

the opportunity to enjoy nature. Mayor Ditslear was also instrumental in attracting SMC, a Japanese pneumatic technology company, to make a massive investment in the Noblesville community creating over 600 new jobs by locating their North American headquarters to the city.

As Noblesville continued to grow and expand to new heights under Mayor Ditslear's leadership, the Mayor and his team also led initiatives with fellow civic leaders and local business owners to maintain the vitality and attractiveness of downtown Noblesville. A long-time sector of commerce in the city, and the location of the Hamilton County Seat since 1824, downtown Noblesville has been the epicenter of Hamilton County since its inception. Working with groups such as Noblesville Main Street and various local businesses, Mayor Ditslear was able to encourage continued growth and revitalization of downtown Noblesville. Initiatives such as First Fridays, Jazz on the Square, and Small Business Saturdays, helped to build a sense of community that has made downtown Noblesville the focal point of life in the city once again.

By focusing on the infrastructure of the city, improving parks and community spaces, promoting quality education, and even playing a role in founding the Roots of Life Community Church with his wife, Head Pastor Teri Ditslear, Mayor Ditslear has impacted his city as both a government official and a committed, longtime resident.

On behalf of all Hoosiers, I thank Mayor Ditslear for his many years of service to the city and people of Noblesville, Indiana. I wish him, his wife and fellow civic leader, Pastor Teri Ditslear, and his family the best in a well-deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 5, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, on S. 151, the TRACED Act, I was unable to cast my vote as I was giving a eulogy of a close friend and mayor in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 647.

HONORING MAJOR JEREMY PARR

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 5, 2019

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Major Jeremy Parr for his exemplary dedication to duty and service as an Army Congressional Fellow and Congressional Budget Liaison for the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management and Comptroller). Major Parr is transitioning from his current assignment to serve as a Battalion Operations Officer at Fort Hood, Texas.

Hailing from Corpus Christi, Texas, Major Parr was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Signal Corps from Army ROTC in 2007. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Distribution from Texas A&M University and a Master's Degree in Legislative Affairs from The George Washington University.

Major Parr served in a broad range of assignments during his 12 years as an Army officer. He has served in one combat deployment to Iraq with Task Force 2–16 Infantry, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.

I had the privilege of working with Major Parr, who served as a fellow in my office, throughout 2017 and during his succeeding assignment as a Congressional Budget Liaison for the U.S. Army. Major Parr diligently coordinated with Members of Congress and their staffs to articulate the Army's budget positions to the Appropriations Committees. His professionalism, performance and commitment to the mission, as both a fellow and liaison, are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and made a lasting impression on members and staff of the United States Congress.

Throughout his career, Major Parr has positively impacted soldiers, peers and superiors. Our country has benefited from his leadership, judgment and passion for the Army profession.

The foundation of Jeremy's success is his family. His wife, Yulia, and his children, Joshua, Evan and Alexander, are the light of his life. In addition, Jeremy's parents, Debra and Earl, exemplify the selflessness and humility that characterize the families of all of our service members.

Madam Speaker, it has been a genuine pleasure to have worked with Major Jeremy Parr since the first session of the 115th Congress. It is with great appreciation that I recognize and commend Jeremy for service to our country and wish him all the best as he continues his service in the United States Army.

TRIBUTE TO THE LOBOSCO ASSOCIATION

HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 5, 2019

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize the history of the Lobosco Association, which will celebrate the 60th Lobosco Association Christmas Party on December 8, 2019 in Fredon, New Jersey. Four generations will gather to celebrate the strength of their family. They remain bound by the ideals of the first Loboscocos who immigrated to this great nation and, through their sacrifices, enabled their descendants to attain the American Dream.

The Association has helped the Loboscocos support one another, gather together, and strengthen the bonds of family. Family has been a constant throughout the years. The Association's dedication to Italian-American history and culture has kept its members deeply rooted to their shared ties and able to continue growing towards the future.

The Association began on April 28, 1957, when the descendants of Michele and Vincenza Lobosco first organized the group. They formed the Lobosco Association to strengthen the bonds of family and lend support to one another. The family's journey to Paterson, New Jersey, began with the early death of the family's patriarch, Michele. From their humble beginnings in Sala Consilina, Italy, seven of the ten surviving children came to Paterson to establish new roots and provide their children with greater opportunities. An-

gelo came in 1912 at age 19, followed by Rosario, Michele, Luigi, Giuseppina, Attilio, and Emilio. They overcame language barriers and limited resources in a country that considered them foreigners. Their family cohesion, drive, and determination helped them to persevere and lay a foundation for a prosperous future for their descendants. As the family grew, the Association was formed to help maintain the close ties they shared.

To keep the family together, the Association has organized various festivities, picnics, and trips, the most enduring of which is now the annual Christmas Party. Since the first one on December 21, 1958, the Lobosco Association Christmas Party has been an opportunity for generations of Lobosco family members to share in the joy of the season and family company. For 60 years, the descendants of Michele and Vincenza have continued the tradition of a Christmas Party to instill in younger generations an appreciation for the meaning of family. They come to connect with seldom-seen family members, meet new ones, celebrate their heritage, instill pride, and keep the family spirit alive.

As Members of Congress, we have the deeply rewarding opportunity to learn about and recognize groups like the Lobosco Association. They represent great American stories. Their contributions have strengthened this country for many years and will continue to strengthen it for many years to come.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in this chamber to join me in recognizing the members and friends of the Lobosco Association and wishing them a joyous 60th Lobosco Association Christmas Party this holiday season.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF JERRY BROWN

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 5, 2019

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of an esteemed leader in Contra Costa, Jerry Brown.

After a decade of leadership at the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) where he served the people of our county, Jerry will be leaving at the end of the year. His 18 years at CCWD were supported by his strong educational background in mechanical engineering, civil engineering, and business administration. Prior to joining us in the Bay Area, Jerry started his career with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

During his tenure with CCWD, Jerry held various leadership positions and was appointed General Manager in September 2010. Throughout his career, he has worked in the water planning industry to ensure the proper management of water system facilities and secure water quality and supply to the public.

Jerry has influenced state and federal water policy through his participation on various boards and committees such as the Bay Area Council, the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, and the California Urban Water Agencies. Above all, Jerry has placed his focus on customer service. Some of his notable achievements during his time with CCWD include constructing resilient and climate-adapted facilities and cultivating a strong safety culture within the organization.