

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### TRIBUTE TO ADAM HACKFORT

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Adam Hackfort, a member of the 2016 Iowa Boys 2A State Golf Tournament Championship Team.

Adam, and his teammates at Panorama High School, persevered through a tough season. With steady and consistent play at the state tournament, these students showed the state of Iowa that they were worthy of a state championship two years in a row.

Mr. Speaker, Adam's determination, hard work, commitment and team work is what contributed to the stellar success of his team. His willingness to give it his best effort is what will be valuable later in life and I am honored to represent Adam in the United States Congress. I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Adam Hackfort and his team for competing and winning this rigorous competition. We all share in wishing him nothing but continued success.

### RETIREMENT OF COLONEL SAMUEL D. GRABLE

#### HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Director of the Air Force Office of Budget and Appropriation Liaison, Colonel Samuel Grable.

Colonel Grable is retiring after a long and impressive career in the Air Force. Here in Congress, we are especially grateful for his work in communicating the Air Force message in a clear and concise manner.

He played a critical role during the budget roll-out process in 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016, setting the highest standards for clarity and honesty. His personal approach and respect for others helped rebuild credibility between the Air Force and the Congress.

Colonel Grable is a native of Seattle, Washington, and earned a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Pepperdine University in Malibu, California, and a Master of Arts degree in Organizational Management from George Washington University in Washington, DC.

During his career he has served in a variety of operational, command and staff assignments in the United States and overseas. He deployed as the Chief of Plans to Multi-National Corps in Baghdad and as Mission Support Group Commander at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan in support of Operations Iraqi, and Enduring, Freedom.

Colonel Grable became the director of the Air Force Office of Budget and Appropriation

Liaison in July 2012. He became the principal strategist and advisor to both the Secretary, and Chief of Staff, of the Air Force and a critical conduit between their offices and Congress. Under Colonel Grable's leadership, his office was able to shape programs critical to the future of our national defense such as the KC-46 Tanker and F-35 Joint Strike Fighter.

The Congressional Appropriations Committees and our country owe Colonel Grable a debt of gratitude for his tireless work.

### HONORING GARY BERBLINGER

#### HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Gary Berblinger as he retires after 46 years in publishing. Gary began his career in Belleville, Illinois in 1973 and continued to work in journalism in St. Louis and in Bradenton, Florida. Since 2006, he has worked in Park Hills, Missouri, first as business manager and since 2008, as publisher of the Daily Journal, Farmington Press, and Democrat News.

Gary has distinguished himself in the communities he serves as a member of the St. Francois County Rotary Club, Greater Farmington Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the St. Francois County Community Partnership. He and his wife Mary have been members of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Farmington.

Mary says of her husband's retirement, "I'm looking forward to having him home. He's worked 50 years of his life. He has always loved his job. His work has been his hobby, too. Now is our time to travel and go see the kids and grandkids."

In celebration of his dedication to publishing, his community involvement, and his citizenship, it is my pleasure to recognize Mr. Gary Berblinger of Farmington, Missouri before the United States House of Representatives.

### HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JOSEPH E. RYAN

#### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life of Joseph E. Ryan, a man who served his country, city and community in times of need. A leader on the field of battle so many times and in so many ways, Joe Ryan lived a life full of triumph and tragedy that is testament to his indomitable spirit and determination to make a difference in this world.

The first born in a family of ten, Joe Ryan graduated from St. Joseph's Collegiate Insti-

tute in 1961, where he was class president and an all-Catholic and all-Western New York football player. He went on to earn his degree in industrial and labor relations from Cornell University, while also capturing all-Ivy League honors as a center and linebacker on the football team.

Mr. Ryan served in the Navy from 1965 to 1969, in which he spent 17 months in Vietnam as a diving team commander. He earned the Bronze Star for his actions and rose to the rank of lieutenant before returning home from service.

Upon his return, Mr. Ryan's involvement and influence in the community began and grew for more than forty years. An engineering consultant in 1971, the late Mayor Frank Sedita tapped this rebel with a cause to serve as the executive director of the Citizens Advisory Committee, where he energetically directed the Community Development Block Grant program and fostered the growth of local nonprofit neighborhood groups.

In 1982, he helped found the local Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program and served as its first president. A horrific bicycle accident in 1985 would leave Mr. Ryan paralyzed but his efforts to assist others in need could never be contained as even from his hospital bed he finalized arrangements for his self-created Best of the Turtles race to raise scholarship money for the children of local Vietnam veterans.

In 1998, City of Buffalo Mayor Anthony Masiello appointed him as Community Development Commissioner. Mr. Ryan remained in that position for more than four years leading the creation of the Department of Strategic Planning and a focused effort to engage residents in planning initiatives to revitalize neighborhoods.

With staunch determination to be an advocate for others, Joe Ryan volunteered countless hours to the community and those in need. He served on the national board of directors of the Eastern Paralyzed Veterans, which advocated for veterans on health care issues. He took part in the Paralyzed Veterans America Wheelchair Games in 1987, helping raise money for the Erie County Medical Center spinal cord injury unit.

