

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING AMERICA'S NEWEST CITIZENS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate fifty individuals who will take their oaths of citizenship on March 13, 2020. This memorable occasion will be held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On March 13, 2020, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Esmeralda Vega, Ghada Ramadan, Paulette Doreen Shaw, Sara Padilla, Javier Garcia, Markus Jaewon Lee, Antonia Martinez, Consuelo Murguia de Hernandez, Rocelle Clavero Grabarek, Abier Abdulhak, Ana Gligorov, Jovelyn Socobos Manilag, Noemy Alejandra Cotrez Pavon, Maggie L. Dobrodt, Ayad Shakir Mahmood Al Mahdawi, Natasha Lynn Rizzotti, Zurizadai Luna Williams, Milan Zubic, Rosa Elvira Chacon Guerrero, Araceli Flores Santillan, Maha F. Abdulqader, Zainab Usman Sheikh, Alexandru Colta, Maria R. Palacios, Chandan Sevanti Sharma, Marlen del Rosario Carmona Villodas, Maria Guadalupe Hernandez, Wissel Joseph, Martin Diaz, Maria Gonzalez Herrejon, Mauricio Hinojosa, Liliana Patricia Ruiz Tenorio, Naila Tauseef Khan, Reyna Canlas Roldan, Oyata Monono Mwanza, Kayode S. Shittu, Lorenzo Aleman Escobedo, Hongping Ren, Panteleimon Maillis, Martin Miranda, Susana Maria Fernandez, Chante Sarah Latrice Rizzotti, Rosa Fernandez, Edgar Maciel, Harry Vasilopoulos, Imran Khan, Elsa Patricia Mota, Mika Francine Estacio, Nika Markos, and Morella Rivas.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country “. . . of the people, by the people, and for the people.” They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear

of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who will become citizens of the United States of America on March 13, 2020. They, too, will be American citizens, guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

BIMBO BAKERIES USA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Bimbo Bakeries USA for receiving Commerce City's Business Appreciation 2020 Business of the Year Award.

The Business of the Year Award is given to a Commerce City company with a pioneering spirit that has shown a history of leadership within its industry and the community. A staple of Commerce City since 1958, Bimbo Bakeries USA has demonstrated longevity and sustained growth within the community. They are the corporate arm of the Mexican multinational baked goods manufacturer, Grupo Bimbo. This facility now employs 132 employees, ten of which were hired in 2019. The company recently made a \$3,500,000 capital investment to its facility, upgrading critical equipment such as the hamburger bun line.

In addition to their growing business, Bimbo Bakeries also gives back to the Commerce City community, donating to local organizations and projects such as a greenhouse at Lester Arnold High School and Thanksgiving dinner at Adams High School.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Bimbo Bakeries USA for this well-deserved recognition from Commerce City.

HONORING DILLON J. CARR

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dillon J. Carr. Dillon is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Dillon has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Dillon has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Dillon

is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow and holds the rank of Firebuilder in the tribe of Mic-O-Say. Dillon has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Dillon constructed a butterfly garden, bird feeder, and bird bath outside of Life Unlimited in Liberty, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Dillon J. Carr for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

ANNIVERSARY OF BIRTH OF SHAIKH MUJIBUR RAHMAN

HON. ANDY LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the anniversary of the birth of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, recognized as the “Founding Father” of the nation of Bangladesh.

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, called “Mujib,” is also known as “Bangha Bandu,” a title that means “Friend of the Bengal.” In recognition of the 100th year since the birth of Sheikh Mujib, the government of Bangladesh is celebrating March 17, 2020 through March 17, 2021 as “Mujib Borsho,” or the “Mujib Year.”

Sheikh Mujib was born on March 17, 1920, in the province of Bengal, in what was then British India. Just over half a century later, on March 7, 1971, he would call for East Pakistan to become the independent nation of Bangladesh. He was subsequently arrested, but his vision for Bengalis would soon become a reality. Following a brutal war for independence, during which an estimated 300,000 to 3,000,000 people lost their lives, the nation of Bangladesh was born on December 16, 1971. Sheikh Mujib was released from prison and became the first President of Bangladesh, serving in that office from April 17, 1971 to January 12, 1972. In January of 1972, he was elected Prime Minister of the first Parliament of Bangladesh.

In 1975, Sheikh Mujib and most of his family were assassinated. Just two of his daughters, current Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Sheikh Rehana, were spared, as they were living in what was West Germany at the time.

The centennial of the birth of the “Founding Father” of Bangladesh, Sheikh Mujib, is deeply meaningful to the people of Bangladesh and to those throughout the world with personal connections to the country. Events are being organized in the United States and around the world to commemorate this historical event. I encourage my colleagues to join me in recognizing those working to honor Bangladesh's history and commemorate this event, including Dr. MD. Rabbi Alam, Convener of Bangabandhu Parishad USA and a resident of my home state of Michigan.

I urge my colleagues to join me in standing with the people of Bangladesh, and those in

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

the Bangladeshi American community, as they celebrate the centennial of the birth of Sheikh Mujib.

RECOGNIZING DAN OHL OF MALTA

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dan Ohl of Malta for going above and beyond to answer the call of duty and personally fly blood platelets to his local hospital in a time of need.

Dan loves to fly. He says there's nothing like seeing Montana's stunning landscape from a different perspective.

As a Montana Highway Patrolman, Dan spends a lot of time on the ground, lending a hand to fellow Montanans. It wasn't until this past December that his love of flying and helping others came together.

In December 2019, Phillips County Hospital contacted Montana Highway Patrol for assistance delivering blood from Great Falls to their clinic in Malta. The troopers came up with a plan to use a series of relays to transport the blood to Malta but ran into a problem when there wasn't enough staff to execute it. That's when Dan stepped up.

Dan jumped into action and using his own Beach Craft Bonanza 6-seater, started the over 200-mile flight to Great Falls to meet the Red Cross at the local airport. He says it was the most precious cargo, aside from his family, he has had on his plane. When he touched down in Malta, he met with hospital staff who transferred the blood to the hospital. His quick delivery of blood saved a life.

For Dan, this is why he went into serving in the Montana Highway Patrol: he wanted to help Montanans. Whether he's on or off duty, as a patrolman, he's called to step up in times of need and that's exactly what he did.

Madam Speaker, for selflessly helping his fellow Montanans, from the air and on the ground, I recognize Dan Ohl for his Spirit of Montana.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Southern Illinois University (SIU) School of Medicine for celebrating their 50th anniversary.

SIU School of Medicine was established in 1970 after the Illinois General Assembly passed a bill calling for a second state medical school to be established in downstate Illinois and achieved full accreditation in 1972. Today, SIU School of Medicine admits 72 of the best medical students from around the world each year.

The medical education curriculum offered at SIU School of Medicine has brought the school national attention. The school's con-

tinuing medical education program provides an extensive schedule of accredited conferences and symposia for physicians and other health-care professionals in central and southern Illinois.

