

Co-chairs have called for all sides to refrain from provocative statements and actions. We were asked to look into troubling reports that, following the devastating August 4th Beirut port explosion, de facto Armenian authorities in Nagorno Karabakh are resettling displaced Lebanese Armenians to disputed or occupied territories. While any reasonable person witnessing that horrible event would welcome the Armenian Government's efforts to provide relief and resettlement support to displaced Lebanese Armenians, I fear that resettlement in disputed or occupied territory could damage prospects for a peaceful, negotiated resolution to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict. The Assembly's leadership agreed to consider additional steps it could take towards supporting peaceful resolution of this conflict.

The OSCE, including the Parliamentary Assembly, engages in election observation efforts, primarily with the goal of encouraging good practices in countries still in the process of democratic transition. In Montenegro during the last week of August, the Assembly deployed its first observation mission since the pandemic struck. I welcomed that effort in our NATO ally, not only to strengthen the democratic institutions that fundamental to NATO membership but also to support that country as it faces malign outside influences, including from Russia.

The OSCE also intends to observe our general elections in November, demonstrating that all countries, not just those in transition, should be open to observation and willing to consider ways to improve their respective electoral processes. I noted the extensive debates we Americans have on this same subject, including now the issue of mail-in voting. In discussing the situation in the United States, I made an effort to note that our country is facing challenges but is still strong. I believe it is important to present a complete picture that counters perceptions of a more dire situation when viewed across the Atlantic, as well as malign messaging that seeks to separate us from our friends and allies.

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Madam Speaker, provides Members of Congress with a unique, bipartisan opportunity to work with our friends and allies to help resolve pressing global issues while promoting our shared values. Because it also includes delegations from Russia, Belarus and other countries who disregard the OSCE commitments to which they gave their consent regarding democratic government and respect for human rights, it is also uniquely suited to speaking to their representatives directly and making clear that their behavior is unacceptable and negatively affects our bilateral relationships.

Madam Speaker, I hope all my colleagues agree and join me today in condemning Lukashenko's cruel repressions in Belarus and the Putin regime's sinister efforts to silence its critics, as well as in recognizing the importance of continued Congressional engagement with the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE as a means to address these important matters.

HONORING TROY AND TANNER BARABY, FOUNDERS OF SOUTH JUNCTION ENTERPRISES, FOR THEIR SUCCESSFUL REVITALIZATION OF THE PLATTSBURGH RAIL YARD

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 11, 2020

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the tremendous effort Troy and Tanner Baraby have put into revitalizing the rail yard in Plattsburgh, New York.

In 2017, the Baraby brothers established South Junction Enterprises to provide local businesses the opportunity to ship inventory in and out of the area by rail. The company has facilitated local farmers in reaching a wide customer base as their cars ship products across the North Country, New England and Canada. This project has successfully repurposed an abandoned rail yard to a thriving business. In the first two years of operations, South Junction Enterprises has quadrupled its rail car capacity to greater fulfill the community needs.

Local businesses are the backbone of the North Country economy and push innovation forward. Job creation and economic growth stemming from entrepreneurship are vital for long term sustainable development in our community. I applaud the entrepreneurial spirit that runs within the Baraby family and their commitment to serving our community that has continued over many generations. In addition to South Junction Enterprises, the brothers continue to operate Moore Recycling in Keeseville, New York which was founded by their grandfather, George Moore.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to thank the Baraby family and the entire South Junction Enterprises team for their dedication to the community and congratulate them on their hard-earned achievements thus far.

HONORING SABETHA MUMM AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 11, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating an Iowan who models the promise of the American Dream and someone who has turned their passion for dance into a thriving small business. It is my great honor to recognize Sabetha Mumm, the owner of Dance Vision in Johnston, as Iowan of the Week.

A lifelong dancer, Sabetha always knew she was meant to share her love of dance with others. After one semester of college as a pre-law major, she switched to a dance major, eventually graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Dance with Honors. Without enough resources to help her career in dance immediately come to fruition, she initially opted for a more traditional career path in an office setting.

Years later while encouraging her young son to follow his dreams, she realized she

needed to do the same. She wanted to lead by example for her children and provide young Iowans the resources she hadn't had to pursue their dreams of careers in dance. With the support of her family, the native Iowan dedicated the next few years to researching and planning her business: Dance Vision. Since opening in 2003, Mumm has grown Dance Vision from a rented, 2,500 square foot space with one studio to a custom-designed, 12,000 square foot facility with five different studios.

Thousands of talented students have come through her classes and several hundred have gone on to find professional success as dancers in the United States and abroad. They've graced Broadway shows, advanced through televised dance competitions, toured with world-famous musical artists, and been featured in music videos, Sabetha credits this overwhelming success to the spirit and work ethic of Iowans. There's plenty of talent here, she says, and now a resource to help it flourish.

After learning more about Sabetha's journey and growing venture, it came as no surprise that she was named the Small Business Administration's 2020 Iowa Small Businessperson of the Year: a prestigious honor very well deserved.

Businesses like Sabetha's are vital to the success of any community. This is a fact we see more each day as the pandemic stretches on. As a small business owner myself, I know it is an incredible challenge to start and maintain that vision. Sabetha's drive to pursue her dream is inspiring—that kind of leap is not for the faint of heart. Her decision has clearly paid off as we celebrate her success and thriving dance studio today. She's helping kids and families find joy through movement and self-expression and is passing her passion for dance down to new generations. She is a perfect example of how strategic collaboration, creativity, a little patience, and a lot of hard work can make your dreams a reality.

As I've traveled all 16 counties across my district, one thing every place has in common is that women are who hold our communities together. Whether it's through volunteering at church, providing child care for neighbors, organizing an annual festival, or operating a successful small business—the ladies in our communities are getting things done.

Sabetha says, "The only dreams impossible to reach are the ones that you never pursue." It is people with that kind of spirit that make Iowa such a great place to live, have a family, and grow a business. I will continue to fight in Congress for small business owners like Sabetha to ensure the American dream will always be alive in our community. It is my honor to recognize Sabetha Mumm as our Iowan of the Week.

HONORING THE LIFE OF COMMANDER OLIVER G. "JACK" EVERETTE

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 11, 2020

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Commander Oliver G. "Jack" Everette.

Commander Everette was born in 1937 in North Dakota. During his childhood, the