

Medicare, Medicaid and tax preparation assistance. The small professional staff offers counseling, crisis management assistance and home visits primarily to elderly and disabled residents. They “walk with” those they serve, offering support for “as long as it takes.” In a given year, Neighborhood Connections delivers over 1,200 services to individuals and families, 90 percent of whom fall below the federal poverty level and 80 percent of whom have significant mental or physical health issues.

Neighborhood Connections is committed to the “total well-being” of communities to improve health and quality of life for all. In short, it exists to foster hope, particularly for vulnerable individuals and families, by delivering care and connecting everyone who walks through its doors to comprehensive wellbeing support.

The motto of Neighborhood Connections is simple: “Neighbors Helping Neighbors.” For ten years they have been fulfilling their vital mission and I know they will continue their work for many years to come.

Madam Speaker, I urge the House to join me today in paying tribute to Neighborhood Connections, Dolores Barbeau, and Gloria Dawson for the countless ways they have improved the quality of life for people in south-central Vermont. Congratulations on this remarkable milestone and best wishes for many more years of success.

THE JEFFERSON CENTER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud The Jefferson Center for receiving the 2019 Golden Rotary Ethics in Business Award for a non-profit organization.

To receive this award an organization must maintain integrity, conviction and possess high ethical standards demonstrated by the treatment of customers, employees, community and the environment. The Jefferson Center checks all those boxes. The Jefferson Center is a mental health and substance use organization committed to making mental health care accessible to all. Each year, The Jefferson Center helps bring hope for a brighter future to thousands of community members who struggle with mental health and substance abuse disorders and individuals whose mental health problems contribute to difficulties at work or school or who have endured hospitalization, homelessness, or even involvement with the juvenile or criminal justice system.

The Jefferson Center's programs and services serve people of all ages and encourage recovery and resiliency of clients throughout their treatment. Their services include outpatient counseling, 24-hour emergency services, wellness classes, recovery-focused support groups, vocational services, homeless prevention assistance and school-based counseling. Because The Jefferson Center offices are throughout our neighborhoods, the Center's staff members are intertwined in the community and provide personal care to the people they treat.

I extend my deepest congratulations to The Jefferson Center for this well-deserved recognition by the Golden Rotary Club.

RECOGNIZING EVAN PRESS

HON. TONY CÁRDENAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize a San Fernando Valley native and constituent of mine, Evan Press.

Mr. Press has worked tirelessly to improve the Greater San Fernando Valley and give back to his community. Earning a degree in Political Science from our state schools at UC Berkeley and San Francisco State University as well as a Certificate in Financial Planning from UCLA, Mr. Press briefly worked in San Francisco for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Thereafter he brought his wealth of knowledge to our community's Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Press began his work in the Chamber of Commerce in 2015 where he worked his way up from serving as the Chairman on the Chamber's Government Affairs Committee to leading the Chamber as Chairman of the Board.

Mr. Press helped establish the San Fernando Valley Regional Foundation, which advances economic, community, and educational development in the area. Further, while Board Chair, the Chamber's Job Training Program expanded with over 800 workers learning management and leadership skills. Mr. Press has shown his clear commitment to the financial success of his community by working to promote San Fernando's small businesses. As Chairman, Mr. Press advocated to decrease costs and streamline the process for the Valley's emerging independent brewing industry. He worked with Valley entrepreneurs to help them navigate the difficulties of opening new stores and setting up new businesses. Even in retirement, Mr. Press continues to serve the San Fernando Valley as an Independent Financial Consultant.

I applaud Mr. Press and his commitment to our community. Such a prominent business leader and respected community member deserves recognition. I hope Mr. Press' efforts inspire other Angelenos to dedicate themselves to the economic success of their neighbors and the Greater San Fernando Valley.

CONGRATULATING THE PEANUT & TREE NUT PROCESSORS ASSOCIATION ON ITS 80TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating The Peanut & Tree Nut Processors Association (PTNPA). The PTNPA was established in 1939 and is proud to be celebrating its 80th anniversary in 2019.

Headquartered in Virginia's 8th Congressional District, the PTNPA is an association of leading nut industry companies and representatives. PTNPA member companies range from large global organizations to small family-owned businesses that focus on the food industry production of peanuts and tree nuts—along with companies who supply equipment

and services critical to the nut industry. The PTNPA also works closely with nut and food industry associations, alliances, and coalitions.

PTNPA member companies generate billions of dollars in today's global economy and are growing in response to consumer interests and demands. Eighty percent of PTNPA's employees are constituents of mine lead by Executive Director Jeannie Shaughnessy. The vision of the PTNPA is to be “The Voice of America's Nut Industry”.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the association and its members on their 80th anniversary.

OATH CEREMONY ON MAY 10, 2019

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate thirty individuals who will take their oaths of citizenship on May 10, 2019. This memorable occasion will be held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On May 10, 2019, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Amorette Jackson Vorkpor, Ragubir Singh Rathore, Zeyad Khalaf Al Sedra Al Sedra, Bushra Thamer Mohsin, Jason Christopher Richardson, Sana Hajira Kendrix, Mari Diaz, Marisol Lopez Pantoja, Felipe Garcilazo Garcilazo, Alexandros Angelos Taflanidis, Henry G. Huang, Carlos Magdaleno, Teodora Orduno Gutierrez, Geena Jikyung Kam, Natalie B. Leonov, Andres Loza, Ying-Ling Lin, Araceli Magdaleno, Janet V. Fatti, Mourad Takawi, Veronica Gonzalez, Qusai M. Odeh, Ana Delia Aleman Lorenzo, Estela Reyes, Boubacar Bouka Gamby, Norma Alicia Garmendiz, Mika Trivunovic, Adrian Jaesim, Hisham Mahmoud Salih Abidallh and Stanislaw Antonina Malochleb.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country “. . . of the people, by the people, and for the people.” They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who will become citizens of the United States of America on May 10, 2019. They, too, are American citizens, guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

HONORING DONALD WERLING, 2019
CENTRAL OHIO SENIOR CITIZENS
HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

Mr. JORDAN. Madam Speaker, the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging will host the 44th annual Central Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame induction ceremony on Wednesday, May 15, in Columbus. I am honored to commend to the House one of this year's outstanding inductees: Donald Werling of Marysville.

