

each hearing she oversaw. Ms. Handal was also responsible for quality control of Congressional transcripts, military construction tables, and subcommittee bill and report language. Before her time as Clerk, Megan interned with the House Armed Services Committee in 2015, as well as the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe in the summer of 2016.

Megan is a graduate of Villanova University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and is an avid supporter of Villanova Wildcats basketball.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. Congress and a grateful Nation, I extend our deepest appreciation to Ms. Megan Handal for her dedicated service to the U.S. House of Representatives and to our Nation. We wish her the best as she moves on to her next role.

HONORING COMMANDER JIM  
MOODY

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the service of Commander Jim Moody with the Collin County Sheriff's Department. Following a distinguished thirty-seven year career in law enforcement, a grateful community thanks Commander Moody for his leadership and dedication to the citizens of Collin County.

In 1981, Mr. Moody began his career in law enforcement with the Atoka County Sheriff's office in Oklahoma. During his time in Atoka, Jim worked in several areas, including Dispatch, Patrol, Civil, Mental, and Warrants. In 1985, Jim joined the Collin County Sheriff's Office as a Detention Officer. Due to his stellar efforts, he was promoted to the rank of Captain over the Detention Facility and as well as Professional Standards. Later, he would hold the position of Support Services Captain and Public Information Officer prior to serving in his current capacity as a Commander.

I would like to ask my colleagues to join me today in thanking Commander Jim Moody for his steadfast service to Collin County and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING HERMANN HIGH  
SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL TEAM FOR  
WINNING THE 2019 CLASS II  
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Hermann Bearcats volleyball team for winning the 2019 Missouri Class II State Volleyball Championship.

This is Hermann High School's fourteenth state championship win in the history of their volleyball program. This team and Coach Phil Landolt should be commended for their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the Hermann Bearcats volleyball team for a job well done.

COMMEMORATING THE  
RETIREMENT OF LINDA JAY

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Linda Jay, a community leader from Tehachapi, California which I represent, who is retiring from her position as the CEO of the Bakersfield Association of Realtors after an illustrious, decades-spanning career.

As a 30-year veteran of the real estate industry, she managed the Coldwell Banker in Tehachapi, served as President of the Tehachapi Area Association of Realtors, contributed extensively to the Tehachapi News as a real estate expert, and most recently held the position of CEO of the Bakersfield Association of Realtors, one of Kern County's largest trade organizations.

Linda's community involvement hardly ends there. In addition to her real estate experience and leadership, Linda has long been an active member on numerous local boards and commissions, including the Tehachapi City Planning Commission, Habitat for Humanity Golden Empire, and the Kern Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors, to name a few. Linda's public service also extended to local politics, where she served on the Tehachapi City Council for twelve years and was elected Mayor of Tehachapi in 2009.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, Linda met her husband Bruce through her work as a realtor when he came to the Bakersfield Association of Realtors in search of advice for a business he was starting. Since getting married in 2012, the Jays have become known as a local power couple heavily involved in all things Tehachapi and Kern County. When retired, Linda and Bruce are looking forward to more family time with their 6 children and 12 grandchildren, and plan to travel throughout the country in their RV coach.

On behalf of the 23rd Congressional District of California, I want to congratulate Linda on a remarkable career, thank her for her dedicated service to the Tehachapi and Kern County, and wish her and Bruce all the best in retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE CRITICAL U.S.-  
INDIA RELATIONSHIP

HON. FRANCIS ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the critical relationship with our ally India. I recently had the great pleasure of sitting down with India's ambassador to the United States, His Excellency Harsh Vardhan Shringla to discuss the critical issues facing India and the importance of the bilateral relationship between India and the United States.

India faces many regional and geopolitical threats. Islamic insurgents are a constant

threat, spreading terror throughout Jammu and Kashmir and elsewhere in India. We should support the government in Delhi in the continued fight against terror. India also faces an increasingly aggressive and assertive China that continues to export its malign influence throughout the Indo-Pacific region. China's behavior is destabilizing India's near-abroad, saddling its neighbors with unpayable debts, as was the case with the port project in Hambantota, Sri Lanka. India is also on constant alert with a hostile and unstable nuclear-armed state to their West—Pakistan.

