

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ART CONTEST WINNER VIVIAN WANG

#### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Vivian Wang of Sugar Land's Cornerstone Elementary for being one of only thirteen winning students of the Don't Mess with Texas Elementary School Art Contest.

Vivian Wang, who is currently in the fifth grade, is one of the thirteen winners selected from the 8,228 elementary school students from across Texas who entered the contest. Keep Texas Beautiful and the Texas Department of Transportation selected the contest winners who displayed tremendous artistic talent, dedication, and creativity. Vivian's submission will appear in the 2016 Don't Mess with Texas Calendar and will be displayed on the Keep Texas Beautiful and Don't Mess with Texas websites. Her work will even be showcased at the Keep Texas Beautiful's 2015 Annual Conference.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Vivian for being selected as one of the winners of the Don't Mess with Texas Elementary School Art Contest.

### RECOGNIZING SUNNY HILLS SERVICES

#### HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to recognize Sunny Hills Services in San Anselmo, California, on the occasion of their 120th Anniversary Celebration, held on June 5, 2015.

For more than a century, Sunny Hills Services has dedicated itself to protecting, nurturing and healing at-risk youth in Marin County and the greater Bay Area. Originally founded as an orphanage and farm, today Sunny Hills helps children and adolescents across the region grow up in safe, healthy environments, develop life skills, achieve academically, and engage positively with our community. They have worked tirelessly on behalf of our most vulnerable citizens, and remain a leader in best practices for child welfare programs.

Sunny Hills' relentless advocacy on behalf of our youth has left a lasting impact on individuals, families, and neighborhoods. In the past year alone, they have helped more than 1,600 minors and 1,100 families and caregivers—and that does not include the countless friends, teachers, and classmates affected by their work. From providing mental health services for children experiencing be-

havioral and emotional difficulties to organizing transitional housing for former foster youth, Sunny Hills continues to engender meaningful change in the lives of our young people and enrich the fabric of our community.

Future generations rely upon the support today's children receive. We are all better off because of the vital work Sunny Hills performs by giving youth the tools they need to thrive. Mr. Speaker, we urge our colleagues to join us in congratulating Sunny Hills Services on this milestone and wishing them continued success for years to come.

### REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MRS. SHIRLEY MAE EDDY

#### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Shirley Mae Eddy of Canfield, Ohio who will forever be remembered as a loving wife, mother, and grandmother as well as a devoted Christian. Mrs. Eddy spent the early parts of her life in Pennsylvania, however, when she married the love of her life Bob Eddy, the two relocated to Warren, Ohio. Tomorrow Mr. and Mrs. Eddy would have celebrated their 60th anniversary. Mrs. Eddy valued her family above all else, and she enjoyed spending time with her six grandchildren and great-grandson. All who knew her could attest to her life being built on the strong foundation of her faith. She could always be found lending a helping hand to the less fortunate and giving her all wherever she noticed an unmet need. Mrs. Eddy's carefree laughter and service to the less fortunate are only a few of the attributes that made her special to her friends and family.

Mrs. Eddy was preceded in death by her loving parents, Kenneth and Isabelle; as well as her brother William; she leaves behind her husband of over fifty years Bob; her son, Chuck; daughters Lana and Lindy; brothers Kenneth, Robert, and Tom; sister Nancy; grandchildren Kelly, Chuckie, Bobby, Adam, Morgan, and Paige; and great-grandson, Georgie. Mrs. Eddy was a beloved part of the Canfield community for over forty years, and she will be deeply missed. I extend my condolences to her family and loved ones, rest assured her light will continue to live on through the hearts and lives she has touched.

### HONORING RABBI HILLEL COHN

#### HON. PETE AGUILAR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life and work of Rabbi Hillel Cohn, a vital figure in the Inland Empire's Jewish

community and of greater San Bernardino. As a representative of Congregation Emanu El of Redlands, Rabbi Cohn worked passionately to honor the precious customs and practices that have been cultivated by the congregation for over one hundred years.

Rabbi Cohn has played a crucial role in our community, making incredible contributions to the interfaith sector of the Inland Empire, bringing our friends and neighbors closer together and fostering a deep respect and admiration for our respective backgrounds and traditions.

Today we thank Rabbi Cohn for his contributions. His story and achievements will live on through those he has inspired and guided. I'm pleased to join members of the Inland Empire community in recognizing his incredible life legacy and wish him the best of luck and much happiness in his retirement.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. DAVID W. JOLLY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, on June 3rd I voted in support of an amendment to H.R. 2578, the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2016, which I intended to oppose. Let the record show that it was my intention to vote no on roll call vote 280 and oppose the amendment offered by my colleague from Oregon.

### IN RECOGNITION OF DR. QUENTIN BURNETT

#### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Quentin Burnett, who is retiring after four decades of public service. After an exemplary career in education, his expertise will be greatly missed. Dr. Burnett earned both his undergraduate and master's degrees from Texas A&M—Commerce, then obtained a doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Texas—Austin.

Beginning his career as a math teacher, Dr. Burnett then served as a coach and a principal. From there, he became a Texas Education Agency administrator before serving as Superintendent of three school districts: Johnson City, Greenwood, and Argyle ISDs. In addition, he has taught at the highest level of education, as an instructor of graduate finance classes at the University of Texas—Permian Basin as well as at the University of North Texas. At the state level, Dr. Burnett served as a trainer for the Texas Association of School Boards and an officer and past-president of the Texas Association of School Administrators. In 2011, after serving for nine

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

years as the Associate Superintendent for Finance for Birdville ISD, he joined Lewisville ISD as the Chief Financial Officer.

As Dr. Burnett retires, his leadership within the education field and dedication to students and teachers will continue to positively impact Lewisville ISD and Denton County. Best wishes to Dr. Burnett as he enters a well-deserved retirement. It is a privilege to serve such an outstanding public servant in the U.S. House of Representatives.

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NATIONAL FOREST FOUNDATION  
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. BRENDA L. LAWRENCE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 9, 2015*

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, as we vote on the bipartisan bill, H.R. 2394, in the House today, I would like to acknowledge the positive impact that our National Forest System has had in my home state of Michigan and throughout our great nation. Comprised of the United States Forest Service and the non-profit National Forest Foundation, our National Forest system encompasses 193 million acres of wilderness. These forests nourish a variety of animal and plant species, provide a wide array of recreational opportunities, and pump \$13.5 billion annually into the U.S. economy.

I am encouraged to see the bipartisan consensus around preserving our forests. In Michigan, the work done by the National Forest System has helped preserve two different habitats. In the Hiawatha National Forest on Michigan's Upper Peninsula, workers helped plant more than 96,000 White Pine, Northern Red Oak and Hemlock trees to replenish the disappearing forest in 2012. Additionally, the national forest system helped lead a coalition to repair the disappearing habitat of the Kirtland's Warbler. In 2011, Forest workers planted 180,000 Jack Pine seedlings to help re-populate that species of tree, which is required for the Warbler to produce its offspring. Now, thanks to their efforts, the Kirtland's Warbler population is much more robust within the Huron and Manistee National Forests.

The important contributions made by the National Forest Foundation must not be overlooked, and I wholeheartedly support the program's reauthorization. Our forests are an incredible economic, environmental, and recreational resource for our country. We must remain steadfast and continue the work of preserving these forests and all of the majestic wonders contained within them for not only those alive today, but for all future generations of Americans.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT HURT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for Rollcall No. 319. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

CELEBRATING THE ROTARY CLUB  
OF HILLSBOROUGH

**HON. LEONARD LANCE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Rotary Club of Hillsborough for 60 years of tremendous humanitarian service. Rotary has been a major part of community life in Hillsborough.

Rotary International is a global network of community volunteers with reach and influence across many spheres of interest, from service and volunteerism to promoting public health education. Rotary is one of the largest and most influential international service organizations worldwide. Rotary members, from New Jersey to the developing world, conduct projects to address today's humanitarian challenges, including illiteracy, disease, hunger, poverty and lack of clean water while encouraging high standards in all vocations. Rotary members strive to build goodwill and the members of the Rotary Club of Hillsborough are known ambassadors for dedicated public service.

The Rotary Club of Hillsborough has accomplished numerous projects to improve the lives of individuals needing assistance. Through annual fundraising events and community building activities, Rotary outings have assisted the Hillsborough Food Pantry, Homes For Hope, veterans services, families, those with special needs and projects in the public schools. Rotary has played a role in making Hillsborough what it is today—a wonderful place to build a life, raise a family and retire.