He served as a chairman of the Board of Managers for Erie County Medical Center in the 1990's and was President of the Friends of the Night People. Mr. Ryan had also been on the board of directors of St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute, and a board member of the National Spinal Cord Injury Association, the Buffalo Area Council of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, the United Cerebral Palsy Foundation, and the Cornell University Presidential Council.

Mr. Ryan was justifiably recognized many times for his life's work in public service. He received the D'Youville College Community Service Award, and was named Buffalo News Citizen of the Year in 1986. He was given the Clarkson Center's Courage to Come Back Award for devoting his talents to providing customized housing that allow people with disabilities to live independently.

• 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.

And while he lived an independent and purposeful life, little would have been possible without the unconditional, unyielding love and loyalty of his devoted wife of 44 years, Eileen and their greatest shared accomplishment, son Sean, a former NFL player.

Mr. Speaker, I honor the life of Mr. Joseph E. Ryan. I ask that my colleagues join me in expressing our deepest condolences to all of the Ryan family, including his daughter-in-law, Mary Elizabeth, his grandchildren, Emmie, Sienna and Colin, his brothers, sisters and many friends and colleagues as they join together at a celebration of his life on Saturday, June 25 at St. Joseph's University Church.

The extraordinary story of his life will continue to be told by all those who will always remember: here was a man who could not stand himself, yet made it his life's work to always stand up for others.

OLNEY/RICHLAND CO. 175TH  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the Dodransbicentennial, or 175th Anniversary of Richland County. Richland County was created in 1841 by combining sections of western Lawrence County and eastern Clay County. Olney was named the seat of Richland County due to its centrality and desirable proximity to the Fox River.

Over the years, many students have benefitted from being able to receive a quality and affordable education at Olney Central College. In addition to its support of education, Olney has a marvelously rich history of being a center of transportation, medicine, culture, and agriculture for Southeastern Illinois.

A large colony of albino squirrels first found sanctuary in Olney in the early 1900s. Because of this, inquiring visitors from near and far are attracted to the "Home of the White Squirrels." Olney and Richland County are the home to many churches and volunteer organizations, as well.

I look forward to the continued prosperity of Olney and Richland County largely due to its citizens who respect their history and have a vision for their future; I also offer my congratulations on the occasion of the 175th anniversary celebration which will take place from July 22–24, 2016.

HONORING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCORPORATION OF GEORGETOWN, MAINE

**HON. CHELLIE PINGREE**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 300th birthday of a town in my District. On June 13, 1716, Georgetown was incorporated as the 10th town in the Province of Maine.

Located on an island between the mouths of the Kennebec and Sheepscoot Rivers, Georgetown has a rich history that goes back far

longer than 300 years. For generations, the Abenakis knew the island as a place for good spear fishing. John Parker—to whom many current residents can still trace their lineage—built its first permanent homestead on land he purchased for a hogshead of rum and a few pumpkins in 1649. And its location on the border between what was then New France and New England brought several conflicts during the French and Indian Wars of the 1700s.

Thankfully, though, peace did eventually come to Georgetown. Since then, generations of Mainers have made their living there in boatbuilding, fishing, and other trades. And countless visitors have gone there searching for the best of what the Maine coast has to offer. Indeed, with the town's picturesque scenes, wicked good lobster, and hard-working people, that's exactly what they've found.

Mr. Speaker, it makes me very proud to represent a community with such a rich history and uniquely Maine character. My congratulations to Georgetown and all its residents on this wonderful occasion—and my best wishes for many more birthdays in the future.

TRIBUTE TO AL PIZZANO

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Al Pizzano, Chief of Police of Pleasant Hill, Iowa and retired Captain of the New York City Police Department's elite Emergency Service Unit. Chief Pizzano assumed his post as Chief of Police of Pleasant Hill in September 2015. He was recently honored in New York by the city's mayor and police chief during its annual Medal Day ceremony which pays tribute to the exemplary public servants whose selfless acts have made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting the lives and safety of all Americans. He was one of 53 recipients for the awards.

Chief Al Pizzano received the Police Combat Cross, the Department's second highest award, granted to members who have successfully and intelligently performed an act of extreme heroism while engaged in combat with an armed adversary. On April 8, 2012, Chief Pizzano and five members of the elite Emergency Service Unit were called to negotiate with an armed suspect, were injured in the ensuing gunfire, but avoided civilian casualties during the apprehension.

Chief Al Pizzano began his law enforcement career in 1987 with the New York Police Department, training and supervising 200 officers and 30 civilian employees while commanding the K-9 Resources throughout New York City. He left the Department to join Homefront Protective Group where he analyzed police agencies and administered police-related training courses before coming to Iowa as Police Chief of Pleasant Hill.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Chief Al Pizzano for this award and for sharing his servant leadership with an entire community. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Chief Al Pizzano and wishing him nothing but continued success.

