

thankful for the resources that the Cooperative Extension Service has provided our farmers and our communities. I am proud to congratulate the Cooperative Extension Service, and wish them many more years of success.

CONGRATULATING JUDY SHERMAN

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend, Judy Sherman, a diligent and steadfast defender of oral health, on the occasion of her retirement from the American Dental Association, ADA, after more than 29 years.

Judy's singlehanded contributions to improving oral health in this country are far-reaching. Those who don't know her would be astounded after hearing her accomplishments, but those of us who do know her, and have seen her effectiveness first hand, understand how she has made such an impact.

She has made a career of fighting for dental priorities, like boosting dental residencies, and was instrumental in the "Collins-Feingold" law which funded special state dental projects and dental residencies. She played a central role in efforts to boost dental divisions and research across the spectrum, including at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, and the Indian Health Service. She has been involved in nearly every issue impacting the oral health of our children at the federal level for the last several decades.

After graduating from the University of Michigan, Judy taught junior high school in Michigan for 12 years before coming to Washington, DC to work as a Legislative Aide to Senator Carl D. Pursell. She made her way to the ADA in 1985, and eventually rose to become ADA's Director of Congressional Affairs in 2007. She was also President of the Coalition for Health Funding, which works to strengthen public health investments.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand here today and recognize the achievements and career of my good friend, Judy Sherman. I will miss her constant presence, and her unwavering and loyal support. The entire oral health community will miss her dedication and commitment. We all have a lot of work to do to fill her shoes. Though she is now going to be spending more time with her husband Brad, and her two Golden Retrievers, I hope and expect that we will still see her from time to time, walking the halls of Congress, and continuing to advocate for dentists and oral health.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
TOM RICHARDS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tom Richards for his years of service as Board Chair of the Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board, FRWIB. Tom's

commitment and dedication to ensuring the success of FRWIB must be commended.

Over the past four years, Tom has worked tirelessly to carry out FRWIB's mission to be a catalyst for mobilizing and integrating public and private partners to effectively educate and train individuals with the necessary skills to fulfill employer needs. As Board Chair, Tom strives to increase the number of job opportunities available to unemployed and underemployed residents in the region. He plays an integral role in advancing vocational education opportunities directly related to job placement. Businesses and individuals throughout the community have benefited immensely from Tom's business insight and civic interests.

Tom's leadership expands beyond FRWIB. He is a leader for our entire community, and he strives every day to ensure the success of our city, state, and nation. He is the past chair of the Planning Council that developed the 10 Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in the City of Fresno. Tom was also instrumental in the planning and funding of Terry's House, a hospitality home for families who have loved ones who are in the hospital. Tom has overseen dozens of successful projects, and he has proven to be an effective leader. He is an individual of outstanding character, and I am proud to have him as a friend for more than 30 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Tom Richards for his service as Board Chair of the Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board. Tom's vision, passion, and persistence have led to improvements in the region's economy. As Tom steps down as Board Chair, we can still expect him to be an advocate for businesses and residents throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

HONORING KHADIJAH GRIFFIN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student at Madison S. Palmer High School.

Khadijah Griffin is the daughter of Derrick and Cynthia Griffin of Lambert, MS. She was chosen Miss Madison S. Palmer High 2013–14 Queen and Student Council President by her peers. She is active in school in that she plays softball and was the Drum Major for the band. She communicates well with everyone. She plans to attend MS State University and has completed the paperwork for admission, been accepted, has taken the ACT and received a scholarship to aid her financially. She plans to major in Mass Communication and is a member of the High School Journalism Class and Newspaper Staff.

In the community, Khadijah has participated in campus and community cleanup-beautification campaigns, breast cancer awareness walks, worked as a volunteer helping the Mid-South Food Bank hand out food to the needy in Quitman County, has participated in the MS Drop Out Prevention Campaign Walk, and is Vice-President of her church youth department as well as a choir member.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Khadijah Griffin as a student who is goal oriented and making a difference in her community.

