

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE ACT OF 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 223, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2016.

The Great Lakes provide clean drinking water for over 40 million Americans. The region supports an estimated 1.5 million jobs, and generates over \$60 billion in annual wages. Protecting the Great Lakes supports public health, public lands and beaches, local economies, and job creation.

In Minnesota, the restoration of Lake Superior and the St. Louis River is vital to our State and our tribal nations. In 1987, the St. Louis River Estuary was classified as an Area of Concern because of contamination from decades of dumping untreated sewage and industrial waste into the water. Since that designation, millions of dollars have been invested in cleanup, restoration, and infrastructure.

We've started to see some measureable improvements along the St. Louis River that are lowering human health risks, re-establishing sturgeon spawning grounds and wild rice beds, and increasing property values. We have a clear path forward involving all stakeholders in the Roadmap to Delisting for the Area of Concern.

Mr. Speaker, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) has been a huge driver of the progress that Minnesota has made in cleaning up the St. Louis River. Success stories like this are spread all across our region because of the federal investments made by the GLRI. These funds have driven public-private partnerships that support the health of our waters and the quality of life for all Americans.

More than 100,000 acres of wetlands and 48,000 acres of coastal, upland, and island habitat have been protected, restored and enhanced in just the first five years of GLRI partnerships between the federal agencies, states and tribal nations.

H.R. 223 would authorize \$300 million a year for the crucial work of the GLRI, which will help remediate areas of environmental concern, control invasive species, restore habitat and wildlife, and support local businesses. Every federal dollar put into Great Lakes restoration generates \$2 in economic benefit, making restoration an excellent return on investment for taxpayer dollars.

The Great Lakes are a national treasure. The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act will build on the successes of recent years and ensure the lakes are protected for generations to come.

DISAPPROVING DEPARTMENT OF LABOR RULE RELATED TO DEFINITION OF THE TERM "FIDUCIARY"

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the following is a letter that was submitted to our office by Christopher A. Iacovella, Esq., the Chief Executive Officer for the Equity Dealers of America, expressing the organization's support for H.J. Res. 88, "Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to the definition of the term 'Fiduciary,'" on April 28, 2016:

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN AND LEADER PELOSI: The Equity Dealers of America (EDA) is writing to you today to urge the U.S. House of Representatives to take up and pass H.J. Res. 88, 'Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to the definition of the term "Fiduciary".'

The EDA represents the interests of middle market financial services firms who provide "Main Street" businesses with access to capital and advise hardworking Americans how to create and preserve wealth. Our geographically diverse membership includes BB&T Securities (NC), D.A. Davidson & Co. (MT), Hilliard Lyons (KY), Hilltop Securities (TX), Janney Montgomery Scott (PA), KeyBanc Capital Markets (OH), Piper Jaffray (MN), Raymond James Financial (FL), Robert W. Baird & Co. (WI), Stephens Inc. (AR), Stifel Nicolaus & Company (MO), William Blair & Company (IL), and Wunderlich Securities (TN).

We strongly believe that Department of Labor exceeded its Congressionally granted authority when it finalized its "Fiduciary Rule" on April 6, 2016. We believed prior to the passage of the rule passage, and continue to believe now, that this rule will (1) reduce access to financial advice for low and middle income Americans; (2) increase costs for retirees by pushing them into inappropriate and expensive fee based financial solutions; and (3) unnecessarily interfere with an individual's ability to make his/her personal choices about investing and saving for retirement.

We strongly support the U.S. House of Representatives as it takes up H.J. 88 and we look forward to its swift passage.

MINIMUM WAGE

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work and dedication of workers in our district in Houston and Harris County, Texas who deserve a living wage, and I call on Congress to vote on raising the minimum wage.

There are over 10 million Americans working full time today who earn below the poverty line—under \$24,000 a year for a family of four.

In my home state of Texas, over 450,000 people are paid the minimum wage, more than any other state.

African-Americans and Hispanics are the most likely in our country to be among the working poor. Nearly 1-in-7 black and Hispanic Americans work full-time and live below the poverty line.

Eight percent of all working women in our country, 5.5 million Americans, are among the working poor.

Mr. Speaker, this is simply not right. Our country must value hard work and pay our workers a living wage if we are going to compete in the 21st century.

I am a proud original cosponsor of the Raise the Wage Act. This bill would raise the minimum wage nationwide to \$12 an hour by 2020, and index the minimum wage to inflation afterwards, giving 35 million Americans—more than one in four—a raise.

Increasing the minimum wage would raise earnings by nearly \$80 billion and grow our economy when millions of Americans can finally afford to buy a new television, automobile, or home.

This bill would end the unfair treatment of tipped workers by giving waiters and waitresses the same minimum wage as other workers.

America is a hardworking and compassionate country. We can no longer stand by while millions of our neighbors continue to live in poverty despite their great efforts.

I urge my colleagues to stand with the American people and demand a vote to raise the minimum wage.

IN RECOGNITION OF RADNOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Radnor Middle School on being named a Don Eichhorn Schools: "Schools to Watch." Radnor Middle School is just one of six schools in Pennsylvania to earn this distinction this year.

The "Schools to Watch" list was developed by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform. The program identifies middle schools where students are excelling academically and where teachers and administrators are improving curriculum and instruction, responding to the needs and interests of their students, and helping all students achieve success at high levels.

Mr. Speaker, Radnor Middle School has demonstrated its commitment to continued improvement and to educating young adolescents for future academic, social and professional success. I congratulate Radnor Middle

• 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.

School's hardworking administrators, teachers, staff and students for earning this impressive distinction.

RECOGNIZING MATTHEW QUIROZ

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary bravery of Matthew Quiroz.

In September of 2012, Matthew, who is now 9 years old, was diagnosed with Wilms Tumor stage II. After more than 2 years of remission, Matthew was diagnosed with a metastatic Wilms Tumor last April. He has been fighting bravely for the past 4 years, spending his time between Lubbock, Texas, and his hometown of Fort Stockton, Texas, which lies squarely in my district.

Yesterday, Matthew received a warm homecoming with friends and family as he returned to Fort Stockton. Matthew's bravery and determination has been an inspiration to me and many others in Fort Stockton and I am truly honored to represent such a courageous young man. The warmth that the community of Fort Stockton has shown Matthew has been tremendous and serves as a testament to the close knit communities that can be found in the 23rd Congressional District of Texas.

I have no doubt that Matthew's extraordinary fortitude of character and incredible demonstration of bravery in the face of overwhelming adversity will continue to serve as an inspiration to anyone who learns of his story.

LEGACY OF HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, Historically Black Colleges and Universities created and fostered a generation of African American leaders who would have otherwise been denied an education due to segregation. The legacy and impact of HBCUs are far-reaching and especially worthy of praise and appreciation. Today, with more than 100 institutions across the nation, HBCUs still play a vital role in educating our youth, nurturing leaders and producing great innovators.

My district, the 7th Congressional District, is home to some of the most prominent HBCUs in the country, and I am very proud to represent those universities in the United States Congress through my work on the Bipartisan HBCU Caucus.

Education is the great equalizer that levels the playing field and can help break the cycle of poverty that affects families across the 7th Congressional District, the state of Alabama, and this nation.

Young people from every background and every walk of life deserve the right to reach their full potential.

As the daughter of two educators, I know firsthand the difference a strong education can

make in achieving the American dream, regardless of race, gender or socioeconomic background.

HBCUs play a critically important role in educating our youth to prepare them in the areas of agriculture, science and cutting edge technology. In the State of Alabama alone, we have several HBCU institutions: From Alabama A&M, where students are working with government agencies to develop new technology to make our country safer. To Tuskegee University, where students are working with local communities and farmers to increase crop production and efficiencies. To Alabama State, where students are being trained as world class teachers equipped to educate our youth all across America.

Miles College, a science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) institution located in Fairfield, is an outstanding HBCU that also offers quality educational options to traditional students, those going back to college, and law students.

These are just a few examples of the critical work that is being done at HBCUs in Alabama. And I must say I am quite proud of all of the work that our HBCUs do on a daily basis. The numbers speak for themselves when it comes to the value of what is produced by HBCUs: 22 percent of Black students who earn a bachelor's degree do so from an HBCU.

Among Blacks, 40 percent of Members of Congress graduated from an HBCU, 12.5 percent of CEOs, 40 percent of engineers, 50 percent of professors at non-HBCUs, 50 percent of lawyers, and 80 percent of judges.

HBCUs are still needed in this country and should be recognized and respected for their unique contributions to its students and society as a whole.

As we move forward in Congress, I remain committed to working with my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus and HBCUs from my district and across this country as we fight to promote the value and legacy of HBCUs.

RECOGNIZING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF CROGHAN

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 175th Anniversary of the town of Croghan in Lewis County, New York. The town of Croghan was named after the famous war hero from the War of 1812, Colonel George Croghan.

One of the major shapers of Croghan was Theodore Basselin. Mr. Basselin had interests in the businesses of timber, railroad, paper manufacturing, furniture, banking, and electric power generation. He was elected to be the first President of the Village of Croghan. Upon his death in 1914, Mr. Basselin left \$25,000 for the creation of a parochial school named Father Leo Memorial School in Croghan. The Basselin mansion and family cemetery still exist in Croghan today and are considered significant landmarks.

The town of Croghan is home to the American Maple Museum and Hall of Fame, the Oswegatchie Educational Center, and the

Railway Historical Society of Northern New York Museum. One of the unique businesses in the town is the Croghan Meat Market that was founded in 1888 and is still going strong. The major businesses that are seen throughout the town are logging, farming, and the production of maple syrup. These businesses are vital to Upstate New York communities. Their products reach residents throughout New York and beyond, and will continue to be a strong asset to the state for years to come.

Congratulations to the town of Croghan on the 175th anniversary of your formation. I want to wish the people and businesses of Croghan continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO SHARON BAILEY

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, for more than 30 years, Sharon Bailey served the hungry and homeless of our nation as the Vice President and Director of the Emergency Food and Shelter (EFS) program at United Way Worldwide.

Mrs. Bailey passed away on September 9th of last year. We offer our deepest sympathy to her husband and daughter and her extended family, but also to her staff at United Way, the National Board members she served over the years, and especially to the staffs at social services agencies across America that have worked with her since 1983.

The EFS program began in 1983 as a creation of the House Appropriations Committee. It was reacting to an outcry across the country to help supplement the local food and shelter providers dealing with a burgeoning problem. Later it was authorized, in 1985, as Title III of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. It's a unique program that is administered by a National Board that determines the funding allocations across the country as well as the eligible uses of the funds.

The EFS National Board is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) with membership that includes the American Red Cross, Catholic Charities USA, the Jewish Federations of North America, the National Council of Churches, the Salvation Army and United Way Worldwide. The program is administered at the local level by an EFS Local Board whose membership mirrors the National Board but also contains a representative of local government as well as other agencies active in assisting the homeless and hungry in the community. Eligible services include the provision of overnight shelter and served meals, assistance to food banks and pantries, one month's rental or mortgage assistance to prevent evictions, and one month's utility payments to prevent service cut-offs.

The program has a very broad distribution system, annually reaching out to up to 2,500 local communities and more than 12,000 local service organizations (both charitable and governmental). In order to administer such a large program, chiefly among the non-profit community, the EFS National Board chose United Way to serve as the program's Secretariat. It is in that role that Sharon Bailey began her three decades of service to the EFS program.

That service included providing leadership to advance the emergency funds of more than \$4 billion over the life to the program rapidly while maintaining accountability at all levels.

In her position, Sharon served as the sounding board and counselor not only to her own staff but to hundreds of staff on EFS Local Boards as well as Local Recipient Organizations all across the county. She interpreted program policy and, when in doubt, brought waivers and similar requests before the National Board at its monthly meetings. She coordinated the annual audit of the program by independent outside firms, fulfilled governmental requests for information, managed the EFS program's web site and maintained the overall budget of the program. It's important to note that all of this work at the national level was carried out with Sharon and her staff only using 1 percent of the program's 3.5 percent administrative budget.

Sharon also arranged the National Board's on-site visits to meet with Local Board and provider groups to understand the program's impact and to learn how to simplify and improve its processes. I attended one of these visits in my District several years ago and can attest to the open exchange of ideas, and also to Sharon Bailey's devotion to the people the program served. Perhaps a recognition of that devotion is the most fitting memorial to her dedication and service to our nation and the people most in need our help.

IN RECOGNITION OF SABRA WILLIAMS AND ROBY SO BEING NAMED CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE BY THE WHITE HOUSE

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge two outstanding Angelenos, Sabra Williams and Roby So, both of whom were named Champions of Change by the White House for expanding fair chance opportunities.

Sabra Williams is the founder and director of the Actors' Gang Prison Project. An actress herself, Sabra conducts an 8-week theater program in prisons in California. Through her work, inmates have developed key social and emotional skills and also have increased their self-esteem and tolerance. As a result, the Department of Corrections has seen an 89 percent reduction in prison violations amongst inmates who have completed the Prison Project. Further, inmates who have gone through the program have the necessary skills to ease their transition back into society after prison, resulting in a lower risk of recidivism.

