

CONGRATULATING MRS. PEGGY J. BOSMA-LAMASCUS ON A SUCCESSFUL 34-YEAR CAREER AT PATRIOT FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mrs. Peggy J. Bosma-LaMascus, the former President and CEO of Patriot Federal Credit Union, on a distinguished career and a well-deserved retirement.

Mrs. Bosma-LaMascus began her career with Letterkenny Federal Credit Union, the predecessor to Patriot Federal Credit Union, in 1982. Under Peggy's subsequent leadership, the credit union grew from \$26 million in assets to over \$520 million, which has put Patriot in the top 5 percent of all credit unions in the country in terms of assets. In addition to implementing beneficial mortgage, lending, and wealth management programs and processes, Peggy always made sure to keep the credit union's focus on member service and convenience. What is possibly even more impressive than her tremendous accomplishments is the way she remained committed to having a positive impact on people's lives and the lives of their families. I believe her trust in the credit union philosophy "Not for Profit, Not for Charity, But for Service" is truly worth highlighting and celebrating.

Additionally, many know that Peggy played a significant role in the 1990s to save jobs at the Letterkenny Army Depot, as the Department of Defense pursued a Base Realignment and Closure. It was to acknowledge the Letterkenny Army Depot's missile repair capabilities that Peggy urged the credit union to change its name to Patriot Federal Credit Union.

What's more, Peggy has also made time to serve several community boards and organizations like the Downtown Chambersburg and Chambersburg United Way, and the Greater Chambersburg Area Chamber of Commerce. It was in 2006 that the Greater Chambersburg Area Chamber of Commerce named her Businessperson of the Year. Peggy has additionally played a notable role in advancing credit unions by serving many state and federal level organizations.

On behalf of the Ninth District of Pennsylvania, I want to thank Mrs. Peggy J. Bosma-LaMascus for her dedication to making our communities not only stronger financially but also richer in personal service and community spirit. Her leadership and dedication to Pennsylvanians is to be commended, and her retirement is well-deserved.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL AG DAY

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on March 15th, in honor of National Ag Day and the hardworking farmers in the First District of Iowa.

Iowa continues to make enormous contributions to the U.S. Our farmers feed our nation, fuel our cars, and nourish our livestock.

With ninety percent of the available land used for agriculture, Iowa is the number one producer of soy and corn in the country and continues to rank high in the production of many more commodities, including beef and pork, and trails behind only California in terms of total value for agricultural production.

I commend and thank the hardworking farmers of Iowa who continue to produce record crops and embrace new technologies and practices.

I encourage everyone to thank a farmer today for their contributions to our nation and look forward to the advancement of agriculture across the U.S.

DEVELOPING A STRATEGY TO OBTAIN OBSERVER STATUS FOR TAIWAN IN THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION

SPEECH OF

HON. MATT SALMON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 14, 2016

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of Senate Bill 2426, which is the Senate companion to my bill H.R. 1853 that passed the House earlier this year. This bill directs the Administration to work to bring Taiwan in to the International Criminal Police Organization, also known as INTERPOL.

Taiwan is an important U.S. ally and I have long been a supporter of the government and people of Taiwan. In fact, I was lucky enough to serve a mission for my church in Taiwan and grew to love the Taiwanese people for their core values, democratic standards, open-market principles, and peaceful way of life.

While in Congress, I have worked hard to facilitate policies that encourage Taiwan's continued vibrancy, to provide an example of hope and democracy around the world. Although Taiwan has proven to be a faithful, global partner for those in need, China seeks to marginalize Taiwan's role in the world. As such, I have pursued ways to further include Taiwan in the global community for its own good, but perhaps more importantly, for the benefit of the global community.

Today, nearly every country is confronting threats of terrorism and international criminal organizations. Yet at a time when it is more important than ever that countries communicate about these ongoing threats, Taiwan is barred from directly participating. This is short sighted and must be addressed. For that reason, I introduced legislation to direct the President to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan in INTERPOL, so that it can more fully engage in the international law enforcement community. The goal is to increase participation with important global actors to share information on international criminals, and together bring them to justice and protect would-be victims.

I was pleased that after my legislation passed the House unanimously last year, Senator GARDNER took up the cause and passed his companion bill, S. 2426, through the Senate. I wholeheartedly support this bill's final

passage so that we can send this important, pro-security bill to the President for his signature. I encourage all Members to support this legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THOMAS J. KEENEY, THE 2016 GREATER WILKES-BARRE FRIENDLY SONS OF SAINT PATRICK MAN OF THE YEAR

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Thomas J. Keeney, who was named 2016 Man of the Year from the Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick. Tom received his award from the Friendly Sons on Friday, March 11.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, Tom's family traveled a great deal throughout his youth, as a result of Tom's father, Donald, serving as a Major in the U.S. Army. In 1964, Tom graduated from Coughlin High School and served in the U.S. Air Force from 1965 to 1969. While in the Air Force, Tom was an aircraft mechanic and maintained the F100D/F fighter aircraft. After leaving the service, Tom entered the Plumber Apprentice training program offered by Plumbers Local 147 and began working as a contractor in the construction industry. Tom also served as a Reserve member of the U.S. Army, while working as a plumber, pipefitter, and welder. He served a variety of units as a Combat Medic 91B. He remained in the Army serving for 27 years, achieving the rank of Master Sergeant E8.

Today, Tom resides in Plains, Pennsylvania and is a retired master plumbing and heating contractor. He is the father of two children, Patrick and Maurita, and has three grandchildren. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 302 and served the organization in many capacities, from Grand Knight to Faithful Navigator. He is also the past Commander of Alhamar Caravan Number 4 Order of the Alhambra and is an active member of Ancient Order of Hibernians, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and remains active in many other community organizations.

It is an honor to recognize Thomas Keeney for receiving the Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons Man of the Year Award for 2016. I am grateful for his extensive service to our nation. I wish him the best as he and the Friendly Sons celebrate his many civic achievements.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF ROBERT J. HAND

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and recognize the service of Mr. Robert J. Hand's thirty year career dedicated to public service. Until his recent retirement, Mr. Hand served as the Executive Director for Resources for Independence, Central Valley (RICV) for the past ten years. RICV is a non-