Service above self is vital to Rotary and the members of the Rotary Club of Hillsborough have for 60 years been a pillar of community spirit in Hillsborough.

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CONGRATULATING MARY  
KUPRIANCZYK

**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Cadet Captain Mary Kuprianczyk on earning the Amelia Earhart Award.

The Amelia Earhart Award is presented to individuals upon completion of the first 11 achievements of the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program. These achievements show personal growth in five program areas: aerospace education, leadership, special activities, physical fitness, and moral and ethical values. Once each of these achievements has been satisfied, the cadet must pass a comprehensive 100 question examination covering aerospace topics, leadership theory, and staff duties. To illustrate how prestigious this honor is, only 5 percent of all cadets earn this distinction.

At the young age of 16, Mary Kuprianczyk has proven to be a role model we can all look up to. While working hard to fulfill these requirements, she has been an exemplary honor roll student at Rockover Naval Academy in Chicago. All of these accomplishments have been earned while being the first female Cadet Captain at the Palwaukee Squadron.

After completing her education at Rockover, Mary plans to continue serving her country by pursuing an appointment to a military academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Cadet Captain Mary Kuprianczyk and her exceptional accomplishments through the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program.

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HONORING THE 2015 AMHERST  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SMALL  
BUSINESS AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the honorees of the 2015 Amherst Chamber of Commerce's Small Business Awards Luncheon here today. Each business and business leader has done their part to lead by example, demonstrating leadership in the business community and a shared dedication to improving the economic conditions of Western New York.

Marketing Technologies of Western New York is dedicated to provide the best technology and services to fellow businesses. In recent years the company has been rapidly growing, in result Marketing Tech has been expanding its services and improving quality of support to businesses across Western New York. I commend this year's Trailblazer Award recipient, Don Papaj, The President and CEO of Marketing Technologies of WNY.

Allen Dembski from Buffalo First Wealth Management, LLC has utilized his expertise to better serve his clients and his strong record of accomplishments have led him to being recognized here today. Mr. Dembski's ability to go beyond his role to ensure the small businesses in the community thrive is exemplary. His contributions promote the continued prosperity of other small businesses in the Western New York community. I am pleased to recognize this year's Small Business Advocate of the Year, Allen Dembski of Buffalo First Wealth Management.

Cure the Blue of the Buffalo Bills Alumni Association sets out to raise awareness of prostate cancer in the Western New York Region and beyond. The foundation has devoted superior dedication to research, awareness and early detection of prostate cancer. It is my honor to recognize Booker Edgerson of the Cure the Blue, Buffalo Bills Alumni Association as this year's Presidents Award recipient.

O'Connell and Company functions as a theatre company, although it exceeds that title by having an expansive impact on the community. O'Connell and Company's mission is to give back to the community which it entertains, by organizing fundraisers to aid women and children's charities. O'Connell and Company invests deeply in its community and strives to make Western New York a better place to work and live. I commend this year's Award of Excellence recipient, Mary Kate O'Connell founder of O'Connell and Company.

Empire Genomics is on the precipitous of genomic research and technology. They strive to utilize the best in genomic technologies to advance research in their field. Empire Genomics is a global leader in the field of personalized medicine and assists clinicians, drug

developers and researchers to answer key questions in disease diagnostics, prognosis and disease therapy. I applaud the work of founder Dr. Norma Nowak, and all those at Empire Genomics and congratulate them on their Sponsor's Award presented by First Niagara Bank.

Tony Martin Awards, Inc. provides high quality services for all customers throughout Western New York. Tony Martin Awards has been serving the Western New York community for over 50 years with extraordinary contributions to the regional economy and professional expertise. I am pleased to recognize Tony Martin Awards, Inc. as the recipient of the Small Business of the Year Award.

Santora's Pizza Pub and Grill has been a staple in Western New York, since 1927. They have been dedicated members of the community since their inception and it is my honor to commend this year's Family Owned Business Award recipient, Paul Santora of Santora's Pizza Pub & Grill.

This impressive list of Small Businesses being honored at this year's Luncheon and Showcase deserve the extra recognition and I thank the Amherst Chamber of Commerce for bringing these distinguished business leaders together. I ask my colleagues to join me and wish the award recipients continued success in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC. OMICRON CHI OMEGA CHAPTER

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 30th anniversary of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Omicron Chi Omega Chapter.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority was founded on the campus of Howard University January 15, 1908, as the first Greek-letter organization established by collegiate black women. Inaugurated with the founding principle, "To be supreme in service to all mankind," Chapters today continue to be conscientious members of their communities, sensitive to the needs and struggles of underserved populations.

Prince William County's Omicron Chi Omega Chapter was founded August 26, 1984, and chartered May 19, 1985, by five exceptional women: Roslyn Dunn, Venus Miller, Jannette Smithson, Alice Taylor and Mary Williams. During its 30-year history, the Chapter has received many local community awards and recognition from the Commonwealth of Virginia and Alpha Kappa Alpha for its involvement in the Back to School/Stay in School Program, its support of SAVAS (Sexual Assault Victim's Advocacy Services), and its contributions to ACTS and the American Heart Association.

The 2014–2018 International Program focuses on five areas of engagement: Educational Enrichment, Health Promotion, Family Strengthening, Environmental Ownership, and Global Impact. Working under the banner of Environmental Ownership, Omicron Chi Omega recently restored the Dumfries Elementary School playground. In addition to the

global program, Omicron Chi Omega provides \$10,000 annually in scholastic scholarships to graduating high school seniors, sponsors food drives for the Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center and SERVE Family Shelter, provides school supplies and coats to Prince William County Public Schools students, sponsors programs on physical and mental awareness for senior citizens and their caregivers, and established a drive to deliver black dolls to the Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C., to reflect the diverse cultures of children in need. In 2014, I had the honor of participating in the Chapter's Restoration of Voting Rights forum.

One of the Chapter's longest standing initiatives, the Little Miss AKA Scholarship Pageant, is now in its sixteenth year. The pageant highlights the Chapter's dedication to the young women of our community. The six-month long program allows for young girls between the ages of five and seventeen to enhance their personal development, build self-esteem, increase social skills, and meet women of diverse professions and positive role models.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 30th anniversary of the founding of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Omicron Chi Omega Chapter. The Chapter continues the legacy of Alpha Kappa Alpha's founders and continues to be an invaluable force for good in our community.

DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ART CONTEST WINNER ANNE CHRISTIONO

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Anne Christiono of Sugar Land's Cornerstone Elementary for being one of only thirteen winning students of the Don't Mess with Texas Elementary School Art Contest.

Anne, who is currently in the third grade, is one of the thirteen winners selected from the 8,228 elementary school students from across Texas who entered the contest. Keep Texas Beautiful and the Texas Department of Transportation selected the contest winners who displayed tremendous artistic talent, dedication, and creativity. Anne's submission will appear in the 2016 Don't Mess with Texas Calendar and will be displayed on the Keep Texas Beautiful and Don't Mess with Texas websites. Her work will even be showcased at the Keep Texas Beautiful's 2015 Annual Conference.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Anne for being selected as one of the winners of the Don't Mess with Texas Elementary School Art Contest.

INTRODUCTION OF BREAST CANCER AWARENESS COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, every October Breast Cancer Awareness Month is recognized—acknowledging the toll the disease takes on individuals and families, and the importance of continued research and awareness efforts. Since 1989, thanks to earlier detection, increased understanding, and improved treatment, the death rates for breast cancer have continued to decrease. Yet breast cancer remains the second leading cause of cancer death in women, with one in 36 women dying from the disease. Just this year, it is estimated that 231,840 women will be diagnosed with and 40,290 women will die of cancer of the breast in the United States. In addition, it is estimated that 2,350 men will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer and 440 men will die from breast cancer in 2015 in the United States.

We need to do more to combat this disease. In 2014 alone it is estimated that \$17.2 billion will be spent on breast cancer care in the United States. While the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program remain the largest funders of breast cancer research in the United States, the National Cancer Institute funding was reduced by nearly \$66 million from 2011 to 2013. The funding level for the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program has remained consistent since 2012; however this amount represents a 20 percent decrease from 2011 funding levels.