Roby So is a formerly incarcerated inmate of 12 years and has turned his harsh life experiences into helping others. Roby is the re-entry program manager at the Executive Clemency Initiative with Stanford Law School's Justice Advocacy Project. The program helps reintegrate returning inmates into society after long prison sentences. Roby is also a production supervisor in the entertainment industry, serving as an example to former inmates that they, too, can successfully reintegrate into society.

As our nation begins to cope with the tragic human toll of our mass incarceration experi-

ment, I am proud of the work both Sabra and Roby do to help some of the most forgotten members of our society. The White House has rightly named them Champions of Change.

MARIE WILLAN'S ONE HUNDRED TENTH BIRTHDAY

HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marie Willan of Wadena, Minnesota who is celebrating her 110th birthday today. A lifelong resident of Wadena, Marie has always been an active member of her community, who put caring for her family and community before herself throughout her life. She put graduating high school on hold to take care of her eight siblings, her family's farm, then later her own son Roy. Never one to leave things unfinished, Marie returned to Wadena High School and in 2007 completed her high school diploma at age 101.

Her family, thankful for all Marie's support, says her secret to such a long life is not holding onto worries and problems. A strong woman all her life, Marie made a point not to get worked up over the little things and today looks back at a long vibrant life with over a century of memories shared with her family, friends, and community.

On this very special day for Marie and her loved ones, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Marie a happy 110th birthday.

HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF AU PAIR IN AMERICA

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to congratulate Au Pair in America on its 30th anniversary. Since its inception, Au Pair in America has been a leader in providing trusted live-in cultural care.

Au Pair in America is part of the American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS), based in Stamford, Connecticut. AIFS has maintained an exceptional record of leadership and innovation in the international education community for more than 50 years.

In 1986, Au Pair in America was the first program sponsor to be designated by the State Department to administer an au pair program. To date, Au Pair in America has placed more than 90,000 au pairs from nearly 60 countries in Europe, South Africa, the Americas, New Zealand, the Middle East and Asia with American host families in 40 states and the District of Columbia.

Au Pair in America has set a high standard for management of the program and its active engagement with both U.S. families and international au pairs. Its initial model—including careful screening, orientation and child safety courses for au pairs upon arrival, and the supervision of local Community Counselors—remains the program standard to this day.

The au pair program provides a unique and rewarding experience for U.S. families and au

pairs. And both host families and au pairs benefit from the cultural exchange that takes place and the creation of "global families."

I commend Au Pair in America for its dedication in providing host families with the most complete and fulfilling childcare and cultural exchange experience available.

IN RECOGNITION OF B.W. "STONEY" STONE

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the life of a pillar of service from our community in East San Diego County, Mr. B.W. "Stoney" Stone of Santee, who passed away on April 20, 2016, surrounded by his family and loved ones. We had over 90 years with Stoney but, honestly, the selfish side of us wishes we had him a bit longer because we knew East County was better with him by our side.

Born in Mesa, AZ in 1925, Stoney moved to East County with his parents as a teen, graduating from Sweetwater High School in 1943. Knowing how much service was a part of his character, it is no surprise that he immediately joined the Army Air Forces upon graduation, proudly serving his nation during World War II from 1943 through 1946. Stoney was also a successful businessman, opening Stoney's Rock & Roll Market in El Cajon, before moving into the banking industry and becoming President of Cajon Valley Bank and eventually retiring from Temecula Valley Bank in 2000. By his side throughout this successful career was Stoney's beautiful wife of 54 years Bonnie and a large family of five children, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

In our community, Stoney was known as "Mr. East County," and this was for good reason. Aside from his family, community service was Stoney's greatest passion, particularly helping underprivileged children. Stoney founded the East County Toy and Food Drive, which has been helping kids for the past 41 years and has become East County's largest Holiday charity collection event, assisting over 20,000 families and 50,000 children. In fact, the drive became so successful that, 14 years ago, Stoney asked the Salvation Army to come in and help organize the thousands of toy donations to ensure that they reached those in need. Eventually this event would be taken over by another great service leader in our community, the Viejas Band of Mission Indians, who have proudly carried on Stoney's legacy.

Aside from the Toy and Food Drive, Stoney was instrumental in helping the El Cajon Police Department with their D.A.R.E. program, which would eventually evolve into its own program named Stoney's Kids. This program has raised over \$800,000 since 1991 to assist underprivileged kids throughout the year in providing youth programs, summer camp, sport equipment, music instruments, exercise equipment for the disabled, and playground build-outs. As if this was not enough, Stoney was also involved with the Mother Goose Parade, the American Red Cross, and the Lion's Club, always serving with his personal motto, "It's All About the Kids."

In our community we like to say that "East County is a special place to live." The fact of the matter is that it's the people that make it special and there was no greater example of this than Stoney Stone. As the Congressman whose district has included East County for many years, I am proud to have had the privilege of knowing Stoney and learning from his commitment to service. And while we will miss him greatly, we are left with Stoney's example and legacy that challenges us to do more. Thank you Stoney, for everything.

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE
JARED HUFFMAN FOR BEING INDUCTED INTO THE GAUCHO HALL OF FAME

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor my distinguished colleague and friend Representative JARED HUFFMAN of California's Second Congressional District for his induction into the "Gauchito Hall of Fame" at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB).

Born and raised in Independence, Missouri, JARED HUFFMAN graduated William Chrisman High School in 1982. His passion for volleyball led him to the West Coast where he attended UCSB. While there, he was a starter for the UCSB Men's Volleyball team and was recognized as a three-time NCAA All-American volleyball player. Upon graduating magna cum laude, JARED went on to play for the number 1 ranked USA Men's Volleyball Team in 1987.

In 1990, he graduated cum laude from Boston College Law School and served as an attorney for many years eventually representing the National Resource Defense Council working to protect the environment. JARED was elected to the California State Assembly in 2006 where he served on the Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee and the Budget Committee. In 2012, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives where he continues to serve his constituents in California's Second Congressional District.

Since coming to Congress, JARED has served as a member of both the House Natural Resources and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committees, where he has been a leader in the fight to protect our nation's environment and public lands. JARED has had a long career of academic excellence, athletic achievements, and tireless dedication to public service. For all these reasons, he will be inducted into the UCSB Gauchito Hall of Fame on April 30, 2016.

I congratulate him on this well-deserved honor.

IN HONOR OF THE MONTEREY
SALINAS TRANSIT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Monterey Salinas Transit, located in Monterey, California, where the history of California state government began.

April 30, 2016 marks the 125th anniversary of the start of public transportation in Monterey County. On this date in 1891, the Monterey & Pacific Grove Street Railway system started service with horse drawn street cars operating on a series of rails laid in the existing road network. The rail network connected the world famous Del Monte Hotel, now the home of the world famous Naval Postgraduate School, through the Oak Grove neighborhood to downtown Monterey and the Presidio of Monterey via Del Monte Avenue to Alvarado, Munras, and Tyler Avenues. Those first transit passengers could continue on Lighthouse Avenue through New Monterey and end their journey at 17th street in downtown Pacific Grove. That first day of operation coincided with a visit from the 23rd President of the United States, Benjamin Harrison, who rode in a parade from Pacific Grove to the Del Monte Hotel.

The horse drawn streetcars ran for ten years until 1901 when they were replaced by an all electric powered street car fleet operated by the Monterey Gas & Electric Company in 1903. Electric streetcars ran in Monterey and what is now Seaside in a variety of forms through 1921, when the Monterey & Pacific Grove Railway was abandoned because it was unable to compete with more cost effective rubber-wheeled, internal combustion engine powered buses operated by the Bay Rapid Transit Company.

For the next 50 years, Bay Rapid Transit operated buses until the Monterey Peninsula Public Transit joint powers agency took over public operation of the transit system in September 1974. In July 1981, the MPT took over public transit operations for the City of Salinas forming the Monterey-Salinas Transit joint powers agency which eventually became the Monterey-Salinas Transit District in July 2010. At that time, the MST Board of Directors was expanded to include the cities of Gonzales, Greenfield, King City, Sand City and Soledad. MST continued to grow and passengers can now connect to neighboring Santa Cruz, Santa Clara and San Luis Obispo counties.

One hundred and twenty five years later, Monterey-Salinas Transit buses and its wirelessly powered electric trolley continue to operate along the original routes of the first horse drawn street cars. And, MST continues to provide the same level of exceptional service and value to everyone who lives, works or visits the beautiful Monterey Bay region that riders of yesteryear experienced. With ridership of 4.5 million passengers a year, MST is a regional transportation asset that continues to innovate and provide exceptional value and service for the next one hundred twenty five years.

CONGRATULATING KIM BROWN ON
HER RETIREMENT FROM THE
GRAPEVINE TEXAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kim Brown on her well-earned retirement from the Grapevine Police Department after serving over thirty years with the City of Grapevine, Texas.

Kim began her service with the City of Grapevine as a library aid and assistant where she worked for over three years before beginning her long and distinguished career with the Grapevine Police Department. Kim started with the Department as an Administration Clerk in 1989 and was soon promoted to Administration Division Secretary before eventually moving into the Criminal Investigations Division as an Investigative Assistant.

Since the beginning of her tenure in Grapevine, Kim has provided outstanding service to her community, which is apparent in the numerous commendations she has received while performing her duties. Most recently, Kim was awarded a Certificate of Merit in November, 2014, for her excellent performance.

Kim's exemplary work with the Criminal Investigation Division of the Grapevine Police Department has had a tremendous effect on the safety and security of Grapevine and the surrounding communities. Her legacy will leave a lasting mark on the City of Grapevine and the Grapevine Police Department for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize the contributions Kim has made to the City of Grapevine. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Kim Brown on her many years of service.

IN RECOGNITION OF iFOSTER

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the iFoster jobs program for foster youth. Each May, we recognize National Foster Care Month, when we acknowledge the unique challenges facing American youth in foster care. The campaign recognizes not only the foster youth, but also the foster parents, family members, child welfare professionals, volunteers, and members of our communities who help our children find foster placements, and ultimately transition successfully out of the foster care system.

One of the most significant challenges facing foster youth as they transition out of the foster care system involves finding meaningful employment. As a Member of the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth, I am committed to identifying strategies to improve the well-being, education and employment outcomes for our foster youth. For these reasons, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing iFoster's foster youth employment program.

The iFoster program launched in Placer County in May 2015 and has since expanded to Los Angeles County. Through a partnership with the grocery industry, it has developed an innovative employment program for transition age foster youth. The program provides participating youth with pre-employment skills training, employer matching, needed material resources, preferential hiring, on-the-job mentorship, and scholarship and career advancement activities. In its pilot year, the program has placed over 100 youth, and achieved a 100 percent hire rate and a 90 percent six-month retention rate for participating foster youth. I am pleased that this May, the program will be launching in Riverside, San Bernardino and Sacramento counties, before being replicated nationwide.

Mr. Speaker, in advance of iFoster's expansion next month, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring its work in the state of California.

FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH 2016

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of financial literacy month, which is observed in April of every year to emphasize the critical role consumer education plays in helping our constituents realize the American Dream.

Each year, too many Americans face difficulties purchasing automobiles, buying homes, paying for college, and even finding gainful employment due to poor credit history.

In fact, according to a 2014 American Bankers Association poll, 60 percent of Americans do not even know their own credit score.

As a member of the bipartisan Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus, I am proud to work tirelessly with my colleagues to improve consumer financial education.

That is why I introduced the Free Credit Score Act of 2016, H.R. 5058 to require the inclusion of a credit score in a consumer's free annual credit report.

During this Financial Literacy Month, I ask my colleagues to join me in the effort to improve consumer education by co-sponsoring this piece of legislation.

IN HONOR OF THE NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK 2016

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate May 1 through 7 as National Travel and Tourism Week 2016 and to honor the valuable contributions of the travel and tourism industry in the United States.

As co-chair of the Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus since 1997, I have long recognized the benefits tourism brings to our national economy. With this being my last year as co-chair of the tourism caucus, I rise to remind my colleagues that the travel and tourism industry generates nearly \$950 billion annually and is a top 10 industry in 49 states and the District of Columbia.

I rise to celebrate my local tourism industry that generates nearly \$3 billion a year in my congressional district, and to thank Tammy Blount of the Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau and Maggie Ivy of Visit Santa Cruz County for helping with that success.

I rise to celebrate an industry that supports more than 15 million jobs in the United States. That's 1 out of every 9 jobs related to tourism.

I rise to celebrate an industry that is America's largest services export industry, accounting for 10 percent of all U.S. exports of goods and services.

I rise to celebrate an industry that is present in every congressional district in the United

States, an industry where success can be found by anyone with a positive attitude, a willingness to serve others and a desire to work hard.

I rise to support this year's National Travel and Tourism Week as an opportunity to express to the nation the importance of travel in creating economic growth and opportunity, and enhancing the quality of life throughout the United States.

CELEBRATING THE 275TH ANNIVERSARY OF JERUSALEM WESTERN SALISBURY CHURCH

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to bring to the House's attention the 275th Anniversary of Jerusalem Western Salisbury Church located in Salisbury Township, Lehigh County. The church is a shared ministry congregation of the Lutheran and United Church of Christ denomination and has maintained that structure since its origins as a little, log church in 1741.

