

in honoring Ms. Duke for her enriching, life-long community service.

TRIBUTE TO LANETTE WRIGHT

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of my long-time executive assistant and friend, LaNette Wright, who is retiring after more than three decades of distinguished service. LaNette started her career in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1984 when she was hired as a Staff Aide in Somerset, Kentucky. She later became a trusted Caseworker, guiding local constituents through complications with federal agencies. In 1999, LaNette took on the role as my Executive Assistant, faithfully and dutifully organizing every meeting, speaking engagement, and flight itinerary in coordination with my personal schedule. In 2012, she also earned the title of Casework Director, ensuring constituent needs are effectively and efficiently met at the Somerset, Hazard and Prestonsburg District Offices. Time and again, she has gone above the call of duty to help me, and by extension, the people of Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District in delivering a better, more responsive and open constituent experience.

Like most of us, I have been fortunate in my tenure in Congress to have extraordinary professional and personal staff accompany me on this journey. However, LaNette has always given me and my family an extra measure of loyalty, advice and friendship that I will always treasure. Without a doubt, her organization and foresight made many of my days much simpler, despite a schedule that often becomes complicated and demanding. Her sheer presence in the Somerset office will be greatly missed, from her ability to extend compassion to distraught Veterans, to calming discouraged citizens frustrated by federal bureaucracy, to celebrating victories in the lives of folks we have been able to assist through casework. Her thoughtful execution in every situation has made LaNette a truly irreplaceable part of the Rogers team.

As we all know, Congressional staff work long hours, and often sacrifice weekends and holidays in order to keep this esteemed institution running—inevitably taking a toll on personal commitments. She has earned more than her share of quality time with her family and friends—especially her energetic grandchildren.

The people of Southern and Eastern Kentucky, our staff and I owe LaNette a great debt of gratitude for her steadfast service and dedication to our region. We wish LaNette and her husband Louie many wonderful years of retirement in Kentucky and on the sunny beaches and golf courses of Florida.

LAKE ARROWHEAD RESIDENT
SPEARHEADS EFFORT TO BUILD
VETERANS MEMORIAL

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Liam Gavigan for his tireless efforts to construct a veterans monument in Lake Arrowhead, California. Liam is a member of Boy Scouts of America Troop 89 and has undertaken this task as his Eagle Scout Project.

From the time he became involved with the Cub Scouts, Liam had a vision for creating a monument to honor the sacrifices of veterans who live in the San Bernardino County mountain communities. It took several years, but Liam's determination resulted in him fundraising over \$20,000 needed to construct the memorial. With assistance provided by the San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust, Liam was also able to secure the necessary land upon which the monument will stand.

As a Vietnam veteran and retired Marine Corps infantry officer, I applaud Liam and the members of Troop 89 for their diligence in bringing this project to fruition. I look forward to visiting the monument during my next trip to Lake Arrowhead.

CONGRATULATING DR. TSAI ING-
WEN ON HER ELECTION AS
PRESIDENT OF TAIWAN

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Tsai Ing-wen on her victory in the Taiwanese presidential election held on January 16, 2016. President-elect Tsai is scheduled to take office on May 20 of this year, and will be the first woman president of Taiwan. I further congratulate the vice president-elect, Dr. Chen Chien-jen, as well as the people of Taiwan for this historic vote that signifies so much for the continuing strength of democracy in Taiwan.

On this occasion, I would encourage my colleagues to join me in assuring President-elect Tsai and the people of Taiwan of our commitment to the friendship between our two countries. We are bound by the values and principles we share; and the peaceful and free election on January 16 once again demonstrates that Taiwan's robust democracy is an example to the rest of the region. The free and democratic system that has been established over the decades is a testament to the commendable dedication and determination of a free Taiwanese people. Their support for human rights is a beacon, and their leaders should be encouraged as they work to keep it shining.

Dr. Tsai's election is additionally an opportunity to reaffirm the importance of the Taiwan Relations Act as the cornerstone of the relationship between the U.S. and Taiwan. I urge my colleagues to remain committed to the security of Taiwan, as well as our economic and social relationship, and look forward to our two countries' continuing to work together on issues of common interest.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating President-elect Tsai and the people of Taiwan, and in wishing them the best in the new administration.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEW MEXICO COLLEGE OF NURSING

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the University of New Mexico College of Nursing which celebrated its 60th Anniversary this past year. The College of Nursing is a world class institution of learning whose graduates have been a blessing to the individuals they have cared for and helped save countless lives.

The University of New Mexico College of Nursing was founded in 1955 after Dr. Marion Fleck and Mary Jane Carter acquired a \$60,000 grant from the New Mexico State Legislature. Since its founding, the school has aimed to educate and train future leaders in nursing, research innovative methods to improve and deliver patient care, and design a world class health system. Over the past 60 years, the College of Nursing has seen more than 6,000 alumni graduate from its ranks. These nurses have gone on to serve our community and provide invaluable care to hundreds of thousands of patients.

Throughout its history, the University of New Mexico College of Nursing has demonstrated exemplary leadership in its field. For example, it was the first program in New Mexico to establish a Master of Science in Nursing degree, as well as a Doctorate of Nursing Practice. The school has also created nurse managed clinics and partnered with the Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center to address the healthcare needs of veterans in our community. Furthermore, through their membership in the New Mexico Nurses Education Consortium, the College of Nursing has partnered with local community colleges to provide access to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing throughout the state. Lastly, the PhD program is one of only a few in the nation to offer a health policy track to train future leaders in nursing. We are very fortunate to have such an outstanding institution training our future healthcare providers.

It gives me great pleasure to report that the University of New Mexico College of Nursing has been recognized for these impressive accomplishments. In 2015, the College of Nursing was ranked tenth overall on Value Schools' list of the top-valued undergraduate nursing programs. Dr. Nancy Ridenour, dean of the College of Nursing explained that "Credit goes largely to our renowned faculty who provides an education that emphasizes working with rural and underserved populations and prepares our students to transform nursing and health care."

Indeed, the University of New Mexico College of Nursing has proven itself a model in philanthropy and community involvement. From July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 alone, the faculty and students from the College of Nursing spent more than 83,000 hours working in the community in order to provide healthcare