Additional private sector support will help us find cures for breast cancer even faster. That is why my colleague Representative PETE SESSIONS and I are introducing the Breast Cancer Awareness Commemorative Coin Act. Proceeds from the sale of the coins will benefit the Breast Cancer Research Foundation and Susan G. Komen for the Cure. These two organizations have raised more than \$500 million and \$847 million, respectively, for research funding. By leveraging the proceeds of the coins we will be able to increase the much needed support for breast cancer research and awareness.

Clearly, more needs to be done to find better treatments and cures for breast cancer. Our mothers, our sisters, our daughters, cannot afford to wait. I encourage you to support this bipartisan legislation.

TRIBUTE TO IOWA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Iowa Water Environment Association (IAWEA) on their 100th year anniversary. This is an important milestone in their history of service to the state of Iowa through their efforts to advance water quality and water pollution control techniques.

On June 3, 1915, the first formal training for wastewater operators in the United States was held at Iowa State College in Ames, Iowa. This meeting was an effort to address water quality problems with a personal touch, in order to explain the best practices for the successful operation of the state's water treatment facilities. The association was formally founded in 1927 and except for brief interruptions during times our nation was at war, has continued their legacy of improving the quality of our state's water to this day.

Throughout the many years the IAWEA has thrived to meet the needs of the people in the area by providing excellent information on many aspects of water pollution control, water quality, and protection of the environment. I congratulate the Iowa Water Environment Association on this historic anniversary. It is an honor to represent IAWEA members in the United States Congress, and I wish the Iowa Water Environment Association continued success well into the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF IRA GOLDSTEIN

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the retirement of Ira Goldstein, National Director, U.S. Federal Practice at Deloitte LLP. Ira will soon retire after 13 years with Deloitte and a distinguished career serving the public and private sector spanning four decades.

Since joining Deloitte in 2003, Ira created and developed Deloitte's Federal client service capabilities. He has served a broad range of Federal clients, including Cabinet agencies, and has been a member of Deloitte's Federal leadership team—most recently as its Civilian Sector Leader bringing innovative and leading edge solutions to the Federal government.

Ira's roots are embedded in public service where he spent 17 years working for the Federal government, including as U.S. Assistant Comptroller General and Chief Operating Officer at the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO)—now renamed the Government Accountability Office. In this capacity, Ira was responsible for GAO operations, including performance management, strategic planning, financial management, quality assurance, workforce development and information systems. Previously, he served as Acting Associate Commissioner of Social Security and Director of Policy for Family Assistance, with oversight of the \$14 billion Aid to Families with Dependent Children (cash welfare) Program. Ira began his Federal career in the Office of Planning and Evaluation at the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (now Health and Human Services) and served as Director of the HEW Secretary's Policy Statement Staff.

Prior to entering government, Ira was Deputy Program Manager for Infiltration Surveillance services at Hazeltine Corporation serving the Naval Air Systems Command during the Vietnam War.

Ira received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Pennsylvania and his Masters of Business Administration with Distinction from Harvard Business School. He has served on various boards and community organizations and is currently a Fellow at the National Academy of Public Administration, a Director at the National College Access Network, and a Washington Regional Board Member at the Anti-Defamation League.

Ira's passion for improving the way the government works and operates, ultimately to service the citizen, has been a theme throughout his professional career. He is currently working on a book focused on the keys to managing success in the federal government. Ira's federal management experience and private sector insights will help professionals and students better understand how to be effective in the federal environment.

On behalf of the people of the 8th Congressional District in Maryland, I would like to thank Ira for his years of service and wish him, his wife Linda and his family all the best in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE BUFFALO CHAPTER OF THE LINKS FOR ITS OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO THE BUFFALO COMMUNITY FOR 65 YEARS

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize and honor the Buffalo Chapter of the Links for its work in the Buffalo community. The Buffalo Chapter of the Links has dedicated their time to aiding the Buffalo area through individual and collective volunteerism, as well as charitable giving and scholarship awards.

The Buffalo Chapter of the Links is one of 281 chapters in the United States that encompasses national and area initiatives while addressing the needs of the local community through 6 main facets: Services to the Youth, the Arts, National Trends and Services, International Trends and Services, Health and Human Services, and Women's Issues. Several members of the Buffalo Chapter have held area and national offices, including Link Thelma Hardiman, who served as National Vice President and Eastern Area Director, and Link Cecilia Henderson, who served as Eastern Area Vice Director, Eastern Area Director, and National Secretary. Being the 14th chapter chartered in the East and the 20th chapter chartered nationally, the Buffalo Chapter has a long history of service to the community, now celebrating 65 years.

Throughout the Chapter's 65 years, they have collected over \$600,000 in money for scholarships and have performed 150,200 hours, collectively, of service to the community. The Buffalo Chapter of the Links has worked on various projects in the Western New York region. They have supported local school districts through projects including but not limited to after school book clubs. As well, the Buffalo Chapter has also volunteered with the Buffalo Philharmonic Fund Drive for mem-

bership, with an emphasis on enrolling people of color; built 2 schools in South Africa, and have assisted women transitioning from service to their county to reentering the community.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor and recognize the Buffalo Chapter of the Links. I ask that my colleagues join me congratulating the Buffalo Chapter of the Links on an accomplished history of charitable giving, and to commend them for the exemplary work they have done to enrich the communities of Western New York for the last 65 years.

RECOGNIZING THE KOREA TIMES 10,000TH ISSUE AND 46TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate the Korea Times as the newspaper celebrates its 10,000th edition and its 46th anniversary of providing news to the Korean-American community. It is the Korean-American community's largest and oldest newspaper.

In my congressional district, across Northern Virginia and the Washington region, and across the nation, the Korea Times fills an invaluable role in providing the community with a daily mix of news and features highlighting local, regional, national, and international issues of interest to Korean-Americans.

Here in the United States, the Korea Times provides its readers with insightful coverage of the latest news and events from the Korean Peninsula. When 304 people, many of them secondary school students, perished in the tragic sinking of the ferry MV Sewol in April of 2014, the Korea Times served as a lifeline to those Korean-Americans seeking information about family and friends involved in the disaster.

During my more than 20 years of elected office as a district supervisor and Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and as the current Congressman for the 11th District of Virginia, I've had considerable interaction with the professional staff of the Korea Times, based in my district and in Washington, D.C.

On issues I have worked on as co-chair of the Congressional Korea Caucus and as a senior member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee ranging from Korean family reunification and North Korea sanctions to the Korea-U.S. Free Trade Agreement, Korea Times' journalists have diligently reported on the importance of these matters to their readers.

In print, on the Internet, and via social media, the Korea Times is an important asset to the Korean-American community in my Northern Virginia district and across the nation. I join my Korean-American constituents and community leaders in congratulating the Korea Times on its 46 years of service and wish the newspaper many more years of success.

DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ART CONTEST WINNER JESSICA CHAI

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jessica Chai of Katy's Roosevelt Alexander Elementary School for being one of only thirteen winning students of the Don't Mess with Texas Elementary School Art Contest.

Jessica, currently in the fourth grade, is one of the thirteen winners selected from the 8,228 elementary school students from across Texas who entered the contest. Keep Texas Beautiful and the Texas Department of Transportation selected the contest winners who displayed tremendous artistic talent, dedication, and creativity. Jessica's submission will appear in the 2016 Don't Mess with Texas Calendar and will be displayed on the Keep Texas Beautiful and Don't Mess with Texas websites. Her work will even be showcased at the Keep Texas Beautiful's 2015 Annual Conference.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Jessica for being selected as one of the winners of the Don't Mess with Texas Elementary School Art Contest.

IN RECOGNITION OF DÍA DE PORTUGAL

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues Mr. VALADAO of California, Mr. CICILLINE of Rhode Island, Mr. NUNES of California, Mr. LANGEVIN of Rhode Island, Mr. MCGOVERN of Massachusetts, Mr. KEATING of Massachusetts, and Mr. HONDA of California to recognize Día de Portugal and to champion the strong bond between the United States and Portugal. Celebrated on June 10 each year, Día de Portugal recognizes Portugal's beautiful heritage and culture.

Día de Portugal honors the death of the revered Portuguese poet Luis Vaz de Camões in 1580. Camões is famously known for *Os Lusíadas*, one of Portugal's most treasured literary works. The poem pays tribute to Portugal's golden age of exploration and celebrates the many monumental discoveries made by Portuguese explorers in the 15th century.

