

I suggest that the Coast Guard examine the potential cost savings that may be derived from adopting laser peening, which can be utilized to greatly reduce cracking and erosion. It could have wide benefits to Coast Guard vessels, fixed wing aircraft, and rotorcraft. The cost savings resulting from the use of laser peening could reduce the need for major structure rework, slow the rate of replacement of highly stressed components and parts, and provide a longer lifetime for Coast Guard assets.

CONGRATULATIONS WAYZATA  
BOY'S SWIMMING AND DIVING  
TEAM

**HON. ERIK PAULSEN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 4, 2014*

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Wayzata High School's Boy's Swimming and Diving team who recently won the Minnesota Class 2A state title. The Trojans were able to secure the school's first championship with a balanced effort in the finals. Led by a first place performance from Greg Arnold in the 100 freestyle, Wayzata was able to secure the title before the last race even began.

Coach Dave Plummer, in his first season as head coach, pointed to the full team effort necessary to qualify in the preliminary races. Six top-four finishes in the finals also helped put the Trojans over the top.

The dedication it takes to excel in swimming and diving is to be commended. It means that these athletes push themselves every day to shave hundredths of a second off their personal best or repeat dive after dive until it's perfect. When adding in schoolwork, family obligations, and other time commitments, it is remarkable these student-athletes accomplish all that they do.

Once again, congratulations to the Wayzata High School Boy's Swimming and Diving Team on a job well done.

HONORING CHERYL DIEHM

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 4, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cheryl Diehm upon her retirement as the District Representative in my Congressional office. Cheryl has been an integral member of my staff, both in the California State Senate and in Congress for the past twenty-six years. The unwavering dedication, loyalty and compassion she has displayed throughout these twenty-six years is both admirable and deserving of recognition.

Cheryl came to work on my staff after my first campaign and has been the best person to work with, both in the State Senate and in Congress. In twenty-six years, there is no part of our district that Cheryl has not touched. From our offices in Vallejo to Napa to Santa Rosa, wherever I needed her to go, she went. No matter what office she was in, and no matter what her role in the office was, she made the office better and she made the community those offices served better.

Cheryl is loyal, compassionate and committed to our office, our district and the institution of representative government. She knows that government has a responsibility to make sure things are fair and she's always working for what is best for the American people. When constituents called with problems, she solved them. She has helped countless constituents navigate everything from Medicare benefits to mortgage problems, and VA payments. She spearheaded our office's Military Service Academy nominations. She organized interviews, sorted through applications, and worked with liaison officers to help make sure that young people who wanted to serve our country had the opportunity to do so.

Cheryl has an unrivaled political antenna, and she always took time to nurture and mentor young staff. She shared her skills and traits with the other people in our office and because of that, her service to our county and country will endure long past her retirement from our office.

Cheryl is an asset to our district, a role model to our younger staff, and a best friend to me. Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor and thank Cheryl for her invaluable service and wish her a most enjoyable retirement.

CONGRATULATING REVEREND  
MARK A. DENNIS, JR.

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 4, 2014*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rev. Mark A. Dennis, Jr., Senior Pastor of the Second Baptist Church in Evanston, Illinois.

Ten years ago, this visionary leader took his place as the eleventh Senior Pastor of the historic Second Baptist Church, Evanston's first black Baptist Church, organized in 1882. He was called to provide greater leadership in spiritual formation, strategic visioning, community development, and pastoral care.

Reverend Dennis came with outstanding academic and professional credentials. He holds several degrees including a Master of Divinity, cum laude, from Howard University School of Divinity; a Master of Music from Bowling Green University; and a Bachelor of Arts from Morehouse College. Many honors have been bestowed on him, including admission to the prestigious Preacher's Hall of Fame at Morehouse College.

Second Baptist is a highly-respected Church in the Evanston community with a dedicated congregation whose vision is to be "A beacon of light: A Christ-centered Church celebrating faith, freedom, stewardship and the social responsibility of caring for souls."

Reverend Dennis has more than lived up to that mission, reaching well beyond the walls of Second Baptist to become an inspiring and energetic leader in all aspects of the religious and civic life of our community.

Under Reverend Dennis's leadership, Second Baptist partners with my synagogue, Beth Emet, on meaningful youth programs including a joint Civil Rights Pilgrimage to the Southern United States to visit civil rights landmarks. Along with Temple Beth Israel in Skokie, Second Baptist hosts a weekly soup kitchen. Rev-

erend Dennis has spearheaded programs at Second Baptist that lift our entire community, such as "Cradle to Career," which helps young people to take full and equal advantage of the opportunities before them and Pioneering Healthier Communities, a partnership with the City of Evanston, the YMCA, and health providers, which is improving individual lives and community well-being. Reverend Dennis serves as a leader in Interfaith organizations and efforts in our region.

Reverend Dennis has been a treasured friend and mentor to countless people inside and out of his congregation, including me. I congratulate him on his tenth anniversary as Senior Pastor at Second Baptist Church and wish him many more years in the pulpit and the community.

TO RECOGNIZE RALPH  
DIGUISEPPE, JR.

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 4, 2014*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bristol Borough Council President, Ralph DiGuiseppe, Jr.

Strong values and close family ties are the hallmark of the DiGuiseppe family. Ralph's grandparents journeyed here from Italy, passing through Ellis Island just as many of our own ancestors had, and then settled in the Delaware Valley. Ralph's parents met at a dance in Bristol Borough. They eventually married and made Bristol Borough their home.

Ralph is a proud, lifelong resident of Bristol Borough—a true "Bristolian." He is proud to serve as President of the Bristol Borough Council and has passed on the value of service to the next generation of DiGuisepes as his son, Ralph DiGuiseppe III, serves on the Bristol Borough School Board.

Ralph has volunteered countless hours at St. Ann's Parish as a project manager and a laborer, and strengthened the parish's finances by reinstating the annual carnival, an iconic Bristol event. Kind and generous, Ralph donates to ensure traditional Thanksgiving feasts can be enjoyed by local families who would otherwise go without.

Ralph has been described as an "idealist, a dreamer, always thinking in long term." He believes the American Dream is a dream come true for the DiGuiseppe family. From his first day on council, his goal has been simply to improve the quality of life for the residents of Bristol Borough.

"Welcome Friend" has been Bristol's motto since a wooden sign greeted the Marquis de Lafayette on his "Farewell Tour of America" in 1824. The original sign still hangs within the Borough Hall, where it continues to greet locals and newcomers. Ralph views every individual he meets as important. He truly embodies this simple gesture, "Welcome Friend," and graciously welcomes all into the Bristol Borough family.

I commend Ralph DiGuiseppe Jr. for his selfless dedication to his community and his never ending pursuit of the American Dream for his family and fellow Bristolians.