

well as protect children from trafficking. I earnestly hope implementation has been a priority.

The Southeast Asia region continues to struggle with particularly acute and entrenched human trafficking. Thailand and Malaysia were downgraded to Tier 3 last year. Burma must receive a presidential waiver this year to avoid Tier 3.

One of the key drivers of intense human trafficking in the region is the vulnerability and desperation of the Muslim minority Rohingya people. Squalid living conditions in displacement camps, discrimination, child limitation, and violence are pushing the Rohingya out of Buddhist-dominated Burma into the hands of human traffickers who claim to have jobs for them in Muslim-majority Malaysia.

However, according to reports by Reuters last year, many Rohingya never make it to Malaysia, and instead end up in tropical gulags in the jungles of Thailand, where they are held for ransom. Many die from abuse and disease. Those who cannot pay the ransom are sold into sex slavery or forced labor, often in the fishing industry.

Thai General Prayuth Chan-ocha has vowed to crack down on any Thai authorities involved and to bring an end to the practice. While we have seen an impressive number and variety of anti-trafficking efforts in Thailand during the last year—including a new law in March that heightened penalties to life imprisonment for traffickers—prosecutions have significantly diminished in the last year. Prosecutions regarding trafficking of Rohingya migrants seem particularly low.

Nevertheless, over the last year, Thailand has taken concrete steps to register nearly 100,000 migrants, amend laws related to the fishing sector, raise the minimum age for labor at sea to 18 years old, set mandatory rest periods and employment contract requirements, and inspect hundreds of boats. And we also need to look at ourselves, and ask too whether we are complicit in abetting trafficking, perhaps unwittingly.

Last month, for example, the Associated Press documented Thai boats picking up seafood in Indonesia caught by Burmese slaves who, when not at sea, are kept in cages on remote Indonesian islands. The seafood was taken back to Thai ports and processed by the company that owns Chicken of the Sea. Much of the tainted seafood may have entered the supply chain to reach the shelves of American grocery stores and, through vendors such as Sysco, have landed on the plates of our service men and women.

There are nevertheless success stories, and Thailand has been a stalwart partner with the United States in fighting the sex tourism that drives sex trafficking. The Philippines also has worked with us in fighting sex tourists and helping the victims of trafficking—indeed, one of the witnesses we will hear from is a priest whose faith-based organization has helped thousands heal from the horrors of human trafficking.

Finally, a word to those who think that our TIP report embarrasses allies and undercuts our efforts to cultivate friendly ties around the globe.

I will never forget two of our closest allies, Israel and South Korea, at one point were both on Tier 3, the worst rank. I remember meeting with their Ambassadors who had files demonstrating to all of us and anyone who

would listen the measures they were taking to mitigate this terrible crime. And both of those countries got off Tier 3 when they backed words with substantive action.

Rather than alienating them, the exercise underscored that friends watch out for each other, and that we must call upon our friends to live up to the high ideals they profess. Ultimately, countries that do live up to their ideals show they value and treasure their citizens—their greatest resource—and in the long run will benefit the most.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2015*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, due to an event with the President in my home state, I was unable to vote during Roll Call 154, the motion on ordering the previous question for the rule H. Res. 200, as well as Roll Call 155, passage of H. Res. 200.

I was also unable to vote on Roll Call 156, final passage of H.R. 1562, the Contracting and Tax Accountability Act, as well as Roll Call 157, final passage of H.R. 1563, the Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted against the motion ordering the previous question on the rule H. Res. 200 and against final passage of the rule. Also, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 1562 and opposed H.R. 1563.

IN HONOR OF CRYSTAL BERTHEAU

### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2015*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the House's attention the outstanding public service work of Crystal Bertheau on the occasion of her retirement from the Santa Cruz County Elections Department following a long and distinguished career.

In Ms. Bertheau's professional career, she embodied the fundamental principal that should guide American democracy across our great nation: that every voter should have easy access to the ballot and that every vote cast should be counted. It is an example that stands as a beacon even now in the 21st Century.

Crystal started her professional career in San Mateo County in 1972 where she and her co-workers created an annual program for Court Room Clerks at Stanford University. From 1981 to 1996, Crystal worked for Judge Clarence B. Knight. In 1996, Crystal transferred to the San Mateo County Elections Department. In 1997, she and her husband, David, moved to Scotts Valley, California. In 1998, the Santa Cruz County Elections Department hired her as the poll worker training and recruitment coordinator for the county. She was instrumental in launching and implementing the county Inspector Hotline, a dedicated phone number for poll workers to call in questions on Election Day.

