

Dale Erickson  
 Renette Okiewicz  
 Judy & Bob Wolf  
 Marianne Zawitz  
 Ken Fredgren  
 Micki Morawitz  
 Louis Finch  
 Lyn Jagger

Madam Speaker, civic engagement is at the heart of a healthy community and it is clear from these awardees that Reston remains one of the healthiest communities in Northern Virginia. I congratulate all of the recipients on their awards and thank them for their service to our community. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing them great success in all their future endeavors.

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AMERICAN LEGION CENTENNIAL  
 CELEBRATION

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**HON. ANN M. KUSTER**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2019*

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the American Legion on their 100th birthday. The American Legion has been a leading voice in advocating for veterans, servicemembers, their families and communities.

The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans' organization devoted to mutual helpfulness. It is the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization, committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of community-based programs, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continued devotion to fellow servicemembers and veterans.

The American Legion Department of New Hampshire was chartered on August 1, 1920. There are currently 107 American Legion Posts located throughout the Granite State, boasting nearly 18,000 members. American Legion members contribute significantly to their local communities. Members participate in blood drives, and contribute generously to scholarships, community projects, emergency aid and youth activities. Many of the Posts have halls, where community enjoy social functions for events throughout the year.

The American Legion works closely with the Veterans Administration to ensure that the veterans in New Hampshire and across our country are cared for following their service to the United States. New Hampshire leaders work closely with military organizations and are proud to have two military installations within the state serving thousands of military members and their families.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, congratulations to the American Legion community for 100 years and all the best in the years to come.

SUPPORTING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOR FIRST RESPONDERS ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 2019*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 542, the "Supporting Research and Development for First Responders Act of 2019."

H.R. 542 amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the National Urban Security Technology Laboratory (NUSTL) within the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate.

The National Urban Security Technology Laboratory (NUSTL) is charged with testing and evaluating emerging technologies and conducting research and development (R&D) to assist emergency response providers in preparing for, and protecting against, threats of terrorism.

The National Urban Security Technology Laboratory (NUSTL) conducts nuclear and radiological R&D in support of response and recovery as well as providing technical advisory services to emergency response professionals.

It is critical that we better understand the technologies and research used to further develop and assist emergency response providers when dealing with threats of terrorism.

This bill will allow the National Urban Security Technology Laboratory to—

1. Conduct tests, evaluations, and assessments of current and emerging technologies.
2. Also, conduct tests regarding cybersecurity of such technologies that can connect to the internet, for emergency response providers;
3. conduct research and development on radiological and nuclear response and recovery;
4. carry out other such activities as the Secretary determines appropriate;
5. act as a technical advisor to emergency response providers.

When enacted, H.R. 542 will create a better understanding of the technical advisory services that are being used to help emergency response professionals.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 542 to further evaluate emerging technologies as well as research radiological and nuclear response and recovery for the emergency response providers.

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HONORING THE 2019 PLANO TEXAS  
 GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2019*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate twenty four young women from high schools across Plano, Texas who were presented with the Gold Award by the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas for their dedication to our community.

The most prestigious accolade to earn, the Gold Award requires each young woman work tirelessly on a community project of their choice for up to eighty hours.

I want to thank each of these Girl Scouts for their exemplary service within Collin County and for demonstrating that age should never deter one from leading within their community.

It is with great pleasure I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these young ladies on their success.

2019 PLANO TEXAS GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

Mary Julienne Ragasajo, Mahnoor Muhammad, Sarah Cawthon, Katherine Xiong, Tahira Jones, Vennela Challagondla, Neha Jayarajan, Jiarong Joyce He, Madeline Osborne, Gauri Nukala, Sydney DeWolf, Madeline Polimerou's, Olivia King, Elizabeth Kokal, Regina Romero-Garza, Bianca Weimer, Carley Nelson, Kate Ohman, Joceyln Gillis, Rani Kumar Sarah Newman, Riya Danait, Kennedy Easter.

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RECOGNIZING THE 2019 BEST OF  
 RESTON AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2019*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the 28th Annual Best of Reston Awards for Community Service. These awards are the result of collaboration between Cornerstones and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and are presented to individuals, organizations, and businesses whose extraordinary efforts make our community a better place.

I have been proud to represent this community since my days as Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The level of civic engagement celebrated by these awards is a testament to the community spirit of Reston. I have often said that civic engagement is a key indicator of a healthy community and tonight's event proves that Reston continues to be one of the healthiest communities in all of Northern Virginia! That is due in no small part to the actions of those honored here this evening and I extend my congratulations to all of tonight's honorees. I also wish to thank John Thomas and Kerrie Wilson of Cornerstones and Charlene Wheeless and Mark Ingrao of the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce for their tireless efforts on behalf of others and in making our community one of the best places in the country in which to live, work and raise a family.

It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of the recipients of the 2019 Best of Reston Awards:

Bob Schnapp—Feeding Families—One Green Bag after Another  
 Mike and Ellen Jennings—Expertise that Makes a Difference—It's Their Thing  
 Omicron Kappa Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity/OKK Foundation, Inc.—The Colors of Their Service are Purple and Gold  
 Maggie Parker—Passion that Leads to Lasting Success

Roz Rakoff—An Essential Community Kindness Connector

Kurt Rose—A Sparkling Gem of Community Spirit

Synergy Design & Construction (Mina and Mark Fies)—Constructing Better Lives by Design

The 2019 Vade Bolton-Ann Rodriguez Legacy Award—Entrusting Our Community's Future Recipient: Touching Heart (Helen and