I applaud the efforts of SIU School of Medicine, its faculty, and students. They continue to provide quality medical education committed to improving local healthcare. I extend my sincere congratulations to SIU School of Medicine for a successful 50 years, and I wish them continued success going forward providing quality healthcare services to the residents of Central Illinois.

CERTOL INTERNATIONAL LLC

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Certol International LLC for receiving Commerce City's Business Appreciation 2020 Business on the Move Award.

The Business on the Move Award recognizes businesses bringing new employment, growth in sales or new capital investment to the city in the last year. Founded in 1979, and located in Commerce City since 2003, Certol International was an early pioneer in the manufacturing of infection prevention products for the medical and dental markets. Creating innovative products in these markets remains a core competency today. The company works with distribution partners to ship to customers in national and international destinations.

Certol International operates out of a 46,000 square-foot building in Commerce City with a staff of 38. In 2019, they hired two more employees and contributed over a million dollars in capital investment.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Certol International LLC for this well-deserved recognition from Commerce City.

IN RECOGNITION OF ART OWENS, RECIPIENT OF THE GREATER PITTSBURGH FRIENDLY SONS' SWINGLE AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Art Owens, who will receive the Francis Swingle Award from the Greater Pittsburgh Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. He will be honored at the group's 106th annual gathering on Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

Art was born January 12, 1959 to Sheldon and Eleanor Owens in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. He attended grade school in Wilkes-Barre and graduated from E.L. Meyers High School in 1979. He earned an associate degree in social science from Luzerne County Community College and a bachelor's degree in liberal studies in social services, along with a certificate in gerontology from College Misericordia.

Art's career serving others began in 1975 in the dietary department at Mercy Hospital in

Wilkes-Barre. As the volunteer director, Art was integral to the management of the volunteer department, developing therapies and projects like the Angel/Golden Tree Project. During his 20-year career at the hospital, he successfully built professional relationships with area social service organizations, and served on the Policy and Procedure Committee. Art was also vice president of the Mercy Hospital Auxiliary. For his efforts, he received the Mercy Leadership Award and the Mercy Community/Professional Involvement Award.

In 1996, Art accepted a position with the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Northeastern Pennsylvania as a wish granting director/volunteer supervisor. He continued to make wishes come true for critically ill children, advancing to the position of program services director and then vice president of program services. He worked to secure over \$100,000 in donations by building relationships with local businesses and organizations across Northeastern Pennsylvania. He recruited, hired, trained, and coordinated volunteers in wish granting and development during his time with the foundation.

In 2006, Art transitioned to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit No. 18, assisting children in the Behavioral Health and Rehabilitative Services Department. He currently provides services to children who attend the Greater Nanticoke Area School District.

In addition to the Greater Pittsburgh Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick, Art is a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Aerie 353, and currently serves on the Scholarship Committee to help raise funds for local students to assist with college expenses.

It is an honor to join the Greater Pittsburgh Friendly Sons of St. Patrick as they recognize Art Owens as the recipient of the Francis Swingle Award. He has had a successful career in service to his community, and I wish him all the best on this St. Patrick's Day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Ms. JAYAPAL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD how I would have voted for the following votes had I not been necessarily absent. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 87; YEA on Roll Call No. 88; NAY on Roll Call No. 89; and YEA on Roll Call No. 90.

HONORING ZACHARY DAVID GRADINGER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Zachary David Grading. Zachary is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Zachary has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Zachary has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Zachary has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Zachary David Grading for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO CORALYN
ANDRESTAYLOR—28TH CONGRES-
SIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF
THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 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, Coralyn AndresTaylor of the Silver Lake neighborhood of Los Angeles, California.

Coralyn AndresTaylor has more than thirty years of public health education program development, implementation and management. Her lifelong passion for public health began with her undergraduate degree in Dietetics from the University of California, Davis and then moving on to earn a Master's in Public Health from the University of California, Berkeley. Upon receiving her master's degree, Coralyn was admitted to the prestigious Assembly Fellowship Program at the California State Capitol where her interests and education in policy, finance, and health converged during her work with the Assembly Ways and Means Health Subcommittee.

Ms. AndresTaylor, MPH, RDN, CLE, CHES is currently the Department Administrator for PIH Health Good Samaritan Hospital's Community Health Education Department and Lactation Resource Center. Her department oversees nutrition, cardiovascular health, stroke, perinatal health, breastfeeding, and diabetes. Since chronic diseases such as diabetes are both common and costly, Coralyn has a long-standing interest in prevention and educates individual patients and their family members in creating lifelong healthy habits. As a master's-prepared Registered Dietician Nutritionist, Certified Health Education Specialist, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Instructor and Certified Lactation Educator, she has applied her knowledge and skills for the benefit of diverse ethnic and disadvantaged communities throughout Los Angeles County. She continued to serve her community when she was appointed a Los Angeles City Health Commissioner in 2016.

With a passion for making a difference in her community, Ms. AndresTaylor volunteers with LINC Housing to help the formerly homeless, and people in need of affordable housing move to a stable living environment. Coralyn

is well-regarded in her faith-based community frequently serving as Lector at Sunday morning services, and volunteers as a Eucharistic minister at Our Mother of Good Counsel Church in Los Feliz. She also participates in and plans the Women's Cornerstone retreats and Faith Sharing groups for her church.

Coralyn and her husband, Peter have lived in Silver Lake for the past thirty-one years where they raised their two wonderful daughters, Andrea and Allyson. At home, Coralyn is the chief infection control and safety officer who frequently reminds her family and friends to wash hands, use sunscreen and wear bike helmets.

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

HUNTER CYPRIAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

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

Hunter Cyprian is a student at Standley Lake High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Hunter Cyprian 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 Hunter Cyprian 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.

DISABLED VETERANS EDUCATION
RELIEF ACT

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Disabled Veterans Education Relief Act, which would reinstate VA education assistance for disabled veterans in vocational rehabilitation and employment (VR&E) training in the event their school closes or courses are disapproved. Section 109 of the Forever GI Bill law extended these protections to students using GI Bill benefits but did not include students using education benefits under the VR&E program. By extending these protections to the over 100,000 veterans who participate in the VR&E program every year, our nation will ensure that all veterans can access relief when their studies are disrupted by school closures or disapproved courses through no fault of their own.

The bill requires the VA to protect VR&E students on the same basis as their counter-

parts using GI Bill benefits as mandated by section 109 of the Forever GI Bill law. These protections include the restoration of benefits for those affected by school closures or the course was disapproved as a result of a modified policy, regulation, or law. In addition, my legislation authorizes the VA to continue paying subsistence allowances to VR&E students through the end of the academic term during which such closure or disapproval occurred. VA will also be required to notify affected students of imminent and actual school closures and inform them how the closure will affect their VR&E benefits.

The Act has the support of the Disabled American Veterans, American Legion, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Student Veterans of America, AMVETS, Association of the U.S. Navy, Military Officers Association of America, National Military Family Association, and the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States.

The gentleman from Illinois, Mr. BOST, is an original cosponsor of the bill.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation.

