

network of dedicated patriots whose selfless sacrifice on behalf of fellow Kansans mirrors that of the veterans they serve has worked on arranging these flights. These volunteers include another husband and wife team, Lowell and Joyce Downey, whose devotion to our Kansas veterans is truly inspiring.

In addition to volunteers, I would like to thank the family members that accompany these veterans to Washington. I have met many of these family members as they escort their hero around the World War II memorial. The pure joy and admiration on the faces of these family members as they experience the memorial for the first time reassures me that generations to come will understand and venerate the sacrifices of our nation's military members past and present. From the bottom of my heart I say thank you. Thank you for the long hours. Thank you for your dedication. Thank you Kansas Honor Flight.

TRIBUTE TO PERCIVAL
SCIENTIFIC, INC.

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate an exemplary Iowa company, Percival Scientific, Inc. as they are recognized with an "E" Award, the United States Government's highest honor to an American exporter and export service provider.

The United States Department of Commerce notified Percival Scientific, Inc. of the award, citing the company's "economic dynamism and leadership," and acknowledging that Percival Scientific, Inc.'s officials "recognize the importance exports have on creating jobs and strengthening the United States economy." Percival Scientific, Inc. is only one of 123 recipients of the President's "E" Award.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy, Jr. created this award to recognize companies who support the expansion of U.S. exports. Percival Scientific, Inc. has been in business for over 125 years, established in 1886 in Des Moines, Iowa, starting as Percival Manufacturing. The company manufactured and sold butcher tools, machinery and fixtures. As refrigeration came into being, Percival Manufacturing received a patent to manufacture a complete line of refrigerated display units. Since 2000, the company remains housed in a 60,000-square foot facility in Perry, Iowa, employing hundreds of central Iowans and contributing to the local and global economy.

Mr. Speaker, over the last century, Percival Scientific, Inc. has left an indelible mark on the manufacturing export industry in Iowa and around the world. Their innovation and forward thinking in the creation of state-of-the-art refrigeration chambers is recognized and admired worldwide among their peers. I commend Percival Scientific, Inc. 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 manufacturing and to the state of Iowa. I wish Percival Scientific, Inc. and their employees nothing but continued success in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING NORTHWEST INDIANA'S NEWLY NATURALIZED CITIZENS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate thirty-one individuals who will take their oath of citizenship on Friday, June 10, 2016. This memorable occasion, presided over by Magistrate Judge Andrew Rodovich, will be held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On June 10, 2016, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Joseph Nderito Ndungu, Kareema Abbas Khazaal, Waqar Hikmat Mahmood Jbara, Guadalupe Garcilazo Coria, Joseph Githae Njoroge, Lawrence George Cartwright, Sridhar Meda, Hellen Wangari Gathesha, Isabela Patena Pascua, Haopeng Xie, Leslie Sorayda Lopez, Mario Vazquez Sanchez, Michelle Patena Santarromana, Verica Prentoska, Esmerelda Ortiz, Sridhar Punukollu, Marina Gramosli, Tasuli Gramosli, Maria Delgado, Bharath Ganesh Babu, Maria Angelica Garcia, Juvenal Gonzalez, Fabiola Guerra Alocilla, John Donghyun Kim, Ivy Cong Lu, Madhuri Punukollu, Emilio Soria, Alicia Tapia, Ernesto Abraham Velazquez, and Joseph Kamau Njoroge Venanzio.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country ". . . of the people, by the people, and for the people." They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who will become citizens of the United States of America on June 10, 2016. They, too, are American citizens, and they, too, are guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

IN RECOGNITION OF JIM AND SUZIE CONNORS FOR THEIR SERVICE TO THE JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE OF NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jim and Suzie Connors, who will be recognized at the Jewish Family Service of Northeastern Pennsylvania's Inaugural Community Recognition Event on June 8, 2016. Mr. and Mrs. Connors will be honored for their work with Jewish Family Service and their long history of service to the Greater Scranton Community.

