

Through their service to the Commonwealth of Virginia and our nation, members of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia, Free & Accepted Masons and its subordinate lodges have sought to “inspire noble principles, moral values, and profound convictions in the lives of each individual” their work touches. They have sought to teach the principles of family, the values of philanthropy through charity and volunteer work, and the convictions of acceptance and compassion through honor, integrity, and respect.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my enthusiastic congratulations to Roger C. Brown of Richmond, Virginia, who currently serves as the 78th leader of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia and to all its Grand Lodge Officers, Worshipful Masters, Worshipful Past Masters and members on their celebration, on December 16th, 2015, of 140 years of continuous service in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and on the celebration of Founder’s Day on May 22, 2016 in Petersburg, Virginia. It is my profound hope that through their work, members of the Grand Lodge will continue to inspire and provide support and service to communities in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

MR. BILL CARNEY

HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the incredible fifty years of marriage between Barbara and Bill Carney.

On May 14, 2016, Barbara and Bill Carney celebrated fifty years of marriage, friendship, fun and family. Those 50 years have taken them on a winding and unpredicted journey—from the Irish Catholic neighborhood of Flatbush, Brooklyn, to the suburbs of Long Island, to the halls of the United States Congress—with unforeseen stops and innumerable joys along the way. With love, respect and patience, they made it look easy. Their lives together, love for each other, generosity of spirit, faith and humor have impacted so many people through the years.

Barbara Haverlin and Bill Carney grew up blocks from one another in Brooklyn. They attended the same parish, St. Catherine of Genoa, frequented the same places, and enjoyed overlapping groups of friends. They did not meet, however, until their early twenties at O’Reilly’s Pub, where Bill was tending bar and Barbara was dating one of the O’Reilly brothers. On a dare from co-workers, Bill asked out the boss’ girlfriend. Within two weeks of the first date, they decided to marry and were wed twelve months later. Both having lost their parents in their teens; Barbara and Bill deeply appreciated the importance and value of family. They have been blessed with extraordinary closeness with community and family, which is the same value and spirit that Barbara and Bill maintained in raising their two daughters, Julie Baker and Jackie Carney D’Aquila.

After marriage, Bill held multiple jobs to support his family—always willing to try or learn a new skill. Never one to shy away from challenges or to view something as impossible, Bill, as a member of the Smithtown Conservative Party, decided to run for U.S. Congress

at 32 years old. In 1977, with Barbara’s backing and the support of a handful of what would prove to be life-long friends, Bill beat the odds and was elected to represent the First Congressional District of New York. Bill Carney is the only person ever elected to the U.S. House of Representatives as a member of the New York State Conservative Party, having run on both the Conservative and Republican lines. During his political career, Bill enjoyed phenomenal staff, advisors and friends. He served four terms in the House before deciding to retire and open his own boutique consulting firm in 1986.

Bill and Barbara are joined in celebrating their 50th Anniversary this month by their daughters, sons-in-law, four grandchildren and scores of friends and family. I would like to congratulate Bill on fifty years of marriage and thank him for his remarkable service to his country and especially to the First Congressional District of New York. It is my hope that many will follow in his footsteps and give back to their country as graciously as he did.

TRIBUTE TO RITA AND STEVE
VALLINCH

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Rita and Steve Vallinch of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary. They were married in 1951 at St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Omaha, Nebraska, by Father Stanislaus Golik.

Rita and Steve’s lifelong commitment to each other and their children, Ann, Jean, Kathie, and family, truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 65th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, and continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

I salute this great couple on their 65th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Rita and Steve on this momentous occasion.

HONORING ZACKRIE GORDON

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Zackrie Gordon of Davie, Florida for receiving Broward County Public Schools’ Best in Class Award. With perfect attendance throughout elementary, middle, and high school, Zackrie has demonstrated a sincere dedication to his studies, a passion for learning, and a commitment to his school community.

It is with great pleasure that I honor Zackrie in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and wish him all the best as he graduates from Western High School.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF
CENTRAL FLORIDA STUDENTS

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate the University of Central Florida for winning the 2016 Raytheon National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (NCCDC) for the third consecutive year. The competition, held April 22–24 in San Antonio, Texas, brought together the top ten college and university teams from across the country.

More than 180 colleges and universities and 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students participated in competitions leading up to the national championship which was sponsored by Raytheon. The Raytheon competition models real-world scenarios in which teams are required to maintain operational needs of their businesses and user demands amidst cyber attacks. Preparing the next generation of cyber security leaders is critical to defending our nation against ever-increasing threats.

Again, congratulations to the University of Central Florida team for bringing home the Raytheon NCCDC Alamo Cup for the third consecutive year and establishing the University as a national leader in cyber security.

HONORING MELODY CHALMERS

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Melody Chalmers, a North Carolinian who has had a wonderful impact on many of our state’s children. Earlier this month, Melody was named the Wells Fargo North Carolina Principal of the Year for her service as principal of E.E. Smith High School in Cumberland County.

Chalmers was selected after a rigorous statewide process involving both interviews and on-site visits. It is clear that she is a truly exceptional principal.

Chalmers is long-time North Carolinian, who graduated from North Carolina A&T State University with a bachelor’s degree in English in 1998. From there, she continued her education at Fayetteville State University, graduating in 2005 with a master’s degree in School Administration.

As a leader in North Carolina’s public schools, Melody Chalmers previously served as an assistant principal at E.E. Smith High and Warrenwood Elementary. She was later principal of Cross Creek Early College High before assuming her current role at E.E. Smith High School.

Chalmers has been widely praised for her work in our state’s schools. North Carolina State Superintendent June Atkinson lauded her as an “innovative problem solver who is committed to the academic and personal growth of each of her students and teachers.” In presenting the award to Chalmers, Juan Austin, senior vice president of Community Affairs at Wells Fargo Carolinas, noted that she has the unique ability to “recruit and retain