WELCOME MABEL ROSE WILLS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Justin Matthew Wills and Aimee Renee Wills, of Lexington, South Carolina, on the birth of their new baby girl, Mabel Rose Wills. Mabel was born on Friday, March 6, 2020, weighing six pounds and eleven ounces and measured nineteen and three-quarter inches long at Lexington Medical Center in West Columbia, South Carolina.

Congratulations to her maternal grandparents, Kim and Rose Myers of Etna, Ohio, and her paternal grandparents, John and Elizabeth Wills of Huntsville, Alabama.

RECOGNIZING SPACE COAST CITY
FEST

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, on March 28th and 29th, 2020, Brevard County families along with 100 business owners and 190 local church organizations will gather together to celebrate Space Coast City Fest. This uplifting event will take place at Space Coast Daily Park in Melbourne, FL, concluding a year and a half long outreach effort to unite the Christian Community.

Space Coast City Fest was created as a region-wide campaign to serve churches in the community and promote faith-based works. Over a period of 18 months, CityFest and CityServe have worked to raise the level of involvement of Brevard County churches in serving community needs. The focus of their initiatives include building long term partnerships with public and non-profit groups to help

serve our schools, meet the needs of children within the foster care system, raise awareness & seek solutions for the Opioid crisis, tackle homelessness, feed the hungry, and revitalize troubled and sometimes forgotten neighborhoods.

In addition, special events were held to promote unity among church leaders and spread a message of Christian hope. The ReNew gathering drew more than 2,000 people for a night of worship & teaching, a conference for pastors and ministry leaders was attended by several hundred church leaders, an educational forum on community issues, and various training sessions were offered to church members. In the ten days leading up to the final festival event, a Christian message was shared in several smaller settings including a surf camp with Cliff and Damian Hobgood, two presentations in area prisons, a luncheon and a dinner for women, and a business and civic leaders' luncheon.

The final event is a family-oriented festival at the Space Coast Daily Park next to Viera High School on March 28th and 29th. The festival will host a children's area and an action sports program that includes professional BMX, Free-Style Motocross, and skateboard demonstrations. The event will wrap up with a mainstage program of contemporary Christian music bands from around the county, and will also include a message of hope from international evangelist Andrew Palau. Other featured performers include Adam Agee, Mandisa, Newsboys United, Blanca, Illusionist Jon Michael Hinton, Danny Gokey, and Lecrae. Thousands are expected to attend.

I would like to recognize the hard work of the local organizing committee chaired by Christopher Burton and Dr. Mike Ronsisvalle in partnership with the Luis Palau Association. Their efforts over the last 18 months of mobilizing events have greatly impacted our community and have brought us all together in a very special way. It's notable that the \$800,000 cost of the Space Coast City Fest Celebration was contributed by local churches, individuals, and businesses so that it could be free to the public.

I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to please join me in recognizing Space Coast City Fest.

HONORING KOLTON HUNT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kolton Hunt. Kolton is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 82, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kolton has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kolton has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Kolton has served his troop as the Senior Patrol Leader and earned his Arrow of Light award. Kolton has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Kolton

built a Little Free Library outside of Buckner Elementary School in Buckner, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kolton Hunt for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I was absent March 9, 2020. If I were present, I would have voted on the following:

Roll no. 91—H. Res. 410—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, As Amended: YEA; and Roll no. 92—H.R. 1771—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended: YEA.

INTSEL STEEL WEST

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Intsel Steel West for receiving Commerce City's Business Appreciation 2020 Economic Development Award for Leadership.

The Economic Development Award for Leadership honors a business or individual that has been a catalyst toward economic vitality in Commerce City through creative leadership, innovation, facilitation, collaboration or through contribution of resources. Triple-S Steel, the parent company of Intsel Steel West, was founded in 1960, and sells nearly 700,000 tons of steel per year for bridges, stadiums, barges, and large buildings throughout North America, Central and South America and Asia. Triple-S Steel consolidated and expanded the company's existing operations in Denver and at 6300 Clermont St. in Commerce City with a new 234,000 square-foot facility at 8573 Ulster St. The Commerce City operations are now a subsidiary called Intsel Steel West, employing nearly 100 people.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Intsel Steel West for this well-deserved recognition from Commerce City.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GERRILYNN "LYNN" NISHIMURA

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Gerrilyn "Lynn" Nishimura, whose leadership in the labor community has improved the lives of countless people in Washington State.

On February 5, 2020 Lynn Nishimura unexpectedly passed away after beginning her retirement that was set to be filled with two things she was most passionate about—travel and continued service to her community.

Lynn Nishimura had an admirable career. She worked her way up at a variety of banking institutions, starting as a teller and retiring as a Senior Vice President. After her retirement in 2018, Lynn resumed her position as an unpaid volunteer of the Puget Sound Labor Agency as their Executive Director, where she had been since 2013. The Puget Sound Labor Agency credits Lynn Nishimura for providing crucial leadership and steering the organization through difficult times with her expertise in finance management and her devotion to their mission. Lynn Nishimura worked tireless hours during her time with Puget Sound Labor Agency to ensure people got the help they needed, from guaranteeing wheelchair ramp installations were completed to ensuring union member hardship assistance would continue to be available to the thousands of people who needed those services. Lynn is remembered for her warmth and fearlessness to rise to challenges in order to improve the lives of everyone around her.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize the life of Gerrilyn "Lynn" Nishimura. Her life and dedication to service is a reminder that it only takes one person to make lifechanging impacts in a community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. MORELLE. Madam Speaker, I regretably missed Roll Call vote 60 on February 12, 2020.

Had I been present, I would have voted AYE.

COMMEMORATING CAROL MERNA AS CENTRAL ILLINOIS' WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Carol Merna, CEO for the Center of Prevention of Abuse (CFPA) in Peoria, IL, for being recognized as Central Illinois' Woman of the Year.

As the CEO of the Center for Prevention of Abuse, Carol has led Illinois' efforts for education and prevention of human trafficking, domestic violence, and abuse. During her time with the CFPA, Carol and the CFPA team have provided survivors more than 9,000 nights in safe shelters while also reaching over 35,000 Illinois students with prevention education. Carol's work with the CFPA has helped changed the fundamental attitudes of society and institutions so that violence and abuse are never promoted, tolerated, or condoned. With over three decades of community and philanthropic experience, Carol's boundless devotion to the promotion of the well-being of thousands of central Illinoisans has enhanced and bettered the lives of those men and women.

Carol's commitment to the Peoria community and central Illinois is unmatched. Her

dedication to human services is not limited to just the CFFA. She serves on the Board for the Bleeding and Clotting Disorders Institute and the Dirksen Congressional Center. She also served the public in the 18th congressional district for two decades. Additionally, Merna is a member of the Peoria Rotary Club, Illinois Human Services Partnership, and serves on numerous committees, like the Peoria Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee. Building community and investing in Central Illinois, large or small, has long been a passion for Carol.