The Jewish Family Service of Northeastern Pennsylvania is a human service organization, which reflects the Jewish tradition of caring and compassion for all people in need. Through professional counseling, advocacy, and educational programming, its services seek to enhance and strengthen the quality of individual, family, and community life.

Mr. and Mrs. Connors are well known as community leaders committed to helping others throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania. Jim served as Mayor of Scranton from 1990 to 2002. Suzie was an educator in the Scranton school district for over thirty years and is a former board president for Jewish Family Service. Today, they both serve as members on the board of directors for Jewish Family Service.

It is an honor to recognize Mr. and Mrs. Connors. I wish them the best as they continue to work to improve the lives of Pennsylvanians.

MORGAN RASMUSSEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Morgan Rasmussen for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Morgan Rasmussen is a 12th grader at Stanley Lake High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Morgan Rasmussen is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Morgan Rasmussen for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH
ANNIVERSARY OF VOICE-BUFFALO

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of VOICE-Buffalo, a faith-based community of urban and suburban congregations throughout the County of Erie that has more than exceeded its mission to be the “Voice of the Voiceless.”

In 1996 VOICE-Buffalo Clergy identified congregation-based organization as the strategy for breaking down the barriers that divide neighborhoods, our city and region. Tirelessly dedicated to creating a culture of responsibility and accountability for what happens in our community, VOICE-Buffalo continues to build the capacity of people to act on their concerns and to strengthen and connect institutions to individuals.

Today, 55 interfaith and diverse congregations, unions and other community organizations that share common values, focus on bringing local issues that profoundly impact the lives of residents to the forefront. VOICE-Buffalo members believe in the positive progress that can be achieved through rallying local leaders, congregations and the private sector together to hold those in power accountable for making decisions that are in the best interest of the community.

For two decades, VOICE’s mission has taken root in those committed to the cause of social and economic justice and whose training enhances engagement in the public life of their congregations and communities. This committed membership acts locally to connect people, build public relationships, address issues in their church neighborhoods and has built a regional organization with the capacity to address policies that impact individuals, families and communities.

Committed to long term systemic change, VOICE-Buffalo has achieved tangible and transformative success with its push to increase health and public safety with the development of a city-wide uniform garbage tote system, the implementation of Project Holy Ground to strengthen congregations, engage and connect people to the community and bring stability to neighborhoods. In 2004, VOICE-Buffalo called for targeted demolition of unsafe properties that led to collaboration with the city of Buffalo to develop a user friendly manual on housing inspections and procedures.

Recent successes have been made in public transportation and in bringing methods of Restorative Justice to Erie County. Voice sponsorship has boosted training for more than 50 “peace circle keepers” and the establishment of faith-based peace center “hubs.”

In March of this year, I had the privilege of working with VOICE-Buffalo, NOAH (Niagara Organizing Alliance for Hope) and its joint federation, Gamaliel WNY (Western New York) in welcoming U.S. Labor Secretary Thomas Perez back to his hometown of Buffalo, New York. Secretary Perez accepted the invitation extended by VOICE-Buffalo President Pastor James Giles, NOAH President Rev. JoAnne Scott and Paul Vukelic, CEO of Try-It Distrib-

uting, for a public dialogue on workforce diversity and training strategies.

Secretary Perez addressed a packed auditorium at Bennett High School outlining the Federal Government’s plan to provide resources to fill the existing gaps by connecting people in need to the pipeline of opportunity and employment. The challenge to develop innovative approaches has been embraced by VOICE-Buffalo and its community partners who continue to use their expertise to identify the underlying issues that prevent hiring and advocate for sustainability measures.

There is well-deserved national acclaim for Buffalo’s renaissance but the true measure of success will be when all residents are able to participate in the rebuilding of Western New York. VOICE-Buffalo has accepted that challenge and is leading the way to ensure that a pathway to participation is in place and that it is sustainable.

