr has been recognized for his contributions and commitment to our community. He received the Leadership in Agriculture Award from the Santa Rosa Chamber

of Commerce in 2015, the Award of Excellence for Sustainability in Farming in 2016, and the Nick Frey Community Contribution Award in 2018. Despite his well-deserved accolades, Mr. Barr has remained humble and dedicated to sustainable farming and our community.

Madam Speaker, Kevin Barr is a generous person who works hard to keep our land beautiful for generations to come and is committed to our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING ISABEL WILKERSON

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, Isabel Wilkerson is one of the most important documentarians of African-American history in the United States.

Ms. Wilkerson devoted fifteen years to researching and writing *The Warmth of Other Suns*, one of the most important accounts of the Great Migration. From the 1910s to 1970s, millions of African-Americans left the segregated South in search of prosperity elsewhere. Drawing inspiration from the migration of her own parents from the rural South to Washington, D.C., Ms. Wilkerson set out to document stories from six decades of the continuous exodus of African-Americans from the South. By sharing the very important but underreported story of the six million people who were once enslaved and their descendants who fled the South for a better life, Ms. Wilkerson has helped our nation better understand the dynamics of our society.

*The Warmth of Other Suns* is only one of Ms. Wilkerson's great achievements. She has been a trailblazing author for decades. In the 1990s, she was Chicago Bureau Chief for *The New York Times*. In 1994, she became the first African-American woman to win a Pulitzer Prize for journalism. Her Pulitzer-winning stories centered on the Midwestern flood of 1993 and the reality of life for a ten-year-old boy from the South Side of Chicago. Since then, she has written and taught at the highest levels in the United States.

Today, at Rutgers University in Newark, Ms. Wilkerson is delivering the prestigious Tanner Lecture on Human Values. Her work has enhanced our nation's understanding of human rights and human values. I proudly honor Ms. Wilkerson for her achievements and continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIRNESS IN FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS MEDICAL CARE ACT OF 2019

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, in recognition of April being Second Chance Month, I introduce the Fairness in Federal Bureau of Prisons Medical Care Act of 2019. This bill would remove the current copay Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) inmates are required to pay to visit a BOP-provided doctor.



Under current BOP rules, inmates are required to “pay a fee for health services of \$2.00 per health care visit.” While \$2.00 may seem insignificant, when inmates earn only twelve to forty cents per hour on their work assignments, \$2.00 is substantial. That money could better be used to pay for the cost of necessities. Moreover, while copays can discourage unnecessary appointments, we should be encouraging inmates to seek medical care before conditions become worse and more expensive for taxpayers. Preventative care is much less expensive for the federal government than costly treatment that could have been avoided by a simple doctor’s visit earlier in the process. That is what medical science advises for Americans as a health practice.

Under current BOP rules, if an inmate is found responsible through the Disciplinary Hearing Process of having caused another inmate’s injury that required a medical visit, the offending inmate is required to pay the \$2.00 copay for the injured inmate’s visit. That rule would not change under my bill.

Removing this unnecessary copay would allow inmates to see a doctor and receive the medical treatment they need, and would likely save the federal government money in the long run.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN SCHOOL OF SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY

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**HON. ANDY KIM**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Korean School of Southern New Jersey.

Since its founding in 1979, the Korean School of Southern New Jersey (KSSNJ) has been central to developing and strengthening ties in the Korean American community in New Jersey. The school focuses on teaching Korean cultural heritage and sharing it with the local community.

KSSNJ provides various performing arts and culture classes, organizes community events, facilitates student competitions and offers exciting summer camp programs for their students. Over the years, the school has received numerous accolades for their outstanding work supporting Korean American youth, cultural heritage and classroom achievement.