Our community has greatly benefited from the hard work and leadership of Carol Merna. I extend my sincere congratulations to her on being recognized as Central Illinois' Woman of the Year. I wish her much success as she continues to lead a life of service to the Peoria community and central Illinois.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE REV. PHILLIP R. BYRUM

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the decades of dedicated public service of a great North Carolinian, role model and man of faith, the Rev. Phillip R. Byrum—known to many as Father Phil.

Born in 1941, Rev Phillip R. Byrum is a native of Greensboro, North Carolina—son of the late Robert and Margaret Byrum. He attended Greensboro Public Schools and graduated from Greensboro College in 1963 with a degree in philosophy and religion.

He went on to attend the Episcopal Theological School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, graduating in 1966. He was assigned to St. Michael's Church in Tarboro, North Carolina and St. Mary's Church in Speed, North Carolina. He was ordained to the Priesthood on June 24, 1967, at Christ Church in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Father Phil was married to the former Anne Stuart Barnette in 1966. They became parents to two sons, Robert Stuart, born 1968 and John Keith, born in 1970. He is also a proud grandfather of seven grandchildren and great-grandfather of one.

Father Phil and his family moved to Albemarle, North Carolina in 1969, where he became the Rector of Christ Church. He and his family spent a joyful 22 years in this parish, with both sons attending local schools, and leaving to attend and graduate from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Serving with passion and humility, Father Phil was a dedicated minister to his congregation and was heavily involved in many facets of community life, as well as the work of the Diocese of North Carolina. For many years, he chaired the Commission on Liturgy and Music, and directed a music and worship camp for children on behalf of the Diocese for 19 years. He also began a long relationship with the Society of St. Margaret in Boston, Massachusetts where he served as a visiting chaplain to the Sisters for many years.

In May 1991, Rev. Byrum accepted a call to become Rector of St. Timothy's Church in Wilson, North Carolina. Shortly after, a temporary assignment stretched into nearly 30 years of

service as Father Phil was asked to serve as priest-in-charge of a historic African American church in East Wilson, St. Mark's Church.

Father Phil completed his service in ministry from St. Timothy's in 2000, and focused his ministry service on St. Mark's, while also serving La Iglesia de la Guadalupe, the Spanish-speaking church officially recognized as a congregation in 1998 and shares St. Mark's facilities. Father Phil devoted his service in ministry at St. Mark's and La Guadalupe until his final retirement in 2020.

Father Phil had the privilege of leading his congregations at St. Mark's and La Guadalupe in serving the community with worship services in English and Spanish and through community outreach programs such as food ministries, tutoring programs, and assistance programs for those facing critical situations in their lives.

On February 29, 2020, Father Phil retired from active ministry and will continue to live in his home community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating and honoring the Rev. Phillip R. Byrum as he is recognized for his many years of service. His lifelong contribution to his congregations and community cannot be overstated.

LITTLE PUB COMPANY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Little Pub Company for receiving Commerce City's Business Appreciation 2020 Retail Investment Award for Leadership.

The Retail Investment Award for Leadership honors a retailer or commercial developer who contributed to the city's economic vitality through the introduction of a new business that brought new employment and/or new capital investment to the city in the last year. Founded in Denver in 1994, Little Pub Company currently operates over 20 restaurants and/or bars across the Denver metropolitan area. Each location is unique—names and defining characteristics are specific to each neighborhood in which they are built.

Little Pub Company was a pioneer in Commerce City. The company built the northern range's first free-standing full-service restaurant and bar in 2019, State House 38. The 5,424 square-foot restaurant brought 75 new jobs to the city in 2019. The name pays tribute to Colorado, the 38th state in the Union. Inside, the walls are decorated with photos illustrating the history of Commerce City.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Little Pub Company for this well-deserved recognition from Commerce City.

HONORING BRYAN JOSEPH KELLER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bryan Joseph

Keller. Brian is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brian has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Brian has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Brian has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Bryan Joseph Keller for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. MICHAEL A. EVANS

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Michael A. Evans, a medical expert, an entrepreneur and a dear friend. Dr. Evans was known throughout Indiana and the nation for his excellent work in the field of toxicology, but he was much more than that. A businessman, Mike founded two nationally recognized laboratories in Indianapolis, AIT Laboratories and AIT Bioscience. Mike was commended by the State of Indiana for his many successes. Hoosiers are forever grateful for Mike's significant contributions to the City of Indianapolis and the State of Indiana as a whole.

Michael Evans was born on October 19, 1943, in New Albany, Indiana. He graduated from Our Lady of Providence High School and went on to attend St. Joseph's College where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree. Upon his graduation, Mike served our nation as a platoon sergeant and an Army Ranger in Vietnam. Mike was awarded two Purple Hearts and a Silver Star Medal for valor in combat.

After returning from his service, Mike earned his doctorate degree in toxicology from the Indiana University School of Medicine. After receiving his degree, Dr. Evans spent twenty years within the field of toxicology working as a researcher for government agencies, testifying as an expert witness and training the next generation as a professor. Dr. Evans also did private research in laboratories including those at Indiana University School of Medicine, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Illinois Institute of Technology and the University of Illinois College of Medicine.

In 1990, Dr. Evans created AIT Laboratories, a toxicology and forensics lab that does testing and research for law enforcement, corporations, government agencies, pharmaceutical companies, hospitals, physicians, pain management professionals, medical examiners, attorneys, and courts of law. He went on to serve as the president and CEO until 2012. In 2012, Dr. Evans created AIT Bioscience which is an integrated bioanalytical contract research organization (CRO), supported by a state-of-the-art electronic laboratory environment.

Dr. Evans' work is a testament to his passion for science and creating services that help people. He was decorated with honors and awards including a Distinguished Eagle Scout Award, the Distinguished Hoosier and he received the Sagamore of the Wabash Award from the Indiana Governor. Dr. Evans was also honored as the SBA Small Businessperson of the Year in 2006 and was the 2008 Ernst & Young Midwest Entrepreneur of the Year. Marian University honored Dr. Evans through the naming of the Michael A. Evans Center for Health Sciences building.

Dr. Evans was the father of six children, Michael, Cara, Justin, Andrew, Katherine and Samantha. He enjoyed spending time with his children, working out and reading books on history, business and people who have made a difference in the world.

Mike will be forever missed by his family, friends, colleagues, and the entire community. On behalf of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District, I extend my deepest condolences to Mike's family. Today I join the community and the entire family in mourning the loss of Dr. Michael A. Evans who made a difference in the world.

IN RECOGNITION OF KEVIN J. O'BRIEN, SR., RECIPIENT OF THE GREATER PITTSBURGH FRIENDLY SONS' MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kevin J. O'Brien Sr. who will be named Man of the Year by the Greater Pittsburgh Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. He will be honored at the group's 106th annual gathering on Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

Born and raised in Avoca, Pennsylvania, Kevin is the son of the late Michael J. O'Brien, a former Friendly Sons President, and Mary Moore O'Brien. He is a 1974 graduate of Pittsburgh Area High School, and he attended Luzerne County Community College, studying fire science technology. Kevin is the proud father of his son, Kevin Jr., and currently resides in Duryea, Pennsylvania.

