

whistleblower, and the second whistleblower, disappeared because they got caught, their report was a fraud, and they were no longer going to be made available to us. In other words, once the phone call was made public, your whole plot blew up, but that didn't stop you from continuing.

More due process was afforded to those accused in the Salem Witch Trials.

You and others on your committees have long said impeachment must be bipartisan—it is not. You said it was very divisive—it certainly is, even far more than you ever thought possible—and it will only get worse!

This is nothing more than an illegal, partisan attempted coup that will, based on recent sentiment, badly fail at the voting booth. You are not just after me, as President, you are after the entire Republican Party. But because of this colossal injustice, our party is more united than it has ever been before. History will judge you harshly as you proceed with this impeachment charade. Your legacy will be that of turning the House of Representatives from a revered legislative body into a Star Chamber of partisan persecution.

Perhaps most insulting of all is your false display of solemnity. You apparently have so little respect for the American People that you expect them to believe that you are approaching this impeachment somberly, reservedly, and reluctantly. No intelligent person believes what you are saying. Since the moment I won the election, the Democrat Party has been possessed by Impeachment Fever. There is no reticence. This is not a somber affair. You are making a mockery of impeachment and you are scarcely concealing your hatred of me, of the Republican Party, and tens of millions of patriotic Americans. The voters are wise, and they are seeing straight through this empty, hollow, and dangerous game you are playing.

I have no doubt the American people will hold you and the Democrats fully responsible in the upcoming 2020 election. They will not soon forgive your perversion of justice and abuse of power.

There is far too much that needs to be done to improve the lives of our citizens. It is time for you and the highly partisan Democrats in Congress to immediately cease this impeachment fantasy and get back to work for the American People. While I have no expectation that you will do so, I write this letter to you for the purpose of history and to put my thoughts on a permanent and indelible record.

One hundred years from now, when people look back at this affair, I want them to understand it, and learn from it, so that it can never happen to another President again.

Sincerely yours,

DONALD J. TRUMP,
President of the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF CATHOLICS FOR HOUSING

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate Catholics for Housing on its 40th anniversary. For the last four decades, this organization has worked tirelessly to empower families and individuals by providing them with sustainable housing opportunities.

Catholics for Housing was founded in 1979 with the recognition that safe shelter is the

foundation for stability, potential, and future success. The dedicated directors, staff, and donors are committed to assisting our vulnerable neighbors in their times of need. They do this regardless of their race, ethnicity, creed, or religious affiliation.

The organization has a variety of different programs in order to make the strongest impact possible. This includes helping those with limited income find affordable homes to rent and aiding seniors so they can live independently. It provides a network of support to promote sustainable change, with the belief that everyone has the potential to succeed if their basic needs are met. Through faith, Catholics for Housing has provided many with homes in which they can build their futures.

Time and time again Catholics for housing has been there for vulnerable groups. The impact that Catholics for Housing has had on Northern Virginia is invaluable and impossible to measure. We are truly grateful for all that the organization has done for our communities.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me once again in congratulating Catholics for Housing on its 40th anniversary. I also commend every member of the organization and all those who have contributed their time, financial support, and efforts to this mission. I thank Catholics for Housing for the diligent work in our community and wish it continued success.

TRIBUTE TO LESLIE ALBRIGHT

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Leslie Albright, a member of the professional staff of the House Appropriations Committee, who plans to retire after 17 years with the Committee.

Leslie, who earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from the State University of New York in Plattsburgh and a Master's degree in Public Affairs from Boston University, started her Federal career in 1991 working for the U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration. She later went on to become a management and budget analyst for the Department of Commerce.

In 2001, Leslie joined the House Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations Subcommittee where she was responsible for funding and oversight of the Department of Justice. In the wake of the horrific terrorist attacks that happened on September 11th of that year, Leslie and Chairman Wolf worked tirelessly to ensure that the Department of Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in particular, had the resources necessary to protect the nation. Leslie's efforts helped reform the FBI from an organization focused on criminal investigations into an intelligence organization capable of addressing today's security threats.

Leslie's work protecting our nation did not end with the FBI. She went on to work for the Defense Subcommittee where she should focus on national security programs.

After having her son, Marion, Leslie worked for the Committee's Surveys and Investigations staff where she conducted programmatic

reviews of the Departments of State and Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Capitol Police.

In 2011, Leslie rejoined the Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee. Here she worked to improve fisheries management, weather forecasting, disaster response and protection of intellectual property rights. She also worked with the National Science Foundation to increase the amount of basic research conducted in the United States and worked with the National Space and Aeronautics Administration (NASA) on space exploration. Leslie and Chairman Culberson worked not only to ensure that NASA had the resources required for a robust space exploration program but challenged NASA to develop executable and achievable plans. When NASA returns to the Moon, explores Mars, and finds life on another planet or the Jupiter moon, Europa, know that Leslie helped lay the ground work for these missions to be developed and appropriately resourced.

In 2019, Leslie became the Republican Clerk of the Defense Subcommittee. It is in this position that I began working closely with Leslie. In short amount of time, she became an expert on the operations of the Defense Department and has been a critical advisor to myself and Ranking Member Calvert.

I am very thankful for Leslie's hard work, over numerous years and at great sacrifice to her family, to support the Appropriations Committee and operations of the Federal government. Leslie's contributions have improved so many Federal programs and agencies. She has protected our nation from countless threats, advanced science in America, and pushed NASA to dream big and inspire the nation.

I know Leslie is looking forward to spending more well deserved time with her family. We wish her well, thank her for everything she has done for the country, and know that she will excel at any future endeavors she pursues.

HONORING ANITA BLANTON FOR RECEIVING THE WOMAN IN THE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Anita Blanton on receiving the 2020 Outstanding Women in the Community Service Award for the Tidewater Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. This award was developed to honor women who are making significant contributions to their community through their time, actions, talents, and dedication. This is an amazing accomplishment.

This award recognizes Anita Blanton's lifetime of service and commitment to the promotion of respect among people of diverse backgrounds. Ms. Blanton generously serves the community as an award-winning co-anchor for WAVY-TV 10, Hampton Roads' NBC affiliate.

Ms. Blanton thrives on reporting the big story for her viewers. Some of the most memorable reporting of her career has involved severe weather, frequently covering President George W. Bush, visiting world leaders, and the tragic shooting at Virginia Tech. Ms.