

When she accepted the 2016 Bay City Pearl Festival Honoree Award Phyllis said, "If you love the place you live, you are extremely blessed." A more complete story about Phyllis Watt Wustenberg's lifelong love of Oregon and the blessings that will continue due to her dedicated efforts will be available online at <http://www.tcpm.org> later this week.

The public is invited to celebrate the life of Phyllis Watt Wustenberg on Sunday June 9 from 2-5 p.m. at the Tillamook County Pioneer Museum, 2106 2nd St., Tillamook, OR 97141.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, May 22, 2019, I was unable to vote on roll call no. 222. If I had been present, I would have voted Yea.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. DeFAZIO. Madam Speaker, on May 20, 2019, my vote on Roll Call vote 219 was inadvertently not recorded. If it had been, I would have voted Yes.

HONORING WALSH UNIVERSITY'S
PRESIDENT RICHARD
JUSSEAUME RETIREMENT

HON. ANTHONY GONZALEZ

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to President Richard Jusseaume, who is retiring this year after 18 years of leadership at Walsh University. Ohio's second longest serving president of a four-year private university, President Jusseaume has ushered in unprecedented growth in almost every facet of the university's operations. In total, he has spent five decades at Walsh University in various roles including student, Dean of Students, Board of Directors member, and President.

Through the tireless work and effort of President Jusseaume, Walsh University has cemented its status as a leading academic institution. During his tenure, full-time undergraduate enrollment has increased by more than 60 percent, the university has more than doubled its number of undergraduate majors and launched its first doctorate programs, and the number of buildings on Walsh's North Canton campus has more than doubled from 11 to 27 buildings.

What happens at a university is richer than passing on intellectual knowledge. Classrooms shape our habits, thoughts, and practice, thus developing the future citizens of our liberal society. President Jusseaume has steadfastly dedicated himself to developing students into

leaders in service to others and prepared a diverse student body to thrive, and positively impact local and global communities.

As you and I know, strong leadership is critical to academic success. President Jusseaume's clear vision and unwavering commitment to students has shaped Walsh University into one of our nation's finest academic institutions, attracting the best and brightest. I congratulate and thank President Jusseaume for living out the passion and principle of the university's mission statement and wish him and his family all the best.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL VACCINE INJURY COMPENSATION PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2019

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program Improvement Act of 2019. This bill would further encourage the development of important vaccines by doubling the maximum number of special masters the Court of Federal Claims can assign to vaccine cases. I am pleased to be introducing this in conjunction with Senator BOB CASEY, who is introducing a companion bill in the Senate.

Vaccines are a vitally important component of our public health system. The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program ("Program") was created by Congress in 1988 so that individuals and families of individuals injured by childhood vaccines could receive financial compensation. This "no-fault" system caps the amount of compensation allowed under the Program for vaccine-related injuries, thus meeting the dual goals of encouraging further development of vaccines and compensating anyone injured by them.

The Program was also designed to accelerate the compensation process so plaintiffs would not have to undergo a full trial before receiving damages that could potentially be used to address their injuries. However, as the number of vaccines covered under the Program has increased, so, too, has the number of cases brought before the court and the special masters. The number of petitions filed has increased from 24 in fiscal year 1988 to 1,120 in fiscal year 2016.

Congress capped the number of special masters at eight when it first authorized the Program, and has not increased the number since, despite the increase in covered vaccines and petitions filed. To meet the demand caused by the increased number of these complex cases, my bill would increase the maximum number of special masters allowed to 16. Moreover, the court may reduce the number of special masters should the number of cases drop, as this is a statutory ceiling, not a floor.

This is an important measure to ensure compensation when necessary and further important medical development. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPE FEAR
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY'S SOFT-
BALL TEAM

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. HOLDING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Cape Fear Christian Academy Women's Softball team for winning the North Carolina Independent Schools Athletic Association 1A state championship. Led by coach Sterling Holmes and assistant coach Craig Autry, the CFCA softball team has officially won seven state titles.

As a 4th seed road team, the Cape Fear Christian Academy Eagles had an impressive record in the Final Four. In their first game of the weekend, the Eagles challenged the No. 1 seed Lawrence Academy and beat them with a score of 7-2. Both their batting and fielding was remarkable in their later game against No. 2 seed Ridgely School, which they won with 11 points against Ridgely's zero. The final score for the state title was 9-6 against Pungo Christian Academy.

I am very proud of the Eagles on this major accomplishment. Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Aubree Bass, Kristen Bass, Leah Brannon, Natalia Brocius, McKenzie Burris, Gabbi Chiodo, Rebekah Ennis, Shelby Hodges, Harmony Horne, Jada Horne, Rhyleigh Horne, Trinity Olive, Paige Jeffries, Anslee McLamb, Claire Parker, Meghan Taylor, and Averil Williams, as well as their coaches, families, fans, and Cape Fear faculty who supported them on their road to victory.

CONGRATULATING HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATES ENLISTING IN OUR
ARMED FORCES

HON. BRIAN J. MAST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. MAST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate recent high school graduates from Palm Beach County who have made the decision to enlist in our Armed Forces. I would like to thank them for volunteering to serve our country. They include: Scott Carroll, Aspen Draeger, Gopal Harpalani, Tyler Huntoon, Ryan Keip, Michael Mee, Jaslyn Senger, Patrick Tierney, Devinity Salon, Deiontae Shannon, Andrew Hogan, Abigail Dasilva, Jaime Bustillo, John Dowd, Casey George, Peter Kanelidis, Stephen Manley, Andres Moreno, Ashton Skinner, Brandon Suh, and Skylar Thompson.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NATIVO
LOPEZ

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Nativo Lopez, a longtime voice for the Mexican American community in Southern California and a champion of