CONGRATULATING THE WEST  
VIEW MASONIC LODGE NUMBER 103

**HON. JASON SMITH**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the West View Masonic Lodge No. 103 for its 150th anniversary. Chartered on June 2, 1866, the West View Lodge has served the Millersville, MO area and has stood as a symbol for brotherly love, relief, and truth for one hundred and fifty years.

As a branch of the world's oldest fraternal organization, the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Missouri has over 36,000 members who work hard to serve and improve their communities. The millions of freemasons worldwide comprise various bodies, including the Shriners, Order of the Eastern Star, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, and nearly 30 others. These philanthropic groups donate over sixty million dollars to their communities each month.

As a result of its efforts and passion for service to the Millersville community, the West View Masonic Lodge No. 103 has helped countless citizens throughout the years. I'm proud of their achievements thus far, and I look forward to seeing the ongoing fruits of their mission. For the special place it holds in the hearts and lives of many in the community, it is my pleasure to recognize the 150th anniversary of the West View Masonic Lodge No. 103 before the House of Representatives.

TRIBUTE TO RONALD  
NABAKOWSKI

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a true public servant and fellow Ohio politician, Ronald Nabakowski. Ron passed away Friday, June 10th after a long struggle with ALS, and will be dearly missed by his family and friends.

At the time of his passing Ron was retired, fully enjoying his time with family and actively promoting the redevelopment of downtown Lorain. He had been a public servant in government for forty-two years.

Prior to his retirement Ron served as Clerk of Court of Common Pleas in Lorain County for fourteen years, after a long career as State Senator, Lorain County Commissioner, and Director of the Ohio Lottery on Governor Dick Celeste's cabinet.

Throughout his long career Ron remained dedicated to making government work better for the people. A Democrat, Ron did not hesitate to reach across the aisle to create comprehensive legislation that could pass the State legislature, and to ensure the community he represented flourished.

One of his proudest moments in public service came while serving as Director of the Ohio Lottery. During his tenure, 17 cents of each state dollar went towards primary and secondary education in Ohio—a record that would remain unrivaled by subsequent Lottery administrations.

An outspoken politician at times, Ron had many admirers and critics. Regardless of party affiliation, there was no denying that Ron was genuine, and that he would certainly act in a fair manner. He was led by Christian values and his love for the Lorain community. These values served him well, establishing Ron as a public servant of the highest order.

Ron is survived by his wife of 55 years, Dorthea, and six of his children, having been preceded in death by a daughter and his parents.

We offer them our prayers and hope that they find comfort in the wonderful memories of our dear friend, Ron, who will be remembered with affection and gratitude for his probing intellect, kind heart, and utter dedication to advancing Lorain as a community, its people and its institutions.

RECOGNIZING JOAN M. FLANAGAN  
ON HER RETIREMENT FROM U.S.  
CITIZENSHIP & IMMIGRATION  
SERVICES

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the remarkable Joan M. Flanagan on the occasion of her retirement after more than thirty years of accomplished and distinguished service with what was the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and is now United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Ms. Flanagan entered on duty on November 24, 1985 as a Mail and File Clerk in the Records unit at the INS Office then located at the Buffalo Federal Court House on Court Street. In June of 1987, she joined the Investigations Unit of INS as the Anti-Smuggling/Vehicle Seizure clerk where she participated in a pilot program to track data pertaining to vehicle seizures into the automated seizure/forfeiture system. That system was expanded when the data was entered into the Operation Activities Special Information System (OASIS) and rolled out to all Ports of Entry proving to be a very useful tool for the inspection program.

In January of 1990, Joan Flanagan joined the Information/FOIA-PA Unit (Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act), as an Information Officer for Buffalo. At that time, the Buffalo Information Officers also staffed INS Information offices in Rochester and Syracuse several days a week.

In October 2002, Ms. Flanagan was promoted to Supervisory Information Officer. She was the leader of the Information employees of INS who answered sometimes extremely complicated questions from the public who appeared at the office in person. The Information Officers also answered phone inquiries, and reviewed and responded to those who had written letters to INS.

In 2004 she served as a core member and subject matter expert in the area of Immigration Information on the Government's Team known as the "Most Efficient Organization Team" during a Competitive Sourcing competition relating to all IIOs positions nationwide. At that time, the IIO positions nationwide were deemed commercial in the "Fair Inventory" and were placed in A-76 competition to

allow private companies to compete for these positions. The Team goal was to prepare the most cost effective proposal that would allow the IIOs to remain as federal employees.

As the subject matter expert, Ms. Flanagan conducted site visits to various offices to research and gather data to aid in the progress of new concepts. She helped streamline workloads and identify and implement the most cost effective measures during the development of the Government's competitive bid for the 1,300 IIO positions. This competition was cancelled in October 2004 prior to submission of final proposals after it was likely learned the work being done by the Information Officers was done as well as possible in terms of cost efficiency, accuracy and service to the public.