The original church was alternatively referred to as the "Schmaltzgass Church," "the Little Lehigh Church," or the "Manguntsche Church." It was a place of spiritual and cultural fellowship for the Lutheran and Reformed practitioners in the surrounding community.

During their 275 years in Lehigh County, the men and women of the Jerusalem Western Salisbury Church have remained active and involved participants within the area. They provide both spiritual and physical aid to those in need and are part of the fabric of our community. Jerusalem Western Salisbury Church's congregation provides strong support to those in need through Lehigh County's Conference of Churches and the Allentown Ecumenical Food Bank. Through their mission work and community engagement, they provide great service and support to those who are most in need.

I extend my thanks to the men and women of Jerusalem Western Salisbury Church for all that they do on a daily basis to make their church, their community, and Lehigh County a better, kinder place. I wish the congregation continued peace, joy, and fellowship on this happy anniversary.

HONORING ALICIA JARAMILLO

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor Alicia Jaramillo, a criminal division investigator with the Napa County District Attorney's Office. Ms. Jaramillo will honorably retire on May 6, 2016 after more than twenty-five years of public service.

Over her long career, Ms. Jaramillo has served the citizens of both Napa and Tulare counties on countless investigations and in assisting preparing felony cases for trial. She worked first with the Visalia Police Department, and then with the Bureau of Investiga-

tion of the Napa County District Attorney's Office. Ms. Jaramillo has demonstrated her commitment to her work and her clients by earning and maintaining several accreditations and certificates in law enforcement. As a full peace officer, the District Attorney's Office could rely on Ms. Jaramillo to respond to a call around the clock, and she has even travelled abroad to help her clients.

A true Napa County leader, Ms. Jaramillo has worked with many local organizations supporting peace officers, women, youth, and the Hispanic community. She sits on the board of directors for both Puertas Abiertas and the Napa County Hispanic Network, for which she previously served as President. In addition to her career accomplishments, her leadership has aided the Napa County Peace Officers' Association, the Napa Emergency Women's Services, the Woman Peace Officers' Association of California, the COPE Family Center, the Napa County Youth and Gang Violence Commission, the City of Napa Advisory Council, and the California Peace Officers' Memorial. Her service to these associations speaks volumes about her character and dedication to improving the lives of her neighbors.

We hope that Ms. Jaramillo will be able to spend time with her family in her retirement, including her husband of thirty years, Joe, and her three children, Eric, Aaron, and Jasmine.

Mr. Speaker, Alicia Jaramillo has dedicated her long and remarkable career to public service in Napa County. It is fitting and proper that we honor her here today, and wish her the best in retirement.

TRIBUTE TO KALLAN PAULSEN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Kallan Paulsen. Kallan, a sophomore from Bondurant-Farrar High School was recently selected as the winner of the Congressional Art Competition from Iowa's 3rd Congressional District. She is the daughter of Jon and Darla Paulsen of Bondurant, Iowa.

An Artistic Discovery, the Congressional Art Competition is open nationwide to high school students. Since 1982, the competition has been an opportunity for Members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. A panel of 16 judges, one from each county in Iowa's 3rd Congressional District, reviewed over 70 submissions from schools throughout the district.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Kallan for her hard work and the artistic talents which she demonstrates. It is an honor to represent her and her parents in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating her for this outstanding accomplishment and in wishing her nothing but continued success as she continues her education.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIETNAM WAR AND THE UNITED STATES VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION PROGRAM HOSTED BY FIRST MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH IN DUMFRIES ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2016

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War and the United States Vietnam War Commemoration Program hosted by First Mount Zion Baptist Church in Dumfries on Sunday, February 28, 2016.

In recognition of more than a decade of combat by land, air, and sea, Congress authorized the Secretary of Defense through the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act, to conduct a program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War and to honor the more than 3 million service members and their families for their heroic service and sacrifice.

Through the facilitation of programs and activities at the local, state, and federal levels of government in partnership with community-based groups and organizations, more than 4,700 Vietnam War commemorative programs involving 9,514 partners have been scheduled throughout the nation. Each commemorative program is designed to meet or exceed the following objectives:

To thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War, including personnel who were held as prisoners of war (POW), or listed as missing in action (MIA), for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States and to thank and honor the families of these veterans.

To highlight the service of the Armed Forces during the Vietnam War and the contributions of federal agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations that served with, or in support of, the Armed Forces.

To pay tribute to the contributions made on the homefront by the people of the United States during the Vietnam War.

To highlight the advances in technology, science, and medicine related to military research conducted during the Vietnam War.

To recognize the contributions and sacrifices made by the allies of the United States during the Vietnam War.

One of these programs is being hosted by First Mount Zion Baptist Church, located in the 11th District of Virginia. Approximately 130 members of the church left their homes and their loved ones, risking their lives to serve our country during the 13-year span of the Vietnam War. I commend the leadership and the 4,300 current members of First Mount Zion Baptist Church for sponsoring a Vietnam War commemoration program to honor and thank these men and women and their families who sacrificed so much.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War and the United States Commemoration Program at First Mount Zion Baptist Church. Today we reaffirm our commitment to always honor and celebrate the members of our Armed Services, especially those men and women who served with distinction

and valiantly defended this nation in that long and arduous war.

HONORING VIETNAM WAR
VETERANS

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the veterans of the Vietnam War. As we commemorate its 50th anniversary, we must never forget the brave men and women who served our country from 1962 to 1975.

I am proud to represent a large veteran community. Almost a third of the 1.58 million veterans who live in my home state of Florida served in the Vietnam War. Palm Beach and Broward Counties are home to 157,000 veterans, more than 50,000 of whom served in Vietnam.

As a mother of a veteran who served during wartime, I understand the sacrifices made by these service men and women and their families. These veterans deserve our respect and gratitude.

I am proud to be here today to thank these Vietnam War Veterans for their service. We will never forget your courage.

IN MEMORY OF SERGIO KLOR
DEALVA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sergio Klor DeAlva. Members take the floor more regularly than we would like, to speak to the value of our friends, mentors and constituents who have left us in this life. But it is always more difficult when we speak of members of our family. Sergio is a member of the Farr family who was taken from us in a tragic car accident late Monday night.

Sergio served as an intern in my office. He was such a unique spirit. Engaging, kind and ever helpful. One of our staff fondly remembers watching Sergio engage with my constituents on tours and in the office and enjoying the smile and sense of humor he brought to every situation.

Upon leaving us, he returned to UC Santa Cruz where he ran for and won a place on the student council. He later would volunteer his time as a part of the campaign team of our colleague, MIKE HONDA. At 24, he had amassed a resume that spoke to the dedication and passion he had for civil service in whatever community he found himself. I was and continue to be impressed with this young man's ambition. His future would have undoubtedly been one of public service. We need more men and women like Sergio.

Upon leaving my office, interns are asked to participate in an exit interview. In this interview, the very last question asks if there is anything we should be left with. Sergio answered this question in the form of a self composed poem.

Mr. Speaker, I close with a quote from my young intern.

"I cannot tell the future
but I can see mine here
But until that day
Know
that I will miss this place."
Rest assured, Sergio, this place will miss you too.

CONGRATULATING REVEREND
STAN SLOAN ON THE OCCASION
OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM CHI-
CAGO HOUSE

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Reverend Stan Sloan, the longest-serving CEO in the history of Chicago House and honor his service to the Chicago LGBTQ community.

Rev. Sloan joined Chicago House in 2000 and in his 16 years of dedication and hard work, has quadrupled the amount of services offered at the agency. Reverend Sloan led the effort to establish the Midwest's first HIV/AIDS Employment Initiative and developed a city-wide Center for Disease Control Prevention Program. In addition, Rev. Sloan and Chicago House have opened the nation's first and most comprehensive center for Transgender services—including housing, employment, medical, and legal components at the Translife Center on Chicago's northside.

Last year, Rev. Sloan came to DC and led a Congressional Briefing entitled "The Economics of Equality", in which he shared his years of experience to highlight the prevalence of poverty in the LGBTQ community. Always a man of action, most recently Rev. Sloan conceived of and launched the groundbreaking effort Proud2Share, designed to promote community and philanthropic giving within the LGBTQ community to fight poverty and homelessness.

His efforts in HIV/AIDS and poverty have been recognized by being selected the award recipient for the Illinois Department of Public Health Red Ribbon Award as well as the AIDS Legal Council of Chicago Advocate of the Year Award. In 2010, Rev. Sloan was inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

The importance of charity and philanthropy can never be understated. Empathy, drive, and compassion are what make a great leader, and the community owes a debt of gratitude to Rev. Stan Sloan.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Reverend Stan Sloan for his tireless dedication to the LGBTQ community throughout his long and storied career. I urge my colleagues in congratulating Reverend Stan Sloan for all the work he has done both in the great city of Chicago and throughout our great nation.

TRIBUTE TO CLAYTON SAEUGLING

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Clayton

Saeugling of Atlantic, Iowa, for receiving the highest Iowa Future Farmers of America (FFA) Award, the Iowa Farmer Degree Award. Clayton serves as President of the Atlantic Future Farmers of America Chapter.

Clayton said it is an honor to receive this award and "it can be something that younger members look up to for receiving it." Clayton has been active in the local FFA Chapter, focusing his activities on agronomy and livestock judging. He hopes to work and be a part of agriculture after he completes his studies at Iowa State University. His field of study will include animal science and agronomy. Clayton said his experiences in agriculture and activities in the FFA Chapter have broadened and enhanced his interest for a career. He enjoys meeting other FFA students from other competitions and exploring their experiences in agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Clayton for earning this award. It is with great pride that I recognize him today. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in honoring his accomplishments and in wishing him nothing but continued success in his future endeavors in agriculture.

INTRODUCTION OF THE JUMPSTART HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES UTILIZING SMALL ENTERPRISES ACT OF 2016

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, recent studies show that 21.3 million households pay more than 30 percent of their incomes towards rental housing, up from 14.8 million in 2001. In turn, the demand for low-cost rental housing has increased as the supply of affordable rental units has decreased. Nationwide, there is a shortage of affordable housing options available to low- and middle-income Americans. That is why I am introducing the Jumpstart Housing Opportunities Utilizing Small Enterprises Act of 2016 or Jumpstart HOUSE Act.

In 2010, President Obama signed the Small Business Jobs Act, P.L. 111-240, which created the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI). Funded with \$1.5 billion, the SSBCI disperses funds to participating states who in turn use credit support programs and state-sponsored venture capital programs to award funding to small businesses. Without reauthorization, the SSBCI is set to expire at the end of FY17. The Jumpstart HOUSE Act would reauthorize the SSBCI program for an additional 8 years with \$1.5 billion in new funding. Additionally, it will improve the program by requiring state business development agencies to set aside the lesser of \$2.5 million or 10 percent of unobligated funds, for small businesses to purchase, rehabilitate, or operate affordable housing units.

Since its inception, the SSBCI program has created or retained over 140,000 jobs, as well as, supported over 12,400 private sector loans to small businesses, 42 percent of which were made to low- and moderate-income communities. As we continually look for ways to advance economic growth, it is critically important to renew the SSBCI program to increase

availability of credit for small businesses, generate jobs, and stimulate economic development. It also is critically important to improve the program by amending it to direct funds to job-creating small businesses that focus on increasing the stock of affordable housing units. The Jumpstart HOUSE Act would accomplish both of these goals.

The SSBCI program has demonstrated proven success in leveraging federal dollars to generate private access to capital for small businesses. Let's build off of SSBCI's success and extend it to increasing the supply of affordable housing nationwide.

I urge my colleagues to become a co-sponsor of the Jumpstart Housing Opportunities Utilizing Small Enterprises Act of 2016.

RECOGNIZING SALLY LAY FOR HER COMMITMENT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARTS IN GREATER PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mrs. Sally Lay who was recognized during the 6th Annual Hylton Performing Arts Center Awards Gala for dedicating her career to expanding the reach of the arts in Greater Prince William County.

Prior to her retirement in August 2015, Mrs. Lay served as the executive director of the Center for the Arts for 28 years. During her tenure, she spearheaded a five-year campaign to garner the support of the community and the public sector for the restoration of the old Hopkins Candy Factory in the City of Manassas. Her efforts paid off, and since 2002, the Center for the Arts has called the Candy Factory home. Signature programs include The Pied Piper Children's Theatre, Pied Piper Theatre Camps, Rooftop Productions, the Merchant Family Art Gallery, the Summer Sounds Concerts, and extensive arts education classes, many of which are hosted at the Hylton Performing Arts Center today.

In the midst of her demanding schedule, Mrs. Lay found time to serve on the board of directors for the Prince William County/Manassas Convention & Visitors Bureau and Leadership Prince William. Today, she remains actively engaged with the Rotary Club of Manassas and serves on the board of directors for the Prince William County Arts Council and Virginians for the Arts.