Vibrant Portuguese American communities can be seen across our nation from Massachusetts, New Jersey and Rhode Island, to California and Hawaii. These communities are filled with over 1.3 million Americans of Portuguese descent who have been making positive contributions to our society for generations. We are a nation of immigrants, and celebrations like Día de Portugal remind us all that it is important to remain connected to our own individual heritage.

The United States and Portugal maintain a robust relationship, and have been connected ever since the Portuguese were among the

first to recognize the U.S. as an independent nation at the conclusion of the Revolutionary War. President George Washington formalized diplomatic relations on February 21, 1791, and our oldest continuously-operated U.S. Consulate in the world is located in Ponta Delgada on the island of São Miguel in the Azores.

Mr. Speaker, on this Día de Portugal, we are reminded that our special relationship with Portugal must be continuously strengthened. As U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry has said, "The strong partnership between our two countries is more vital than ever." This day celebrates the accomplishments of Portuguese and Portuguese Americans, and we congratulate these communities on their global impact and achievement.

IN HONOR OF ALAN SLOBODIEN, UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM VERNON YOUTH SERVICES

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize an exceptional public servant from my hometown of Vernon, Connecticut, Mr. Alan Slobodien, and mark his retirement from Vernon Youth Services.

Over the past 20 years, Alan has ably served as the director of Vernon Youth Services, an organization devoted to ensuring that "all Vernon children birth to age 18 are safe, healthy, and productive." It is with this goal in mind that Alan has developed forward-thinking programming and policies to engage young people in our town, ensure that they have safe places to learn and play, and have opportunities for success in the future. His commitment to Vernon's youth is unparalleled, and his optimism about Vernon's future has resulted in real, recognizable benefits for our community. With Al at the helm, Vernon Youth Services through summer nutrition programs, tutoring, to homework support, has continued to make Vernon an ideal place to raise children.

On a personal note, I first met Al over 30 years ago when I was the Assistant Public Defender at the Rockville Superior Court and Al was an invaluable contact to get help for young clients. He was incredibly resourceful, sizing up the needs of young people in trouble with the law and designing treatment programs that helped both the community and the person. He had a wonderful combination of compassion and smarts that I really admired. Despite the sometimes hopeless circumstances he tried to fix, he never lost his optimism about people and their potential to change for the better. What an inspiration to all of us.

Please join me in congratulating Alan on his decades of remarkable service to his community, and wishing him and his family a rewarding, and well-deserved retirement.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL MESSINA

**HON. JUDY CHU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary life

and achievements of my friend, Michael Messina, former Mayor and City Councilmember of Alhambra, who passed away on April 10, 2015.

Michael was devoted to his city and his community. A lifelong resident of Alhambra who attended Ramona Elementary School and Alhambra High School, he graduated from California State University Los Angeles, and remained a resident of Alhambra until his passing.

In 1979, Michael began his public service career, serving on the Alhambra City Council from 1979 to 1986, and as Mayor in 1982 and 1986. During this time, Michael dedicated himself to improving the city and community he loved.

Michael was driven to help businesses to flourish in Alhambra and thanks to his efforts, downtown Alhambra is now a thriving commercial center with restaurants and businesses, giving the intersection of Main and Garfield streets a "Main Street USA" feel. Michael worked to expand development, tackling things as instrumental as repaving streets and sidewalks to paving the way for Price Club (now Costco) to come to Alhambra, which has become the largest retail tax producer in the city. He also personally led a city delegation to meet with the founder and CEO of Mervyns Department stores, as he was convinced that such an addition would bring even more business to the city center, and he was right. Mervyns planted its roots in Alhambra, and stores followed, including the Alhambra Place shopping center, which is still the center of retail in the city today, and every year hosts the "Taste of Alhambra" Festival. This is all thanks to Michael's vision for his city.

As the population of Los Angeles County grew in the past 20 years, Michael fought to increase his community's access to transportation and to bring down congestion in the area. He was a champion of seniors, expanding programs like Senior Ride and Senior Housing, and he believed deeply in the public spaces of Alhambra, increasing the capacity of the Parks and Recreation department, so everyone in the city could enjoy the beautiful outdoor spaces in the San Gabriel Valley. For him, civil service was about the people and the community he loved.

Even when he left the Alhambra City Council, Michael remained as a key figure in the community, eventually sitting on the Oversight Board for the city. He was a devoted parishioner of All Souls Church, and volunteered with Meals on Wheels, Knights of Columbus, the Alhambra Exchange Club, the Foundation for the Blind, and was president of the local St. Vincent de Paul Society. No matter what he did, Michael was determined to give back. Michael's dedication to Alhambra was an inspiration, and when I was first elected Mayor of the neighboring city of Monterey Park in 1988, I looked to Michael as an example of a true public servant.

There is no doubt that Alhambra has lost one of its most devoted citizens and most stalwart champions. We are thankful for his many years of service, and will continue to honor his legacy of leadership and commitment to our community.

RECOGNIZING BILL MURPHY FOR HIS OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO THE SOUTH BUFFALO COMMUNITY

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize and honor Mr. Bill Murphy for his work in the South Buffalo community. Mr. Murphy has dedicated his career to helping area labor unions and injured workers in their legal battles against insurance companies and those that caused them harm.

Mr. Murphy is a Bishop Timon high school class of 1989 graduate as well as a graduate of Medaille College where he earned his Bachelor's Degree. He would then go on to enroll in the University at Buffalo Law School where he developed the skills which made him a partner at the law firm Maxwell Murphy. Mr. Murphy prides himself on his Buffalo roots and on his ability to help those who live in his native town.

The contributions that Mr. Murphy has made to the South Buffalo community are many and varied. He has served as a Chairman of the Timon Lawn Fete and Timon Sports Night. Both he and his law firm have donated to various community events throughout Western New York, and they have supported such events as the "Run Jimmy Run" Charity Race, the annual Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Golf Outing, and the Mount Mercy Academy 5K. Additionally Mr. Murphy's law firm helped the students of Saints Peter and Paul Grade School to purchase new hockey uniforms to replace their worn jerseys.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor and recognize Mr. Bill Murphy. I ask that my colleagues join me congratulating Mr. Murphy on an accomplished career, and to commend him for the exemplary work he has done to enrich the communities of Western New York.

RECOGNIZING DR. LUKE TORIAN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 20TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY AT FIRST MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH OF DUMFRIES

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my dear friend, the Reverend Dr. Luke E. Torian, on the occasion of his 20th Pastoral Anniversary at First Mount Zion Baptist Church of Dumfries, Virginia.

First Mount Zion Baptist Church has a long, prosperous history starting with its founding in 1867, which now continues under the tutelage of Dr. Torian, who became its first and only full time pastor in 1995. Since his installation, Dr. Torian has served an instrumental role in the growth of the church. More than 4,000 now call First Mount Zion Baptist Church their religious and spiritual home and approximately 70 different ministries now serve the needs of the congregation and community.

Not only has Dr. Torian served his congregation, but he also has dedicated his time

to serve the community at large. He is currently a member of the Prince William County Ministerial Association. He has served on the Cardinal Bank Advisory Board; the Board of Directors of the Baptist General Convention, and is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. In June 2004, former Governor Mark Warner appointed Dr. Torian to the Virginia Board of Counseling. He also served on the ACTS Board of Directors for three years. In addition, in 2009 he was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates, representing the 52nd District.

Dr. Torian's dedication to his faith and his congregation, combined with his exceptional leadership abilities have been recognized by others. In 2002, Howard University presented him with the James Floyd Jenkins Pillar of Faith Award in recognition of the outstanding contributions that he has made to his church and the community. In the fall of 2003 and 2004, Dr. John Maxwell, renowned expert in leadership development, selected Dr. Torian as one of 50 leaders from across the country to participate in a special leadership institute in Atlanta.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my Colleagues join me in recognizing Dr. Luke E. Torian and the First Mount Zion Baptist Church congregation as they celebrate this significant milestone in their history and in wishing them continued success and prosperity.

DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ART CONTEST WINNER ANNABELLE DU

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Annabelle Du of Katy's James E. Williams Elementary School for being one of only thirteen winning students of the Don't Mess with Texas Elementary School Art Contest.