Kevin was president of the Greater Pittsburgh Friendly Sons in 1989, the year that the organization celebrated its 75th anniversary. Under his leadership, the Friendly Sons Scholarship was established, and Kevin's family was an original donor to the program.

He began his career in public safety in 1978, working as a radio operator/dispatcher for the Luzerne County Civil Defense. During his 27-year career, Kevin rose to the rank of deputy director of the Luzerne County Emergency Management Agency. During those years, he oversaw the planning, training, and response to all natural and manmade disasters throughout Luzerne County. He concluded his 30 year-career with the county as a lead crash and rescue firefighter at the Wilkes Barre/Scranton International Airport.

Kevin has also dedicated his time to local fire service. He has been a member of the Avoca Volunteer Fire Department for the past 45 years. Kevin also became a Pennsylvania State Fire Academy instructor, conducting fire

training programs throughout the Commonwealth. In 2011, he was awarded the title of instructor emeritus from the academy.

In addition to his volunteer fire service and full-time employment in emergency management, he also worked part time at the Pocono Raceway, starting in 1985 as a pit road fireman and eventually becoming fire chief at the facility. Kevin served as a NASCAR Advanced Training Program instructor and became a member of the NASCAR Safety Standards and Training Committee. In 2013, the NASCAR Track Services Division recognized Kevin for his dedication to the sport, and its safety, by awarding him the NASCAR Excellence in Track Services Award.

It is an honor to join the Greater Pittsburgh Friendly Sons of St. Patrick as they recognize Kevin J. O'Brien Sr. as Man of the Year. He has had a successful career in service to his community, and I wish him all the best on this St. Patrick's Day.

IN RECOGNITION OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support to commemorate the 43rd anniversary of International Women's Day.

On March 8, International Women's Day, we take the time to commemorate the incomparable contributions that women and girls all around the world have created in order to better our communities.

I am honored to be able to commemorate this momentous day with so many other women that have devoted their lives to making a change in our society.

We commemorate women's enduring achievements for our world and rededicate ourselves to delivering education and opportunity to girls in every country.

Our lives have changed because of influential figures from Arabella Mansfield, America's first female lawyer and philanthropist, Katherine Johnson, mathematician, critical NASA employee and revolutionary force of her time, Oprah Winfrey, first black multi-billionaire, American media executive and social influencer, and our very own mothers who have raised and supported us.

Women are beginning to leave their mark in every industry from corporations, to music, to sports, to education, to finances, to entertainers, to the Armed Forces, and to politics.

The fight of women has always been fueled and grounded in the belief in what is possible, we have always built a future that we could see and believe in and fight for.

That is why the United States currently has the most diverse Congress in history, with over one hundred female members whose visions and values continue the legacy of the women that came before and paved the way for those who follow.

That is why a young woman who saw an existential crisis spoke up and sparked a revolution to combat climate change on a global scale.

That is why we will never stop advocating for the Equal Rights Amendment and Equal Pay.

That is why a woman was selected as the Democratic party's nominee for President of the United States; she served as the Nation's first lady, senator from New York, and proudly served as Secretary of State.

That is why we continue to reshape and rethink the role of women in society.

It has been a momentous year for women as we thrive in the 21st century.

We are no longer hidden figures behind a man, held back by ambition, or forced to take on stereotypical roles of women.

However, we are still far from reaching the equality envisioned in our Constitution.

The scales of justice held by Lady Liberty are not yet balanced, and it is incumbent upon all women to continue our fight for equal rights under law and in the eyes of society.

One in 3 women worldwide are victims of physical or sexual violence.

More than 200 million women and girls alive today have experienced Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

Complications from pregnancy and childbirth is the number one killer among girls ages 15 to 19 in the developing world.

Despite women working longer hours than men when both paid and unpaid work is taken into consideration, women still earn an average of 24 percent less than men do worldwide.

Women spend one to three hours more on housework than men, two to ten times the amount of time caring for children and the elderly, and one to four hours less per day on economic market activities.

An estimated 63 million young girls worldwide are out of school.

Millions of women are still denied fundamental rights, but we look to the promise of our past and know that our future is bright.

We will usher in a new era of growth for our economies, security for our families, and strength for our countries.

Let us build on the successes of our history, protect the rights we have won, and continue to march towards a new dawn for women and girls around the world.

Our commitment to the empowerment of women and girls also calls us to rededicate ourselves to fighting violence against women and girls in all spheres of life, from the classroom to the courtroom to the bedroom and everywhere in between.

This year, as we prepare to commemorate the centennial of the 19th Amendment, we take acknowledgement of this momentous achievement that unleashed the power of women to have a voice in our democracy, and in the process helped deliver transformative progress toward a more perfect union for all Americans.

In recognition of the innumerable contributions and continued leadership of America's women, we will never stop fighting to advance the cause of freedom, equality and justice for all.

Today, and always, we reaffirm a vital truth that when women succeed, America succeeds.

NORTH RANGE EYE CARE, P.C.

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud North Range

Eye Care, P.C. for receiving Commerce City's Business Appreciation 2020 Business on the Move Award.

The Business on the Move Award recognizes businesses bringing new employment, growth in sales or new capital investment to the city in the last year. North Range Eye Care, P.C. is a comprehensive eye care center founded by Dr. David Hite. The center offers adult and children's eye exams, treatment of eye emergencies and eye diseases, and co-management of eye surgeries like LASIK.

North Range Eye Care, P.C. first opened its doors in 2013. As new patient demand increased, Dr. Hite saw the need to expand. The company built a new 6,000 square-foot building in 2019 with 2,970 square-feet for the practice and the other half for leased business tenants.

I extend my deepest congratulations to the North Range Eye Care team for this well-deserved recognition from Commerce City.

HONORING ADAM JOHN LATHAM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Adam John Latham. Adam is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Adam has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Adam has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Adam has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Adam constructed three American flag retirement boxes and placed them in business across Liberty, Missouri, on behalf of American Legion Post 95.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Adam John Latham for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

WELCOME BAKER ADDISON
MORRIS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Alexander Fancourt Morris and Rebekah Livingston Morris, of Gaston, South Carolina, on the birth of their new baby boy, Baker Addison Morris. Baker was born at 4:48 a.m. on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, at Lexington Medical Center in West Columbia, South Carolina. He weighed eight pounds and fifteen ounces and measures twenty-one inches long.

Congratulations to his grandparents Debra Morris of Columbia, and Major General (Ret)

Robert Livingston and Barbara Livingston of Gaston. He will join his older brother, Alexander Fancourt Morris, Jr.

RECOGNIZING ESTHER STERLING AS CONSTITUENT OF THE MONTH

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, in celebration of Women's History Month, it is my honor to recognize Esther Sterling as my March Constituent of the Month. Ms. Sterling, a Holocaust survivor from my district, spent her childhood hiding from Nazis in Ukraine. Forged from her experience during this dark time in history, Ms. Sterling shares her story across my district with schools and community groups to help ensure that history will never repeat itself.

