

RETIREMENT OF DAVE OLSON
(WASHINGTON RIVER PROTECTION SOLUTIONS)

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the contributions of Dave Olson, who is retiring as President of Washington River Protection Solutions, a Tank-Farm Contractor at the Hanford Nuclear site in Central Washington.

After 30 years of service, Dave's retirement is well-deserved. Since taking over as President of WRPS in 2013, he has been an outstanding leader and under his leadership the company has tackled some of the most complex waste remediation issues at the site, while maintaining one of the best safety records across the EM complex.

Hanford is one of the most critical environmental cleanup projects in the world—with 56 million gallons of radioactive and hazardous chemical waste stored in underground tanks—and Dave's dedication and contributions have been invaluable to the project.

Dave also volunteered as a member of the Hanford Working Group, which I formed to advise me on issues of importance to the Hanford Site and local communities. I would like to congratulate Dave on his retirement and thank him for his time, valuable insight, and dedicated service to the cleanup mission at Hanford and the long-term prosperity of the Tri-Cities.

TRIBUTE TO LARRY PETERSON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Larry Peterson, of Creston, Iowa, for being selected as a member of the Creston High School Hall of Fame.

Mr. Peterson has been writing for newspapers since the day he graduated from the University of Iowa in 1979. He has spent 30 years writing for the Creston News Advertiser, where he has served as sports editor, assistant editor, feature writer and sports writer. Larry has covered more than 3,000 high school games, numerous state championship teams and more than 100 individual champions during his time as a sports writer. Larry

has also spent almost 16 years coaching teams in Creston throughout the years.

Mr. Speaker, Larry's efforts embody the Iowa spirit and I am honored to represent him, and Iowans like him, in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Larry for his achievements and wish him nothing but continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAKACHOAG SCHOOL

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of Pakachoag School.

Pakachoag School, located in Auburn, Massachusetts, was recently named a 2015 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. Pakachoag prides itself on its dedication to providing students with the tools they need to succeed in the dynamic and fast-paced world surrounding them. Auburn schools have a history of educational excellence. In 2014, the Julia Bancroft School won a Blue Ribbon award. Due to redistricting, Julia Bancroft and Pakachoag have since merged. Educators of the Auburn Public Schools provide committed and enthusiastic leadership, creating a comprehensive and inviting educational environment. The Pakachoag pledge, "We are Prepared, Aware, and Kind!" echoes the school's focus on ensuring students can become considerate and intelligent luminaries in the world outside the classroom.

To inspire civic responsibility and leadership, Pakachoag promotes numerous Community Service Learning Projects. Through fundraising, volunteer work, and reading programs, the importance of "giving back" is instilled in students. The school also offers a number of events and programs such as food drives and community reading days that not only reflect upon the student's development, but benefit the community as a whole.

Pakachoag School also strives to provide a comprehensive and inclusive environment within the school's walls. Pakachoag's special needs program is one of the most intensive in the Auburn school system. Extracurricular activities like student government and a student-written newspaper, along with on-site before and after-school childcare through the Galaxy

Program, demonstrate how Pakachoag is deeply committed to the success, nurturing, and overall wellbeing of each and every one of its students.

None of these wonderful educational achievements would be possible without the talented educators and staff members at Pakachoag School. Administrative leadership under Superintendent Dr. Maryellen Brunelle can be associated with her passion for the success of her students, as well as a dedication to creating a warm and welcoming learning environment. The tireless efforts by all of those involved can be credited to Pakachoag's success.

I am so proud to represent the faculty, students, and staff of the Pakachoag School and the Auburn School System, and I look forward to what they will continue to accomplish in the future. I ask you to join me in congratulating the Pakachoag School for being named a 2015 National Blue Ribbon School.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent from the House on February 26, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted NO on H. Res. 125 (Roll Call 93). I would like to accurately reflect my stance on this issue.

TRIBUTE TO RAMON AND JEAN SMITH

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Ramon and Jean Smith of Atlantic, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married on September 18, 1955.

Ramon and Jean's lifelong commitment to each other and their children, Sherrie, Terry, and Doug, truly embodies Iowa values. I commend this devoted couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.