In September 2007 Joan Flanagan was promoted to District Adjudications Officer, now called Immigration Service Officer II. In this position, now as part of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service in the Department of Homeland Security, she interviewed applicants who had applied to become permanent residents of the United States and/or those who applied to become citizens of the United States through Naturalization. In January 2011 she was promoted to Supervisory Immigration Services Officer.

In June of 2013 Joan Flanagan was promoted to Chief of Staff of District 2, the Buffalo District, in USCIS which oversees USCIS field offices in Albany, New York, Hartford Connecticut and St Albans, Vermont and a sub office in Syracuse, New York.

While her dedication to country is well documented and her stellar reputation is well deserved, it is her love and loyalty to family and community that is also deserving of our deepest respect and recognition. The wife of William "Bill" Flanagan for 26 years, Joni is the very proud mother of the late Jeffrey Fuqua, Kristie (Daron) Moore, Karyn (Duane) Smith and Erin (Kyle) Kiminski. As a completely devoted grandmother to Marissa Stack, Nicholas Moore, Carolyn and Kameron Kiminski, Kaylee Reid and Madison Fuqua, there is no stopping her and Bill from cheering them all on at school programs and sporting events.

The tragic loss of her beloved son, Technical Sergeant Jeffrey Fuqua, to PTSD following more than eleven years of active service in the US Air Force, including tours of Iraq and Afghanistan, compelled her and her daughters to action. This fierce trio of warriors moved with a sense of urgency to help other veterans and their families struggling with PTSD as they brought the community together to raise awareness and funds for WNY Heroes and Horizon Health Services-Freedom Village. She recently joined with her family in unveiling a bench in memory of her son at her grandchildren's school, Notre Dame Academy in South Buffalo.

In sharing great joy as well, it is expected that Joni and Bill, a veteran and a retiree from federal service, will use this time to be together with family and visit the Magic Kingdom even more often.

From an entry level position as a GS-3 clerk, Chief of Staff Joan Flanagan rose through the ranks holding three supervisory positions. Her influence is found in significant policies and programs for USINS and USCIS, she has advised and mentored scores of other employees, and became one of the key players in the Buffalo District, a district known for many years to demonstrate the absolute high-

est standards of accomplishment, dedication, and service in the federal government to the people of the United States.

Throughout three decades of service, Joan became a reliable resource for information due to her expertise in a myriad of subjects. Joan's intelligence and compassionate personality have made her a truly valued individual and admired friend inside and outside of the office. Joan's dedication to her many positions throughout her career and incredible work ethic will leave her dearly missed.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize and congratulate Joan M. Flanagan on her extensive service and remarkable achievements in both the Immigration & Naturalization Service and the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services. We join with her colleagues and many friends in wishing Joan, her husband and family good health and happiness as she brings her extraordinary career to a close and begins a new chapter in her life.

IN RECOGNITION OF BARBARA  
TAKEI

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Barbara Takei, who is being awarded the National Parks Conservation Association's Marjorie Stoneman Douglas Award for her work in the protection of the Tule Lake confinement site as a national park. As her family, friends and colleagues gather to celebrate her long list of valiant accomplishments, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this awe-inspiring individual who has served and contributed greatly to the National Park System.

Born in Sacramento, the daughter of camp internees, Ms. Takei was raised in Detroit and graduated from Howard University. She eventually became the chief financial officer of the non-profit Tule Lake Committee, an organization focused on the education and recognition of Tule Lake, one of the largest and most controversial sites where thousands of men, women, and children of Japanese ancestry were incarcerated and detained. Ms. Takei is being honored for spearheading the effort to prevent the construction of an intrusive fence for an airport on the Segregation Center Property, which would have disturbed visitor access to the site and its visual history. Without her longstanding and tireless leadership, the Tule Lake confinement site would likely not be a protected unit of the National Park System today.

In addition to her steadfast fight for national park protection, Ms. Takei has been active in the community for preserving the cultural history of Japanese-Americans, as well as spending the past decade researching and writing about Tule Lake's segregation history.

Mr. Speaker, as the members of the National Parks Conservation Association celebrate and recognize Ms. Barbara Takei for her accomplishments and value to the National Park System at the annual Tule Lake Pilgrimage, along with Tule Lake survivors and their families, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring this outstanding individual.

RECOGNIZING PENNRIDGE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR: PATRICIA A. GUTH

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Patricia Guth being named the Pennridge Citizen of the Year.

Dedicated to education and administration; Dr. Guth began her teaching career in the Central Bucks School District and in 1958 began teaching in the Pennridge School District. Throughout her career with the Pennridge School District, Dr. Guth was the director of Elementary Education as well as the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction.

In addition, Dr. Guth was the author and model presenter of Alternative Teaching Strategies for the federal grant awarded to the Pennridge School District.