The process of creating positive social change is never easy; it takes courage, faith, patience and vision. And that is why I rise today in the House of Representatives to acknowledge with admiration and appreciation the courage, faith, patience and vision of VOICE-Buffalo. More than 400 others joined together in the Golden Ballroom of Statler City to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of VOICE-Buffalo on June 2, 2016 and to give thanks for the contributions of Father Harry Grace, Rev. Will Brown (posthumously), Marianne Rathman, Murray Holman, Robert Spicer and Amy Vossen Vukelic.

Thank you for this opportunity to congratulate VOICE-Buffalo for its accomplishments. I would like to extend my best wishes for continued success. By standing together, we can “be the people we’ve been waiting for” that make a difference in our community and set “Our Path to Power.”

HONORING JIMMY SMITH

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with Representative MIKE THOMPSON in memory of our friend, Jimmy Smith, who passed away on May 24, 2016, at the age of 67. A third generation Humboldt County native, Jimmy was woven into the fabric of California’s North Coast as a commercial fisherman, avid outdoorsman, dedicated public servant, and community leader.

Born in Eureka on July 11, 1948, to James L. Smith and Jean Withey, Jimmy graduated from Eureka High in 1966. In 1972, Jimmy bought a salmon and crab fishing boat, which he operated out of Humboldt Bay for 30 years. He became a respected and expert fisherman known for his uncanny ability to locate salmon. Jimmy was also a lifelong hunter with a passion for ducks and geese, especially black brant.

During his time as a commercial fisherman, Jimmy also volunteered and worked on numerous fisheries and wildlife surveys throughout the area with the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Fish & Game, California Waterfowl Association, and

Humboldt Fish Action Council. He co-chaired the Task Force for the Humboldt Bay Management Plan, served as the fishing industry representative to the Klamath River Basin Fisheries Technical Work Group, and was appointed by Interior Secretary Babbitt to the Trinity Task Force.

In 1995, Jimmy was elected to the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District and served until 2000, where he worked with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to deepen Humboldt Bay to improve safety and accommodate deep-draft ships. Jimmy was then elected to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors in 2000, a position he served in for 12 years. His achievements, which he always credited to those he worked with, are too many to record. Among them were working tirelessly to clean up the South Spit of Humboldt Bay—now the Mike Thompson Wildlife Area; helping broker agreements meant to tear out the Klamath River’s fish-blocking dams; and efforts to improve flows on the Eel River and protect fisheries on the Klamath, Trinity and Eel rivers. During his term as supervisor, Jimmy was a primary visionary and co-founder of the seven-county North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (now the North Coast Resource Partnership) and the Five-Counties Salmonid Conservation Program.

Jimmy was named National Fisherman Magazine Highliner of the Year in 1983 and received numerous other recognitions, including the John Pelnar Commercial Fisherman Award in 1984 and awards from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, California Waterfowl Association, U.S. Coast Guard, Eureka Chamber of Commerce, Elks Club, and the Humboldt County League of Women Voters. He was a member and the chair of the Commercial Salmon Trollers Advisory Committee and California Salmon Stamp Committee.

Jimmy Smith was a champion of the North Coast and the conservation of its natural resources. He had a profound impact on so many people, often serving as a valued friend, partner, and mentor. He quietly led by example and earned his reputation as a true gentleman known for creating partnerships, responsive leadership, treating everyone with respect, generosity of spirit, kindness, and integrity. Those who knew him best appreciated his witty sense of humor and love for teasing those he liked.

Jimmy is survived by his soul mate and wife of more than 40 years, Jacque; his son Gary; his granddaughters Shawni Chrislock and her husband Kohl, and McKayla Smith; his sisters Laurie Smith and Marnie Carr; and nieces, nephews and cousins. He also leaves behind many friends who loved him and will miss him dearly.

Few are as beloved and widely respected as Jimmy Smith, who made such a difference in the lives of so many and in his community. We both considered him a friend and relied on him for his wise counsel, as did our staffs and our colleagues in state and local government. Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that we honor Jimmy today for his decades of commitment to the North Coast, and we express our deepest appreciation for his friendship and service. His presence will be sorely missed and his legacy not soon forgotten.