Annabelle, who is currently in the fourth grade, is one of the thirteen winners selected from the 8,228 elementary school students from across Texas who entered the contest. Keep Texas Beautiful and the Texas Department of Transportation selected the contest winners who displayed tremendous artistic talent, dedication, and creativity. Annabelle's submission will appear in the 2016 Don't Mess with Texas Calendar and will be displayed on the Keep Texas Beautiful and Don't Mess with Texas websites. Her work will even be showcased at the Keep Texas Beautiful's 2015 Annual Conference.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Annabelle for being selected as one of the winners of the Don't Mess with Texas Elementary School Art Contest.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, on June 9, 2015 I was absent for recorded

votes #309–#318 due to a flight cancellation from Knoxville. I would like to reflect how I would have voted had I been present:

On Roll Call #309, I would have voted Yes.  
On Roll Call #310, I would have voted Yes.  
On Roll Call #311, I would have voted Yes.  
On Roll Call #312, I would have voted Yes.  
On Roll Call #313, I would have voted Yes.  
On Roll Call #314, I would have voted Yes.  
On Roll Call #315, I would have voted Yes.  
On Roll Call #316, I would have voted No.  
On Roll Call #317, I would have voted Yes.  
On Roll Call #318, I would have voted Yes.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,152,778,985,959.44. We've added \$7,525,901,937,046.36 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING THE BIRTHDAY OF HONOR DOLD

**HON. ROBERT J. DOLD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish my daughter, Honor Dold, a happy birthday.

Honor turned eight years old yesterday. She was born in Evanston, Illinois, and since that day in 2007, has kept me, her mother, Danielle, her sister Harper, and brother Bobby always smiling.

Honor's favorite subject is math and always puts her best effort forward into everything she does. Honor excels not only in soccer and lacrosse, but also in dance. She brightens every room she walks into with a truly contagious smile. Honor is the perfect amount of smart, silly, and funny that makes everyone around her happy.

Honor enjoys spending time with her proud grandparents, Nana and Chief, Papa and Gramma, her aunts and uncles, and all of her cousins.

I look forward to watching Honor grow and mature into a fine independent young woman, and a shining light to our family and community. Happy Birthday, Honor.

RECOGNITION OF MARLENE ISBELL DEVINE

**HON. ERIK PAULSEN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marlene Isbell Devine who retired

from Allianz of America on April 10, 2015 after working for over 38 years at the firm and its antecedent companies, most notably Allianz Life, which is headquartered in my district in Golden Valley.

Marlene began her career in the typing and steno pool of North American Life Insurance and Casualty Company on August 16, 1976 and moved up in fast order to become the Executive Assistant to CEO Howard Barnhill. Her tenure with the company coincided with its purchase by the German Insurance giant Allianz AG in 1979. Marlene served four other company CEOs and at the time of her retirement she was the Personal Assistant to Allianz of America Chairman and Member of the Allianz SE Board of Management, Gary Bhojwani.

Office technology, fashion styles and even eating habits have changed dramatically since Marlene started in the mid-1970s, sometimes for the better and sometimes not. However, one thing that is constant is that every CEO and organization needs a person like Marlene Devine who can be counted on to keep things organized, communicate information, and serve as a friend and counsel to everyone around them. As we all know, today's work life can at times be all-consuming, and Marlene's greatest strength was her ability to make everyone feel special and appreciated. In doing so, she was mentor to hundreds of people within the company, many of whom rose to the highest executive positions within Allianz. Marlene's personal warmth, integrity, good judgment, dedication, and humor made her very valued and beloved.

Marlene is married to Dan Devine, and they reside in Savage, Minnesota. They have three grown children, Stephanie, Kyle, and Whitney; and two grandsons, Joshua Stewart and Hunter Johnson, who are all a source of pride and happiness. Marlene is an avid gardener, enjoys her cats and reading, and loves a good day on the river fishing with Dan. She and her twin sister Marilyn Wille are known for their long "Thelma and Louise" automobile excursions that have taken them all across the United States.

Mr. Speaker, we live in a period of time of fast movement where people change jobs and companies regularly during the course of their careers. However, as we all know from our own offices, institutional knowledge is essential, and those dedicated people who have it are the key to our success. Marlene Devine deserves our praise for an exemplary life that touched so many people. I offer my best wishes to her and Dan on the next chapter of their lives, and for many years of good health and happiness.

RECOGNIZING KAREN ERICKSON  
FOR HER OUTSTANDING COMMIT-  
MENT TO THE BUFFALO COMMU-  
NITY

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize and honor Mrs. Karen Erickson for her work in the South Buffalo community. Mrs. Erickson has dedicated her career to acting as a public servant as well as giving back to her native community.

Mrs. Erickson is a South Buffalo native who attended Mt. Mercy Academy in 1963 and received her Associate Degree from Erie Community College and her Bachelor's Degree from Houghton College. It was during the Jack Donohue 5K Race that Mrs. Erickson began the tradition of serving hot dogs along with her sorority sisters, a tradition which has continued after the retirement of "Jack's 5K" into the Mount Mercy Alumnae Race.

Besides her contributions to Mount Mercy Academy Mrs. Erickson has also been the Athletic Director for Most Precious Blood School and the organizer of the George Leather, MPB Invitational Basketball Tournament for 25 years. She has also served on the Diocesan School Board, the School Board at St. Francis High School, Community Concern, and various organizations in the Town of Evans. She currently serves on the Board of the Business and Finance Academy at Lake Shore Central High School, Vice President of the Evans Democratic Club and serves on the Evans Economic Development Committee. Additionally she has, for the past five years, organized the Connors' 5K Wiener Run to benefit the Boys and Girls Club of Lake Shore. Finally Mrs. Erickson was the Deputy Supervisor in the Town of Evans for 12 years.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor and recognize Mrs. Karen Erickson. I ask that my colleagues join me congratulating Mrs. Erickson on an accomplished career, and to commend her for the exemplary work she has done to enrich the communities of Western New York.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF  
SHIRLEY JEANNE MOSCOV STARK

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Shirley Jeanne Moscov Stark. Mrs. Stark passed away May 4, 2015, and, during her nearly 85 years, she impacted the lives of everyone she touched.

Traillblazer is a word we hear often about those who pave the way for future generations. Rarely has that term been more fittingly used than now as we pay tribute to Shirley. Shirley Jeanne Moscov was born October 18, 1930, and raised in Canonsburg, PA, a small town outside of Pittsburgh. She was the daughter of Polish Jewish immigrants who first arrived in New York and eventually settled in Western Pennsylvania. Her parents ran one of the few grocery stores in town and lived above the store. As was true with so many immigrants of that era, they never took a vacation or attended family events together—the store had to be open to serve the community. This was the Great Depression; her parents would extend credit to their neighbors who couldn't afford to pay for needed food and supplies, and Shirley learned from a young age the value of charity and serving the needs of others.

Shirley was an exceptionally bright and curious child. She read every book in the local library and excelled at school. But in a small coal town, educational opportunities were scarce. Few boys went to college and even fewer girls. In her early teens, one of her

teachers recognized her abilities and potential and encouraged Shirley to apply to a very select program for gifted high school students offered by the University of Chicago. Shirley took the entrance exam and earned not only a perfect score, but admittance to the University. At the age of 15, Shirley boarded a train to Chicago to begin her studies. Two years later, at 17, she had earned a Bachelor's Degree. Shirley returned to Pennsylvania where she enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh earning a Masters Degree in Mathematics. She was recruited by Westinghouse and heralded by the press as "The World's Youngest Nuclear Physicist at 19." While working at Westinghouse, she continued her studies and received yet another Masters Degree in psychology. A few years later, she married Sidney Stark, Jr. and decided to postpone her professional career in favor of raising a family.

Parallel to Shirley's love of science was her passion in the fields of travel, music, art, and architecture. When her children, Seth and Sid, entered elementary school, she decided to pursue her passions and enrolled in graduate studies at the University of Pittsburgh Fine Arts Department. She spent summers and vacations in Europe expanding her knowledge and expertise. During her life she traveled to five continents and dozens of countries. Shirley was an inspiring teacher; she chaired the Art Department at Chatham College for seven years and taught various courses in Art and Architectural History at Carnegie Mellon University well into her later years. During this time, she also opened a small business, Travel Bound Books, and served as a consultant to specialized tours throughout Europe that focused on mankind's greatest artistic and architectural creations.