In 2002, she took on the duties of Program Coordinator in charge of candidate filing. Crys-

tal quickly became known as the knowledgeable and friendly face who helped thousands of candidates navigate their way through the candidate filing process. Crystal also served as a Passport Acceptance Agent and a Deputy Commissioner for Civil Marriage for the County of Santa Cruz. She and her co-workers earned the 2013 Employee Recognition Gold Award for successfully facilitating the start of same sex marriages in Santa Cruz County.

Crystal's passion for elections and community service is unsurpassed. She has worked 20 hour Election Days, spent many weekends serving her community on Passport Saturdays and Weekend Voting, and conducted weddings near the midnight hour on Valentine's Day. Crystal has enjoyed sailing in the San Francisco Bay, has run 2 half marathons and dozens of 10ks, has backpacked in the High Sierras, and enjoyed scuba diving in Cozumel, Bonaire, and the Monterey Bay. In retirement Crystal hopes to continue to enjoy her hobbies of golf, gardening, hiking, playing the piano, reading, and spending time with family and friends, especially her son Mark.

Mr. Speaker, I know that I speak on behalf of the entire House in thanking Crystal for her 42 years of public service and outstanding leadership, showing one person can impact the lives of many. I wish her the very best in the next chapter of her life.

TRIBUTE TO DEPUTY CHIEF DAVID C. BARRETTE

### HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2015*

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of First Deputy Chief David C. Barrette. Deputy Chief Barrette served our nation in the United States Air Force and, subsequently, has bravely served the 24th District of New York for over 40 years in the Syracuse Police Department. As Deputy Chief Barrette retires from the Syracuse Police Department, it is my honor to recognize such a distinguished citizen and civil servant.

Deputy Chief Barrette served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War as a Staff Sergeant from 1969 to 1973. Following his military career, Deputy Chief Barrette began his career with the Syracuse Police Department. For 41 years, he has progressed through the ranks of the Syracuse Police Department, serving as a Police Officer, Sergeant, Lieutenant, and Captain before being promoted to Deputy Chief of the Uniform Bureau in 2005 and Deputy Chief of Police in 2009.

Throughout his career, Deputy Chief Barrette has received numerous commendations for his service to our nation and the 24th District, including: a Certificate of Appreciation from the Viet Nam Veterans of America, CNY Chapter #103, the Officer Appreciation Award from the Neighborhood Watch Groups of Syracuse, an Outstanding Partner Award from the SU Community Partnership, a Certificate of Appreciation from the Southeast University Neighborhood Association and the Eastside Neighbors in Partnership, and an Outstanding Achievement Award from Syracuse United Neighbors.

Deputy Chief Barrette has remained an active member of the Syracuse community while on and off-duty through his role as a Member of the Board of Directors of the Syracuse Model Neighborhood Corporation, President of the Syracuse Police Scholarship Foundation Board of Directors, and Vice-Chair of the Onondaga County Chiefs of Police Association.

Deputy Chief Barrette holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Relations and Human Resource Management from LeMoyne College and a Master of Criminal Justice degree from the University of Alabama. He is supported by his wife, Patty.

Deputy Chief Barrette has proudly served our nation and Central New York, reflecting the courage and loyalty ubiquitous in Central New York law enforcement. I wish Deputy Chief Barrette well in his retirement and would like to thank him for his years of hard work, dedication, and service to our community.

HONORING EDWARD GARDNER  
HALEY

**HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2015*

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate my friend, Mr. Ed Haley for an outstanding career of public service that has spanned over 30 years, encompassed numerous roles, and helped countless lives. An advisor to the powerful, a mentor to the many, and smiling face for those he served, Ed Haley's life has exemplified what it means to be a servant leader.

Following graduation from Millington Central High School, Mr. Haley joined the Air Force and served as a radioman for four years before he was honorably discharged. Then, he embarked on a 15 year career with the DuPont Company before joining the Shelby County Government in 1973. During the next 27 years, Mr. Haley worked for the citizens of Shelby County, Tennessee as the Assistant Director of Safety, the Administrator for the Shelby County Automotive Facility, and ultimately the Director of the Shelby County Road Department. While most people would be looking forward to retirement, Mr. Haley energetically signed on to help the small town of Arlington as Town Superintendent and managed Arlington's explosive growth over the last 15 years until his well-deserved retirement on March 1, 2015.

Of course, knowing only Mr. Haley's public work contributions would be to miss the massive impact he has had through volunteer service during his tenure. Growing up in Millington, Tennessee and returning after the Air Force, Mr. Haley won a seat to the Board of Alderman in 1972. Throughout the 1970's and 80's he was active in the Jaycees, Optimist Club, Rotary Club, PTSA, Scottish Rite, and Gideon International. In 1990, he was elected to the Tennessee General Assembly as a State Representative serving north Shelby County until 1998.