In 1992 Pennridge School District Board of Directors, rededicated Perkasio Elementary School as Dr. Patricia A. Guth Elementary School. Patricia A. Guth Elementary School is a fitting tribute to Dr. Guth's work and the dedicated faculty and staff who have shaped it over the last five decades.

Dr. Guth is an example of countless individuals who have served their community professionally and continue to contribute their experience, time and service through their retirement years. Dr. Guth, has set the bar for citizenship and service for which others should aspire to.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN OVERTON

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Overton of Indianola, Iowa for his 50 years of service in the funeral home industry, as recognized by the 2016 Iowa Funeral Directors Association Convention.

Mr. Overton was licensed as a funeral director and embalmer in 1966. He took over the family business, Overton Funeral Home, in 1983. It is one of the oldest businesses in Indianola, founded by his grandfather, Lewis Overton, in 1928. John's wife, Barbara, also helped the funeral home with bookkeeping, marketing and community outreach programs, as well as serving as treasurer.

Though he retired as President of Overton Funeral Home, he continued to serve as funeral director. Through all of his years in the funeral service, he has been an active member of his community. He is also an ordained elder at Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Past President of the Indianola Rotary Club, and a former board member of the Indianola Chamber of Commerce.

I commend John for his half century of service to families during those tough times we all face. I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating John Overton for his dedication and years of service.

HONORING THE COAST GUARD TRAINING CENTER PETALUMA

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Coast Guard Training Center Petaluma in Sonoma County, California, on their 45th year of operations. The Training Center, the Coast Guard's largest on the West Coast, plays an essential role in training and developing their workforce and carrying out the mission of the organization.

Originally known as Two Rock Station, the 876-acre property was purchased by the United States Army in 1942 to serve as an electronic intercept station during World War II. During the Vietnam War, it was expanded to include training facilities for Army soldiers. On July 1, 1971, the United States Coast Guard took over ownership of the facility, renaming the site and expanding the property's functionality with new barracks, family housing units, and a water treatment plant.

Today, the Training Center serves as home to more than 650 active duty service members, civilian employees, and military family members. Each year, more than 3,000 students attend basic and advanced career training courses to become cooks, medics, yeomen, information technicians, operations specialists, and more. The Training Center also hosts leadership courses like the Chief Petty Officers Academy, which prepares members of the service's senior enlisted corps for their roles as front-line leaders and mentors.

Mr. Speaker, it is therefore fitting that we congratulate the United States Coast Guard Training Center Petaluma on its 45th year of operations, and thank the Center and its people for its contributions to our nation's safety, security and environmental stewardship.

HONORING IRONDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**HON. JASON SMITH**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Irondale United Methodist Church on its 150th anniversary.

The church has a rich history in Washington County. Known first as the Irondale Methodist Episcopal Church—South, its first building was constructed in 1866 and dedicated in 1867, free of debt. The first trustees of the church were: John Jamison, Stephen Denton, Garrett Tidwell, Elbridge Thompson, James D. Denton, James S. Evans and James B. Yeargin. It is the oldest church in Irondale.

Irondale Methodist celebrates its 150th with two days of celebration featuring Rev. Jimmie Robinson who grew up across the street from the church.

Known affectionately as the "Old Brick Church," Irondale Methodist currently has only 12 members. Although its numbers have diminished, its mission remains the same: To spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and reach the people of Washington County.

It is my great pleasure to recognize the Irondale United Methodist Church's sesqui-

centennial celebration today before the United States House of Representatives.

IN RECOGNITION OF TIM HILL, CAPTAIN, PHOENIX FIRE DEPARTMENT, PAST PRESIDENT, PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS OF ARIZONA, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, UNITED PHOENIX FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

**HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Tim Hill of the Phoenix Fire Department. Tim is retiring today and an incredible thirty one years as a first responder in our community. In addition to serving as a fire fighter, Tim also dedicated his career to serving the greater needs of the fire fighter community and Arizona as a whole.

Tim served as the President of the Professional Fire Fighters of Arizona and as the Executive Vice President of the United Phoenix Fire Fighters Association. In both roles he provided support to his brothers and sisters in the fire-fighting profession and worked with elected officials and the Arizona Legislature to make policy changes to help every Arizona first responder.

Tim served as President of the Professional Fire Fighters of Arizona when we lost 19 brave young fire fighters from the Granite Mountain Hot Shot team in June of 2013. That was such a tragic loss for our community and our state, and I am so grateful to Tim for the grace, leadership, and compassion he showed in such a difficult time.

Additionally Tim served on the Arizona Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial Commission which recently completed the construction and grand opening of the only memorial honoring the 119 fire fighters, paramedics and emergency personnel in Arizona. His work to make the memorial a reality is a testament to his dedication to his fellow fire fighters and emergency personnel and the entire State of Arizona.

CONGRATULATING MR. CARL GOTZMER ON FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES NAVY

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer my congratulations to Carl Gotzmer of Accokeek, Maryland, in the Fifth District. On June 30, Carl will be receiving his fifty-year pin from the United States Navy in recognition of a half-century of civilian service at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head Division.