RECOGNIZING THE U.S. CAPITOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S 2013 MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST SENIOR DIVISION WINNER RICHARD ALEC MERSKI

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Richard Alec Merski, a resident of Virginia's 11th District and the senior division winner of the U.S. Capitol Historical Society's 2013 Making Democracy Work student essay contest.

The Historical Society is a congressionally chartered educational organization founded in 1962. Its mission is to inform the public about the rich heritage of the Capitol and the Congress. This nationwide contest is open to all students in two categories: a junior division contest for students in grades 6–8 and a senior division contest for students in grades 9–12.

The 2013 contest asked students to consider the rights guaranteed by the Constitution and the corresponding duties that citizens owe to implement and protect those rights. Essays addressed questions such as how these rights and responsibilities affect students, their families, and the importance of being aware of one's own rights and responsibilities. Students were required to cite sources such as the U.S. Constitution, books, and articles from magazines and newspapers. Entries were judged on the depth of their content, the mastery of the topic, and the skill with which they are written.

Mr. Merski is a senior at James Madison High School in Vienna, Virginia, where he will graduate in June. An Honor Roll student, Alec previously attended the Nysmith School in Herndon and Landon School in Bethesda. An avid language student, Alec was one of two students at Landon taking two languages in addition to his courses. Alec spent two summers living with host families in Spain and China in an intensive language program to hone his language skills. He was also the recipient of the Excellence in Foreign Language Award. He served as the President of the China Roundtable of Washington, an annual forum held at the Chinese Embassy allowing experts on China to address current economic, cultural, and educational changes in China.

Alec was an active member and officer of Model UN and served as the President of the Environmental Club. Last summer, Alec interned with the United States-Asia Foundation and the International Trade Commission. He plans to major in International Relations and Economics when he enters college this fall.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Alec Merski on this outstanding achievement and in wishing him all the best in his future endeavors. I am confident that this accomplished young man will be successful in whatever path he chooses to follow.

HONORING ADMIRAL ROBERT J. PAPP, JR. FOR HIS SERVICE AS THE 24TH COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with Representatives HOWARD COBLE, FRANK LOBIONDO, and RICK LARSEN on behalf of the Congressional Coast Guard Caucus to recognize the dedication and unwavering leadership of Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr, who will complete his tour as the 24th Commandant of the United States Coast Guard on May 30, 2014. Serving our nation faithfully and selflessly for over 40 years, Admiral Papp has led the nearly 90,000 active duty, reserve, civilian and auxiliary members of the Coast Guard through an extraordinary period in the Coast Guard's history. Both as Commandant and Commander of the Coast Guard's Atlantic Area, Admiral Papp remained focused and resolute in directing the massive response and recovery operations for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. He served as the Operational Commander responsible for the Coast Guard response in the wake of the Haiti earthquake disaster, where Coast Guard cutters were the first U.S. assets on scene to provide humanitarian assistance to the devastated country.

Admiral Papp was instrumental in raising the national awareness of the continuously evolving challenges in the Arctic, including developing the Coast Guard's first Arctic Strategy and expanding Coast Guard operations and capabilities in the Region. He has also been integral to U.S. efforts to engage with other Arctic Nations to establish international governance protocols essential to protecting U.S. sovereignty, security and economic interests as access and activity in the Arctic continues to expand.

Through his leadership and staunch support of the Coast Guard men and women who place their lives on the line every day to serve the American people, he has remained steadfast in his commitment to recapitalize the Coast Guard's rapidly aging fleet of cutters, aircraft and small boats. Often overcoming seemingly insurmountable obstacles in an incredibly challenging fiscal environment, he has achieved extraordinary success in building out the fleet of National Security Cutters, Fast Response Cutters, Response Boats and Maritime Patrol Aircraft. Furthermore, he has laid the foundation for the acquisition of the Offshore Patrol Cutter, which will ensure the Coast Guard continues to remain "Semper Paratus" or Always Ready, to complete its maritime safety, security and stewardship missions in our ports and waterways as well as the over 4 millions square miles of U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone around the world.

Finally, for those of us who have had the privilege to know Admiral Papp personally, it does not take long to see and understand how passionate he is about the health and welfare of every member of the Coast Guard family—his "shipmates." His focus on professionalism and proficiency and his efforts to improve access to critical family support services such as childcare and family housing have been instrumental in improving the lives of all "Coasties."

