brave and honorable women who made up the Women Airforce Pilot Service. Had I been present, I would have voted yes on roll call vote 135.

Additionally, I was absent for roll call votes 130 through 134. Had I been present, I would have voted yes on roll call 130, no on roll call 131, no on roll call 132, yes on roll call 133, and yes on roll call 134.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LATIN EXPRESS BAND

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 23, 2016

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 40th Anniversary of The Latin Express Band. The Latin Express Band has serenaded Dallas-Fort Worth residents for four decades and counting and given back to the community in a variety of ways. Mr. Carlos Saenz, a graduate of Fort Worth's North Side High School, founded The Latin Express Band in 1976 after fundraising for a school trip. After receiving support and recognition from his classmates, Mr. Saenz added his younger brother, Leo Saenz, to join as drummer and vocalist.

Since their formation, the Latin Express Band has played at music venues throughout the DFW Metroplex and the United States, even playing in the nation's capital. In January 2001, they were invited to perform during the Presidential Inaugural Ball for President George W. Bush.

The Latin Express Band has received several accolades for their musical contributions throughout the years. Dating back to 1998, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram presented the band with its first award, the ''Best Tejano Band.'' They would go on to receive additional awards from Fort Worth Weekly, Hispanic Council of Tarrant County, and the Dallas Morning News. The Latin Express Band was inducted into the Tejano Roots Hall of Fame in 2008.

Additionally, the Latin Express Band supports various charitable groups and makes significant contributions to local organizations such as the Tarrant Area Food Bank. The Latin Express Band has inspired future generations of local musicians by supporting music education for children, youth and adults throughout the Metroplex.

On March 31, 2016, the band will perform for the first time at Fort Worth's historic Casa Mañana Theatre. Proceeds from the concert will support music education programs in the Fort Worth Independent School District. The concert takes place on the birthday of the legendary Latino civil rights leader, Cesar Chavez. The band will play in honor of Chavez, an activist who continuously fought to gain equal rights for all minorities.

The Saenz brothers are a staple in the Fort Worth community, both through sharing their musical talents and service to the Metroplex.

HONORING THE BIRTHDAY OF WILLIAM D. MOUNGER OF JACKSON

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 23, 2016

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, on March 31, 1926, William ''Billy'' Mounger was born in Jackson, Mississippi. Mr. Mounger graduated from Central High School in Jackson and attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He intended on playing football at West Point, as one of the 27 players around the country recruited by the school, but failed to make the team. Instead of giving up and going back home, he graduated in 1948 with a degree in General Engineering and served five years in the U.S. Air Force. While in the Air Force, he attained the rank of First Lieutenant and served as an Aircraft Commander of the B–50 Medium Bomber as well as Atomic Bomb Commander.

Mr. Mounger continued his education at the University of Oklahoma, receiving a bachelor's degree and master's degree in Petroleum Engineering. He has had a long and successful career in oil production. In addition to his business success, many people know Mr. Mounger for his work in establishing and developing the Republican Party in the South and especially Mississippi. His leadership roles are extensive, but to name a few: he has served on the Mississippi State Republican Executive Committee for decades, as the Mississippi Republican Finance Chairman, and on the Republican National Finance Committee. It is a direct result of Mr. Mounger's work and dedication to the party that Mississippi is now a Republican stronghold.

Most importantly, Mr. Mounger is a proud husband, father, and grandfather. He is also a man of faith, as a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Jackson. On his 90th birthday, I thank him for his contributions to Mississippi and the Republican Party.

McMEANS JUNIOR HIGH SYMPHONIC BAND

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 23, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the symphonic band of McMeans Junior High (MMJH) in Katy, Texas for their upcoming performance at the National Middle School Concert Band Festival for the Music for All National Festival, hosted at Butler University in Indianapolis.

The MMJH symphonic band, under the direction of George Liverman, will not only perform in front of professionally and nationally known experts at the Music for All National Festival, but will also engage in master classes, leadership sessions and other beneficial events to heighten and sharpen their instrumental skills. Through these workshops, students will have the ability to meet independently with professionals and get helpful advice regarding their personal instrument and position within the symphonic band. We are extremely proud of the McMeans Junior High Symphonic Band, and we can't wait to see their success at the National Middle School Concert Band Festival.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the McMeans Junior High Symphonic Band for earning the opportunity to perform at the Music for All National Festival. Keep up the great work.

HONORING MS. ARACELY GOMEZ

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 23, 2016

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of Women's History month I rise today to honor Ms. Aracely Gomez, an outstanding individual in the South Florida community.

Ms. Gomez has been recognized as a respected member of the community for her work in social care, substance abuse prevention, and mental health. Ms. Gomez began her career in social work in 2004 as a substance abuse counselor for Collier County Counseling. In her next positions, she moved from purely clinical work to take on increasingly complex advocacy roles. She represented Youth Haven, which cares for neglected and abandoned youth, on the Spanish language program ''Esencias,'' and participated in the Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida's move to integrate behavioral health with traditional primary care. She also worked with the PACE Center for Girls, an organization that works to keep at-risk girls in a safe and productive environment that fosters their growth.

Ms. Gomez also founded Lolita's Hispanic Family Center, which is a family resource center that promotes, implements, and advocates for bilingual, culturally competent evidence-based programs to enhance the quality of life of Hispanic and other minorities in Southwest Florida. In addition, she is also a board member of the Immokalee Housing and Family Services, a facilitator of the Immokalee Interagency Council, and an organizer of Hispanic Women in Healthcare of Collier County.

In each of her positions, Aracely Gomez has demonstrated compassionate care. She is passionate about improving access to behavioral services, especially for minorities. She has worked for established institutions and created new ones where she sees a need. I am privileged to know Ms. Gomez, and admire her commitment to the community. Aracely's efforts have touched the lives of many people in Southwest Florida. She has surpassed many barriers and has brought forth valuable service urgently needed in combating the challenges in mental health, social work and Hispanic outreach in our local communities.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Aracely Gomez for her continued service to the State of Florida, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable individual.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 23, 2016

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, on March 21 through 22, 2016, I was with the President in