

NAYELI LYNCH-BOLANOS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nayeli Lynch-Bolanos for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Nayeli Lynch-Bolanos is a 7th grader at Wayne Carle Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Nayeli Lynch-Bolanos 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 Nayeli Lynch-Bolanos for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING RUSSELL A. MITTERMEIER, CARL SAFINA, AND PATRICIA C. WRIGHT

**HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2014*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to congratulate Stony Brook University and its faculty for an unprecedented achievement. Three of the six finalists for the prestigious Indianapolis Prize, the world's leading award for animal conservation, are members of Stony Brook's faculty.

This is the first time that one university has had three finalists for the award given by the Indianapolis Zoo for "extraordinary contributions to conservation efforts." All three professors, Russell A. Mittermeier, Carl Safina, and Patricia C. Wright, hold Ph.D.s and have made major contributions to science. Their selection as finalists for this coveted award reflects the excellence and dedication of Stony Brook's faculty and brings honor to all of Long Island.

Dr. Mittermeier is president of Conservation International and has worked to preserve primates and turtles in South America, Madagascar and other places. He has used the concept of biodiversity "hotspots" to focus conservation efforts and raise \$1 billion for endangered habitats. He has an adjunct research appointment in the Department of Anatomical Sciences.

Dr. Safina co-founded Blue Ocean Institute to raise awareness of threats to the world's oceans and inspire solutions to these dangers. He is a research professor in Stony Brook's School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences. Episodes of his show "Saving the Ocean with Carl Safina" aired nationwide on PBS in 2012.

Dr. Wright discovered a new species of lemur, the golden bamboo lemur, while working in Madagascar in 1986. She also rediscovered another species which had been considered extinct. Her efforts helped establish

the Ranomafana National Park in Madagascar which she believes has saved three species of lemur from extinction. She is a professor of anthropology at Stony Brook.

It is not surprising that these three eminent conservation pioneers have been tapped for international recognition. Their ongoing efforts have helped save our planet and its species from degradation. They are committed and passionate about their research. It is through the efforts of people like these who are able to inspire others to see the importance of conservation that our oceans, our endangered species and biodiversity of our plant will be preserved.

Indeed, these three professors and their tremendous achievements are most worthy of our recognition and of the Indianapolis Prize. They are representative of the pursuit of excellence and world-class research capabilities that define Stony Brook's reputation as a global leader in innovation and scientific breakthroughs. With this achievement, the professors take their place with Stony Brook University as the pride of Long Island and an example for aspiring scientists to follow.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of New York's first congressional district, I would like to thank Professors Mittermeier, Safina, and Wright for the vital work they are doing. The fact that they are all members of Stony Brook faculty is yet another measure of the quality of this fine university.

HONORING SID REYES

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2014*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sid Reyes. Sid 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 135, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Sid has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Sid 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, Sid has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Sid completed necessary maintenance on the outdoor classroom at Hawthorne Elementary School in Kearney, Missouri.

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

RECOGNIZING NEVADA 150

**HON. JOSEPH J. HECK**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2014*

Mr. HECK of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to mark the beginning of Nevada's journey to becoming the 36th State admitted to the Union.

Many know the story of the Nevada constitution being sent to Washington via the newly-invented telegraph machine to expedite our admission to the Union in late October of 1864. But a lesser known—though not less important—event in our state's history will celebrate its 150th anniversary next week.

On March 21, 2014—next Friday—it will have been one hundred and fifty years since this body voted to allow the People of the Territory of Nevada to form a Constitution and State Government for the purpose of admission into the Union.

Nevada's constitutional convention began on the fourth of July, 1864.

Among the first words of our constitution were the absolute prohibition of slavery, freedom of religious worship, and one issue very near to the work of Nevada's current Congressional delegation, the ownership status of the land.

The convention adjourned July 28 having laid the foundation for Nevada's admission to the Union and our future governance.

Voters of the territory approved the Constitution the first week of September, paving the way for Abraham Lincoln to admit Nevada as the 36th State on October 31, 1864.

But all of these events were set in motion by a bill approved in this very Chamber, Mr. Speaker. Without this critical first step, the journey to statehood would not have been possible.

I'm proud to call the Battle Born State home and join with Nevadans from Elko to Laughlin in celebrating the sesquicentennial of March 21, 1864.

CONGRATULATING THE CORNING AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**HON. TOM REED**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2014*

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate the Corning Area Chamber of Commerce on its 100th anniversary. Over the past 100 years, the Corning Area Chamber of Commerce has successfully provided small businesses and local entrepreneurs with the resources, expertise and advice needed to succeed.

The Corning community is stronger and more vibrant because of the Chamber. The Chamber has proven to be an invaluable resource in promoting business in our community through a powerful, united voice—a voice that successfully advances opportunities for growth time and time again. Due to the Chamber's unrelenting work in promoting and assisting commerce, local businesses continue to provide well-paying jobs and high-quality products and services to our region.

In addition to helping established businesses, the Chamber has a strong history of providing grants to organizations that assist local entrepreneurs in starting new businesses in Corning. The Chamber continues to give Corning citizens the tools necessary to succeed.

Once again I wish to congratulate the Corning Area Chamber of Commerce on 100 successful years of service and wish them another hundred prosperous years in the beautiful city we call home.

A TRIBUTE TO SHELLI-ANNE  
COUCH—28TH CONGRESSIONAL  
DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2014*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. 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, Shelli-Anne Couch of Atwater Village.