With all of these achievements, Shirley is best remembered as charming and vivacious. Her home was always full of laughter, music, loved ones, and of course, great food. New Year's Eve parties, Seders, crab and lobster feasts, and holiday dinners at the Stark house were legendary. Shirley was a loving and devoted daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend, and she made every person she met feel special and unique. Her sharp wit and sparkling spirit were infectious, and all who met her felt they were lucky and blessed to have known her.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the life of Shirley Jeanne Moscov Stark and in extending my deepest condolences to her family and friends. She will be greatly missed.

KILLUM PEST CONTROL, INC.

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate all members of the Killum Pest Control, Inc. team who were honored with the Winner of Distinction Award at the Better Business Bureau Awards for Excellence.

Killum Pest Control, Inc. is one of 314 companies recognized by the Better Business Bureau Awards of Excellence for their commitment and integrity. They have now been recognized twice for their achievements. We are extremely proud of the dedication of Killum

Pest Control's employees and the leadership it provides in the small business community.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Killum Pest Control, Inc. for earning this esteemed award.

SUPPORTING LOCAL LAW  
ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

SPEECH OF

**HON. BRENDA L. LAWRENCE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 9, 2015*

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, as we vote on H. Res. 295, I would like to address the need for body cameras worn by on-duty law enforcement.

As a result of the influx of controversial reports citing alleged inappropriate behavior by police officers, body cameras will provide more transparency in what can be otherwise confounding cases. In instances like the Walter Scott shooting, the McKinney incident, and the Trayvon Martin case, video footage from a body-worn camera may have provided critical, tangible evidence regarding the events that transpired. Such technology has the capability to reduce the number of complaints of excessive use of force by officers. It also provides the power to dismiss officers from false, malicious complaints. Additionally, footage from body cameras can be utilized as a teaching tool in which officers review video in an attempt to learn from their mistakes and improve their performance. Both exemplary and inappropriate police behavior can be analyzed in order to build greater trust between law enforcement and the communities they are tasked with serving.

Furthermore, there are studies that show improved behavior occurs with both police officers and potential suspects when both parties know they are being recorded. Detroit's significantly higher crime rate when compared with the U.S. average makes this topic of particular concern to me and my District. The violent crime rate in 2012 was nearly six times that of the U.S. average. The implementation of body cameras will help ensure the safety of my constituents by recording interactions between officers and civilians. I urge support for this bill for the protection and interests of all involved.

I would like to thank my colleague, Congressman GREEN for this bipartisan legislation to reform our nation's law enforcement policies and procedures by promoting transparency while protecting citizens and officers.

HONORING RICHARD C. EHLKE

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, Jr.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Richard C. Ehlke, Senior Advisor to the Director and Senior Specialist, of the Congressional Research Service (CRS) of the Library of Congress. Mr. Ehlke retired on May 29, 2015 after a distinguished career of over four decades with CRS.

During his tenure, Mr. Ehlke served in many roles at CRS. He began his career as a legis-

lative attorney with the American Law Division of CRS, and Members of Congress and staff actively sought his thoughtful, objective analyses of some of the most complex and nuanced legal issues facing the Congress. His highly regarded and much relied upon briefs often focused on potential points of friction between Congress and the Executive Branch. At the behest of his Congressional clients, he analyzed the legal intricacies of legislative vetoes, Congressional access to agency and presidential information, the interplay of the President's constitutional powers under the Appointments Clause and of Congress' legislative and advice and consent prerogatives, and the transparency in government provided for by the Freedom of Information Act. He was routinely called upon by Congressional offices to clarify the legal complexities arising out of the federal government's relationship with Native Americans.

Following his many years of providing direct legal counsel to Congress as a legislative attorney, Mr. Ehlke was promoted to serve as the head of CRS' American Law Division. In this role, he guided the work of a generation of Division attorneys and paralegal assistants, instilling in them the rigorous, careful legal research and analytical skills that had always been the hallmark of his own work. He was instrumental in establishing the Division's Law Recruit Program in 1988, which has attracted new hires, contributing to a vibrant and diverse workforce of legislative attorneys.

Following his tenure as head of the American Law Division, a succession of CRS Directors called upon Mr. Ehlke for his sage advice and leadership skills in the service of Congress in a number of critical roles. His accomplishments during this part of his career were significant. Mr. Ehlke played a leading role in the development of a new performance assessment system for CRS. He also advised the Director on the establishment of the position of Section Research Manager (SRM) (first-line supervisors) in the Service and assisted with the recruitment, hiring, orientation, and performance expectations of the initial cohort of these SRMs. Additionally he oversaw a complete redesign of the CRS website and served as a member of the website governance board to streamline services for our Congressional offices. Given his long-term interest in ensuring CRS' objective of providing the best service to Congress, Mr. Ehlke assisted with the Congressionally mandated CRS customer satisfaction survey. And as the Senior Advisor to the Director and as a Senior Specialist, he advised on significant legal issues relating to ethics, media policy, CRS relations with the Library of Congress, speech or debate privilege, CRS reorganizations, and personnel actions.

Whatever his role, the result has always been the same—a highly competent, skillful performance for the benefit of Congress, its Members, and staff. CRS has been fortunate to have had such a person of high intellect dedicated to the institution's mission of providing objective, authoritative service to Congress in an unfailing patient and courteous manner for over forty years. We wish him the very best in his retirement, and thank him for his exceptional record of service to CRS and to the Congress of the United States.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PETER A. DEFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 9, 2015, I missed several roll call votes due to undergoing a medical procedure in Oregon. Had I been present, I would have cast the following votes:

Roll Call vote 309, On Passage of H.R. 2289, the Commodity End-User Relief Act, I would have voted Nay.

Roll Call vote 310, On Agreeing to the Blackburn Amendment to H.R. 2577, I would have voted Nay.

Roll Call vote 311, On Agreeing to the Gosar #1 Amendment to H.R. 2577, I would have voted Nay.

Roll Call 312, On Agreeing to Gosar #2 Amendment to H.R. 2577, I would have voted Nay.

Roll Call 313, On Agreeing to Posey #1 Amendment, I would have voted Nay.

Roll Call 314, On Agreeing to Sessions #1 Amendment, I would have voted Nay.

Roll Call 315, On Agreeing to Sessions #2 Amendment, I would have voted Nay.

Roll Call 317, On Agreeing to Posey #2 Amendment, I would have voted Nay.

Roll Call 318, On Agreeing to Posey #3 Amendment, I would have voted Nay.

Roll Call 319, On Agreeing to Yoho Amendment to H.R. 2577, I would have voted Yes.

Roll Call 320, On Agreeing to Brooks Amendment to H.R. 2577, I would have voted Yes.

Roll Call 321, On Agreeing to Hultgren Amendment to H.R. 2577, I would have voted Nay.

Roll Call 322, On Agreeing to Meehan Amendment to H.R. 2577, I would have voted Nay.

Roll Call 323, On Agreeing to Garrett Amendment to H.R. 2577, I would have voted Nay.

Roll Call 324, On Agreeing to Ellison Amendment to H.R. 2577, I would have voted Aye.

Roll Call 325, On Agreeing to Emmer Amendment to H.R. 2577, I would have voted Nay.

Roll Call Vote 326, On Agreeing to Peters Amendment, I would have voted Aye.

Roll Call Vote 327, On Agreeing to Issa Amendment to H.R. 2577, I would have voted Nay.

Roll Call 328, On Motion to Recommit with Instructions to H.R. 2577, I would have voted Aye.

Roll Call 329, On Passage of H.R. 2577 would have voted Nay.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF BEAU BIDEN

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in remembrance of a friend, a public servant, and a good man—Beau Biden. I joined the Biden family last weekend to mourn his loss, which is felt by all who knew him, and celebrate his life, which has left an indelible impact.

Beau was a gifted lawyer who was twice elected attorney general in the state of Delaware and served his country in the National Guard in Iraq. But more than that, he was a devoted son, a loving husband, and a caring father.

JOE and his boys lived through great personal tragedy with the loss of his wife, Neilia, and daughter, Naomi. They have an unbreakable bond. And they, along with the rest of the family, have found the greatest joy in spending time together. No one who has come in contact with the Biden family can miss the deep love and devotion they have for one another.