Mrs. Lay's deep roots in the community have served the residents of Greater Prince William County well. Over the course of her career, Mrs. Lay has received well-deserved recognition for her endless contributions, including receiving the Prince William County Arts Council/Prince William Chamber of Commerce Seefeldt Pioneer Award in 2005 and the Woman of the Year for the Greater Prince William Christmas Day Parade in 2011.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the 6th Annual Hylton Performing Arts Awards Gala honoree, Mrs. Sally Lay, for being a tireless champion of the Arts in Greater Prince William County.

CELEBRATING SHIRLEY DRINKARD ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Mrs. Shirley Drinkard. She will be celebrating her 100th Birthday on May 12, 2016.

Shirley Drinkard was born in Argonia, Kansas in 1916. Shirley was one of five siblings and during her childhood, the family would go fishing every Saturday night. When Shirley was 23 years old, she moved to Fulton, MO. Shirley graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education from Wichita University. Later, Shirley finished out her education with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Home Economics and a Master's Degree in Economics, both received from the University of Missouri—Columbia.

Shirley married Paul Drinkard, who was a WWII Veteran, when she was 30 years old, and they remained married for 35 years. Shirley and Paul had one son, Eddie Drinkard, one grandson, James Drinkard, and one great-granddaughter, Billie Drinkard.

Shirley worked for the University of Missouri Extension in Columbia, Missouri. She was the home economics teacher and department coordinator for 37 years. The University of Missouri also had Shirley teach business finance to local organizations.

Shirley always appreciated the opportunity to travel to numerous countries including: Italy, Canada, Spain, and Denmark. Shirley enjoys many hobbies which include: fishing, dancing, reading, playing cards and the piano. Over the years Shirley has continued to stay in contact with the University of Missouri Extension.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Mrs. Drinkard on her 100th Birthday Celebration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed Roll Call vote number 164 regarding "H.R. 4820: Combating Terrorist Recruitment Act of 2016." Had I been present, I would have voted "No."

I missed Roll Call vote number 165 regarding "H.R. 4096: Investor Clarity and Bank Parity Act." Had I been present, I would have voted "Yea."

IN RECOGNITION OF WENDY SPENCER

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Wendy Spencer, Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National Community Service (CNCS). As the Co-Chair of the National Service Congressional Caucus,

it is my pleasure to recognize Ms. Spencer for her leadership and dedicated commitment to service programs.

Wendy Spencer was nominated by President Obama and was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate in April 2012. Under her leadership, CNCS has launched new public-private partnerships, including FEMA Corps, School Turnaround AmeriCorps, STEM AmeriCorps, Justice AmeriCorps, and Financial Opportunity Corps. Wendy has also increased the agency's focus on reaching veterans and military families, overseen the national service response for many severe disasters, and strengthened relationships with public officials and local leaders.

Wendy Spencer's efforts to engage local leaders includes creating the annual Mayor and County Recognition Day for National Service, where city mayors, county officials and tribal leaders express their appreciation for Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and volunteerism in general. When first launched in 2013, the Mayor and County Recognition Day for National Service included 830 city mayors and local officials recognizing and celebrating service across the country. On April 5, 2016, 3,539 mayors, county officials and tribal leaders participated in the Mayor and County Recognition Day for National Service—making it the largest one day gathering among public officials in history.

Through her innovative leadership and collaboration, Wendy Spencer has led national service programs in transforming lives and improving communities while implementing local solutions. Wendy Spencer is a pioneer of national service. Mr. Speaker, as community members, and various national and state community service leaders gather at OneOC in Orange County, California, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Wendy Spencer for her significant contributions and commitment to the Corporation for National Community Service (CNCS).

HONORING MAYOR ROBERT
BEUTTER FOR A DISTINGUISHED
CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize former Mayor of Mishawaka Robert Beutter, and honor his many years of public service to the City of Mishawaka and our nation.

Mayor Beutter was born in Mishawaka, Indiana on April 6, 1935. He attended Indiana University and earned degrees in business administration and law. After graduating from law school, he joined the U.S. Army and served as a Captain in the Judge Advocate General Corps.

In 1972, Beutter became a member of the City of Mishawaka's Legal Staff, serving for 8 years. In 1984, he was first elected Mayor, and would serve five terms totaling 20 years. Upon completion of his time as Mayor, Beutter became the Assistant City Attorney where he served another 8 years until 2012.

Bob Beutter is a fixture in our community. He has been active on boards and in leadership roles for the Mishawaka Food Pantry;

Boy Scouts of America; Salvation Army Kroc Center; Mishawaka Kiwanis Club; and Salvation Army Advisory Board.

He has received such honors as the Community Service and Leadership Award by the Boy Scouts of America; two Sagamore of the Wabash awards by two different governors; the American Legion Post 161's Veteran of the Year; and was named an Honorary Graduate from Bethel College.

Given all of Beutter's service to the community, it was only fitting that the City of Mishawaka's riverfront park was named after him, as it is the focal point of our community.

Beutter and his wife Mary have been married for 55 years. Together, they have helped build and grow Mishawaka. I want to thank them both for their service and sacrifice to help make our community a better place.

HONORING MR. RALPH KEECHLER

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ralph Keechler, who has served the City of Sonoma, California and the Sonoma Valley Fire and Rescue Authority (SVFRA) for 60 years. In addition to his own volunteerism, Mr. Keechler has passed on his passion for service to his son, Joseph. Together, Ralph and Joseph Keechler have volunteered with the SVFRA for a remarkable 100 years combined.

Mr. Keechler is a Sonoma native, and served in World War II with the 75th Infantry Division. During his military service, Mr. Keechler participated in the Battle of the Bulge and earned the rank of Corporal. He has also been an active member of the Native Sons of the Golden West for 71 years, promoting and preserving California's history and landmarks for future generations.

His work with the Sonoma Valley Fire and Rescue Authority ensures fire, rescue, and emergency medical services to Sonoma and surrounding communities. Mr. Keechler currently serves as Division Chief of SVFRA, guaranteeing his experience informs the organization's operations.

Mr. Keechler has been a true leader in the Sonoma community. He and his late wife of 50 years, Barbara Keechler, have passed along their passion for service to their three children, Christine, Joseph, and Karen.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Keechler has dedicated his time and knowledge to serving his community for six decades, and Ralph and Joseph Keechler's unique contribution of a combined century of volunteerism is an inspiring example to our country. Therefore, it is fitting and proper to honor him here today.

TRIBUTE TO DUPONT PIONEER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a great Iowa company, DuPont Pioneer of Johnston, Iowa as they celebrate their 90th anniversary.

Founded in 1926 by former United States Vice President Henry A. Wallace, the Hi-Bred Corn Company, as it was originally known, set out to share the promise of hybrid seeds for all farmers. Early on, Wallace recognized hybrid seeds could offer tremendous value through higher yields and increased profitability for farmers. His instincts were right and his knowledge and understanding of corn genetics completely changed the manner in which crops were grown in the United States.

Today, DuPont Pioneer employs 13,000 people globally and partners with generations of loyal customers. This iconic company has grown from a small research facility in Johnston, Iowa, to a multi-billion dollar company serving customers in over 90 countries worldwide. With 2 million seed production acres and 100 research and development facilities around the world, DuPont has left a lasting impact on the State of Iowa and the agricultural industry.

Mr. Speaker, over the last 90 years DuPont Pioneer has left an indelible mark on the agriculture industry. Their innovation and forward thinking increases yields and food production around the world to feed a growing population. I commend DuPont Pioneer and their employees for a job well done. I also ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in honoring this company for their unwavering commitment to agriculture and the state of Iowa. I wish DuPont Pioneer and their employees nothing but continued success in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING NOVEC FOR ITS
COMMITMENT TO THE RESI-
DENTS OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative (NOVEC), which was recognized during the 6th Annual Hylton Center for Performing Arts Awards Gala for its commitment to supporting communities in Northern Virginia.

Founded on January 1, 1983, the not-for-profit distribution cooperative provides electrical services to more than 160,000 homes and businesses located in Clarke, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Stafford, and Prince William counties, the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park, and the Town of Clifton. As one of the largest electric cooperatives of its kind in the United States, NOVEC's service territory spans 651 square miles. Over the past 33 years, NOVEC has achieved and maintained excellence in the areas of safety, customer satisfaction, and technology management, showcasing an extensive record of efficiency and productivity. Their service is consistently ranked the best in the region, averaging a 99.99 percent average system reliability over the past 5 years. As a cooperative, NOVEC's customers have an ownership interest, and therefore, share in any profits generated by the company. These profits are allocated annually to improve the health and well-being of customer-owners and community residents.

NOVEC is invested in the community with emphasis placed in the areas of corporate sponsorship, community volunteerism, and

customer outreach. Displaying its commitment to active community engagement, NOVEC reaches beyond the power lines and invests in the community. Customers and members of the general public are invited to take advantage of the services and resources offered by NOVEC, including financial scholarships, legislative tours to expose youth to the federal and state legislative processes, and hands-on engagement through volunteerism.

NOVEC works to inspire and empower the people it serves to take an active role in their community. A time-tested initiative is Operation Round-Up. Program participants voluntarily have their bill rounded up to the next dollar to assist local families who have fallen on hard times to pay for their winter heating bills through donations to heating-assistance programs at six local social service agencies. Since the establishment of Operation Round-Up in 1997, the program has generated close to \$750,000 in heating assistance. Another initiative unique to NOVEC is its relationship with the Hylton Performing Arts Center. NOVEC continues to serve as an instrumental partner through its constant support of the Hylton Center's artists and initiatives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing NOVEC as the 6th Annual Hylton Performing Arts Awards Gala honoree for its involvement and investment in the residents of Northern Virginia.

HONORING MR. JOSEPH KEECHLER

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Joseph Keechler, who has volunteered with the City of Sonoma, California and the Sonoma Valley Fire and Rescue Authority (SVFRA) for 40 years. Mr. Keechler inherited his passion for service to his father, Ralph. Together, Joseph and Ralph Keechler have volunteered with the SVFRA for a remarkable 100 years combined.

Building on his family's roots in Sonoma, Mr. Keechler has developed his own strong ties to the area. He earned his Associate's Degree from Santa Rosa Junior College, and with his wife Susan, raised her children, Sam and Jack, in his hometown.

With his long history of service to our community, Mr. Keechler serves as a reliable and trusted leader in Sonoma. He has earned the rank of Captain with the Sonoma Valley Fire and Rescue Authority, serving as a leader of the organization that ensures fire, rescue, and emergency medical services to Sonoma and surrounding communities. Furthermore, Mr. Keechler serves on the Board of the Sonoma Volunteer Firefighters' Association, sharing his firsthand experience for the benefit of other volunteers.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Keechler has dedicated his time and knowledge to serving his community for four decades, and Joseph and Ralph Keechler's unique contribution of a combined century of volunteerism is an inspiring example to our country. Therefore, it is fitting and proper to honor him here today.

HONORING WORCESTER COMMUNITY LEADER MARGARET "PEGGY" MIDDAGH

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the accomplishments of a remarkable community leader and environmental advocate from my district, Margaret "Peggy" Middaugh.

Peggy Middaugh's service in Worcester began when she joined the Regional Environmental Council as Executive Director in 1997. Serving in that role for 11 years, Peggy helped to transform REC from a small, volunteer-led organization into one of the region's leading environmental groups.

One of Peggy's signature accomplishments with the REC was creating the Youth Environmental Service Corps. that connected urban youth with nature by providing opportunities for them to hike and maintain Worcester's trails. This program eventually merged with urban gardens to create YouthGROW, an urban agriculture-focused youth development and employment program for low-income teens. YouthGROW currently employs low-income high school teens year-round, giving them the opportunity to gain leadership and jobs skills as they maintain two urban organic farms. Hundreds of youth have graduated from YouthGROW since its inception in 2002.

Under her leadership, the REC built on its foundation of good work and expanded its focus into areas of environmental justice, urban agriculture, toxic use reduction, community gardens and youth development and leadership.

Peggy also built partnerships with state and local officials to implement a Toxic Use Reduction program that focused on educating residents in low income neighborhoods about how to reduce their exposure to household toxics, especially household cleaners and lead. The REC also developed Worcester's first Climate Action Plan under Peggy's leadership.

Peggy has served in a wide range of roles over the years, and the truth is, no matter where she is, Peggy is making a difference. She helped form the Friends of the Five Mile River, established recycling centers in Stow and North Brookfield, and as the outreach coordinator for the Massachusetts Watershed Coalition and a Conservation Commissioner for the Town of North Brookfield; she worked hard to help pass the Massachusetts Rivers Protection Act of 1996.

Peggy has also worked diligently to bring together leaders from different parts of the community to address issues of hunger and food justice. She played a leading role in establishing "UGROW"—a grassroots, citywide community garden network. Today, Worcester has sixty two community gardens, eighteen of which are at city schools, as well as half a dozen urban orchards.

In response to the infestation of the invasive Asian Longhorn Beetle in Central Massachusetts, which led to the destruction of large portions of our urban forest, Peggy founded the Worcester Tree Initiative and acted as its Executive Director until her recent retirement. Under her leadership, the Worcester Tree Ini-

tiative brought together government, community and business leaders to develop and implement a plan that resulted in the planting of more than 30,000 trees in Worcester and the surrounding communities.