Esther's story is one of courage, fortitude, and determination. After World War II broke out, Esther, her mother, father, and sister were sent to the Ghetto of Sambor. When the Ghetto was terminated and residents were sent to an extermination camp, Esther's family managed to escape with the help of their devoted nanny. Just outside their nanny's apartment, Esther's father dug a hole beneath a coal and wood shack. Most of the time they hid within shack, but if there were passersby, the family crouched within the hole, breathing from air provided by a tube.

As the war progressed, the German gestapo began to round people up for executions. Searching for a new place to hide his family, Esther's father was shot. Her mother was stricken with grief after her father's death, and as an eight-year-old child, Esther took on the responsibility of convincing her mother and younger sister to keep fighting for survival.

I launched a Constituent of the Month program to recognize individuals who have gone above and beyond to make our region and our country a stronger place for everyone to live and thrive. Ms. Sterling's perseverance and triumph during a time of great danger and divide is not only inspiring, but encouraging. I am honored to recognize her as my Constituent of the Month and I thank her for everything she's done to make our community a better place.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT ROGERS, RECIPIENT OF THE FREELAND SONS OF ERIN 2020 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Robert Rogers, who will be named the 2020 Citizen of the Year by the Freeland, Pennsylvania Sons of Erin. He will be honored on Saturday, March 14, 2020 at their 85th annual St. Patrick's Day celebration.

Robert's community service in Freeland spans three decades, and includes significant involvement in local baseball. For the past ten years, he has been the manager of the Freeland Babe Ruth League. Steadfastly dedicated

to this role, Robert dedicates many hours to improving the grounds and maintaining the playing field so that it remains in top condition. In addition, he recruits players for the league, organizes fundraisers, runs the concession stand, and coordinates schedules for the Babe Ruth League, MMI Preparatory School, Penn State Hazleton, as well as the men's league. With his love and knowledge of baseball, Robert also steps into the role of coach when the need arises. Robert has previously served on the Board of the Freeland Little League. In addition to his commitment to the Board, he helped install the lights at the field and has even cooked concession fare during games.

Robert's love for, and commitment to, the Freeland community extends beyond baseball. He is currently also instrumental to the upkeep and maintenance at the Freeland YMCA. Robert assisted with the recent renovations of the foyer and the basement at the YMCA, a project where he contributed custom shelving and personally completed the refinishing of the front desk. A handyman at heart, he is known for always going above and beyond his assignment.

Freeland is rife with evidence of Robert's handiwork and dedication to his beloved community. He has additionally refinished display cases at MMI Preparatory School, the pipe organ at St. John's church, and the American Legion's flagpoles on Centre Street.

It is an honor to join the Freeland Sons of Erin in recognizing Robert Rogers as the 2020 Citizen of the Year. He is a true community servant, and all of Freeland has benefited from his unending generosity. I wish him all the best this St. Patrick's Day.

ORIBI MANUFACTURING

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Oribi Manufacturing for receiving Commerce City's Business Appreciation 2020 Entrepreneurial Spirit Award.

The Entrepreneurial Spirit Award recognizes a company or entrepreneur that demonstrates a pioneering spirit and has seen success with a new start-up, new product development, or a company/product with growth into new markets. Oribi Manufacturing produces cost-effective, high-velocity high-performance composite components appealing to industries looking for products that are thinner, stronger, lighter, and products created with continuous fiber. The company manufactures products like ballistic helmets, canoe paddles, backpack frames, and props and bodies for drones for the U.S. Military as well as the law enforcement, recreation, sporting, and aerospace industries. They also pride themselves on creating products made in the USA using American materials.

Oribi Manufacturing owns a 100,000 square-foot building at 5850 E 56th Ave. and built a new research and design facility with a new conference room this past year. Oribi Manufacturing doubled its revenue over the last three years, and in 2019, hired 20 full-time employees with plans to hire an additional ten employees in 2020.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Oribi Manufacturing for this well-deserved recognition from Commerce City.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FOR TRANS-ATLANTIC ENGAGEMENT (LITE) ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Leadership Institute for Transatlantic Engagement (LITE) Act—a bill that will create an institute to assist in strengthening ties with our allies, protect democratic institutions, and support visionary leadership on both sides of the Atlantic.

In the 116th Congress, under my leadership as chair, the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, also known as the U.S. Helsinki Commission, has held events on the importance of international election observation, good governance, and focused on democratic backsliding in particular countries as part of our continued commitment to the underlying principles of the Helsinki Final Act adopted by the 57 North American, European, and Eurasian countries that make up the region of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

We identified numerous challenges in western leadership that are putting our democracies and the transatlantic partnership at risk, including as continuing disparities in wealth, health, employment, education, justice, and other sectors that lead citizens to question whether democracy can deliver. Common to among these issues is the role leaders can play in ensuring laws are equitable, transparent, and enforced; elections are free and fair; and laying the groundwork to ensure the same protections, rights, and laws are extended to all in their constituencies.

The LITE Act will establish an institute to assist western democracies in living up to these ideals and restoring faith in democracy, by equipping transatlantic policymakers with legislative, communications, conflict resolution and other leadership tools to strengthen democratic institutions in their societies and the transatlantic relationship. Given demographic change on both sides of the Atlantic, the activities of LITE, as established by this legislation, will also include a focus on inclusive and intergenerational solutions to current challenges with the goal of empowering individuals across generations and from diverse backgrounds with the knowledge, tools, opportunity, and access to fully participate in their democracies. In addition, LITE will seek to reunify communities by assisting leaders with strategies that build resilience against the exploitation of community grievances that can lead to dangerous divisions in our societies.

In February, we hosted young parliamentarians from the OSCE region here in the U.S. Congress to discuss how we can strengthen their political inclusion to advance peace and security efforts. Last year, we held hearings featuring European lawmakers, and on global leadership, democracy and public diplomacy. These hearings were the capstone in a decade of events that began in 2009 whereby the

Commission has convened U.S. and European policymakers under the banner of the Transatlantic Minority Political Leadership Conference and Transatlantic Inclusion Leaders Network to support increased political representation in western democracies. As we celebrate the tenth anniversary of these efforts that have been pivotal in strengthening international relations over the past decade, I hope you will join me in supporting LITE to further codify leadership exchanges and knowledge building between diverse and young transatlantic policy makers as a means to sustain our democratic futures.

HONORING MICHAEL PAUL STEPHENSON, JR.

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael Paul Stephenson, Jr. Michael is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1028, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Michael has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Michael has earned the rank of Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Michael has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Michael constructed two garden boxes for the early childhood education programs at the Platte County Community Center in Platte City, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Michael Paul Stephenson, Jr. for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO ALEXIS SANCHEZ—28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 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, Alexis Sanchez of the Los Feliz neighborhood of Los Angeles, California.

As a native Angeleno, Alexis Sanchez is a transgender woman and a fearless supporter of transgender rights in her community and across the country. Ms. Sanchez displays powerful personal initiative and leadership as an advocate for transgender rights empow-

ering those who may not realize they have a voice. Dedicated to public service, she devotes her time to community organizing, media advocacy, and volunteering to support the LGBTQ+ community.