I am honored to be the first Asian American Member of Congress to serve the state of New Jersey, and the only Korean American to be currently serving in Congress. I am proud of the work that KSSNJ has done to bring the Korean American community together in Southern New Jersey, and to help develop the next generation of Korean American leaders. I wish them continued success in the many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ERIC SWALWELL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, I missed votes on Monday, April 8, and Tuesday, April 9. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call Vote Number 157 (Passage of H. Con. Res. 19): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 158 (Passage of H.R. 1331, the Local Water Protection Act): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 159 (Approval of the Journal): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 160 (Ordering the Previous Question): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 161 (Passage of H. Res. 294): YES; and Roll Call Vote Number 162 (Passage of H.R. 1759, the Building on Reemployment Improvements to Deliver Good Employment for Workers Act or BRIDGE for Workers Act): YES.

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HONORING THE SCIENCE ACADEMY OF SOUTH TEXAS

**HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Miles Cua, Satya Holla, Mohammad Khalil, Kunaal Jha, Chris Conway, and Coach Scott Wiley from the Science Academy of South Texas. These fine young men and women are competing in the 2019 National Science Bowl Finals in Washington, D.C. Sunday, April 28, 2019.

Created by the Department of Energy’s Office of Science in 1991, the National Science Bowl is one of the largest and most prestigious academic competitions in the United States. Over the course of the National Science Bowl’s history, more than 290,000 students have participated. Each year, this competition encourages thousands of students to expand their understanding of mathematics and science and pursue careers in such fields.

Our Science Academy of South Texas team have put in the grit, sweat equity, and hard work to get here, and I wish them all the best as they face some of the best high school teams in the nation. I am confident that they will continue on to pursue even greater feats and that this competition will teach them a great deal about themselves and their abilities to persevere regardless of the obstacles ahead.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent these students and their families in the United States Congress, and I know all my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating the Science Academy of South Texas on competing in this year’s National Science Bowl Finals.

REINTRODUCTION OF 21ST CENTURY CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS ACT OF 2019

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, in honor of the recent celebration of Arbor Day, I rise to reintroduce my bill, the 21st Century Civilian Conservation Corps Act of 2019.

In drafting this bill, I was inspired by the original Civilian Conservation Corps, first established by President Franklin Roosevelt in 1933 as part of his New Deal. This effort put 3 million young people between the ages of 18 to 28 to work. They planted 3.5 billion trees, established more than 800 new parks, improved or constructed over 90,000 acres of campgrounds; blazed hiking trails, assembled bridges, built rustic cabins and hiking shelters, and mitigated the devastating impact of the Dust Bowl across the Great Plains.

America is facing significant environmental crisis from deforestation, soil, air, and water pollution, loss of biodiversity, waste disposal, climate change, and a depleted ozone. Luckily, Americans are once again connecting the dots between clean water, clean land, clean air, and thriving regional ecosystems and economies.

With recent attacks on programs that help our environment, we must remember we don’t have to choose between protecting our environment and natural treasures and creating jobs. We can do both at the same time.

Just Ohio and Michigan, alone, need 20 million new trees planted to make up for the devastation that the emerald ash borer and Asian longhorned beetle have done to our forest populations.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and its goal of putting Americans to work across our country. Its efforts will once again revive America’s natural landscape and enrich the lives of millions of enrollees in the stewardship of our natural resources forward.

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TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF BOB SCHRODER

**HON. MARK DeSAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Bob Schroder, a longtime resident and public servant in Walnut Creek, California for over 30 years.

Bob began his career in local politics in 1960, when he was elected to the Walnut Creek City Council. He served on the Council for 16 years, including three stints as mayor. Throughout his tenure on the City Council, Walnut Creek went through a transformation, including increased development in the area.

Following his time on the Council, Bob was elected to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, where he continued his legacy of facilitating and shaping development. He also served as a member of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and was the founding chairperson of the Central Contra



Costa Transit Authority, now County Connection, earning him the nickname “Mr. Transportation.”

Throughout his time in local government, Bob exhibited an unwavering commitment to serving and improving his community. As a public servant, he was always willing to put aside political differences for the sake of the community.

Bob will be sincerely missed by those who had the pleasure of knowing him and will be remembered for contributions to Walnut Creek and Contra Costa County.