I had the privilege of getting to know Beau better during the Obama-Biden reelection campaign. We were together on several occasions, including in the immediate aftermath of the Biden-Ryan debate. A very proud son was beaming about his dad's stellar performance. In that moment, you could see Beau's competitive spirit fuse with his devotion to his dad.

I extend my deepest sympathies to my friends JOE and Jill, to Beau's wife, Hallie, and their two children, his siblings, Hunter and Ashley, and the entire Biden family. I hope that they can take comfort in the love they share and the knowledge that they do not walk alone in their grief. We have lost Beau far too soon, but his memory lives on until we meet again.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. PENNY  
REDELLE

### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Penny Reddell upon her retirement after 38 years of exemplary public service. She earned her first of many degrees at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches. From there, she went onto the University of Texas at Tyler to obtain her master's degree before finally earning her doctorate from Baylor University.

Dr. Reddell began her education career as a teacher and has capably served in multiple capacities including diagnostician, assistant principal, principal, gifted and talented program consultant, and adjunct college professor. She is retiring from Lewisville ISD as the Associate Superintendent for Learning and Teaching, a position she has held for the last six years. Her areas of responsibilities have included: Strategic Design implementation, Curriculum and Instruction, Special Education, Early Childhood, Literacy Intervention, Program Evaluation, District Grant Writing, Gifted and Talented, Advanced Academics, Assessment and Accountability and Federal Programs, ESL, Dual Language, Bilingual, and World Languages. Dr. Reddell's leadership has had a positive and profound impact on all the programs that she has overseen.

As Dr. Reddell retires, her commitment and hard work on behalf of the students and faculty of Lewisville ISD will be greatly missed. After almost four decades as an educator and administrator, Dr. Reddell retires as a professional beloved by her colleagues and leaves an indelible mark to be emulated. It is a privilege to honor such an esteemed constituent in the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING ANDREW McLEAN

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew McLean. Andrew 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 362, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Andrew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Andrew 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, Andrew has earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and became a Brotherhood Member in the Order of the Arrow. Andrew has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Andrew completed a garden around a statue of Mary at Little Sisters of the Poor, an elder care facility in Kansas City, Missouri.

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

RECOGNIZING CHABAD JEWISH  
COMMUNITY CENTER OF PLACER  
COUNTY

### HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Chabad Jewish Community Center of Placer County on the momentous occasion of completing its Community Torah.

Led by Rabbi Yossi Korik, Chabad Jewish Community Center opened in 2005 to educate and support the local Jewish community and inspire people from all walks of life.

As part of this effort, the Chabad of Placer County commissioned a professional scribe in Israel to write a Torah scroll in the traditional method, which dates back thousands of years.

The Torah contains the Five Books of Moses and is the most precious article in Jewish life. Its guidance provides a strong foundation for morals in today's global society.

In October of 2014, members of the Jewish community gathered with rabbis and public leaders in Placer County to witness the first letters of the Torah being inscribed. This weekend, many months after the project's inception, the same community will once again gather—this time to celebrate the scroll's completion.

This tremendous accomplishment will be celebrated on Sunday, June 14, 2015, with a festive parade. The Torah will travel down Douglas Boulevard under a Chuppah, led by a local marching band.

Mr. Speaker, George Washington stated in his Farewell Address: "of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports." We are fortunate to have the Chabad

Jewish Community Center as a pillar of religious and moral teachings in the Fourth Congressional District of California, and I am honored to share in this occasion.

I thank members of Chabad for their continued positive impact on the Placer County community, and I am proud to stand with them in celebration.

RECOGNIZING LISA PURCELL FOR  
HER OUTSTANDING COMMIT-  
MENT TO THE BUFFALO COMMU-  
NITY

### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize and honor Mrs. Lisa Purcell for her work in the Buffalo community. Mrs. Purcell has dedicated her time to aiding various charity organizations in the Buffalo area.

As the founder of the Ryan Purcell Foundation, Mrs. Purcell has organized the annual Purcell Memorial 5K race. The Foundation is dedicated to her son Ryan Purcell who was killed in a hit and run accident in October of 2011. The Foundation is committed to honoring the life and memory of Ryan Purcell and raises funds to give to scholarships to high school students in the Buffalo area.

Mrs. Purcell has also been a large supporter of the Mount Mercy Academy 5K race as well as their scholarship program. Mount Mercy Academy has been educating the young women of Western New York for over 110 years. Their Alumnae have grown to over 10,000 members, 70% of whom still live and work in Western New York. Mrs. Purcell is married to Dr. Peter Purcell D.D.S. and has five children as well as three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor and recognize Mrs. Lisa Purcell. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Mrs. Purcell on an accomplished history of giving to charitable organizations, and to commend her for the exemplary work she has done to enrich the communities of Western New York.

CONNECTING HOUSTON AND  
TAIPEI

### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a new connection between Taipei, Taiwan and Houston, Texas. Beginning on June 19th, 2015 a new direct flight will connect these cities and allow Houstonians to travel to Taiwan and Asia more easily. This new opportunity will also promote business and tourism, which means economic benefits for both Texas and Taiwan.

The United States and Taiwan already enjoy a robust economic partnership. Taiwan is our 10th largest trading partner. Our bilateral trade amounts to more than \$67 billion in 2014. I am confident this important relationship will continue to thrive and will continue to support our close friend and ally.

## REUNIFICATION OF CYPRUS

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Cyprus has made great strides in the past decade. It turns out that, just like the United States, Cyprus has a lot of natural gas. Let's hope they don't have as much bureaucracy to get through to export their gas as we do. But the country is held back because it is still divided by a foreign power. Turkey still has 30,000 troops in Cyprus. Erdogan thinks he is still in control. The beauty of democratic elections is that you can see what the people really want.

And faced with the choice between a candidate that wanted to keep Cyprus divided and one that wanted to reunify Cyprus, Turkish Cypriots chose reunification.

It is encouraging to hear that negotiations between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots are getting back on track. You know, I was a judge in my former life. I dealt a lot with one word: justice. And as a judge I would never have allowed the kind of bullying that is seen by Turkey. The Turkish Cypriots should be able to negotiate on their own behalf. If they want peace, they should be able to get it. They don't need another foreign country like Turkey telling them what they can and cannot agree to. They do not want to be dependent on Turkey. They want to enjoy the economic freedom of the EU.

Reunification will require a lot of work, but ultimately it will only happen if the two sides talk to each other. This time next year I hope we can come together to celebrate the reunification of Cyprus and the end of over 40 years of Turkish occupation.

And that's just the way it is.

## H.R. 1493, THE PROTECT AND PRESERVE INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL PROPERTY ACT

**HON. DARRELL E. ISSA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to submit the thoughts of my friend, Matthew Polk, regarding the consideration of H.R. 1493, the Protect and Preserve International Cultural Property Act. Matthew Polk is deeply involved in the preservation of cultural heritage and I believe his comments are both insightful and valuable to the ongoing effort to preserve the cultural heritage of civilizations around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I first wish to thank Congressman Issa for his interest in this matter and the opportunity to provide a statement for the Congressional Record.

With regard to H.R. 1493, I applaud this bipartisan effort to protect Syrian cultural property as well as to coordinate our Government's enforcement efforts to protect international cultural property. I also applaud Mr. Chabot's and Mr. Engel's understanding that this bill is not meant to target the lawful trade in Syrian or other cultural goods and that it only authorizes import restrictions on artifacts illegally removed from Syria after the start of its civil war. Nonetheless, it must be emphasized that the

burden remains on the Government to prove that the artifact in question is illicit. While protecting Syrian cultural artifacts from looting is important, it is also important that we stay true to our own values. Our tradition of due process requires that the Government meet its burden of proof before private property may be seized or forfeited. This legislation does not change the burden placed on the Government under the Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act. Here, as under the CPIA, the Government must establish: (1) the item is of a type that appears on the designated list of Syrian artifacts that will be created; (2) the item was "first discovered" in Syria and is subject to Syrian export control; and (3) the item was illegally removed from Syria after the effective date of the restrictions, which in this case is March 15, 2011. The fact that an object's "country of origin" or manufacture may be "Syria" cannot constitute the sole basis for its seizure and forfeiture under either this legislation or the CPIA.

