

Reverend Dr. Steve Bland Jr. has made on the congregation of Liberty Temple Baptist Church as its pastor for the last ten years and the larger impact he has made on the communities around him. I wish Dr. Bland, his family, and the congregants of Liberty Temple many more blessed years of spiritual fellowship.

HONORING THE OPENING OF THE
ULSTER COUNTY PATRIOTS
PROJECT

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the opening of the Ulster County Patriots Project in Kingston, New York. The Patriots Project, which will open on July 2, addresses an issue that plagues many of our veterans, including many in my district—homelessness. Once open, the Patriots Project will provide eight clean and safe rooms, two of which will be handicap-accessible, for Ulster County homeless veterans as they work through the many challenges confronting our veteran population.

I also rise today to thank Ulster County Executive Mike Hein and all the leaders from across Ulster County who made the Patriots Project a reality. I was honored to join with leaders from across the region who wrote letters of support and leveraged a variety of governmental programs to fund the program. Moreover, Mike, his team, and volunteers from across my district donated their time, resources, and expertise to ensure that this noble project came to fruition. On behalf of the people of New York's 19th Congressional District, I thank them.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREERS OF
ALLAN AND JILL ROSS

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the noteworthy careers of Allan and Jill Ross, of the Quad Cities.

The Ross' married in 1973 and both joined the U.S. Army that year. Allan, a veteran of 20 years, retired in 1994 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He served domestically and abroad, ending his military service at the Rock Island Arsenal. Following his career in the Army, Allan worked in commercial real estate, investments, and internet sales, and he has been serving as the Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of the Quad Cities since 2002, an organization that addresses the needs of its community in a wide range of issues.

Jill, served as an Army Personnel Specialist and Team Leader, and rose to the rank of Sergeant. She later worked for the Army library system in Germany, managing three libraries. Following her time in the military, Jill manages and owns Jill Ross Vintage Clothes, which she has done successfully since 1983. Jill has also been a very active member of the Jewish community, which include volunteer work for the Tri-City Jewish Center, the Beth Israel Sisterhood and the Jewish Federation.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank the Ross' for their years of dedicated service to our country and community. Allan Ross and his wife Jill have been, and continue to be, invaluable members of the community, and I am again delighted to recognize their achievements and pleased to know that people like them are contributing to our society.

EASTCHESTER 350TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, our young nation includes many communities that are older than America itself. I am pleased to recognize one of those communities, the Town of Eastchester, as it celebrates its 350th Anniversary.

Eastchester is truly a town steeped in history. A number of America's famed daughters and sons have a connection to Eastchester, including Anne Hutchinson, Aaron Burr, and John Adams.

Eastchester's origins can be traced back to Thomas Pell, who sold his land to original ten farm families migrated from Fairfield, Connecticut, in 1664. The Pell Deed, signed on June 24, of that year, verifies the sale and serves as proof of the Town's founding.

The Eastchester Covenant, signed in 1665, outlines a civil code of conduct agreed upon by the first families. The spirit of their Covenant lives today; neighbors help neighbors, friends show their concern for others, and volunteers work together to ensure the community continues to thrive.

Governor Richard Nicolls, acting as the colonial agent on behalf of James, Duke of York, signed the Royal Patent, or Land Grant, of 1666, which established the initial town boundaries. Three of the original ten farmers—Philip Pinckney, James Everts and William Haiden—were named in this document.

Two other documents—the Indian Deed of 1700 and the Long Reach Patent of 1708—enabled the fledgling community to continue to grow. The Long Reach Patent, in particular, transferred over 3,000 acres of land to Eastchester from Queen Anne. Much of that land is included within the borders of modern Eastchester.

Eastchester is now a thriving, suburban community nestled within Westchester County. Residents of Eastchester, along with the incorporated Villages of Tuckahoe and Bronxville, are celebrating the Town's founding with a year-long celebration honoring Eastchester's storied past.

It is my hope that residents will commemorate the Town of Eastchester's 350 year anniversary with much friendship and joy, as they work together to build an even stronger future.

It has been a pleasure to represent this historic Town in Congress.

RECOGNIZING THE 2014 MICHIGAN
POLICE OFFICERS OF THE YEAR

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave men and women of the Michigan law enforcement community who were recently awarded the 2014 Police Officers of the Year award by the Police Officer Association of Michigan (POAM), which represents over 14,000 frontline officers across the state. As part of the 47th annual POAM convention that was held on May 22, 2014 in Grand Rapids, Michigan, five officers were recognized for recent heroic actions and dedication to their work.

I would first like to honor Southfield Police Officer Nicholas Smiscik who, on New Year's Day 2013, bravely pursued an armed carjacker who shot and injured two people in Redford Township.

Officer Smiscik subdued the dangerous suspect and placed him under arrest. During his acceptance speech at the POAM convention Officer Smiscik stated that he was simply "doing his job." I want to thank him for his service and for risking his life to keep our communities safe. I am honored to have him as a constituent in my District.

I would also like to recognize Crawford County Officers Matthew Swope and Michael Jacobi, who were honored as Police Officers of the Year for putting their lives on the line while apprehending a dangerous individual who was deemed a proven threat to the community.

In addition, Grand Blanc Officers Andrea Carlson and Lindsay Witthuhn were honored with the 2014 Police Officers of the Year award for acting with great bravery and discipline when responding to a domestic disturbance and preventing a far more tragic outcome.

Mr. Speaker, as a long-time friend, supporter and ally of the Michigan law enforcement community, I am proud to recognize the commitment of Michigan's police officers and the sacrifices they and their families make each and every day. Like Officer Smiscik, they will say they are just doing their job, but their dedication and bravery in the line of duty make our communities safe and enjoyable places to live.

It is a great honor to represent these heroic men and women and I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating all five Michigan officers on receiving this award.

CELEBRATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE DECALOGUE SOCIETY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and congratulate the Decalogue Society of Lawyers, which this year celebrates its 80th anniversary.

Founded in 1934 to fight anti-Semitism and other forms of discrimination and intolerance,