Alexis serves on the board of directors of Still Bisexual, a non-profit that seeks to raise bi+ visibility and advocate for mental health resources for bi+ individuals. Ms. Sanchez is involved in planning the City of West Hollywood's Transgender Day of Remembrance and advocating for the creation of the first Transgender Day of Visibility in Los Angeles.

Ms. Sanchez is also a member of the City of West Hollywood Transgender Advisory Board, which is responsible for addressing issues concerning transgender rights, as well as making recommendations regarding the adoption of policies that would benefit the community. She has led the City of West Hollywood Transgender Advisory Board delegation that travels to Washington, D.C. to meet with Members of Congress and the Congressional LGBT Equality Caucus to discuss the importance of the transgender rights movement in federal policy.

Alexis works within the field of public policy to implement change that benefits her community. She is an Assistant Program Manager at the Institute for Public Strategies, where she oversees a program centered on substance use disorders within the LGBTQ+ community. Alexis is currently collaborating with a coalition of state representatives to create a tool for law enforcement, researchers, community groups, and local municipalities to track methamphetamine data and research in the LGBTQ+ community.

Ms. Sanchez spends her free time as a volunteer and mentor with Brave Trails, a leadership camp for LGBTQ+ teenagers and is an enthusiastic hiker and mountaineer.

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

HENDRIX JETT RODRIQUEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

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

Hendrix Jett Rodriguez is a student at Everitt Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Hendrix Jett Rodriguez 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 Hendrix Jett Rodriguez 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.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MAJOR GENERAL DAVID F. WHERLEY, JR., DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATIONAL GUARD RETENTION AND COLLEGE ACCESS ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Major General David F. Wherley, Jr., District of Columbia National Guard Retention and College Access Act (NGRCA). This bill is named for General Wherley, former Commanding General of the D.C. National Guard, who, along with his wife, Ann, and seven others were tragically killed when Metro trains collided on the Red Line on June 22, 2009. This bill would permanently authorize funding for a program that provides grants for higher education to members of the D.C. National Guard, which is under the control of the federal, not the District of Columbia, government. I renamed this bill after General Wherley because he worked tirelessly with me to get funding for the program for many years, and because of his devotion to the youth of the District and to the National Guard.

The NGRCA authorizes an education incentive program, recommended by General Wherley and his successor, Major General Errol Schwartz, to stem the troublesome loss of D.C. Guard members to other units, including National Guards in surrounding states that offer such educational benefits to their Guards. I am grateful that Congress has consistently provided funds for the program at our request, most recently \$413,000 in fiscal year 2020. Permanently authorizing the program is necessary, however, to ensure that D.C. Guard members receive the same treatment and benefits as other National Guard members, particularly those in neighboring states that compete with the District for members and provide these education benefits. Today, the Guard for the nation's capital has a diminished ability to compete for regional residents if membership in the Maryland or Virginia Guards is more economically beneficial. A competitive tuition assistance program for the D.C. Guard would provide a significant and much-needed incentive to help maintain enrollment and level the field of competition. The federal government supports D.C. Guard functions and understands it should support this small benefit as well, because the appropriators have always funded the D.C. Guard program, even without authorization. However, depending on appropriations alone leaves the D.C. Guard program in a tenuous condition at odds with the tuition programs in nearby states. Because the program is not controversial, there is no reason not to permanently authorize funding for these D.C. National Guard education benefits.

I appreciate that the appropriators and ultimately Congress have not hesitated to fund the education benefits for the D.C. National Guard. This support argues strongly for permanent authorization. These small education benefits have not only encouraged high-quality recruits, but have helped the D.C. Guard to maintain the force necessary to protect the federal presence here, including the possibility of a natural disaster or terrorist attack. I am pleased to introduce this bill based on the ad-

vice of Guard personnel, who best know what is necessary.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

TRUTH ABOUT COMMUNISM

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am grateful Dr. Derek W.H. Thomas of The First Presbyterian Church of Columbia, South Carolina, in the weekly First Things (Monday, March 1) newsletter published a tribute for Richard Wurmbrand of Bucharest, Romania. This tribute is a reminder to all Americans of the tragic true inhumanity of totalitarian communism enforced by Soviet Socialists.

THE VOICE OF THE MARTYRS

THIS SATURDAY . . .

THE VOICE OF THE MARTYRS

This Saturday, February 29 (it is a leap year), is the anniversary of the arrest and imprisonment of Richard Wurmbrand in 1948. Born in Bucharest, Romania, in 1909, Richard was sent to Moscow as an adolescent to study Marxism. He was pursued by the Soviet secret police, and upon his return to Romania, he became a Comintern for the communist regime. At the outbreak of the second World War, he was converted to Christianity and was later ordained, first as an Anglican and then, as the war was almost over and his country occupied by the Soviet Union, a Lutheran. In 1944, he began a ministry to his Romanian countrymen and to Red Army soldiers. As the Soviet regime began to control churches, Wurmbrand began an "underground" ministry to his people. Within a few years, he denounced communism as incompatible with Christianity. He was arrested on February 29, 1948, while on his way to church.

Richard Wurmbrand passed through several penal facilities and would spend three years in solitary confinement, twelve feet below ground without light or sound (the guards put felt under their shoes). He later recounted that he maintained his sanity by sleeping by day and staying awake at night preaching out loud a sermon to himself.

Wurmbrand was released from prison in 1956 after eight and half years. Warned not to preach again, he continued to serve the underground churches and was arrested again in 1959 and sentenced to 25 years. During this second imprisonment, he was beaten and tortured, including mutilation, burning, and being locked in a freezer icebox. Later, he recounted how his feet were beaten until the flesh was exposed, and then the next day beaten until the bones were exposed.

In 1964, Norwegians paid the Communist regime \$10,000 for his release, and Wurmbrand and his wife would eventually emigrate to the United States. He died in 2001 in California.

During his time in the United States he authored almost 20 books and founded The Voice of the Martyrs, an organization that draws attention to the persecuted church worldwide.

Here is one of Wurmbrand's famous quotes: "I have seen Christians in Communist prisons with fifty pounds of chains on their feet, tortured with red-hot iron pokers, in whose throats spoonfuls of salt had been forced, being kept afterward without water, starving, whipped, suffering from cold—and praying with fervor for the Communists. This is

humanly inexplicable! It is the love of Christ, which was poured out in our hearts."

—Derek W.H. Thomas, Senior Minister.

HOPE RULE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

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

Hope Rule is a student at Arvada West High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Hope Rule 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 Hope Rule 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.

IN RECOGNITION OF JUDGE FRED A. PIERANTONI III, RECIPIENT OF THE GREATER PITTSBURGH FRIENDLY SONS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Judge Fred A. Pierantoni III, who will receive the Achievement Award from the Greater Pittsburgh Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. He will be honored at the group's 106th annual gathering on Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

Judge Pierantoni is a lifelong resident of the Greater Pittsburgh Area. He is a 1976 graduate of Pittsburgh Area High School and a cum laude graduate of Wilkes University with a Bachelor of Science in political science. In 1983, Judge Pierantoni received his Juris Doctorate from Temple University's School of Law in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Following law school, Judge Pierantoni was assistant district attorney in Luzerne County from 1983 to 1988. In 1992, Judge Pierantoni was elected as magisterial judge for District 11-1-5 and has spent 20 years on the bench serving the people of the Greater Pittsburgh Area.