Sincerely,

MATTHEW S. POLK, JR.,  
*Board Member—The  
Committee for Cul-  
tural Property,  
Former Trustee—The  
Baltimore Museum  
of Art, Member—The  
Museum Trustees  
Association, Mem-  
ber—The Walters  
Art Museum Collec-  
tions Committee,  
President—Historic  
Textile Research  
Foundation.*

## RECOGNIZING SOUTH KOREAN PRESIDENT PARK GEUN-HYE AND U.S.-KOREAN ALLIANCE

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am disheartened to hear that South Korean President Park Geun-Hye's visit to Washington, D.C. was postponed due to the growing threat of the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (MERS) outbreak in the Republic of Korea. I know this is a very difficult time for the South Korean people and would like to send my deepest sympathy to the victims of this deadly virus. I express my utmost confidence in President Park's ability to lead the people of her beautiful country out of this crisis.

As always, the success and future of the Peninsula remain a priority for me. As a Korean War veteran, I have a very personal tie to Korea and its people. Since returning home from my service in the Korean War over six decades ago, I have proudly witnessed South Korea's rise as a war-torn nation to becoming an international giant, which is a testament to the resilience and industriousness of the Korean people. All across America, Koreans have inspired us with their entrepreneurialism and perseverance toward strengthening the fabric of our nation.

I commend President Park and Ambassador Ahn Ho-Young for further strengthening U.S.-Korean ties. As you know, the relationship between our country and the Republic of Korea is deeply rooted in our unbreakable bloodshed

alliance. As we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Korea from Imperial Japan, I will continue working to help promote peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula—in hopes that the two Koreas will be reunified in my lifetime.

## RETIREMENT OF DR. JAMES HADLEY BILLINGTON

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary leadership of Dr. James Hadley Billington, the 13th Librarian of Congress and renowned scholar of Russia. Following 28 years of tireless service, Dr. Billington announced that he will be retiring from his post as the Librarian of Congress. During his tenure, Dr. Billington made significant contributions by providing visionary leadership as he ushered the Library of Congress into the digital age.

Since being unanimously confirmed by the Senate in 1987, Dr. Billington has overseen the expansion of the Library's collection size. It has roughly doubled, from 85.5 million items in 1987 to more than 160 million items today. Dr. Billington dedicated much of his efforts to ensuring that our nations historic items and collections be made readily available to the American public. In his early years, at the dawn of the internet age, he worked to facilitate an innovative program for the Library of Congress known as the National Digital Library (NDL) Program, which ensured that American historical and cultural information was available online. As a result of his efforts, projects such as the NDL, Congress.gov, and numerous pieces of information from the U.S. Copyright Office have become frequently used in K-12 education systems across America.

In addition to efforts ensuring the spread of the richly diverse history of the United States, Dr. Billington is also responsible for the development of the World Digital Library. A project similar to the NDL, the World Digital Library compiles cultural materials from the 193 countries listed in the UNESCO into one database for public access. I can say without question that throughout his decades of service, Dr. Billington has been firmly dedicated to the spread of information.

Dr. Billington has been an outstanding leader and educator to both our nation and the world. I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors. I have no doubt that his contributions to our global society will have a significant impact on scholastic achievement for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the service and sacrifice of Dr. James Hadley Billington.

## COBDEN HIGH SCHOOL CAPTURES STATE BASEBALL TITLE

**HON. MIKE BOST**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to Cobden High School for capturing the Illinois

Class 1A state baseball title. The Appleknockers defeated Okawville Rockets 9 to 3 in Peoria.

Cobden made its third state tournament appearance and first since 1987, when it lost 12–1 in five innings to Columbia in the state title game.

CHRISTIAN PASTOR DUONG KIM  
KHAI JAILED IN VIETNAM

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, since the early 1990's, Pastor Duong Kim Khai has been detained or arrested thirteen times. The first time he was arrested he was just 14 years old. Usually, he is arrested for simply organizing Christian prayer sessions. Most recently, he was arrested in August 2010 for his efforts to advocate for religious freedom and social justice. The trumped up charge? Attempting to overthrow the government.

For this, he was sentenced to 2–8 years in prison and 3–5 years probation and house arrest.

Unfortunately, his wife, who was denied permission to visit him in prison, died before she could see him again. In 2011, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention ruled that the Vietnam government's detention and conviction of Pastor Duong Kim Khai and six other activists were in violation of international law.

But the State Department refuses to include Vietnam as a Country of Particular Concern for religious freedom. The Pastor is not only a spiritual leader in his community but he also works to promote democracy and help victims of injustice. For example, he has served as an advocate for Vietnamese farmers whose land was confiscated by the government.

Pastor Duong Kim Khai's trial was a sham and imprisonment is unacceptable. Freedom to worship is a human right and the Vietnamese government should immediately release him. Until they do, the State Department should call it like it is and recognize Vietnam as a Country of Particular Concern.

And that's just the way it is.

IN HONOR OF LARNELL SAWYER

**HON. PAUL A. GOSAR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents, Larnell Sawyer, of Chino Valley, Arizona.

Larnell Sawyer recently received the Teacher of the Year award for outstanding work as a teacher at Lincoln Elementary. Lincoln is recognized as a haven for academic achievement and growth. Ms. Sawyer has played a crucial role in creating this reputation.

Larnell Sawyer has deep ties to Chino Valley. She grew up and attended school there from kindergarten through high school. She then moved to Tucson and attended the Uni-

versity of Arizona, where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. After teaching 1st grade for a year in Tucson, she got married to her high school sweetheart and moved back to Prescott. After her own initial academic successes, Larnell was hired in Chino Valley to teach an English Language Development kindergarten class, which she taught for two years. Realizing that she wanted to expand her knowledge, Larnell started her Master's program at Northern Arizona University and received her advanced degree in Early Childhood Education. Afterwards, she continued to teach in Chino Valley for another two years and was ultimately hired at Lincoln Elementary in 2012, where she continues to roar with pride as a Lincoln Lion kindergarten teacher. When the dedicated Ms. Sawyer is not shaping the minds of her students, she is spending quality time with her husband and two daughters.

Ms. Sawyer is a prime example of a great educator, and the positive influence that she has on her students will resonate for years to come.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 11, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 15

5 p.m.  
Committee on Foreign Relations  
To receive a closed briefing on lifting sanctions on Iran, focusing on practical implications. S-116

JUNE 16

10 a.m.  
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jonathan Elkind, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (International Affairs), and Monica C. Regalbuto, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Environmental Management). SD-366  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
To hold hearings to examine health information technology, focusing on

what providers and the Department of Health and Human Services can do to improve electronic health record user experience.

SD-430  
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine Federal real property reform, focusing on how cutting red tape and better management could achieve billions in savings.

SD-342  
10:30 a.m.  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security

Business meeting to markup an original bill entitled, "Fiscal Year 2016 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill."

SD-138  
2:30 p.m.  
Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

Business meeting to markup an original bill entitled, "Fiscal Year 2016 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations."

SD-124

JUNE 17

9:30 a.m.  
Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's final rule to regulate disposal of coal combustion residuals from electric utilities.

SD-406

10 a.m.  
Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine CBO's analysis of the Federal government's deepening fiscal challenges.

SD-608

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, Insurance, and Data Security

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

SR-253

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine reauthorizing the Higher Education Act, focusing on evaluating accreditation's role in ensuring quality.

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine governing through goal setting, focusing on enhancing the economic and national security of America.

SD-342

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the economic exposure of Federal credit programs.

SH-216

2 p.m.  
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Carol Fortine Ochoa, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, General Services Administration.

SD-342

JUNE 18

JUNE 24

JULY 9

9:30 a.m.

2:15 p.m.

10 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and  
 Governmental Affairs  
 Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and  
 Federal Management  
 To hold hearings to examine the EPA's  
 management of the renewable fuel  
 standard program.

SD-342

Committee on Indian Affairs  
 To hold an oversight hearing to examine  
 demanding results to end Native youth  
 suicides.

SD-628

Committee on Energy and Natural Re-  
 sources  
 To hold hearings to examine the back-  
 end of the nuclear fuel cycle and re-  
 lated legislation, including S. 854, to  
 establish a new organization to manage  
 nuclear waste, provide a consensual  
 process for siting nuclear waste facili-  
 ties, ensure adequate funding for man-  
 aging nuclear waste.

SD-366