Carl is one of our nation's leading experts on energetics, the field of study concerning the movement of energy in a system. This field has wide application in defense technologies, and Carl has drawn on his deep knowledge of it to design systems that help seamen protect our homeland and carry out missions overseas in support of our interests

and our allies. He has published more than 100 papers and articles in the field and holds dozens of patents. Furthermore, Carl's analysis of the threat from foreign energetic materials has strengthened our intelligence, and it earned him a Letter of Appreciation from the Office of Naval Intelligence in 2014.

Praised for his ability to translate complex energetics concepts into plain English for policymakers, Carl has been an invaluable asset not only to the Navy but also to the other service branches, as well as to the CIA, FBI, and other national security agencies. In 2013, Secretary Ashton Carter presented him with the Distinguished Civilian Service Award—the Defense Department's highest civilian honor. Over the years, Carl has also received three Meritorious Civilian Service Awards in recognition of his having provided the Navy with solutions to difficult, large-scale problems.

Many of Carl's innovations and discoveries in energetics have subsequently been applied in industry and benefitted America's economy. He developed and named High Temperature Thermal Radiation (HTTR) devices and invented a new class of rocket propellants. Carl has also been a pioneer in the development of undersea explosives and reactive materials. Undoubtedly, his work at Indian Head has saved lives and aided our troops in countless missions around the world.

Before coming to Indian Head in 1966, Carl worked for a year at the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission. He and his wife Kathleen, who also works for the Navy, run a small business in Accokeek that sells their hand-crafted dulcimers to collectors and musicians throughout the country.

On June 30, Carl's family, friends, and colleagues will celebrate his half-century of service at an All-Hands ceremony at the Indian Head Pavilion. Carl has said he intends to continue serving the Navy and our country, with no intention of retiring anytime soon. I congratulate him and wish him continued success in his service to the Navy and to our country.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 38TH ANNUAL BDPA TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

**HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to recognize and congratulate the National Black Data Processing Associates (BDPA) on its 38th Annual Technology Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

BDPA was founded in May 1975 by Earl Pace and the late David Wimberly out of concern that minorities were not adequately represented in the IT field. Today, BDPA is comprised of over 2,000 African American IT professionals and has over 40 active chapters nationwide, making it the oldest and largest organization for African American professionals in the information technology field. Since its founding over 40 years ago, BDPA has remained committed to its mission of advancing diverse talent 'from the classroom to the boardroom.'

Each year, BDPA trains over 800 high school students across the nation in computer

programming and web development. The organization has trained more students to write code than any other non-profit in the country since 1986.

The theme for the 2016 BDPA Technology Conference—"BDPA Connect"—is especially fitting, as the conference is a time for professionals, employers, vendors, and all attendees alike to connect with one another in over 50 sessions on digital thought leadership preparedness for diverse students and professionals from across the country.

In addition to the innovative contributions provided by this organization, I am proud that BDPA continues to fulfill its mission to promote inclusion and diversity at all levels within the field by providing career growth opportunities for its members.

Last year, BDPA partnered with the Congressional Black Caucus to adopt an African American inclusion plan that outlines specific, measurable steps that the organization will take to increase the recruitment and retention of African Americans in the IT industry. BDPA fully understands that diversity spurs innovation. Infusing diversity and inclusion into various layers of the field will best reflect the communities it serves.

The steps taken by BDPA to promote and boost the contributions of African American professionals are earnest and effective. I applaud BDPA's decades-long commitment to enhancing diversity and inclusion in the information technology field.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the National Black Data Processing Associates for its outstanding achievements and on the occasion of its 38th Annual Technology Conference.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,381,591,140,792.22. We've added \$8,754,714,091,879.14 to our debt in 7 years. This is over \$8.7 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING MR. JOHN AUSTIN WERTHING SR.

**HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and career of Mr. John Austin Werthing Sr. of Jackson, Tennessee. On June 25, 2016, hundreds of family, friends, and former students gathered for the dedication of LaBelle Street as "John Austin Werthing, Sr. Boulevard." I sincerely congratulate Mr. Werthing on this great honor.

Mr. Werthing was born, raised and schooled in Lexington, Tennessee and completed his

education with a Chemistry degree from Lane College. Upon graduation in 1952, Mr. Werthing was drafted into the United States Army where he served two years and is a veteran of the Korean War. While in uniform, he married Sallie Russell of Jackson. The two met in chemistry class years earlier while attending Lane College.

In 1954, Mr. Werthing began teaching in Lexington, Tennessee. Three years later, he moved over to Merry High School and joined the Jackson-Madison School System where he would dedicate the next 40 years of his life to educating students. Throughout his tenure, he touched the lives of thousands of students as a principal of Washington-Douglass, Merry Jr. High, Parkway Jr. High, and Northeast schools.

