

States for the often-thankless job that they do. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these key public servants.

RECOGNIZING BASCOM PALMER  
EYE INSTITUTE

**HON. DONNA E. SHALALA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2019*

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, today, I would like to speak about South Florida's Bascom Palmer Eye Institute. Consistently recognized as the best eye hospital in the nation, Bascom Palmer treats over 250,000 patients every year at its five centers in Miami, Coral Gables, Plantation, Naples, and Palm Beach Gardens.

In addition to serving as a national model for excellent eye care, Bascom Palmer acts as the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Miami.

The center provides students with the opportunity to work with world-class doctors and conduct innovative research to improve patient care and treatment methods.

Eye care is a delicate science.

The doctors, students, and staff at Bascom Palmer demonstrate every day not only their vast knowledge of the constantly developing field of ophthalmology, but also their enormous compassion for patients who suffer from blindness, glaucoma, ocular cancer, and other debilitating conditions.

It was a joy to partner with this stellar team of medical professionals when I led the University of Miami.

I am grateful to know that the eye health of South Florida is in good hands with Bascom Palmer leading the field.

CONGRATULATING SBA CAPITAL  
REGION SMALL BUSINESS PER-  
SON OF THE YEAR CHRIS  
MARTELL

**HON. PAUL TONKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2019*

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Chris Martell, President of Druthers Brewing Company of Saratoga Springs, on being named this year's Small Business Person of the Year by the Syracuse regional office of the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Founded in 2009, Druthers is a craft beer success story in New York's 20th Congressional District. This thriving company has opened three brew pubs in our region in less than ten years, serving award-winning beer and inspiring all who take smart chances and invest their energy and passion into their work.

On behalf of their many patrons and fans across New York's Capital Region, including those of us who enjoy their beer cheese and hamburgers, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Chris and the entire team who make Druthers Brewing Company so special. I am honored to share the accomplishments of Druthers during National Small Business Week, and I hope that Chris's passion and vision ignite in us a renewed appreciation for

supporting our local small business community.

HIPPIE BOTS OF CLIFTON MIDDLE  
SCHOOL, MONROVIA, CALIFORNIA

**HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2019*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I congratulate the Hippie Bots of Clifton Middle School in Monrovia, California, who became the first middle school robotics team to win the FIRST Tech Challenge Los Angeles-Southern California Regional Championship.

This extraordinary accomplishment made them the first middle school team in our region to qualify for the World Championship. At the World Championship in Houston, Texas on April 17–20, the team faced adversity yet showed its resolve by battling back into contention on the final day of competition. Although the students did not win, they truly made Monrovia and our entire San Gabriel Valley proud with the way they conducted themselves and represented their city throughout the season.

We send our many congratulations to Sophia Adkins, Evan Asti, Lucas Corsi, Christian Figueroa, Alex He, Ian Hughes, Dylan Polanco, Caroline Squire, and Miles Wilson, as well as their teacher, Paul Flores. They have made us very proud; and we wish them the very best in the future.

H.R. 986, THE PROTECTING AMERICANS WITH PREEXISTING CONDITIONS ACT OF 2019 AND H.R. 2157, A COMPREHENSIVE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL TO HELP AMERICAN COMMUNITIES RECOVER FROM RECENT NATURAL DISASTERS

**HON. TONY CÁRDENAS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2019*

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, I am proud to express my support for H.R. 986, the Protecting Americans with Preexisting Conditions Act. For too long this Administration has undermined and attacked the care of our most vulnerable Americans and perpetuated unjust barriers to treatment. By passing this bill my colleagues are fulfilling the will of the American people, who used their voice to tell Washington that these partisan attacks on the Affordable Care Act were unacceptable.

The American people also care about protecting the only planet we have. Climate change continues to threaten the safety of Americans every year by fueling the frequency and severity of natural disasters. In my state of California, the fire season has turned into a year-long ordeal. People in California have lost so much as these fires get worse and worse. We've lost lives, homes, communities, and livelihoods. H.R. 2157 is another step towards recovery. Among other things, it provides funds for emergency forest restoration, to farmers struggling with crop and livestock losses due to wildfires and other disasters,

and for legal services for people who need legal help during the recovery period. H.R. 2157 provides needed relief for Californians and all Americans, including those living in Puerto Rico and other territories devastated by hurricanes.

Importantly, this bill also prevents Defense funds from being used to construct an unnecessary and ineffective wall along the southern border. When we have real problems to fix, we cannot waste a penny on an unnecessary slogan. Instead, we need to be addressing the healthcare needs of Americans and ensure they can get back on their feet in the wake of natural disasters, as we have done today.

As always, I want to take the time to thank those who have worked tirelessly to improve our nation's healthcare, environment, and response to natural disasters.

RECOGNIZING THE EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF DURAID ANTONE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

**HON. HARLEY ROUDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2019*

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the work of my constituent, Duraid Antone, who recently received an Ellis Island Medal of Honor for a lifetime of service to our nation.

Ellis Island Medals of Honor are presented each year to individuals who have distinguished themselves through inspired service to our nation and accomplishments in their field. Past recipients of the Ellis Island Medals of Honor include seven former presidents, Supreme Court justices, and many other illustrious American leaders.

Mr. Antone was born in Baghdad, Iraq, and moved to the United States when he was six years old. As a young man, he was called to serve as an active-duty intelligence officer in the United States Army. He later found success in the medical device industry, starting a company in Newport Beach, California, located in my congressional district.

Mr. Antone has lived the American Dream. He has proven, like so many before him, that if you come to our nation, embrace our ideals, and work hard, you can build a life here in the United States of America.

I commend Mr. Antone for his many accomplishments in service of our nation and our Orange County community, and I ask all Members to join me in congratulating him on his receipt of a 2019 Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMIE LAND'S SERVICE TO KENTUCKY

**HON. BRETT GUTHRIE**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2019*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Jamie Land of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, for his retirement from the Elizabethtown Police Department. Chief Land