

would not be where we are today without them.

March is also our time to reflect on the work that remains to achieve true equality. Last year, we saw women challenging the status quo everywhere from sports and politics to emerging STEM fields and corporate boards. In fact, I am proud to serve in this Congress that has 127 women—the most in U.S. history.

But too many women are still fighting to break down barriers.

The injustices that remain are many. Whether it is unequal pay or attacks on reproductive health, the persistent shadow of sexism and prejudice still undermines women in our society.

But I know that women are resilient.

And throughout it all, we are standing strong.

Today, I am reminded of the words of my mentor, Shirley Chisholm. She said, "If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair."

I hope women and girls everywhere will bring their folding chairs and stay at the table. Because this month is more than a celebration of our past—it's a call for a better future tomorrow.

Happy Women's History Month.

CJ KRAMER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud CJ Kramer for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

CJ Kramer is a student at Three Creeks K-8 and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by CJ Kramer is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to CJ Kramer for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO FLORDELINA "LENNI" LARA—28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Flordelina

"Lenni" Lara of the Atwater Village neighborhood of Los Angeles, California.

Flordelina "Lenni" Lara is a devoted wife to her husband, Yiu Lunglem, and mother of their two wonderful sons, Kyle and Lucas. Emphasizing education as a priority, Lenni has been a dedicated member of the Glenfelig Boulevard Elementary School community since her family arrived in the neighborhood six years ago. She has taken on a prominent leadership role at the school where she dedicates her time to ensure the school runs smoothly and is a warm and nurturing environment for students and parents alike. Lenni brings a positive attitude and strong work ethic to all that she does and serves as a role model for the students at the school.

A selfless advocate for children and education, Ms. Lara is responsible for supporting the development of several new programs at Glenfelig Boulevard Elementary School. She played a critical role in creating a technology program with a 5-year vision, and volunteers in classrooms with technology instruction. She has been a member of the school's governance committee and has served as a Parent Teacher Association officer for three years. Lenni volunteers with the school's cooking classes by assisting the professional chefs who teach parents and students healthy ways to cook and eat. She also dedicates her time to helping the school organize activities, fundraisers, and projects that benefit the entire student body.

In addition to her work with the school, Lenni is a highly respected and an admired member of her community. She assists other parents to find their voices within the school community and encourages them to get involved in school-related activities.

Glenfelig Boulevard Elementary School depends upon Ms. Lara to support the school in every way needed. Her contributions are consistent and impactful—each and every student benefits from her generous work.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Flordelina "Lenni" Lara.

HONORING RUBY ANN WHITTLE SMITH

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me as I rise to pay tribute to Ruby Ann Whittle Smith and celebrate her 100th birthday.

Mrs. Smith was born on March 15, 1920, to George and Dora Whittle in South Hill, Virginia. In 1923, the Whittle Family moved from Virginia to Baltimore, Maryland. After a short stay there, they moved to New Jersey where, in 1925, they settled into their home in Orange. Mrs. Smith attended the Orange Public Schools until her graduation from Orange High School in 1940.

After high school, Mrs. Smith furthered her education at the New York Institute of Dietetics. Once she graduated, she worked as an intern at Provident Hospital in Baltimore, MD. When she finished her internship, Mrs. Smith

returned to New Jersey and became a dietitian at the Community Hospital in Newark, NJ. Eventually, she left the hospital and began a career at the Western Electric Company, a subsidiary of AT&T, in Kearney, NJ, where she made telephones for distribution. She worked in the Western Electric office for 30 years before she retired in 1985.

She was supported throughout her life by her husband, Willie E. Smith, Sr. They were married for 37 years. In addition, she was an active member of New Hope Baptist Church in East Orange and served as a volunteer to Hospice, Inc. Many church members continue to visit Mrs. Smith to this day through the New Hope Visiting Ministry. She was a very active member of the East Orange Senior Citizens Exercise and Wellness Program. She enjoyed the program's social events, participated in the exercise programs, transported those who needed a ride around town, and rode in Memorial Day parades.