Mr. Werthing's lifelong love for education continued as he attended several institutes including St. Louis, Tennessee State, Memphis State, and Indiana University where he earned his Master's degree in 1960. Along with education, he participated in numerous community activities including Lane Alumni, Boys and Girls Club, the Airport Authority, NAACP, and was a member of Macedonia Baptist Church for over 60 years.

For his unwavering devotion to education and the children of Jackson-Madison County, Mr. Werthing certainly deserves this appreciation and recognition from his students, friends, and entire community. On behalf of Tennessee's 8th Congressional District, I would like to congratulate and wish the best of luck for all future endeavors to the family and friends of Mr. John Austin Werthing Sr.

TRIBUTE TO REID COBB

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Reid Cobb, a member of the 2016 Iowa Boys 2A State Golf Tournament Championship Team.

Reid, and his teammates at Panorama High School, persevered through a tough season. With steady and consistent play at the state tournament, these students showed the state of Iowa that they were worthy of a state championship two years in a row.

Mr. Speaker, Reid's determination, hard work, commitment and team work is what contributed to the stellar success of his team. His willingness to give it his best effort is what will be valuable later in life and I am honored to represent Reid in the United States Congress. I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Reid Cobb and his team for competing and winning this rigorous competition. We all share in wishing him nothing but continued success.

100TH BIRTHDAY OF DOROTHY WILSON

**HON. JASON SMITH**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable 100th birthday

of Dorothy Wilson. Dorothy was born on August 14, 1916 in Tipton, Indiana.

Dorothy is the daughter of Alta and Lou Pursley. She graduated from Summerville High School in Summerville, Missouri and then went on to work at Colling Radio in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Dorothy spent many cherished years with her loving husband, Bill Wilson.

Dorothy enjoys all of the time she gets to spend with her family. She is a kind and loving person that has brought joy to many lives throughout her years. She is known within her community for her generous heart.

Dorothy has reached a huge milestone in her life by celebrating her 100th birthday. The characteristics that she has displayed thus far in her life have proven to show her as an exceptional person. She has been an extremely beneficial member to our society and with that it is my pleasure to recognize Dorothy before the United States House of Representatives.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, due to the severe weather in Washington on June 21, 2016, my flight was delayed and I unexpectedly missed roll call votes 334 and 335.

On roll call vote 334, passage of H.R. 5525, End Taxpayer Funded Cell Phones Act of 2016, I would have voted "yes."

On roll call vote 35, passage of H.R. 5388, Support for Rapid Innovation Act of 2016, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING RETIRED MARINE MASTER SERGEANT RODNEY BUENTELLO

### HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a San Antonio hero we tragically lost recently. Retired Marine Master Sergeant Rodney Buentello bravely served our nation in both Iraq and Afghanistan and was awarded the Purple Heart twice.

Last month, when he and his family were enjoying a day at Bandera City Park, Buentello unexpectedly had to tap into the courage and selflessness that served him so well overseas. He saw two teenagers in peril, drowning in rushing water by the park's dam. Disregarding his own safety, Master Sergeant Buentello dove in and rescued the teens, saving their lives. Sadly, he was pulled under the water himself and drowned before rescuers could reach him.

Master Sergeant Buentello lost his life a hero, sacrificing to help those in need. He is emblematic of the best our military has to offer. I offer my deepest sympathies to his wife, their three sons, and all of his loved ones in this time of grief. I also want to extend my prayers and condolences to the John Jay High School community, where Master Sergeant Buentello most recently served as a teacher's aide. His city and nation will forever be grateful for his life and his service.

HONORING L'DINA ROBINSON

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Ms. L'Dina Robinson, the Daughter Ruler and State President of the Grace Jones Temple of Daughter Elkton's. Ms. Robinson has held this position since 1957. Ms. Robinson has been a daughter member of the L. K. Atwood Elk's Lodge Number 518 located on Lynch Street since 1952 some 59 years.

Ms. Robinson is a product of the city of New Orleans, Louisiana. She attended and graduated from Gilbert Academy High School. She also attended and graduated from Dillard University located in Louisiana. Ms. Robinson's work histories include: Office manager for the Historical Edward Lee Hotel of West Church Street and Instructor at Campbell College located on Lynch Street. Ms. Robinson worked many years for the United States Veterans Administration Regional Office. She was first employed as a clerk and she retired as a senior executive several years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. L'Dina Robinson for her dedication to serving.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PROFESSOR CARA DRINAN TO H.R. 5124

### HON. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the contributions of Professor Cara Drinan in the development of H.R. 5124, the Equal Justice Under Law Act of 2016. It was her law review article, The National Right to Counsel Act: A Congressional Solution to the Nation's Indigent Defense Crisis, that initially proposed introducing a cause of action for Sixth Amendment violations prior to conviction. Her efforts were instrumental to the introduction of the bill, and her guidance was invaluable to its development.

