

against the enemy in Tarawa, Saipan, and Tinian. Mr. Merritt founded Merritt Plumbing Company in Louisville and worked there until his retirement in 1983.

In 1945, Mr. Merritt married Gladys Taylor, and they remained together for almost 70 years. Upon Mr. Merritt's return from military service, the family grew to include two children, Joe Merritt and Carol Higginbotham. Mr. Merritt now has six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Throughout his life and to this day, Mr. Merritt set an example for his children to follow. Mr. Merritt, a lifelong Christian, was an active member of Poplar Flat Baptist Church, where he served as Music Director for 50 years and was chosen to be a deacon of the church.

On Memorial Day of 2019, Mr. Merritt celebrated his 100th birthday. Mr. Merritt is an American patriot who served our great nation and continues to set an example for others to follow. We wish him many more years of good health.

RECOGNIZING MS. YNETTE LOPEZ  
OF PIPER HIGH SCHOOL CLASS  
OF 2020

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2019*

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Ynette Lopez, a student at Piper High School and Class of 2020 in Sunrise, Florida. This remarkable young lady has a current weighted GPA of 3.4, while taking a rigorous schedule of all Honors classes. Additionally, she is passionate about her extracurricular activities, hobbies, and volunteer work. She is a six-year professional clarinetist and currently occupies the 1st chair position with the Bengal Band of Pride.

Ynette has volunteered at the Department of Veterans Affairs since 2017. Her father is a disabled veteran with post-traumatic stress disorder. Growing up and learning so much about his disability, she was inspired to give back in the best way possible. She has accrued more than 200 hours of volunteer work in her many different capacities. Ynette has gained valuable experience by scheduling appointments, communicating with others, and delivering important documents to various offices at the Broward County Veterans Hospital.

She is currently preparing to take the next step in her future and will apply early admission in November of this year. Ynette plans to attend Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University in Tallahassee, where she will study Sociology with a Psychology minor. Ynette's persistence, dedication, and ambition has carried her far and I wish her much success in the future.

IN HONOR OF MASTER SERGEANT  
ELVIN TRUSTY, III FOR HIS EX-  
EMPLARY SERVICE

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2019*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Master Sergeant Elvin

Trusty, III for his dedicated service. His commitment to country and community is worthy of commendation.

Born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, MSG Elvin Trusty attended Dunbar Sr. High School prior to completing Basic Combat and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill in Oklahoma. He became the Battalion Operations Sergeant on the Wolf Team at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin and later assumed duties as Operations Group First Sergeant. MSG Trusty completed two full tours and one extended tour in Iraq and a tour in Afghanistan, earning numerous medals and awards for his service. MSG Trusty currently attends the University of Louisville pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership and Learning. He is also a military science instructor and assistant chair of the Army Officer Education Program at the University of Michigan.

MSG Trusty has shown a tremendous love for his country and community. His years as an educator and a member of the United States Military exemplify the selflessness of public service and stand as a testament to duty, honor, and country. We thank Master Sergeant Elvin Trusty, III for his commitment to protecting the American people and we congratulate him on his retirement. His dedicated leadership will be missed, but we wish him good health and every happiness in his retirement years.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Master Sergeant Elvin Trusty, III for his exemplary service. He has effectively served Michigan and its residents through his selflessness and leadership.

HONORING GUNNERY SERGEANT  
HENRY L. BAUL, FOUNDER OF  
MONTFORD POINT MARINES OF  
AMERICA, INC.

**HON. RASHIDA TLAIB**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2019*

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Gunnery Sergeant Henry L. Baul, the 5th African-American Marine in the nation to be inducted into the U.S. Marine Corps in 1942 following President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Executive Order 8802, which ended discrimination in the armed forces.

Although the executive order may have intended to end all discrimination, it did not end segregation. Between 1942 and 1949, approximately twenty thousand Black Marines trained at a segregated facility named Camp Montford Point, New River, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. The Montford Marine Corp is derived from the name of the facility and Mr. Baul trained there.

In 2011, President Barack Obama and the 112th U.S. Congress passed legislation to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the Montford Marine Corp at a special ceremony at the U.S. Capitol and Marine Corps Barracks here in D.C.

Mr. Baul, age ninety-six, is a resident of the city of Detroit. He is also Founder and President-Emeritus of the Montford Point Marines of America, Inc. non-profit.

I am proud to recognize Mr. Baul for his work and service. Mr. Baul and so many oth-

ers decided to serve this country even in the face of adversity and discrimination right here at home. Today, I lift up the veterans across the 13th Congressional District and the great state of Michigan in recognition of their service and commitment.

AMERICAN DREAM AND PROMISE  
ACT (H.R. 6)

**HON. GRACE MENG**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2019*

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate alongside the hundreds of thousands of DACA recipients and TPS holders on the historic passage of the American Dream and Promise Act. I was proud to join my House colleagues this week in passing H.R. 6—and thereby marking a critical milestone in the long fight to protect those who have known only this country as their home.

For too long, DACA recipients have been left wondering and waiting, not knowing what will happen with their immigration status. It is time we end that. TPS recipients remain living year-by-year—wondering if their TPS status will be extended. It is time we end that. Dreamers and TPS recipients are our neighbors and friends; they contribute to our communities, pay taxes, fight for our country and our freedoms, and live and work toward the American dream.

The Trump Administration's approach to immigration has been cruel, unjust, and vicious. Its decision to dismantle the DACA program and terminate TPS designations for several countries is inhumane and an abandonment of American values and principles. Instead of working toward a future that creates hope and opportunity for Dreamers, and TPS and DED recipients, the Administration has relentlessly sought to further drive them into the shadows and close the door on their dreams and aspirations.

DACA has enabled 800,000 Dreamers who came to the United States as children, through no decision of their own, to get an education, to get jobs, and to meaningfully contribute to the economy of the only country they have ever called home. They have shown incredible potential and achievement. For instance, Jin Park, one of my constituents from Queens, NY, is the first DACA recipient to be awarded the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship, and he will begin his studies this fall at the University of Oxford in England. Instead of having the usual worries of living and studying abroad, Jin fears he may not be allowed to return to the United States. We need the American Dream and Promise Act for Jin.

Furthermore, with respect to TPS, I think about my constituents, the Nepali community of Queens, who were deeply impacted by the April 2015 massive 7.8 magnitude earthquake that devastated Nepal and destroyed over half a million homes. Today, we have 400,000 foreign nationals living in the U.S. with TPS, some of whom have lived in the U.S. for decades. And I am proud to have fought in Congress for Nepal's TPS designation and extension. TPS is not a decision that is made lightly, but it is a decision that is made compassionately. We need the American Dream and Promise Act for the Nepali community, and all the other TPS recipients.