In addition to her work with the Regional Environmental Council and the Worcester Tree Initiative, Peggy has also been active in many community organizations and efforts through her roles as a founding member of the Blackstone Headwaters Coalition; on the Board of Directors of the Family Health Center of Worcester and the Main South Community Development Corporation; as a leader with the Castle Park Task Force; and as a volunteer for the homeless with the Interfaith Hospitality Network.

Peggy has made everything that she has touched better. She is a shining example of what a truly dedicated public servant can achieve. And although Peggy is moving on to new challenges, just like the urban orchards she helped to establish, her contributions to my district will continue to grow and bear fruit for years to come.

RECOGNIZING KENNETH MIKA, MATTHEW MOLLOY, AND COURTNEY PAUL

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kenneth Mika, Matthew Molloy, and Courtney Paul for their hard work and dedication to the people of Colorado's Sixth District as interns in my Washington, D.C. office for the spring of the 114th Congress, Second Session.

The work of these young men and women has been exemplary and I know they all have bright futures. They served as tour guides, interacted with constituents, and learned a great deal about our nation's legislative process. I was glad to be able to offer this educational opportunity to these three and look forward to seeing them build their careers in public service.

All three of our interns have made plans to continue their education and professional occupations in Washington, D.C. and throughout the United States. I am certain they will succeed in their new roles and wish them all the best in their future endeavors. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Kenneth Mika, Matthew Molloy, and Courtney Paul for their service this spring.

CONGRATULATING ZACK AND BRIE SMITHEY OF MISS AIMEE B'S TEA ROOM & GALLERY FOR RECEIVING THE CITY OF ST. CHARLES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT 2016 EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR AWARD—SERVICE CATEGORY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor constituents of mine, Zack and

Brie Smitley. They are owners of Miss Aimee B's Tea Room & Gallery and are receiving the 2016 Employer of the Year Award, in the Service Category from the City of St. Charles Economic Development Department.

There is historical significance as Miss Aimee B's Tea Room and Gallery is in the National Register of Historic Places. Miss Aimee B's Tea Room and Gallery (the Marten/Becker House) remained in the family until 1982 when Miss Aimee Marie Louise Becker bequeathed it to the St. Charles County Historical Society. In 1991, Sherry Pfander and Judy purchased the Marten-Becker House from the St. Charles County Historical Society to start a business selling local arts and crafts. In January 2014, locals Zack and Brie Smitley proudly purchased the wonderful Miss Aimee B's Tea Room & Gallery. Miss Aimee B's takes pride in displaying local artists and crafters work in its upstairs shops.

Since the year 2014, Miss Aimee B's has increased sales by 20 percent. Zack and Brie also work to repurpose, rebuild, and preserve the historical energy of the house. This practice honors the City of St. Charles efforts to preserve its historical Main Street. Miss Aimee B's employees are dedicated, knowledgeable, and well respected. These employees are what make Miss Aimee B's an enjoyable place to visit. Employees of Miss Aimee B's are encouraged to spend time with their families and friends, deepen their faith, lead healthy lifestyles, be kind to others, and to always show warm hospitality.

Miss Aimee B's is a proud contributor to the St. Charles Community. The house donates food, gift cards, and time to local galas, churches, animal shelters and families in need. In addition, Zack Smitley has raised thousands of dollars for local charities with his personal art pieces. Miss Aimee B's has also donated hundreds to local charities and holds charitable events for nonprofit organizations and individuals in need.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Miss Aimee B's for its accomplishment in the 2016 Employer of the Year Award—Service Category.

RECOGNIZING CURRENT AND FORMER PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY POLICE OFFICERS WHO ASSISTED AND SUPPORTED THE LOSS TEAM

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the Prince William County Police Department for its invaluable participation in the Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors (or LOSS) team. On January 27, 2012, Action in Community Through Service (or ACTS) of Prince William, Inc. signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Prince William County Police Department to collaborate on the creation of a LOSS team.

The team is comprised of trained volunteers and staff who are accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week through the ACTS Helpline. Since entering into the formal agreement with ACTS, members of the Prince William County Police Department have diligently

supported this program by immediately contacting the LOSS team upon notification of deaths by suicide to the Criminal Investigations Division—Violent Crimes Bureau. The LOSS team then disseminates information about available community resources and provides ongoing support to people grieving the loss of a friend or loved one to suicide.

Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States for all ages; homicide ranks 17th. For every suicide, at least, six other lives are impacted. By ensuring survivors receive the support that is desperately needed, the LOSS team in partnership with the Prince William County Police Department helps individuals weather their grief and take steps to rebuilding their lives. Just knowing that they are not alone helps give the surviving families the strength to go on. Without the dedication and leadership of the Prince William County Police Department, the LOSS team would not be able to sustain its successful first response program that continues to positively impact the lives of Prince William County residents each day.

It is my honor to submit the following names of current and former Prince William County Police Officers who have assisted and supported the LOSS program: Dan Carton, Brian Cavanaugh, Brian Coady, Darien Cupka, Dan Downey, Mike Fernald, Ben Grantham, Ray Hyatt, Rob Kasper, Joe Medawar, Juan Pena (deceased), Gina Pinedo, Astrid Robinson, Caillen Smith, Mike Sullivan, and Gary Van Dyke.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these Prince William County police officers for their tireless commitment to our community, the newly bereaved, ACTS, and the Prince William LOSS team.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KIWANIS CLUB OF COLUMBUS

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Kiwanis Club of Columbus for celebrating its 100th year of serving the community.

Kiwanis International is a global volunteer organization with more than 8,000 clubs worldwide in over 80 countries. With a focus on serving children, members collectively organize nearly 150,000 service projects and raise nearly \$100 million every year in their communities.

As the fifth oldest club in the organization, The Kiwanis Club of Columbus was founded in 1916 and has been steadfast in its service for a century. The Club has been involved in a variety of projects in downtown Columbus, ranging from helping the homeless to providing scholarships to area students. While many of the members of The Kiwanis Club of Columbus are busy professionals, they commit to making time in their schedules to participate in these and other service projects, and to give back to our great community.

I would like to thank members of The Kiwanis Club of Columbus, past and present, for all they have done, especially for our kids. I also would like to congratulate them for reaching their Centennial Year.

CONGRATULATING KIM BARK OF COMPLETE TRUCK & RV REPAIR FOR RECEIVING THE CITY OF ST. CHARLES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT 2016 EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR AWARD—JOHN HECK AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Kim Bark. She is the owner of Complete Truck & RV Repair and is receiving the 2016 Employer of the Year Award—John Heck Award from the City of St. Charles Economic Development Department.

When Complete Truck & RV Repair opened as a family-run business in 2013, it had ten employees. Now, the shop is staffed by 22 employees and has been able to add Restoration, Fabrication, Auto & RV Detailing, and Towing Services. The Barks family also added another location for RV storage to continue serving their customers.

To say that Complete Truck & RV Repair contributes to the St. Charles community would almost be an understatement. Kim and her father are passionate about animals and built a dog park for guests who come to service their vehicles. Kim is also a supporter of the organization Dogs on Duty, Five Acres Animal Shelter, and the Humane Society.

Another part of Complete Truck & RV Repair's community outreach is its contribution to the St. Charles' Backstoppers. Kim's father has helped the Backstoppers raise money for over 15 years. Complete Truck & RV Repair is hosting the 1st Annual Backstoppers Summer Dance June 24th at the Machinists' Hall to continue this fundraising effort. The Barks and their repair business work year round to raise awareness for the Backstoppers. The business owns a fire truck, named Red. Red travels around town to various fire houses to promote awareness of the Backstoppers fund. Red also can be seen in various city parades.

Complete Truck & RV Repair hires veterans and is part of the Hire Heroes Program. The business honors veterans by giving them a discount. It currently has five veterans employed on the Complete Truck & RV Repair staff. Complete Truck & RV Repair also gives Police Officers, EMS, and Firefighters a discount on services.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Complete Truck & RV Repair for its accomplishment as the 2016 Employer of the Year Award—John Heck Award.

NATIONAL INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for National Infertility Awareness Week, which has been federally recognized since 2010.

Infertility is a disease of the reproductive system that affects men and women equally,

and millions of people—as many as 12 percent of reproductive-aged couples in America—suffer from this devastating disease, unable to start a family.

The good news is that treatment for infertility has advanced sharply in the last two decades, and includes in vitro fertilization, now considered the standard of care for many couples being treated for infertility.

Despite such 21st century advances, only 15 states currently provide coverage for even basic treatment for infertility.

It is my hope that National Infertility Awareness Week will encourage honest and candid dialogue among lawmakers and health professionals, in an effort to seek cures that will allow every American the opportunity to have a family.

Mr. Speaker, in concluding, I want to congratulate RESOLVE, the nation's oldest fertility advocacy organization, for the brilliant work they are doing to raise awareness about infertility.

HONORING THE 2016 VIENNA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Vienna Business Association (VBA) and to congratulate the incoming 2016 board members.

Vienna is known for its local charm and strong small business community. Money Magazine and CNN have both rated Vienna as one of the best places to live in the United States. The vibrant community spirit exhibited by its residents and local businesses has fostered an exceptional quality of life that is sought out by so many.

The Vienna Business Association is the voice of the greater Vienna business community. It promotes business opportunities and development through networking and increased interaction between the commercial and residential communities within the town. Its members help maintain Vienna's small town feel by hosting and supporting many annual community events.

The VBA has thrived thanks to the diversity of its members and the leadership of its Board. I am pleased to submit the following names of the incoming 2016 board members:

2016 Chairman of the Board: George Creed.

Incoming Board Members: Mary Kay Claus, Kathy Georgen, Jeff Bollettino, Agnes Wasowski, James Cudney, Tracy Murphy, Michael Amouri.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the incoming board members and in commending the Vienna Business Association for their commitment to promoting the business community while encouraging social responsibility. I wish them continued success in all their future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF DALE EARNHARDT'S 65TH BIRTHDAY

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, it's no secret that I'm a huge supporter of NASCAR. In fact, I'm fortunate to represent Charlotte Motor Speedway, "The Rock" in Rockingham, many NASCAR teams, and the best fans in the world.

That's why I'm here today to pay tribute to NASCAR champion, Kannapolis, North Carolina native and my all-time favorite driver, Dale Earnhardt.

"The Intimidator" would have been 65 years old today, and I want to ask my fellow North Carolinians and racing enthusiasts to join me in celebrating his life and career.

A legend on and off the track, Dale lived the American Dream. He came from humble beginnings in Kannapolis, North Carolina and worked hard to become one of NASCAR's greatest heroes.

He earned seven NASCAR Winston Cup championships, tying "The King," Richard Petty. And through his success, he remained a man of the people who always gave back to the community he loved.

From his debut at Charlotte Motor Speedway in 1975, to his last NASCAR championship that he secured with a win at "The Rock" in 1994, to his final laps at the Daytona 500—battling to keep two cars he owned in the lead—Dale faced every obstacle and opportunity with unmatched courage, passion, determination and a tremendous sense of humor.

There's no question that Dale Earnhardt left a lasting impression on motorsports, on our community, and on NASCAR fans like me. Happy birthday, Number 3.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, the weeks of April 18th and April 25th, I was unavoidably detained and missed several votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on Roll Call No. 155, "no" on Roll Call No. 156, "no" on Roll Call No. 157, "no" on Roll Call No. 158, "yea" on Roll Call No. 159, "no" on Roll Call No. 160, "no" on Roll Call No. 161, "no" on Roll Call No. 162, "yea" on Roll Call No. 163, "yea" on Roll Call No. 164, "yea" on Roll Call No. 165, "yea" on Roll Call No. 166, "yea" on Roll Call No. 167, "no" on Roll Call No. 168, "no" on Roll Call No. 169, "yes" on Roll Call No. 170, "no" on Roll Call No. 171, "yea" on Roll Call No. 172, "no" on Roll Call No. 173, and "no" on Roll Call No. 174.

CONGRATULATING DAVID AND DEBBY SPETNAGEL OF FLEET FEET SPORTS FOR RECEIVING THE CITY OF ST. CHARLES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT 2016 EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR AWARD—RETAIL CATEGORY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor constituents of mine, David and Debby Spetnagel. They are owners of Fleet Feet Sports and are receiving the 2016 Employer of the Year Award, in the Retail Category from the City of St. Charles Economic Development Department.

Fleet Feet Sports opened its doors on April 12, 1993 and since then has been successfully serving the community. Since the first store opening in 1993, five additional stores have been opened. In 2001, Fleet Feet Sports opened its Chesterfield location. In 2008, Fleet Feet Sports welcomed a new store in South St. Louis County. On Fleet Feet Sports' 20th anniversary, David and Debby Spetnagel opened another store in Des Peres. The most recent store openings were in Town & Country in 2014 and O'Fallon in 2015.

Over the last several years, Fleet Feet Sports has maintained consistent sales while adding 24 new employees in 2015. Employees of Fleet Feet Sports are recognized throughout their time with the company by the owners, David and Debby Spetnagel. With this type of employee recognition, it cultivates the spirit of strong customer service which positively affects their business and creates continued successes.