His decision to protect the civilian workforce and not implement furloughs despite the devastating impacts of sequestration reflects his commitment to the concept that every member of the Coast Guard—active duty, reserve, civilian or auxiliary—is an indispensable partner in the success of the Service.

As the Co-Chairs of the Coast Guard Caucus, we are honored to join with our distinguished colleagues in recognizing the incredible service, dedication and leadership of Admiral Papp as the 24th Commandant of the United States Coast Guard. As we honor Admiral Papp, we also honor the service of the thousands of shipmates he has led as they rescue those in distress, protect our environment, secure our borders and keep dangerous drugs off our streets. To paraphrase Admiral Papp himself, "They are Coastguardsmen. This is their chosen profession. This is their way." We thank Admiral Papp, his wife Linda and his entire family for their service and sacrifice, and wish them all fair winds and following seas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 6, 2014, I was at home in Wisconsin taking care of my wife and our new baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following ways:

1) H.R. 3584—The Capital Access for Small Community Financial Institutions Act of 2013—Yea

2) H.R. 2672—CFPB Rural Designation Petition and Correction—Yea

3) H.R. 4386—Money Remittance Improvement Act of 2013—Yea

4) H.R. 3329—To enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes—Yea

5) H.R. 3468—The Credit Union Share Fund Insurance Parity Act—Yea

6) H.R. 2919—The Open Book on Equal Access to Justice Act—Yea

7) H.R. 4292—The Foreign Cultural Exchange Jurisdictional Immunity Clarification Act—Yea

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF GEORGE NISHIO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Dr. George Nishio, who passed away in November 2013 at the age of 97. George served the United States of America honorably during World War II and was a pillar in the community.

George was born in Fresno, California, to Japanese immigrant parents. He graduated from Fresno State College and went on to complete a Doctor of Optometry degree at the University of California, Berkeley. With his op-

tometry degree in hand, George returned to Fresno and began a private practice.

Following the attacks on Pearl Harbor, George was sent to a concentration camp in Jerome, Arkansas. Despite being driven from his home to a concentration camp, George volunteered for duty in the U.S. Army. Following basic training, George was selected for medical training. After being designated as an optometrist, George was assigned to a medical company and boarded a ship for the campaign in the European Theater.

The U.S. Army recognized George's expertise and leadership abilities and promoted him to Technical Sergeant. George would go on to serve in Europe as the allied forces fought their way into Germany. His unit received a meritorious unit citation and was designated a Distinguished U.S. Army Medical Regiment.

For his service, George received the World War II Medal, African-Middle Eastern Medal, European Campaign, Meritorious Unit Award, Army of Occupation Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal.

George married Michiko Saiki and returned to Fresno where he resumed his optometry practice. He and Michiko had six children in whom they instilled a strong sense of appreciation for nature and education. Eventually, George and his family moved to Chowchilla where he established a practice that still serves the community.

Believing that everyone should serve and be an active member in their community, George served as a member of the City Planning Commission, Chowchilla School Board, and was President of the Madera County Board of Education. He was also a longtime member and past president of the Chowchilla Rotary Club, and a Paul Harris Fellow.

In addition, George was a member of the American Optometric Association, serving as president of the Central California Chapter. He was named Optometrist of the Year by the Central California Optometry Association. He was a Life Member of Chowchilla Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 8986 and Nisei VFW Post 8985 in Sacramento.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life of Dr. George Nishio who dedicated his life to serving his nation and community. His presence will be greatly missed, but his legacy will surely live on throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

CELEBRATING THE GRAND OPENING OF CYPRESS WATERS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the grand opening of the Cypress Waters commercial and residential planned community. Developed by Henry and Lucy Billingsley, Cypress Waters is a 1,000 acre development on the 362 acre North Lake. It is anchored by the City of Dallas, Texas, with parts also in the cities of Coppell and Irving. Cypress Waters is in close proximity to the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and sits in the heart of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex.

Once completed, the Neighborhoods of Cypress Waters will feature over 10,000 multi-