India is a critical trading partner with the United States. India accounts for about 3 percent of the United States' world trade, which continues to grow year after year. Likewise, the United States is India's second largest trading partner—accounting 16 percent of India's exports. We must continue to work towards strengthening our trade relationship with India, increasing bilateral foreign direct investment, and consider the negotiation of a free trade agreement.

Most importantly, India and the United States share the same values. As the two largest democracies in the world, our countries dually respect freedom and human dignity. It is then no surprise that the population of Indian-Americans grew by 38 percent between 2010 and 2017. Going forward, our relationship with India will only grow in importance. By sharing the same values, we inherently share similar interests and concerns. We must continue working together to confront dangers abroad, strengthen our economic relationship, and advance the cause of freedom and democracy around the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Ms. DeGETTE. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on the Making Appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (H.R. 3055). Had I been present for roll call No. 631, I would have voted "AYE."

RECOGNIZING MR. MIKE VANCE

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Mr. Stephen "Mike" Vance for his longtime service to Collin County as an officer of the law.

At the age of three years old, Mike moved to Richardson, Texas, with his family where he attended St. Paul Apostle Grade School and Allen Military Academy. "Mooky," as he is known by many, would go on to graduate from the Leadership Command College at Sam Houston State University and also earned a degree in Management and Technology from Richland Junior College.

Mike Vance's career in law enforcement began in 1985 when he became an Officer of

the Collin County Reserve unit where he was employed as a Detention Officer in the Collin County Detention Facility. After moving to Anna, Texas in 1988, he would become a full-time Patrol Deputy.

During his time with the Collin County Sheriff's Office, Mike held a variety of responsibilities, including serving warrants and civil papers, working as a narcotics officer and supervisor, and working as a patrol office supervisor. He continued to serve for 17 years as a member of the SWAT team, seven years of which he served as Commander. Additionally, for an impressive twenty-six years, he worked in the Criminal Investigation Division as a Criminal Investigator.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me today in commending Mike Vance upon his retirement for his thirty-plus year career in law enforcement and for his dedication to ensuring the safety of Collin County and its residents.

RECOGNIZING JODIE PENROD  
JOLLY FOR THE 2019 MONTANA  
CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COM-  
MENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jodie Penrod Jolly of Dillon for Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for her service to her country and her support of fellow veterans in her community.

Ms. Jolly is a veteran of the United States Air Force where she served as a nurse for over thirty years. She has received multiple commendations over her time in the Air Force including the USAF National Defense Medal and the Saudi-Kuwait Liberation Medal.

Ms. Jolly had one goal when she came to Dillon: to support and help veterans in the community. She started the Beaverhead Chapter of Joining Community Forces and hosts an annual dinner to honor veterans, active duty personnel, and their family in the community. Ms. Jolly is known to be a go-to person in the community for veterans seeking assistance, connecting them with Veteran service providers. She is also active with the VFW Bill Carroll Post 9040, serving as Senior Vice-Commander.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Jodie Penrod Jolly for her dedication to and support of veterans in her community.

RECOGNIZING DON S. HAVENS

**HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Don S. Havens on his retirement from the office of Mayor of Tipton, Indiana. A well-respected public official for many decades, Don's career has been defined by his faithful service to his fellow citizens. Don's record of electoral victories is a testa-

ment to his ability to connect with constituents and to deliver results. Throughout his 12 years on the Tipton City Council and 8 years as Mayor, Don has led the City of Tipton into the new millennium, helping to bring new ideas to fruition by directing projects aimed at building a better community for all of Tipton's citizens.

Growing up in Tipton, Don graduated from Tipton High School in 1963, and furthered his education at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. In 1965, Don became a reporter and editor for the Kokomo Morning Times, a position he would hold until 1967. It was in 1967 that Don was called into service for the United States Army and deployed to Vietnam, where he served until 1968. His military service overseas as a Private First Class garnered Don the Vietnam Service Medal. His training and experiences in the military also helped prepare Don for the next four decades of leadership roles he held in both the public and private sectors.