Fleet Feet Sports has faced many challenges over the years. Overcoming a very competitive retail and run specialty market and adapting to an ever-pressing e-commerce environment were two of the hardest struggles faced by owners, David and Debby Spetnagel. To overcome these challenges, Fleet Feet Sports has had to consistently seek better ways to recognize and serve their customers as well as keeping their website and digital offerings up-to-date.

Fleet Feet Sports' dedication to the community is made evident by the various events it sponsors. The company hosts free social runs in the St. Charles area as well as Frontier Park. Throughout various donations of shoes and apparel, Fleet Feet Sports impacts numerous lives in the local community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Fleet Feet Sports for its accomplishment as the 2016 Employer of the Year Award—Retail Category.

CELEBRATING CARLOS ELIAS, SUPERINTENDENT OF THE U.S. CAPITOL BUILDING AND THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and thank Carlos for his 17 years

of outstanding service to the U.S. Capitol Building and the CVC.

As Superintendent, he oversees the care and maintenance of 1.5 million gross square feet of space and manages a talented staff of 250 employees. It is a tremendous responsibility and his meticulous attention to detail and love of this institution is obvious to all who encounter him.

I was grateful for his leadership in 2004 when he led a small group of Members, including me, as we took on the project of re-decorating/re-designing the Democratic Cloakroom. His multitasking skills and good humor were much appreciated and made the project seamless and enjoyable from start to finish.

Carlos has been a great supporter of my efforts to learn Spanish. I take a class each week and Carlos always greets me in Spanish. Many Thanks (Muchas gracias).

I'd also like to thank his wife, Ana, and their two sons for sharing Carlos with us. His job was not a 9 to 5 one so I'm certain there were many times when his family sacrificed so he could execute and oversee projects—large and small—including four Presidential Inaugurations.

I wish Carlos all the best as he begins a new chapter as Vice President of Facilities at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and extend my thanks and gratitude for a job extraordinarily well done. Congratulations (Felicidades), Carlos.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
BONNIE J. SLOAN

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the honorable life of one of Toledo's daughters, Bonnie J. Sloan, an intellectual and a valued member of our community.

Bonnie was born in Toledo, Ohio on January 15, 1932 to Florence and Donald MacVay. She was a graduate of Waite High School and received a master's and doctoral degree from the University of Toledo, where she went on to teach.

Mrs. Sloan lived her life for her community and was a dedicated public servant, serving as a teacher and administrator in the Toledo Public Schools. Mrs. Sloan taught for a decade at Raymer School before becoming an assistant principal of McKinley School and later a principal of Burroughs School and Edgewater School.

During her tenure in the Toledo Public Schools, Mrs. Sloan was an elementary and curriculum supervisor. Under her leadership the school system developed a program to bring students from Northern Ohio colleges and universities into Toledo schools for teaching experience. Mrs. Sloan's top concern was always for the children she served, and she often commented to friends that she would greatly prefer to be in the classroom than an administrative office.

Her passion for education and instilling a thirst for knowledge did not end after her retirement from the Toledo Public Schools. Mrs. Sloan went on to work in higher education as a faculty member at Defiance College. After another decade Mrs. Sloan retired from teach-

ing, but continued her work with Defiance College on the board of trustees.

Mrs. Sloan was also a distinguished author of several children's books, which she penned throughout her career. As in her professional life, Mrs. Sloan's personal life was also spent in service. She was a former president of Zonta Club II and the Flower Hospital Auxiliary, both cherished organizations that strengthen our community.

Bonnie was married to Gordon Sloan, a respected pharmacist, on June 16, 1956. They celebrated fifty years together before his passing on December 21, 2006. The couple liked to joke about their relationship, Bonnie being a "city girl," and Doc being a "country boy." Their nieces and nephews were also beneficiaries of Bonnie's generosity and loving guidance.

Bonnie cherished time spent with her nieces and nephews, including the hours in which she enlisted them to help set up her classrooms. Later in life, she would take joy in time spent with her great-nieces and great-nephews.

Bonnie will be remembered lovingly by her brother, Harry MacVay, sister-in-law Connie, nieces and nephews, and her many friends. We offer them our prayers and hope that they find comfort in the wonderful memories of such an outstanding public servant, who will be remembered with affection and gratitude for her probing intellect, kind heart, and dedication to advancing Toledo as a community, its children and its future.

HONORING LEWIS ROSS BROWN, IV

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Virginia 11th Congressional District resident, Lewis Ross Brown, IV. At the age of seven, Lewis became the youngest member of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) on record.

Affectionately referred to as Lil' Lewis by friends and family, Lewis Ross Brown, IV is a second-grade student at Bel Air Elementary School in Prince William County. His favorite subjects are biology, chemistry, and mathematics. Inspired by his parents, scientists Dr. Lewis Ross Brown, III and Dr. Shamira Brown, Lewis aspires to become an Environmental Toxicologist with the federal government. In his spare time, Lewis enjoys reading books and viewing documentaries about African American and Latin American history to better advocate for racial and social justice. Lewis plans to maintain his perfect school attendance record throughout his public school education. After graduation from high school, he intends to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree at either Hampton University or Norfolk State University in Virginia and major in Environmental Toxicology with a double concentration in Chemistry and Toxicology. Given his recent acceptance into SETAC, Lewis is well on his way to achieving his goals.

With more than 6,000 active members, SETAC is one of the oldest global partnership non-profit organizations in the world. The organization provides a forum for scientists, managers, and other professionals to take a

multidisciplinary approach to solving environmental problems. For the past 37 years, SETAC has effectively balanced the management and regulation of natural resources, research and development, and environmental education among academics, businesses, and all levels of government. As a recent inductee, Lewis is currently assembling a digital computer project that will depict the aquatic toxicity effects of mercury contamination exposure in freshwater and marsh environments and on aquatic organisms exposed. Lewis hopes to present his project at the National SETAC meeting later this year.

Lewis' recent induction into SETAC is nothing short of astonishing. As a student in Prince William County Public Schools system, his achievement highlights the world-class education offered to residents of the 11th Congressional District. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Lewis Ross Brown, IV on his induction as the youngest member of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry. I applaud his scientific curiosity and have full confidence in his future success as he continues to shatter barriers in the field of environmental toxicology and chemistry.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL
INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to express my support for National Infertility Awareness Week, which has been federally recognized since 2010, and in support of the millions of people in this country, both men and women, who currently suffer from the inability to start a family because of infertility.

Infertility is a disease of the reproductive system that affects men and women equally, and as many as 12 percent of reproductive-aged couples in America suffer from this devastating disease.

It is also among the most frequently misunderstood diseases.

We observe National Infertility Awareness Week to increase public awareness and encourage honest and candid dialogue among lawmakers and health professionals, in an effort to address this painful disease and seek cures that will allow every American the opportunity to have a family.

In addition to the millions of couples of reproductive age who suffer from infertility, countless more who are diagnosed with cancer also face the probability of becoming infertile due to the effects of the treatment for cancer.

Imagine facing not only a cancer diagnosis, but learning that the very treatment will render you unable to have children.

An untold number of military veterans, including those returning from combat duty, suffer injuries that render them unable to have a baby without medical treatment.

The good news is that treatment for infertility has advanced sharply in the last two decades, and includes in vitro fertilization, or "IVF," now considered the standard of care for many couples being treated for infertility.

Despite such 21st century advances, however, many states still do not provide insurance coverage for IVF; in fact, only 15 states

currently provide coverage for even basic treatment for infertility.

For many patients, IVF not only increases the chance of having a baby, it significantly reduces the incidence of multiple births.

A reduction in multiple births decreases health care and other costs both for insurance companies and families, and studies by the American Society of Reproductive Medicine show this treatment results in healthier babies.

I want to congratulate RESOLVE, the nation's oldest fertility advocacy organization, and the important and necessary work they are doing to raise awareness about the devastating effects caused by disease of infertility.

I urge all Members to join me in commemorating National Infertility Awareness Week.

RECOGNIZING THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIFESTREAM BEHAVIORAL CENTER

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize LifeStream Behavioral Center as they celebrate 45 years of service and Mental Health Month during the month of May. LifeStream is dedicated to their mission of supporting recovery, promoting health and creating hope. Mental Health Awareness Month is an important opportunity to highlight the progress that has been made thus far, as well as to inspire continued efforts toward building a better future for the next generation.

In 1969, LifeStream began as a component of Waterman Memorial Hospital in Eustis, Florida, and became a non-profit organization in 1971. Since its founding, LifeStream has expanded to twenty-one facilities and fifty-two programs to serve and empower those who suffer from mental illness, substance abuse, and homelessness in Lake, Sumter, and Orange Counties. For 45 years, LifeStream has helped thousands of individuals in our community achieve recovery and reach their highest potential. Not only does LifeStream provide rehabilitative services and conduct research, they also engage in community outreach programs to provide families and individuals with the resources they need to live healthy lives.

This is a momentous year for LifeStream, and I am honored to join my friend, Jonathan Cherry, CEO/President of LifeStream in celebrating this milestone. The community and families of Central Florida are blessed to have a committed behavioral health center such as LifeStream, and I commend them for the measures they are undertaking to support recovery and provide hope to those in need.

CONGRATULATING ELLIOTT STIPES OF GREEN CLEAN COMMERCIAL FOR RECEIVING THE CITY OF ST. CHARLES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT 2016 EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR AWARD—SUSTAINABILITY CATEGORY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Elliott Stipes. He is the owner of Green Clean Commercial and is receiving the 2016 Employer of the Year Award, in the Sustainability Category from the City of St. Charles Economic Development Department.

Green Clean Commercial is a national company that joined the St. Charles community in 2015. Green Clean is a janitorial services company and currently employs 38 individuals locally. Green Clean strives for positive employee lifestyle through weekly recognition announced at weekly company culture meetings, employee of the month recognition, and annual recognition.

There have been some difficulties for Green Clean, but it has overcome these difficulties and maintained consistency with its customers and employees. Throughout the recession, Green Clean was able to be successful by committing to flexibility and partnership with its customers. Green Clean has created a supportive workplace with recognition, training, leadership, and compensation.

Green Clean is a member of the U.S. Green Building Council and was awarded "Best Janitorial Services Company" for 2015. To improve energy efficiency, Green Clean uses LED lighting in all offices and additionally uses motion sensors for its lighting, which reduces energy consumption. Additionally, Green Clean uses green seal certified cleaning solutions. Green Clean sets the standard for its customers through implementing recycling programs for the Green Clean employees and for the employees of the businesses for which it is providing janitorial services. Another way Green Clean is sustainable is by providing its employees with drinking thermoses, which will in turn reduce water bottle waste.

Green Clean is passionate about its community involvement and encourages its employees to also become involved with volunteering opportunities. Green Clean hosts a donation drive to support a local organization, "Youth in Need." Additionally, Green Clean supports programs that are initiatives of its customers across the country.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Green Clean Commercial for its accomplishment in the 2016 Employer of the Year Award—Sustainability Category.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE HBCU CAUCUS

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor to speak in recognition of the

one-year anniversary of the Bipartisan HBCU caucus and highlight the great impact of Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

HBCUs continue to stand as a bastion of learning and advancement for so many students of color. About 20 percent of African American students earning their bachelor's degrees do so from HBCUs.

HBCUs serve a disproportionate number of low-income, first-generation students. More than 75 percent of HBCUs students rely on Pell Grants and almost 13 percent of students rely on PLUS loans. It is clear that, for many students who would otherwise find higher education out of reach, HBCUs provide a strong pathway to success. HBCUs also provide a strong value to students and their families, allowing for a small-college experience with lower tuition and fees than comparable institutions.

This includes schools like Florida Memorial University, located in Florida's 24th district. Florida Memorial has the distinction of being the only historically black university in southern Florida and one of the oldest academic institutions in the entire state of Florida. Under the leadership of Dr. Roslyn Clark Artis, Florida Memorial continues to provide students with the quality education, leadership skills, and heart for service they need to become strong global citizens in our changing world.

As a proud graduate of an HBCU, I am proud to work with my colleagues to advance policies that benefit HBCUs. I want to thank Congresswoman ALMA ADAMS of North Carolina and Congressman BRADLEY BYRNE of Alabama for their strong leadership on this bipartisan caucus over the past year. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues for the betterment of HBCUs in Florida and across the country.

DESIGNATING MAY 2016 AS DIRECT DEPOSIT AND DIRECT PAYMENT VIA ACH MONTH

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize May as the Direct Deposit and Direct Payment via Automated Clearing House (ACH) Month. NACHA—The Electronic Payments Association serves as the trustee of the ACH Network, which is supported by 12,000 financial institutions across the nation. Working together they enable payments such as direct deposit and direct payment via ACH. Annually, the ACH Network transfers 24 billion Direct Deposits and Direct Payments, totaling more than \$41 trillion.

Direct Deposit is the deposit of funds for payroll, employee expense reimbursement, government benefits, tax and other refunds, annuities and interest payments. Direct Payment transactions can include bill payments, person-to-person payments, business-to-business payments, and online and mobile purchases.