COMMEMORATING THE 500 YEARS OF THE FIRST VOYAGE AROUND THE WORLD

**HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN**

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Madam Speaker, as the Co-Chair of the bipartisan Congressional Friends of Spain Caucus, I'd like to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the first circumnavigation of the globe. On April 26, 2019, the Spanish tall ship *Juan Sebastián de Elcano* will arrive in Boston, Massachusetts after stops in the U.S. ports including in my district of San Juan, Puerto Rico, as it continues its voyage to commemorate Commissioned in 1928, *Elcano* is a training ship for the Spanish Royal Navy. This Quincentennial presents an opportunity to reflect on the beginnings of our current era of globalization. This first circumnavigation took place between 1519 and 1522 under the orders of Emperor Charles I of Spain. Started by the distinguished Portuguese captain, Ferdinand Magellan, this periplus was completed after his death mid-way through the trip by the Spaniard Juan Sebastián Elcano, the ship's name sake.

The first circumnavigation is a milestone that transformed and connected the world. This sea voyage had profound and lasting scientific repercussions by proving that the earth was in fact not only round but spherical. It not

only enhanced the total sum of human knowledge but also promoted transnational interconnectivity, thereby laying the foundation for today's world, defined by economic, political, and cultural globalization.

The visit by *Elcano* to the United States as part of the commemoration of this transcendental event in the history of mankind, provides a great opportunity, not only to reflect on this feat, but for strengthening the already robust ties that bind Spain and the United States.

Therefore, as we salute the arrival of the tall ship *Juan Sebastián de Elcano*, let's take a moment to commemorate the beginning of the current era of globalization, the legacy and great achievements of expeditionary trailblazers like Magellan and Elcano, and the longstanding relationship between the United States and Spain.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF VFIS

**HON. SCOTT PERRY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize VFIS, a division of Glatfelter Insurance Group, as it celebrates 50 years of dedicated service to our Nation's fire and emergency services.

Formerly known as Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services, VFIS was established by the late Arthur J. Glatfelter of York, Pennsylvania. A Veteran of World War II, Mr. Glatfelter was a U.S. Marine who served in the Pacific. The values the Corps instilled in him to serve our Country guided Mr. Glatfelter throughout his professional career in supporting the men and women of our Nation's fire and emergency service.

In 1969, Mr. Glatfelter, a well-established insurance agent, recognized a need for specialized insurance coverage for firefighters—a coverage based on their motivations, their aspirations, their needs and the risks they were willing to assume to protect others. He de-

signed a portfolio of comprehensive insurance coverages that took all of these factors into account. Fifty years later, these specialized coverages remain the cornerstone on which VFIS has based its insurance program for the fire service.

VFIS is now the leading insurance provider for emergency services organizations in the Nation. These organizations include fire departments, ambulance services, rescue squads, 911 dispatch centers and more. VFIS also provides an array of consulting services and training programs focused on the operations of these organizations. Aligned with the VFIS insurance program, they are designed to safeguard our firefighters in their duties.

The values that defined Mr. Glatfelter remain embedded in the VFIS culture. Current VFIS staff and key agents have over 1,000 years of emergency services experiences, representing a significant level of giving back to their communities. Many VFIS senior executives are involved in organizations that support first responders—organizations such as the Congressional Fire Services Institute, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, National Volunteer Fire Council, the National EMS Management Foundation and the International Association of Fire Chiefs' Foundation.

On April 27, 2019, VFIS will conduct a 50th Anniversary gathering to celebrate this significant milestone. The high standard of protection and service that VFIS has provided in supporting our Nation's fire and emergency services for 50 years is a milestone worthy of national recognition. In 1969, Mr. Glatfelter pursued an idea to develop the best insurance program possible to protect our nation's fire and emergency service providers. Fifty years later, VFIS is the number one provider of insurance and risk management services to fire and emergency service organizations in the U.S. I hereby recognize VFIS for its 50 years of dedication and commitment to serving those who serve and protect our communities and thank Arthur J. Glatfelter for his vision and leadership in developing the VFIS Program.

Congratulations to VFIS on celebrating 50 years of dedicated service.