

These student-athletes, and their coaches, have represented themselves, their school and their community in a first-rate fashion, and I join with the other Members of this House in congratulating them, and wishing them all the best in their future academic and athletic endeavors.

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK OLYMPIC
CHAMPIONS

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 12, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a group of Olympic champions from my home area of Rochester. All Rochesterians—and Americans—are incredibly proud of these dedicated athletes who have trained to be the best and who achieved their dreams at the XXX Olympic Games in London.

Abby Wambach led the United States Women's Soccer team to their third straight Olympic gold medal. Abby grew up in Rochester, NY where she played soccer and basketball at Our Lady of Mercy High School, and was named to Parade Magazine's high school All-America team. She attended the University of Florida, where she was a first-team All American and led her team to the Final Four in her senior season. In 2001, Abby joined the Women's National Team and played in her first Olympic games in Athens in 2004, contributing four goals and one assist to the gold-medal effort for Team USA. She missed the 2008 games in Beijing because of a broken leg sustained in a collision in the final match before the Olympics. Abby was back with a vengeance in 2012, however, and scored a goal in every game leading up to the final match where the USA was victorious in dramatic fashion.

Jenn Suhr soared to a hard-fought Olympic gold in the Pole Vault. Jenn was born in Fredonia, NY and was a multi-sport athlete at Fredonia High School, playing softball, basketball, soccer, and track and field. As a senior in high school in 2000, Jenn won the New York State pentathlon. She then went on to Roberts Wesleyan College in Rochester and focused her athletic energy on basketball and track and field. Not only did she take her basketball team to the NCCAA national championship game and become the team's all-time leading scorer in basketball with 1,819 points, but she also graduated with a degree in psychology and began a graduate degree in school psychology. Jenn did not even begin working on her pole vaulting skills until 2004, but she quickly proved her excellence in the sport. She was an Olympic silver medalist in 2008 in Beijing, and fought her way to the gold medal in London.

Meghan Musnicki was one of the women's eight team who rowed to their second straight Olympic gold in London. Meghan was born in Naples, NY and attended Canandaigua Academy for high school, where she played soccer and basketball. She first picked up an oar as a freshman in college at St. Lawrence University in 2001. Later Meghan transferred to Ithaca College, where she helped row her team to NCAA Championships in 2004 and 2005, including an undefeated season in

2004. Meghan graduated from Ithaca College with a degree in psychology. She was first selected to the U.S. National Rowing Team in 2010, after narrowly missing a chance at the Olympics in 2008, and was part of two World Championship eight boat teams prior to winning the gold in her first Olympic games in 2012.

Ryan Lochte swam to five medals in the 2012 Olympics, adding two golds, two silvers and a bronze to bring his total to 11 medals over three Olympic games. Ryan was born in Rochester, NY and attended school in Canandaigua before his family moved to Florida, where his father coached swimming. He was a 7-time NCAA Champion while swimming for the University of Florida and was named an NCAA All-American twenty-four times. Even more laudable than Ryan's athletic achievements is his commitment to raising awareness for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, a neuromuscular illness to which Ryan lost a family member. He has helped Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy "Go for the Gold" by raising money for research projects towards finding a cure for the disease.

Henrik Rummel rowed with his team to a bronze medal in men's four race of the 2012 London Olympics. Born in Denmark, Rummel moved to Pittsford, NY with his family in 2000 and attended Pittsford Mendon High School. Previously a basketball player and a skier, Henrik began rowing on the Pittsford Crew Team in 2001. He made his first national team just three years later in 2004. Henrik was recruited to Harvard, where he studied applied mathematics and economics while rowing for one of the most renowned crew teams in the country. He swept the Harvard-Yale regatta in 2008 and 2009 and won gold in the pair with coxswain at the 2009 World Rowing Championships. Henrik's bronze medal with the men's four came in his first Olympics games.

Jason Turner competed in sport shooting events in London for the third time as an Olympian. Jason is originally from Rush, NY and graduated from McQuaid Jesuit High School. At just 12 years old, Jason began shooting competitively in 1987, and was named to the 2004 Olympic team in the free pistol and 10m air pistol events. He won a bronze medal in the 10-meter Air Pistol at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. In London, Jason finished 34th with a score of 569 in the qualifying round.

Kara Lynn Joyce spent time in both Irondequoit and Webster, NY as she grew up, and still holds two school records in Webster. She attended the University of Georgia where she was an All-American three years in a row, and became the first female swimmer to win the 50-meter, 100-meter and 200-meter freestyle events. The London Olympics were also the third for Kara, who earned a pair of silver medals in the 2004 Olympics in Athens, and two more silvers in the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. Kara competed in the 50m free in London, and after finishing her heat tied with two other swimmers for sixteenth and final semifinal spot, treated fans to an exciting swim-off that was won by the host country's swimmer.

Jim Boenheim, best known to Western New Yorkers as the Hall of Fame coach of the Syracuse University men's basketball team, traveled to London to coach in his second Olympic games as an assistant coach for the USA Basketball team. Jim is a native of Lyons, NY and graduated from Lyons Central High

School before attending Syracuse University where he attained a degree in social science. His remarkable career as a college basketball coach, which includes 34 consecutive years at one school—and the record for most career wins at one school—has now been enriched by leading the U.S. men's basketball team to two gold medals.

Gloria Peek made history in London as an assistant coach for the first-ever women's boxing event at the Olympics. Making history was nothing new for Gloria, a native of Geneva, NY and a former counselor for juvenile delinquents in Rochester, who was banned from amateur boxing in the 1970's for being a woman. She founded the Montgomery Boxing Club in the basement of the West Avenue Methodist Church in Fairport, NY in 1988 to keep young people off the streets, and she helped them finish school, apply to college and find jobs. At the 2012 Olympic games, Gloria helped coach the three women who qualified for the U.S. boxing team, including Claressa Shields, the first woman—and only member of the 2012 U.S. boxing team—to win Olympic gold.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud of these men and women who dedicated themselves to excellence, and took advantage of the opportunity of the Olympic games to showcase to the world what Rochester can do. I look forward to following their future careers, as well as those of all the young Rochesterians that they have undoubtedly inspired to pursue dreams of their own.

HIGHLAND 175TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 12, 2012

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 175th birthday of the great city of Highland, Illinois. Originally settled in 1831 by the Swiss immigrant Koepfli family, and named Helvetia, or New Switzerland, Highland got its name five years later when a local man, General Joseph Semple, commented that the area reminded him of his native Scotland. A year after that, in 1837, Highland was formally chartered as a city. The town still retains its connection to Switzerland, partnering with the Koepfli's home in Switzerland, Sursee, as a Sister City since the 1970s, and hosting numerous festivals each year honoring the Swiss and German roots of the community.

Highland was the home of Louis Latzer, also known as the Father of Pet Milk, because he was the man who perfected the process of condensing milk, thereby making milk, and its myriad health benefits, available to large numbers of people. Mr. Latzer's homestead and museum remain open today in Highland for visitors.

Today, Highland is home to 9,919 people, the Highland Bulldogs, and many fine civic clubs, churches, and businesses, large and small. In September, the city will celebrate the 175th Jubilee, a three-day celebration of Highland's proud past, while looking toward a bright future.

I want to congratulate Mayor Joe Michaelis and Lynn Hargus, President of the Highland Historical Society, along with their staffs and