Today, more than 80 percent of U.S. workers receive their regular pay using Direct Deposit via ACH, and consumers pay 800 million bills each month with Direct Payment via ACH. Direct Deposit and Direct Payment are an

easy, safe, convenient, cost-effective and environmentally friendly way to make and receive payments. Use of Direct Deposit and Direct Payment enable consumers and businesses alike to save costs, save time and protect the environment by eliminating the time, hassle and expense of writing and cashing paper checks and making trips to the bank or credit union.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the month of May as Direct Deposit and Direct Payment via ACH Month, and I urge all members of the community to consider Direct Deposit and Direct Payment as a valuable option to make and receive payments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Number 179, Number 177, Number 176, Number 175, Number 172, and Number 171 I am not recorded because I was absent. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye on passage.

SUPPORTING WORK OF THE
HIGHLAND CENTER

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, Highland County, Va., is a little slice of heaven. Anyone who lives there or has visited this beautiful area knows exactly what I mean. I am honored to represent the Sixth Congressional District in the House of Representatives, including this unique region of the Commonwealth.

Part of what makes Highland County special is that it is remote. It is a living example of how vibrant rural America remains. That has plenty of advantages and in many ways Highland County remains a well-kept secret. But that also comes with a unique set of challenges, including limited access for businesses and limited opportunities for growth. In a region that continues to be known for its heavy reliance on an agri-business economy, the Highland Center is an important asset in helping preserve jobs and encourage new enterprises.

With the mission of serving all citizens of Highland County by being a catalyst for cultural and economic development, the Highland Center in Monterey, Va., has become a gathering place and treasured landmark in the community. Since its inception in 1998, I have visited the facility to see its programs in action and have been kept well-informed about the variety of ventures that it supports in the Alleghany Highlands.

The Highland Center has spent a great deal of time building public and private connections to sustain its many operations, including a business incubator, a farmers market, and the Youth Employment Program. Today, the Highland Center houses 13 tenants representing a mix of small businesses, individual artists, and

non-profit organizations. It also serves as a public venue for community events.

Most recently, the Center has embarked upon an effort to renovate the old school building that serves as its headquarters. On May 1, the Highland Center will hold a ribbon-cutting to officially unveil its newly renovated facility. While the Highland Center was temporarily relocated to the historic Highland Inn during construction, the organization's work in the community did not cease. The improvements made to the Highland Center over the past 13 months will aid in the Center's innovative and collaborative work as well as efforts to further integrate this vital community center into the local economy.

The reopening of the Highland Center is a long-awaited occasion. I thank the Highland Center Board members, Executive Director Betty Mitchell, and the countless volunteers for their hard work and dedication to seeing this through. I wholeheartedly support the Highland Center's drive to develop creative solutions to rural Virginia's needs. I wish the Center great success as it reopens its much-improved facility.

RECOGNIZING THE HONOREES OF
THE 2016 NORTHERN VIRGINIA
FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME
AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Northern Virginia Football Hall of Fame (NVFHOF) and to congratulate the 2016 inductees and scholarship award recipients.

Participation in organized sports instills many values that will serve our youth well throughout life, including sportsmanship, teamwork, honesty, and the work ethic developed by striving for success and working to achieve a common goal.

For 26 years, the NVFHOF has recognized the efforts of players, coaches, officials, and cheerleaders from local youth and scholastic football programs and inducts a few exceptional individuals who have made significant contributions to the game. In addition, the NVFHOF presents several student-athletes with scholarships to help defray the cost of college.

I commend the NVFHOF and congratulate the following students, coaches and community leaders who are being recognized during the 26th Annual NVFHOF Awards Banquet:

\$1,500 Scholarship Award Recipients: Madeline Maria Morgan, Riley Newell, Michael Vaughn, and Kullen Kritsky

Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame 2016 Inductees: Eugene Y. Chung, Robert Meadows, and Brian Newell

Football Officials of the Year: Brian Pelleteir, Dave McKee, Darelle Crandall

Karl Davey Community Achievement Award: Michael Godwin

Tom Davis Meritorious Service Award: Bill Curran

Gene Nelson Commissioner of the Year Award: Brian Edwards

High School Coaches of the Year: Kyle Simmons, Jason Dawson

High School Players of the Year: Tyler Scanlon, Ceneca Espinoza, Jr., Kevin Allen, Zac Kerxton, Josh Hurlburt, Zach Burdick

Youth Coaches of the Year: Brian Conway, Rex Petrey, Phil Anderson, and Randy McCargo

Youth Sports Players of the Year: Max Garrison Gomez, Christopher Allen, Jalen Thomas Walker, Chet Kane Collins, Charlie O'Connor, Will Allen, Luke Fernandez, Clayton Rosenberger, Tyga Golden, Henry Hogan, Brodie Carroll, Michael Honesty, Mason Miles, Dayton Lipscomb, Scott Woods II, Nate Williams, Matthew Flenniken, Darius Brown, Clayton Sheffield, Nick Anderson, Dominick Keator, and Andrew Margiotta

Youth Cheerleaders of the Year: Ariana Lewis, Natteria Tillery, Aislinn Emery, Jessica Daly, and Janelle Lenore

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Northern Virginia Hall of Fame as well as those students, coaches and community leaders who are being honored at the 2016 Football Hall of Fame celebration.

HONORING LT. PRESLEY NEVILLE
O'BANNON

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a great American, Presley Neville O'Bannon. He was born in Virginia in 1776, where his father served as a captain in the Continental Army. O'Bannon was appointed a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps in 1801 and was quickly promoted to First Lieutenant in 1802. He served on the USS *Argus*, one of many ships used in the protection of United States commerce against the Barbary pirates. In 1805 he was selected for a special mission. During a storm, the USS *Philadelphia* went aground off the coast of Tripoli and the 180 member crew was captured and imprisoned at Derne. Lieutenant O'Bannon led a few brave Marines through fierce enemy fire, took possession of one of the enemy's batteries, and planted the American flag. He became the first American to raise our flag on foreign soil during a time of war. Weeks of fighting ensued and finally the captured Americans were freed. The bravery of Lt. O'Bannon and others is forever commemorated in the Marine Corps Hymn in the words "To the Shores of Tripoli".

Hamet Karamanli, the new leader of Tripoli, was so appreciative of the actions of Lt. O'Bannon that he presented him with the now famous blade of Damascus, a jeweled sword with a Mameluke hilt. U.S. Marine Corps officers still wear the Mameluke sword today as part of their dress uniform.

Lieutenant O'Bannon left the Marine Corps in 1807 and moved to Logan County, Kentucky to live for the rest of his days. He served in both the Kentucky House of Representatives and the Kentucky Senate. He died on September 12, 1850 at the age of 74. The Daughters of the American Revolution removed his remains to the cemetery in Frankfort, Kentucky in 1920 and erected a memorial to this "Hero of the Derne".

Lieutenant Presley Neville O'Bannon was a true American hero and I am proud to honor his memory before the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING MAYOR KEN SUNSERI

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize and honor Mayor Ken Sunseri of my hometown of Haleyville, Alabama. Mayor Sunseri has served as the mayor of Haleyville since 2008 and has proven himself to be a leader who has shown dedication to the city and every citizen thereof.

Mayor Sunseri is not only the leader of my hometown, but he is also the leader of men. During the Vietnam War, Sunseri served his country as a platoon leader with the First Infantry Division and retired at the rank of Colonel. He is one of our country's brave veterans whom we can all be proud.

Over the years he has dedicated himself to his country and his local community. In 2004 he was awarded the Civitan Citizen of the Year. In 2005 his involvement in the Alabama Communities of Excellence (ACE) program led to his being named the most outstanding ACE volunteer.

He has held numerous Board positions and received many awards, most recently receiving the 2011 Haleyville High School Alumni Service and Dedication Award. Sunseri has served Haleyville through many widespread agencies including President and Deputy District Governor of the Haleyville Lions Club, President of the Haleyville Chamber of Commerce, President of the Haleyville Merchants Association, Member, Haleyville Library Board, Member, Haleyville Housing Authority, Member, Haleyville Industrial Recruiting Committee, Member, Individual and Family Support Board, Board Chairman 310 Board, Winston/Marion Counties.

As Mayor, Sunseri was approached with an opportunity to construct a new city hall for Haleyville. Under his leadership this project was completed in January 2016 and will serve citizens for decades to come.

Most importantly, Mayor Sunseri is married to Kay Sunseri and they have three children: David Sunseri, Beth Moore and Jennifer Sunseri. They also have five grandchildren. Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor Mayor Sunseri for his long service to so many in Haleyville and Winston County and the State of Alabama.

STORYCORPS

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, as the founder and co-chair of the Public Broadcasting Caucus and a strong supporter of public media and federal funding for humanities, I would like to raise awareness of StoryCorps. As one of the largest oral history projects, StoryCorps invites people from across the country to record and preserve their stories for future generations within their archive at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. StoryCorps recently arrived on Capitol Hill and is welcoming individuals to record, preserve, and share their stories at their

MobileBooth recording venue, which will be parked outside of the Library of Congress until May 15, 2016.

Since 2003, generous support from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and others has enabled StoryCorps to collect over 65,000 stories from more than 110,000 participants in all 50 states. They record interviews at various venues across the country, including at their MobileBooth, which tours the nation year-round. StoryCorps also shares excerpts of collected interviews with a national audience of millions through weekly broadcasts on NPR, broadcasts on local public media stations in towns and cities across the country, animated shorts on PBS, and via digital media and best-selling books. StoryCorps' work has been widely recognized with several George Foster Peabody Awards, a MacArthur Award for Creative and Effective Institutions, and most recently, the 2015 TED Prize.

All StoryCorps' activities are carried out in collaboration with local and national partners. Each year, StoryCorps partners with hundreds of community-based organizations from across the country—including local schools, public libraries, local public media stations, hospitals, veterans' affairs centers, and others—to record, preserve, and share the stories of their constituents. In these ways, StoryCorps is promoting a deeper understanding—both historic and contemporary—of people living in diverse communities that contribute to our nation's rich diversity. This important work would not be possible without federal support of public broadcasting, and I urge my colleagues to continue their support.

I also hope that my colleagues and their staff will have time to visit the StoryCorps MobileBooth at the Library of Congress in the coming days to learn more and participate.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF W. BREWSTER ELY IV

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I pay tribute to W. Brewster Ely IV on the occasion of his retirement as Headmaster of Town School for Boys in San Francisco, after more than a quarter of a century of inspiring and thoughtful educational leadership and service to the San Francisco community.

I join generations of Town School students, families, educators and staff in expressing our deepest appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Ely for the indelible mark he has left on a treasured San Francisco institution and on the lives of all who passed through its halls.

Brewster Ely arrived at Town School in 1989, carrying the strong personal values and traditions of his family—following in his father's footsteps as an educator, and as a headmaster himself for 24 years.

During his 27 years as Headmaster, Ely helped countless students discover their strengths and talents, pursue their dreams, express their creativity and develop their unique character. Each and every morning, Headmaster Ely greeted his students with a handshake that conveyed his commitment to their education, his respect for their well-being, and the promise of a bright future.

With Ely's leadership, the campus has been dramatically transformed and the performing arts and athletic programs expanded. He has had a significant and lasting impact on every aspect of Town School life. When he retires, Ely will have served as Headmaster for more than a third of the Town School's nearly 80-year history.

Headmaster Ely also worked to support the educational opportunities of those beyond the Town School. In 1990 Ely co-founded Project Discover, an educational summer camp serving low income children in the San Francisco Bay Area. He created the New Teacher Institute which trains new educators and administrators to carry on the academic excellence and values of Town School throughout the San Francisco Bay Area, and further.

Brewster Ely has been deeply committed to our San Francisco community. He has served on the boards of the San Francisco Zoo, the Boys and Girls Clubs of San Francisco, KIPP Bay Area Schools, Carney Sandoe and Associates, Stevenson School and the International Boys' Schools Coalition, of which he was president.

I join the Town School Community in thanking Brewster Ely's family, his wife Nancy and his children Jenny, Jamie and Katherine for sharing their magnificent husband and father with the San Francisco community. My husband Paul and our son Paul Jr., a Town School alumnus, join me in wishing Brewster Ely an enjoyable and rewarding future.

RECOGNIZING THE 2016 RECIPIENTS OF THE DALE CITY MULTICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2016 recipients of the Dale City Multicultural Achievement Awards sponsored by Dale City Christian Church. The purpose of the event is two-fold: to highlight the extraordinary work of individuals who are improving the lives of people within the local community and to offer financial assistance to high school seniors pursuing higher education.

Since 1984, the Dale City Multicultural Achievement Awards have recognized the accomplishments of African-Americans in the community. Formerly known as the "Afro Achievement Organization," the Dale City Multicultural Achievement Award and Scholarship Organization under the leadership of Bishop Patrick O. Thomas and Rhonda Pittman highlight the achievements of residents.

This year's award recipients highlight the achievements of African-Americans under the motto: "For if a man does not know his history, he cannot know his future." It is my honor to submit names of the recipients of the 2016 Dale City Multicultural Achievement Awards:

Pastoral Leadership: Pastor Douglas Greene, Sr.