Today, she spends her time with friends at the Orange Retirement Club in East Orange, where she enjoys the exercises, BINGO, lunch, outings and plenty of fun.

Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow members of the U.S. House of Representatives to join me and recognize Ruby Ann Whittle Smith for bringing joy and love to the people of my district for 100 years.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ADVANCING THE QUALITY AND UNDERSTANDING OF AMERICAN AQUACULTURE (AQUAA) ACT

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Mr. PETERSON. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following letter from Stronger America Through Seafood (SATS) reflecting their support for my recently introduced Advancing the Quality and Understanding of American Aquaculture (AQUAA) Act, H.R. 6191, which will enable the growth of sustainable U.S. marine aquaculture.

MARCH 11, 2020.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: We are contacting you regarding the Advancing the Quality and Understanding of American Aquaculture (AQUAA) Act, legislation sponsored by Reps. Collin Peterson (D-MN) and Steven Palazzo (R-MS) that will enable the growth of sustainable U.S. marine aquaculture.

Demand for healthful, affordable, and sustainable protein is increasing dramatically. Globally, aquaculture is one of the fastest growing forms of food production. According to the World Bank, by 2030, aquaculture's share in global seafood production will expand to supply over 60% of fish for human consumption, whereas wild-capture seafood production will remain steady. Marine aquaculture requires no land, minimal fresh water and a relatively small amount of space to provide abundant, healthful seafood making it the most efficient means of animal protein production. Further, farmed seafood provides a source for local, traceable, affordable meal options that benefit public health.

The United States' long coastline, expansive Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), skilled labor force, superior technology, ample feed sources, and growing seafood market put it at the top of the list of countries with aquaculture potential. In fact, a doubling of U.S.

aquaculture production to about 1 million tons could create an additional 50,000 direct and indirect jobs, assuming 20 direct jobs per 1,000 tons of seafood produced, or five jobs per 1,000 tons in equipment, feeds, processing, marketing, and food service. These jobs could provide stable, year-round employment opportunities in coastal and fishing communities where opportunities are often limited and seasonally dependent.

Unfortunately, the U.S. ranks only 16th globally in aquaculture production. The problem? U.S. marine aquaculture is constrained by regulatory hurdles, including overlapping jurisdiction of federal, state, and local governments, and the absence of a clearly-defined permitting process. As a result, American investment, jobs, and technology are forced overseas while our dependence on imported seafood continues to rise—The U.S. now imports 91% of our seafood. Until Congress acts, the economic, environmental and societal benefits of aquaculture will remain inaccessible in the U.S.

To remedy these challenges, the AQUAA Act establishes a clear permitting process for U.S. marine aquaculture and prioritizes environmental and societal health by establishing National Standards for Sustainable Offshore Aquaculture. AQUAA leverages modern siting and monitoring technologies to mitigate impacts on other ocean-based industries and ecosystems. It also provides for strict federal enforcement and includes a process for robust public input which ensures that coastal communities and states are considered prior to permitting new operations. In short, AQUAA provides much-needed regulatory certainty for U.S. marine farmers while also preserving the environment, local economies and public health. AQUAA will lead to increased U.S. seafood production that benefits ALL Americans.

With quick action by the U.S. Congress, Americans may soon see marine aquaculture become a reality for the betterment of our businesses and of our citizens. Please contact us for more details on how AQUAA might benefit your constituents.

Sincerely,

STRONGER AMERICA THROUGH SEAFOOD.

Bill Taylor and Bill Dewey, Taylor Shellfish, Shelton, WA; Jessee Mitchell, Wenger, Sabetha, KS; Todd Madsen, Blue Ocen Mariculture, Kona, HI; Max Holtzman, Pontos Aqua Advisory, Washington, D.C.; Michael Cigliano, Santa Monica Seafood, Santa Monica, CA; Bill DiMento, High Liner Foods, Portsmouth, NH; Horace G. Dawson, Red Lobster Seafood Co., Orlando, FL; Mark Frisch, Sea Best, Inc., Jacksonville, FL; David Kelly, InnovaSea, Boston, MA; Chris Stock, Zeigler Bros., Inc., Gardners, PA; Kathryn Unger, Cargill, Wayzata, MN; Tony Dal Ponte, Pacific Seafood, Clackamas, OR; Sean O'Scannlain, Fortune International, Bensenville, IL; Brad Christie, Sysco, Houston, TX; Allen LeBalnc, Calysta, Menlo Park, CA; Omar Alfi, Pacifico Aquaculture, San Diego, CA.