As President of Friends of Atwater Elementary, Ms. Couch has led the turnaround of this Title I public elementary school, bringing new life to the volunteer support group which serves nearly 400 families in the Atwater Village area. She found innovative ways to generate new revenue streams, raised over \$100,000 in support of enrichment, educational and capital improvement programs for Atwater Avenue Elementary School, and created strategic partnerships with local, national and international businesses, non-profit organizations and individuals. Ms. Couch has founded and produced many events and programs that support the elementary school, including the First Annual Day of the Dead Festival with celebrity chef Curtis Stone which drew close to one thousand attendees and raised a substantial amount of money for the school.

Ms. Couch also formed a partnership with executives from Paul Mitchell Hair Products and Enrich LA to sponsor the school's first outdoor classroom program, which provides free tuition for students to learn how to make healthy life choices by gardening, eating seasonal produce, and composting. She also led the effort for school uniforms and created a "Care Closet" for families in need. In addition, she forged partnerships between the school and local organizations such as the Northland Village Church, which provides free weekly tutoring called "Homework Helpers," and the local Lions Club, which provides scholarships and free eye tests to students.

Prior to her dedicated volunteer work in Atwater Village, Ms. Couch was an international business and media executive with over twenty-five years of experience transforming how companies and people build their commerce, content and community, guiding clients like Universal Studios, Diane Von Furstenberg, and the Australian Consulate. She co-founded Billion Dollar Babes, the world's first global designer fashion sales event. Her agency's showrooms in Los Angeles, New York and London pioneered celebrity dressing and editorial placement. An award-winning journalist, Ms. Couch, who moved from her native Australia to Los Angeles in 1997, has been featured in magazines and newspapers such as *Vogue*, *The New York Times*, *The LA Times*, and *People*, and on the television show, *Good Morning America*.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Shelli-Anne Couch.

NICOLE PAPPADAKIS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nicole Pappadakis for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Nicole Pappadakis is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Nicole Pappadakis 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 Nicole Pappadakis for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2014*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 116, I was unable to attend. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2014*

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, due to attending a previously scheduled meeting at the White House with President Obama, I was absent from votes in the House on Wednesday afternoon (March 12) and missed rollcall votes 1201-124. Had I been present, I would have voted: "yea" on rollcall No. 120 (Conyers amendment); "yea" on rollcall No. 121 (Nadler amendment); "yea" on rollcall No. 122 (Jackson-Lee amendment); "yea" on rollcall No. 123 (Motion to Recommit H.R. 4138 with Instructions); and "nay" on rollcall No. 124 (final passage of H.R. 4138, the ENFORCE the Law Act).

TRIBUTE TO JAMES C. DOWDLE

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2014*

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, on February 17th, we lost an extraordinary American with the passing of James C. Dowdle, who was 79. I rise today to do something a bit out of character. As many folks know, I am a proud University of Michigan Wolverine. Jim, on the

other hand, was a Notre Dame grad. In the Midwest, the Wolverines and Fighting Irish mix, at least in athletics, about as well as the Hatfields and McCoys. In fact, Jim was a physically gifted athlete who played basketball for the Irish. It takes a special individual for me to put aside a rivalry that runs that deep. Jim Dowdle was that unique.

I got to know Jim on a professional level. He was hired by Tribune Company in Chicago in the early 1980s to head its broadcast operations until his retirement in 1999. Tribune Company remains the largest media company headquartered in the Midwest. Of particular interest to me, Jim engineered the Tribune's purchase of the Chicago Cubs from the Wrigley family. As a lifelong, diehard Cubs fan, Jim and I agonized over the team's progress many an afternoon at Wrigley Field. Jim also persuaded legendary Hall of Fame broadcaster Harry Caray to be the Cubs' play-by-play announcer on Tribune's WGN-TV. That powerful combination spread WGN's telecasts throughout the land as cable systems and home satellites grew WGN into a national superstation. What makes the story even more remarkable is that Jim was a proud Irish-American son of Chicago's Southside, that sliver of greater Chicagoland where your allegiance is to the White Sox and whatever team is playing the Cubs. Jim used to say, "Thank God my father is buried in Calvary Cemetery. If he knew I bought the Cubs, I'm not sure he would talk to me." Over the years, Jim gambled on the future of television—investing in little-known cable channels such as the Food Network and others, adding to Tribune's broadcast station holdings, the value of which is now in the billions.

Jim Dowdle's family and civic legacy is just as remarkable. He married his beloved Sally Sayers in 1956 shortly after graduating from Notre Dame. To all, they are known as Honey and Doods. He was the father of five and grandfather of eighteen. At his funeral Mass, nine handsome grandsons, all at least six foot two, dressed in suits and Kelly green ties, served as pallbearers. At the altar, two Catholic monsignors, twelve priests and his godson (a deacon) celebrated his Mass before as many as 1,500 mourners—a powerful, visible testament to a life well led.

Long before I got to know him, Jim had conquered alcohol addiction. For decades, he counseled countless others, often complete strangers. When the word spread that Jim was nearing death, the family received numerous calls and messages from people who wanted them to know how Jim Dowdle had impacted them—saving careers, marriages, and lives. Without those unsolicited testimonials, no one would have known.

A former Marine lieutenant, years later, Jim received the Marine Corps' *Semper Fidelis* Award. He also received the broadcast industry's highest honor, the National Association of Broadcasters' Distinguished Service Award, as well as the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences' Trustee Award and induction into the Broadcasting and Cable Hall of Fame. A devout Catholic, Jim was a director of Mundelein Seminary's Board of Advisors and Big Shoulders Fund. He served as a former board chairman of Junior Achievement of Chicago, director of Loyola University's Health Systems, director of Robert R. McCormick Foundation, director of Hazelden Chicago, and trustee of Chicago's Museum of