Religious Leadership Award: Rev. Marvin Hargrove

Educational Leadership Award: Mrs. Sheila Coleman and Ms. Rae Darlington

Public Service Award: Del. Michael Futrell

Community Service Award: Doves & Eagles of Faith—Mrs. April Barrett and Roses Home Healthcare—Ms. Michelle Wimberly
Professional Leadership Award: Mrs. Beverly Johnson and Mr. Kevin Williams
Business Achievement Award: Dunkin Donuts—Mr. Jerome Johnson and We Do Weddings, Etc.—Mrs. Cheri Walker

Christian Service Award: Mrs. Lousia Cannon and Trustee Donnell Richardson
Faithfulness Award: Ms. Annie Brown and Ms. Christine Dunbar

Dedication Christian Family Award: Mr. and Mrs. Arthur McCastle & Family

Senior Christian Service Award: Miss Kristen Mitchell and Mr. Blake Conquest

Junior Christian Service Award: Mr. Aaron Dade and Mr. Cameron Harris

2016 High School Senior Scholarship Recipients: Mr. Blake Conquest, Mr. Tyland Crawford, Mr. James Curtis, Miss La'Ren Davis, Miss Kira Dixon, Miss Kaelyn Larry, Miss Kristen Mitchell, and Miss Seqouyah Portee

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the 2016 Dale City Multicultural Achievement Awards recipients and in thanking them for their individual efforts to ensure we each maintain a quality life and live a better tomorrow.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to make it to the April 28, 2016, vote on H.J. Res. 88. If present, I would have voted NO on H.J. Res. 88, the resolution to disapprove of the final Department of Labor fiduciary duty rule.

The Department of Labor thoughtfully and carefully crafted the rule over five years with the input of thousands of written comments from academics, advocacy groups, and industry and the benefit of 4 days of field hearings and hundreds of meetings. The final rule will protect retirement savers from conflicts of interest that encourage advisors to prioritize their financial gain over that of their clients.

TRIBUTE TO HALEY CARLSON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Haley Carlson of Atlantic, Iowa, for receiving the highest Future Farmer of America (FFA) Award, the Iowa Farmer Degree Award. Haley is a member of the Atlantic Future Farmer of America Chapter.

Haley has a strong commitment to agriculture and hopes to be involved in agriculture in the future. Haley said, "To accomplish this goal is really motivating." Her plans include an agriculture education and becoming an advocate for agriculture issues. In order for Haley to receive this award it took many years of hard work and determination to be successful

in agriculture. She has been an active member in the Atlantic FFA Chapter, exhibited livestock at the Cass County Fair and served as an officer of her FFA Chapter, as well as participating in numerous activities and contests. Haley had to accomplish a supervised agriculture experience project, maintain records of the project, and complete an application for consideration in completing her requirements for the award.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Haley for earning this award. It is with great pride that I recognize her today. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating her accomplishments and in wishing her nothing but continued success in her future endeavors in agriculture.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR. FREDERICK V. MILLER

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Dr. Frederick V. Miller of Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Dr. Miller was an inspiration to all those who knew him—

From his selfless and passionate work on behalf of our society's most vulnerable people—critically-ill newborn and premature infants;

To his service in the United States Army; To his business career that helped care for South Floridians;

He truly lived a life of public service, with a vigor and spirit that lifted up every person he knew.

I had the distinct pleasure and privilege in the Florida Legislature to work with Dr. Miller to pass the "Drive Thru Baby Bill" which mandated that insurance companies cover the care after a birth that new mothers need—not the middling coverage they received before Dr. Miller lent his voice and service to our efforts.

Recognizing a problem with too many newborns being born with hearing challenges that went undetected, Dr. Miller worked with me to pass the Newborn Infant Screening Act to ensure that all newborns in the State of Florida had their hearing checked soon after birth.

I will always remember him as a man of science;

A kind man who cared deeply for his patients and;

A man who worked tirelessly to better the lives of mothers and children.

My thoughts are with his wife Sharon; his sons Harrison and Sterling; and their entire extended family.

RECOGNIZING THE HONOREES OF THE 2016 PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the honorees of the 2016 Prince Wil-

liam County Chamber of Commerce Business Awards.

The Prince William Chamber of Commerce is comprised of a diverse membership, which represents nearly 70,000 employees. Together, they create a sustainable environment where businesses and people thrive by focusing on business growth, economic development, advocacy, education, and community outreach.

For the fifth year in a row, the Chamber will recognize excellence in business, innovative practices, and outstanding contributions to the community at the 2016 Prince William Chamber Business Awards. This year, the Chamber adds the Charles J. Colgan Visionary Award and industry-specific awards to ensure varying industry sectors have the chance to stand out. The annual awards ceremony is held to honor local businesses, business leaders, and individuals who promote and advance a vital and healthy business environment through their commitment to strengthening opportunity and prosperity in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan region.

It is my honor to submit the 2016 Prince William Chamber of Commerce Business Award recipients:

Excellence in Small Business Award: Harry H. Horning Financial Services.

Business Excellence Award: Micron Technology, Inc.

Emerging Business Award: FreshySites.

Innovative Practice/Partnership of the Year Award: Heavy Construction Contractors Association.

Community Outreach Award: Bookworm Central.

Government Contractor of the Year Award: Zeiders Enterprises, Inc.

Outstanding Customer Service Award: Okra's Cajun Creole.

Tech Company of the Year Award: Tracen Technologies, Inc.

Agnes L. Community Service—Arts and Education Award: Christ Chapel Academy.

Agnes L. Community Service—Health and Human Services Award: Habitat for Humanity of Prince William County.

Charles J. Colgan Visionary Award: Parr and Associates.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues join me in commending the Prince William Chamber of Commerce and in congratulating the 2016 Chamber Business Awards winners for their outstanding service and achievements. Their efforts, on behalf of a diverse community population, ensure the continued development of Prince William County as one of the premier counties in the United States in which to live, work, and play.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF DELTA KAPPA GAMMA'S MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the many accomplishments of the Massachusetts chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma (DKG) on the seventy-fifth anniversary of its founding. Delta Kappa Gamma has

played an integral role in supporting women in education across the world. Here at home, the Alpha Upsilon chapter has been promoting their values of uniting, honoring and advancing female educators in our very midst for seven-five years.

Founded in 1929 in Austin, Texas, Delta Kappa Gamma was conceived as a forum for teachers from all environments to come together in the spirit of professional betterment. DKG has always sought to reach out to teachers from all walks of life. From rural school teachers to urban college professors, it has been the vision of the organization to celebrate distinguished female educators.

On June 30, 1941, the Alpha Upsilon chapter of DKG was established at the historic Park Plaza Hotel in downtown Boston as the 44th such chapter in the nation. Since its founding, this Massachusetts chapter has flourished—providing many opportunities and resources for its active members.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking the women of Delta Kappa Gamma for all they have done in advancing the cause of education around the world and in celebrating their 75th anniversary.

CONGRATULATING KEITH LEVY OF ROYAL CANIN USA FOR RECEIVING THE CITY OF ST. CHARLES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT 2016 EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR AWARD—MANUFACTURING/INDUSTRIAL CATEGORY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Keith Levy. He is the President of Royal Canin USA and is receiving the 2016 Employer of the Year Award, in the Manufacturing/Industrial Category from the City of St. Charles Economic Development Department.

Royal Canin USA is a global dog and cat food company which originated in France in 1968. In the United States, you'll find Royal Canin associates hard at work at the company's headquarters and manufacturing facilities located in St. Charles, Missouri. Royal Canin USA has created an inviting workplace for its employees with numerous incentives: family day for all associates to attend with their families, pet friendly offices where associates can bring their pets to work, take your sons and daughters to work day, and two off-leash dog parks outside its offices.

Over the last year, Royal Canin USA has added 25 associates in the St. Charles office and 100 overall. It has expanded its office to add workspace for 90 new associates. Royal Canin USA honors the longstanding tradition of rewarding its employees for their dedication and work. Associates are eligible for bonuses and to be recognized by Royal Canin's "Make a Difference Program." This program recognizes employees who have made a positive impact on the company.

Royal Canin USA's dedication to the community is made evident by its involvement with numerous community leadership initiatives. Royal Canin provides dog food to the state's Puppies for Parole program, where offenders

train shelter dogs. This training makes the dogs eligible for adoption, while positively impacting the inmates and offenders. Royal Canin also hosted an Advanced Puppies for Parole Gala, which was attended by the First Lady of Missouri. In addition, the dog food company donates food to a pet food bank called "Rescue Bank." This bank distributes pet food to shelters in need across the country. Royal Canin USA recently held a local 5k run and walk with proceeds benefitting a local dog therapy association.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Royal Canin USA for its accomplishment as the 2016 Employer of the Year Award—Manufacturing/Industrial Category.

HONORING GOVERNOR JOSEPH KERNAN FOR A DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize former Governor Joseph E. Kernan and honor him for a long career in public service.

Kernan is the oldest of nine children and a graduate of St. Joseph High School in South Bend, Indiana. He attended the University of Notre Dame where he was a catcher on the baseball team and earned a degree in government. Upon graduation, Kernan joined the U.S. Navy where he served as a Naval Flight Officer aboard the U.S.S. *Kitty Hawk*. During a reconnaissance mission over North Vietnam, Kernan was shot down and held captive as a POW for nearly 11 months. After his release from captivity, Kernan continued to serve his country on active duty. He was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal, two Purple Hearts, and the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service.

After his military service, Kernan worked in the private sector as a successful businessman before serving as South Bend's City Controller from 1980 to 1984. In 1987, he was elected Mayor of South Bend and would become the longest serving mayor in the city's history.

In 1996, Frank O'Bannon and Kernan were elected as Indiana's governor and lieutenant governor and were reelected in 2000. As lieutenant governor, Kernan served as president of the Indiana Senate, director of the Indiana Department of Commerce, and commissioner of Agriculture. In particular, Kernan played a vital role in improving services for veterans, having spearheaded a Veterans Outreach Initiative to educate veterans on available benefits through the state and federal government.

In 2003, after the unfortunate passing of Governor Frank O'Bannon, Kernan assumed the role of Governor until 2005. Since then, he has been active in the community, serving in various leadership roles.

Governor Kernan and his wife Maggie have spent their careers serving the city, state, and nation. On behalf of Hoosiers in the Second Congressional District, it is my honor to thank them both for their service and sacrifice to our community.

HONORING SHIRLEY DOBSON

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and honor Mrs. Shirley Dobson on her 25 years of service as the chair of the National Day of Prayer Task Force. With the focus being to mobilize prayer and to encourage personal repentance and righteousness in the culture of the United States of America, the National Day of Prayer includes over 40,000 prayer gatherings in all 50 states. Millions of people across the nation participate at courthouses, city halls, community centers and at the U.S. Capitol Complex in Washington, D.C.

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance that occurs on the first Thursday in May and people of all faiths are asked to pray for the nation. The National Day of Prayer dates back to 1952 when a joint resolution was passed by both the House and the Senate.

Shirley Dobson has worked diligently along with so many others over the last 25 years to bring the nation together around prayer. In addition to her leadership with the National Day of Prayer Task Force, Mrs. Dobson is nationally recognized for her many contributions to women's affairs, Christian Organizations, and the institution of the family.

Shirley Dobson has been invited to the White House by many Presidents over the past 30 years and has been recognized by numerous national organizations that are focused on faith, family and spreading God's word to the world.

Mrs. Dobson is also an author. She and Gloria Gaither have co-authored a four-book series for families. The books are focused squarely on faith and the family and how those two should always go hand-in-hand. Shirley and her daughter also wrote a book together titled, *Welcome to Our Table*.

Shirley Dobson is the wife of psychologist and author, Dr. James Dobson, founder of Family Talk. She and her husband reside in Colorado Springs, Colorado and have two grown children, Danae and Ryan. They also are proud grandparents of two grandchildren.

It is my privilege to honor such a fine person as Shirley Dobson and to recognize her contributions to faith and family in America and especially her tremendous work with the National Day of Prayer.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF AURORA,
COLORADO

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate my hometown of Aurora, Colorado on its 125th birthday.

Aurora has been a center of rich history throughout its 125 years as a city.

In the year 1866, on the heels of the gold rush, a man named Thomas Gully and his family decided to settle into a quiet ranching and farming life in what is now the city center of Aurora.

Less than 30 years later, thirty-six Aurorans voted to incorporate Aurora, then known as Fletcher, and it was officially formed on April 30, 1891. Throughout the years, Aurora has transformed from the Gully's quiet ranching and farming community to the bustling urban metropolis we see today.

From humble beginnings, Aurora has grown to be the 3rd largest city in Colorado with a rich and ethnically diverse population.

Aurora continues to thrive and grow, with a number of new construction and redevelopment projects already in motion. New businesses and residences, revitalized community centers, and even new light rail expansion all mark the 125th anniversary of the city of Aurora.

Even in the face of this advancement, the Gully House, believed to be the oldest structure in Aurora, still stands as a symbol of our

humble past and a reminder of the progress we have made together as a city.

So, in recognition of our past, present, and future, Happy Birthday, Aurora, and I look forward to celebrating many more.