Don has dedicated countless hours to helping his fellow senior citizens be safer in their homes. After conducting assessments of a senior's house, he draws up plans for basic safety modifications—everything from wheelchair ramps to hand railings to bathroom grab bars. As needed, he helps acquire any necessary permits and obtains quotes for materials. Refusing to decline help to anyone in need, he often recruits sponsors and volunteers to help him complete projects at no cost to the homeowner. In 2018 alone, Don and his volunteers completed 64 much-needed renovation projects throughout Union County.

Madam Speaker, selection for the Central Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame is a high honor accorded to seniors who have devoted their lives to service to others. I am pleased to join in the accolades to Donald Werling on his induction, and thank the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging for recognizing his many sacrifices and those of all of this year's inductees.

RECOGNIZING 125 YEARS OF
SERVICE BY WINONA HEALTH

HON. JIM HAGEDORN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

Mr. HAGEDORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Winona Health.

One-hundred and twenty-five years ago, Winona Health started with \$4,500 to create the 18-bed Winona General Hospital. Certainly, Winona Health has grown over the years, but its focus on serving the community and providing quality health care has stayed the same.

Winona Health's high quality health care is a reflection of the hard work of its doctors, associate providers, staff and volunteers.

All Americans deserve access to quality, timely medical care. I'm thankful the residents of Winona and surrounding areas have a fine medical provider in Winona Health. Congratulations on 125 years.

IN RECOGNITION OF DWIGHT
SPARKS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO
THE DAVIE COUNTY ENTERPRISE

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dwight Sparks, who retired from the Davie County Enterprise and Clemmons Courier on June 1, 2018.

Mr. Sparks began his journalism career in 1985, helping turn the Davie County Enterprise into a traditional newspaper. At one point, the Enterprise delivered roughly 10,000 copies a week to subscribers. This may not seem like a large number, but perhaps the next fact will highlight how successful Mr. Sparks was in growing the Davie County Enterprise.

During the 1980s, the Davie County Enterprise had the second largest paid circulation in North Carolina among the weeklies. For a small, rural county like Davie, this is a big deal.

He initially worked for the Salisbury Post. And after years in Salisbury, he moved over to the Winston-Salem Journal where he eventually became editor and remained for seven years. Not only was Mr. Sparks a very talented journalist, but I think that his Davie County roots helped him tell important stories in a unique way.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in celebrating Dwight Sparks and wishing him a wonderful retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHRISTIAN
ALVARADO

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Christian Alvarado, a 2019 recipient of the North Texas in DC Internship Program Legacy Award. As a fellow University of North Texas alum, it is my privilege to recognize this outstanding Texan for his many achievements.

Currently, Christian is the co-founder of CBTX Capital, an investment and real estate development firm based in Austin, Texas. Prior to co-founding CBTX Capital, Christian served as the chief of staff and counsel to the chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission.

Previously, he worked as an attorney at Jackson Walker, LLP where he advised corporate clients on various business transactions including securities, mergers and acquisitions, business formation and governance. He also has served as a special assistant to then-Texas Secretary of State Roger Williams.

Governor Perry appointed Christian to the One Call Board of Texas, and Governor Abbott appointed him to serve as a board member of the Department of Information Resources. Additionally, he is the board president of Austin Angels, a non-profit organization that provides assistance to local foster children.

As evidenced by his distinguished track record of accomplishments, Christian has

spent much of his career in service to his fellow Texans. I congratulate him on this honor, and wish the entire Alvarado family every continued success.

HONORING SHIRLEY MONACELLI
AS AMHERST WOMEN'S
INTERCLUB COUNCIL HONOREE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and accomplishments of Shirley Monacelli as she is honored by the Amherst Women's Interclub Council for her lifetime of service to her community.

As a dedicated educator, Shirley began her career teaching grades Nursery through 3rd Grade in the Niagara Falls School System, as well as evening classes in English for adults seeking U.S. Citizenship or their GED. Additionally, she served as an adjunct professor at Niagara County Community College where she designed and taught her own Early Childhood Education Curriculum.

In 1980, Shirley started her lifetime of community service by volunteering as an usher and in the gift shop at Art Park. She continued in that volunteer role for 30 years, picking up numerous other volunteer roles along the way which she continues to participate in to this day.

Shirley has touched the lives of so many individuals as a leader, educator, and neighbor in her community. Her roles stretch from a Chairwoman of the New York State Council for Children State Conference, to working the Information Office at the Amherst Senior Center, to teaching Religious Education at St. Gregory the Great.

Dedicated community leaders such as Shirley, who are committed to serving the Western New York Community and to making life enjoyable and fulfilling for all our neighbors, are part of what makes Western New York such a special place to live.

Madam Speaker, I recognize Shirley Monacelli as she is honored by the Amherst Women's Interclub Council for her lifetime of service to her community. Her devotion to enriching the lives of others through community service and volunteer work is an inspiration to everyone who seeks to better the world in which we live.

HONORING THE 2019 NATIONAL
SCIENCE BOWL FINALISTS FROM
NAPERVILLE NORTH HIGH
SCHOOL

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Science Bowl team of Naperville North High School and to commend them on reaching the national finals of the high school academic competition.

Since 1991, the Office of Science's National Science Bowl has hosted some of the nation's