Judge Pierantoni was elected to the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas and began his tenure on January 4, 2012. Since taking the bench, he has been assigned cases in criminal court including homicide, civil trials, and family court. Judge Pierantoni presently serves as administrative judge for the Luzerne County Juvenile Court Division and serves as supervising judge for the Luzerne County Grand Jury. He is also a zone delegate for the

Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges.

Passionate about maintaining the integrity of the legal profession and access to representation, Judge Pierantoni has volunteered his time to legal organizations and courts across the Commonwealth. He was an active member of the Pennsylvania Bar from 1983 until his election in 2012. He is also a past president of the Luzerne County Special Court Judges Association and former statewide president of the Special Court Judges Association of Pennsylvania. He previously served as chair of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Minor Court Rules Committee and was a member of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Committee on Race and Gender Bias.

Judge Pierantoni is an active member of many civic organizations throughout the Greater Pittston Area and Luzerne County, such as the Lions Club. He previously served as volunteer solicitor to numerous fire companies, ambulance associations, civic and veteran associations, and youth sports leagues throughout the region.

It is an honor to join the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in recognizing Judge Fred A. Pierantoni III as the recipient of the Achievement Award. He has had a successful career serving his community and the law, and I wish him all the best on this St. Patrick's Day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, this past Monday and Tuesday, I was unavoidably detained in my congressional district and was not present for Roll Call Votes 91 and 92. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: On Roll Call 91, I would have voted AYE, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H. Res. 410, Encouraging reunions of divided Korean-American families; and on Roll Call 92, I would have voted AYE. On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 1771, Divided Families Reunification Act.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO ENSURE FAIR ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY TO FEDERAL JOBS FOR ALL AMERICANS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to ensure fair access and opportunity to federal jobs for all Americans.

For close to two decades now, I and many of my colleagues have been fighting to increase diversity in the international affairs and national security sector. I have called for a diversity plan from the Director of National Intelligence, as well as for the Department of State and USAID. Last year, the House Armed Services Committee held a hearing entitled, "Diversity in Recruiting and Retention: In-

creasing Diversity in the Military—What the Military Services are Doing." And only last week, Senators held an event bringing attention to the February Report: "State Department: Additional Steps are Needed to Identify Potential Barriers to Diversity." My colleagues and I have been engaged in these efforts not because they are nice or correct, but because they are what is in the best interest for the survival of our nation.

The U.S. workforce is becoming more racially, ethnically, and otherwise diverse, with estimates that by 2050 over half of the workforce will be made up of Americans from diverse populations. Jobs across our government, whether they are in the military, intelligence, foreign service, health or education sectors, will require that we not only hire, but also retain a more diverse federal workforce to sustain the needs of our country and remain a stable democracy.

To do so, we must have a plan. My bill calls for a government-wide diversity and inclusion plan that ensures that all branches of government are engaged in multi-year strategic planning that recruits, hires, promotes, retains, and supports leadership from America's diverse talent pool in the federal workforce for the good of our country. It also calls for a review of diversity in government contracting and grantmaking, as both are often also pathways to government jobs.

Diversity and inclusion are the underpinnings of democratic societies. It is time that we enforce democratic values by ensuring all segments of our society have equal access and opportunity to contribute to a vibrant workforce that is at the heart of our democracy for the future of our nation.

HALEY SMITH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

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

Haley Smith is a student at Arvada K-8 and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Haley Smith 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 Haley Smith 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.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF NORTHERN CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Boys and Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County. This important organization is providing vital services to the children and families of this area, and it is good to recognize their work.

The Boys and Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County serves hundreds of youths a year and has six sites throughout Northern Chautauqua County. In 1994, the club was founded as a satellite program of the Jamestown Boys and Girls Club in Southern Chautauqua County. Space in the Masonic building on Central Avenue in Dunkirk was secured for the program and Jim Szwejbka became the first program director.

In 1996, the Boys and Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County was incorporated as an independent club with Lynn Dorler as the first executive director for the club. Since that time, the club has provided after school activities and a positive environment that fosters relationship building, confidence building and a focus on healthy lifestyles through a variety of programs.

The club has had a variety of homes over the years. In 2006, the club moved to former Dunkirk School Number Six on Benton Street, had transitioned to the former St. Hyacinth School on Lake Shore Drive in 2010 and has recently found a new space in the Salvation Army building on Central Avenue.

The work this organization has done in the Dunkirk community and beyond has been instrumental in the lives of so many children and their families. For the past twenty-five years, this organization has become a cornerstone in youth programming in the area and I can't wait to see what they do in the next twenty-five years.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to recognize the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Boys and Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County.

RECOGNIZING TINA BROWN AS THE TEACHER OF THE YEAR FOR DISTRICT 15

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Tina Brown of Kennett, Missouri, on being awarded the Teacher of the Year for District 15 from the VFW. Every year, VFW posts throughout the United States honor teachers who promote America's history, traditions and civic education. This year, the award went to a woman from Southeast Missouri who has set a profound example of patriotism and civic responsibility for future generations of Missourians.

Tina Brown has been teaching at Kennett Middle School for 23 years. Every year she plans a trip for her students to attend the Wreaths Across America ceremony. She has also organized trips to treasured archives and military memorials throughout the state of Missouri and in the heart of Southeast Missouri such as the Stars and Stripes Museum in Bloomfield, Missouri. She even brought a class out to Washington, D.C. where I had the opportunity to meet these young students on the steps of the United States Capitol building and where her students were able to see the Vietnam War memorial. Trips like these are an important part of her teaching. They help students experience our nation's history in a tangible, lasting way and educate our future gen-

erations on the world of opportunities ahead of them.

Tina's phenomenal generosity extends beyond the classroom. She was the Chairperson of the Gold Star Monument for Dunklin county in 2019 and helped organize middle school students to raise money for this monument. Her efforts were fueled by her firm belief that there was a need in the community to recognize the families who have lost loved ones in service to our country. The monument is now awaiting placement in downtown Kennett, where it will be a reminder of those brave lives lost and of the compassion and patriotism of community members such as Tina.

I'm inspired not only by Tina's work but by her dedication to our servicemen and women. Tina's brother Frankie died while fighting for his country in Vietnam. Frankie was one of the

brave young men that risked their lives for the sake of our country and tragically passed away fighting for our freedom. Tina was young when her brother died but remembers the profound loss that her family felt with Frankie's passing. By teaching the importance of leadership and patriotism to her students, she honors his memory and keeps it alive for herself and others.

Tina is retiring from teaching this year to spend more time on the farm with her family. She will be greatly missed by students, faculty, and community members alike whose lives have been touched by her generosity and patriotism, as I have been.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Tina Brown for receiving this award.