GRETCHEN KUKA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Gretchen Kuka for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Gretchen Kuka is a student at Three Creeks K-8 and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Gretchen Kuka is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Gretchen Kuka for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

FEED OUR VETS

HON. ANTHONY BRINDISI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Mr. BRINDISI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the "Feed Our Vets" nonprofit organization located in New York Mills, NY and to recognize the volunteer staff for providing food assistance to our veterans who are experiencing financial challenges.

Veterans have played an essential role in defending our nation, and we must show our gratitude for their service and sacrifice by ensuring that they are not left behind on the battlefield of hunger once they return home.

I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring "Feed Our Vets" and their volunteers for providing this invaluable service to our veterans in Central New York.

TRIBUTE TO VICTORIA MALONE—
28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Victoria Malone of Montrose, California.

Victoria Malone is a devoted wife and mother with a lifelong passion for giving back to her community. She has been a part of the Montrose community since her teenage years, when she attended Crescenta Valley High School (CVHS) before going on to study at San Diego State University.

As the Executive Director of the Montrose-Verdugo City Chamber of Commerce (MVCC), Ms. Malone has positively impacted many small businesses, and having owned and operated her own business in the area, she has made it her mission to provide vital support to the local businesses. Victoria has helped the chamber become financially sustainable, thus allowing the MVCC to provide numerous charitable donations back to the Montrose community, and she leads the chamber in organizing the annual Montrose Oktoberfest, a community event that has been produced for over four decades.

In addition to her work with the MVCC, Victoria devotes her time to volunteering for several local events and organizations. She has volunteered for the Montrose Shopping Park Association Small Business Saturday and the association's Arts and Crafts Festival as Street and Traffic Patrol, and for several years, for the Montrose Christmas Parade Association. Victoria and her husband, Michael Marshall volunteered at the Crescenta Valley Fireworks Association event, where they worked from set-up to clean-up, and also at the 2018 Prom Plus event for CVHS students. Ms. Malone and her family helped pay off the lunch meal debt for CVHS students and families who were struggling to cover that expense. In addition, for the last two decades, they have opened up their home to several rescue dogs who were in search of their forever homes.

One of the greatest examples of Victoria's generosity is the four weeks that she spent volunteering in Kathmandu, Nepal, where she assisted an orphanage that helped children and elder women. Victoria donated school supplies, clothing, and backpacks, provided art instruction to the children, and helped manage the kitchen and supplies. Using her background as a life coach, she donated her services to local Nepalese women at a Woman's Empowerment Workshop.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Victoria Malone.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RESILIENT
ELECTIONS DURING QUARANTINES AND NATURAL DISASTERS ACT OF 2020

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, the Novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19") has already infected more than 100,000 people worldwide and killed more than 4,000 people. Meanwhile, millions of Americans are anxious about their health, safety, and job security. Earlier today, the World Health Organization officially declared COVID-19 a global pandemic and the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases acknowledged that COVID-19 is "going to get worse."

Without broad congressional action, COVID-19 has the potential to disrupt every aspect of American society, including the 2020 primary and general elections. The virus will likely impact voters who cannot leave their homes as well as those who are under mandatory or self-imposed quarantines at the recommendation of health experts. To make matters worse, the Election Assistance Commission has found that 58 percent of all poll workers in 2018 were over 60—the prime at-risk population for COVID-19.

The Resilient Elections During Quarantines and Natural Disasters Act of 2020 requires that states and localities create and publish a plan to operate their elections if large numbers of voters or poll workers have been subjected to a mandatory quarantine or a self-quarantine at the advice of government officials or health experts. In the event that a quarter of states declaring an emergency related to COVID-19,