After his time in the United States Army, Don reentered the workforce as a Manager with Anixter Brothers, a wire manufacturing company in Tipton. In 1975, Don started Havens Realty, where he has been at the helm for over 45 years, continuing to grow the business and further strengthen the local economy. Don became a founding member of the Tipton Economic Development Corporation, a group created to help strengthen and develop the Tipton County business community.

Ever the man on a mission, Don continued to be heavily involved in the public sphere of the Tipton community. Spending 12 years on the Tipton Utility Service Board, Don helped to lead this municipally-owned group in its effort to deliver affordable electric power, water and wastewater collection and treatment to the citizens of Tipton. Throughout his career in public office Don has been an innovative force helping to move Tipton forward, opening new economic opportunities to the citizens of the community. He spent a total of 20 years in elected office, never losing an election, including the post-Watergate election during which Don was the only Republican to win his local race. His service record over his 12 years as a member of the Tipton City Council solidified his sterling reputation as an outstanding civic leader.

Later in his career Don was elected to two consecutive 4-year terms as Mayor of Tipton, first in 2011 and then again in 2015. Taking office at a time of economic tumult for cities throughout the country, Don's experience and leadership were integral to the continued success of the local Tipton economy. While many municipalities were struggling to attract new business and limiting civic programs, the city of Tipton was able to grow the local economy and embark on bold public initiatives as a result of the tireless work of Mayor Havens. Working together with fellow city and state leaders, Mayor Havens was able to attract Chrysler FCA to move operations and massive investment to Tipton.

When Tipton was impacted by extreme flooding in April 2013, Mayor Havens and fellow city leaders worked closely with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to acquire grants that allowed for homes to be rebuilt and renovated for multiple Tipton residents. Furthering his pride in the city, Don was integral in the creation of the Tipton Main Street Association, a volunteer organization with a mission of helping to build a better Tipton. Recent projects have focused on the

beautification of the downtown area, with landscaping and flower planting transforming downtown Tipton into a vibrant and exciting center for public gatherings. The Alley project revamped an empty downtown alley into an engaging gathering place for the residents and visitors to come and enjoy the heart of the city.

Mayor Havens has also overseen efforts to undertake demolition projects of dilapidated properties throughout the city, as well as a \$3 million investment in parks and recreations infrastructure. Over his last 8 years in office, Mayor Havens and fellow Tipton municipal officials have led a city initiative to invest \$2.5 million into construction projects aimed at fixing and replacing the city's streets, sidewalks, and drainage infrastructure, furthering the efforts to improve the city of Tipton and better serve citizens.

For over four decades, Mayor Don Havens has consistently served the best interests of the City of Tipton, as a member of the Utility Service Board, the City Council and as Mayor. His career record in government has shown Don to be an honest, ethical, and transformative public servant who has had an immensely positive impact on the citizens of Tipton. On behalf of all Hoosiers I thank my friend, Mayor Don Havens for his decades of exemplary service to the citizens of Tipton and wish him, his wife and fellow leader in the Tipton community Tami, and his family all the best in a well-deserved retirement.

CONGRATULATING COACH BRYANT  
WRIGHT OF FESTUS HIGH  
SCHOOL FOR HIS 2019 HALL OF  
FAME INDUCTION

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Coach Bryant Wright on being inducted into the Missouri Track and Cross Country Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Throughout his 18-year Hall of Fame career, Coach Wright's teams accomplished unbelievable success. He has led the boys cross country team to seven state championship, including the last five in a row, and the girls cross country team to two state championships. He has been a wonderful asset to the school and Festus community. I wish him many more years of success in all of his endeavors.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Coach Bryant Wright on an extraordinary career and wish him all the best in his much-deserved Hall of Fame induction.

RECOGNIZING ERIC AND DAVID  
GROOS AS CONSTITUENTS OF  
THE MONTH

**HON. MIKE LEVIN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eric and David Groos,