In Matthew's Parable of the Talents, each servant has been entrusted with resources for which they are held accountable. Mr. Haley has used his life's work for the betterment of others and truly deserves to hear his Master say, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

On behalf of Tennessee's 8th Congressional District, I would like to congratulate and wish the best of luck in retirement and for all future endeavors to the family and friends of Mr. Ed Haley.

HONORING MR. H. DWIGHT WEAVER FOR RECEIVING A MISSOURI HUMANITIES AWARD

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2015*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Mr. H. Dwight Weaver. Mr. Weaver will be receiving one of the Missouri Humanities Awards, Exemplary Community Achievement—Lake of the Ozarks Preservation, on Saturday, May 2, 2015. Mr. Weaver has contributed to the betterment of the state of Missouri for many years.

H. Dwight Weaver worked for 15 years at the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. During his time there, he wrote about Missouri's air, land and water quality resources and these writings aided in policy-making. Mr. Weaver was awarded with two regional and two national awards for his article contributions to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources magazine, Missouri Resources.

During his 50 years living in the Lake of the Ozarks region, Mr. Weaver, has developed a passion for Missouri caves and a profound interest in the history of that region. From his time exploring and working at caves, he gained the knowledge to publish six books. H. Dwight Weaver treasures the various places of mystery and beauty that caves offer.

For a period of 40 years, H. Dwight Weaver has assembled a rare collection of vintage images and memorabilia that is reflective of the cultural heritage of the Lake of the Ozarks region. This collection has contributed to his ability to publish seven books and ultimately be the most prolific and best-selling author of the Lake of the Ozarks. Mr. Weaver contributes his time to the Miller and Camden County historical societies and serves as a source of historical information for anyone who requests information about the Lake of the Ozarks region.

I ask you in joining me in recognizing Mr. H. Dwight Weaver on receiving this award for his dedication to the Lake of the Ozarks region and the entire state of Missouri!

HONORING PEOPLES' SELF-HELP HOUSING

**HON. LOIS CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2015*

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Peoples' Self-Help Housing, which has served my constituents on the Central Coast of California since its incorporation on August 6, 1970. Since its inception Peoples' Self-Help Housing has provided vital affordable housing and self-sufficiency programs for low-income families, seniors, and other special needs groups in our local community.

Over the past 45 years, Peoples' Self-Help Housing has developed nearly 1,600 affordable rental units at 45 properties throughout San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties.

Their home building program utilizes a collaborative group method known as "sweat equity" to build homes for limited income families. This valuable program has resulted in over 1,200 new homes constructed by individuals as owner-builders under the supervision of Peoples' Self-Help Housing.

Furthermore, Peoples' Self-Help Housing provides safe and attractive shelter for 4,400 residents throughout the Tri-Counties. The organization has also received numerous national, state and local awards in recognition of their significant contributions to revitalizing our neighborhoods and communities, ensuring stable housing for veterans and those who were formerly homeless, and for their innovative work in educating our youth population.

I congratulate and offer my sincerest thanks to Peoples' Self-Help Housing for 45 years of successfully providing affordable housing and vital community services to the people of the Central Coast.

COMMEMORATING THE 67TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAEL'S INDEPENDENCE

**HON. KATHLEEN M. RICE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2015*

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 67th anniversary of Israel's independence. On this day, Yom Ha'atzmaut, we celebrate Israel's establishment as a sovereign state and as a homeland for the Jewish people.

Rising from the ashes of the Holocaust, Israel has come to embody the true meaning of perseverance and resilience. Since its declaration of independence in 1948, Israel has overcome seemingly insurmountable challenges, defending itself time and again against enemies seeking to destroy it. Today, Israel stands proudly alongside the world's most developed nations and as the Middle East's sole true democracy—one rooted in equality and freedom of speech and religion.

However, this prosperity has come at a high price, as over 20,000 brave Israeli men and women have given their lives in service to their country. That is why this week we also observe Yom Hazikaron, to pay tribute to the Israeli service members who made the ultimate sacrifice and to thousands of Israeli civilians who lost their lives in senseless acts of terror.

Sadly, in the post-9/11 world, the United States has also grown familiar with the threat of terrorism and we have watched our own men and women give their lives to defeat it. This common struggle has created yet another bond between our nations, as we both understand the indiscriminant, unjustifiable evil of terrorism, the irreparable pain it causes, and the swift, unequivocal response necessary to destroy it.

So today, we celebrate more than just 67 years of Israeli independence—we celebrate 67 years of strong and unwavering U.S.-Israeli relations.