TRIBUTE TO LEONA KESTER AND LEO (BILL) STALDER

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate sister and brother, Leona Kester and Leo (Bill) Stalder, on the occasion of their 97th birthday which was celebrated June 2, 2016.

Our world has changed greatly during the course of Leona's and Bill's lives. Since their birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and wit-

nessed the birth of new democracies. They have lived through seventeen United States Presidents and twenty-four Governors of Iowa. In their lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Leona Kester and Leo (Bill) Stalder in the United States Congress. It is my sincere pleasure to wish them a very happy 97th birthday. I invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating them on reaching this incredible milestone together, wishing them even more health and happiness in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO MARY HEINEY ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable 100th birthday of Mary Heiney. Mary was born to George and Lola Newby on June 19, 1916 in Hartshorn, Missouri.

Mary has lived in the Hartshorn and Summersville areas all her life, before moving to Mountain View Healthcare. She attended and graduated from Black Valley School. Mary married Arthur Heiney with whom she shares four children, Harold, Joe, Doyle, and Kathy. Mary has a total of 20 sweet grandchildren who she loves to spend time with. An active member of the Valley Center Church, faith is of utmost importance to Mary.

Mary has achieved a great milestone in her life by celebrating her 100th birthday. She is a woman of character and is greatly beloved to all who know her. She has displayed exceptional leadership and has contributed greatly to our society throughout her many years. For all of these reasons, it is my pleasure to recognize Mary before the United States House of Representatives.

CONGRATULATING THE TRI-CITY JEWISH CENTER ON ITS 80TH JUBILEE

### HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Tri-City Jewish Center in Rock Island, Illinois, on their 80th Jubilee.

Jews first came to Illinois' Quad-Cities in the 1850s, contributing greatly to the growth of our region. The Tri-City Jewish Center opened its doors in 1936, and is now the central location for Jewish life in the Quad-Cities area. Since then, they have been a warm and welcoming place for the Jewish community to celebrate, worship, and learn.

Members of the Tri-City Jewish Center pride themselves on providing a first-rate Jewish education to their young children, allowing them to appreciate their history and their heritage. They pride themselves on a strong community that comes together to support members in times of joy and in times of need. And they pride themselves on their service to the

broader Quad-City community: leading the charge on interfaith discussions, community service, and education. Countless members volunteer their time to speak with children and educators about Jewish heritage, Israel, the dangers of antisemitism, and the lessons of the Holocaust. This community truly values *tikkun olam*, or repairing the world.

In July, the center will celebrate its 80th anniversary with members current and past, young and old. Since its founding, The Center has been a credit to the rich history of Rock Island.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to wish a hearty *mazel tov* to Rabbi Jeffrey Lipschultz President Steve Geifman, and all of the members of the Tri-City Jewish Center on the celebration of their 80th Jubilee as they look forward to another successful 80 years.

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HONORING JUDGE CAROL A.  
CONNOR

**HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my dear friend, the Honorable Judge Carol A. Connor. Carol represented the best of our great State of New Mexico: she was a loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, a loyal friend to many, a brilliant, hard-working and talented lawyer and judge, and a dedicated advocate for the rights of women, Native Americans, and the environment.

Carol was born in Wolf Point, Montana to Lora M. Worthington and Fred Whitebear Connor on December 31, 1941 and belonged to the Assinibone Sioux tribe. After she graduated from the University of New Mexico Law School in 1978, Carol began an extraordinary career representing numerous tribes across the country. The capstone of her career was her appointment to sit on the bench as a Federal Administrative Law Judge, where she served for 20 years.

In addition to her prolific career, Carol helped establish the New Mexico Women's Bar Association. She lived a life dedicated to serving others and fighting for the rights of those in need.

Carol's greatest joy in life was her family whom she cherished. After meeting in Normandy, France, Carol married Jacques Lacan. They spent their time together in Albuquerque, in the company of family, friends, and their three dogs: Bisoux Boy I, Bisoux Boy II, and Kissy Face. Carol's passion and love of life touched all those she encountered; her mark on the world is truly endless.

On May 10, 2016, Carol passed away at the age of 74 surrounded by her family. She was preceded in death by her loving son, Robert. Surviving her are her husband, Jacques, her daughters, Cindy Montgomery and Lori Matier Vittatoe, as well as her 4 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren.

Carol was a true friend and we will all miss her dearly. I cherish our friendship and all of the wonderful contributions she has made to our state. Her memory and legacy is a blessing to us all.

IN CELEBRATION OF MR. JOHN  
ATWOOD CHASE'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and career of Mr. John Atwood Chase as he celebrates his 90th birthday. John has dedicated many years to ensuring the safety and security of our great nation.

John Atwood Chase was born in Pepperell, Massachusetts on June 27, 1926 to his parents, Francis "Curly" Chase and Annabel Dougherty Chase. From a young age, John displayed many exemplary traits which ultimately led him to achieve many successes early in life. During his senior year of high school, he received the "Outstanding Citizen" and "Person Who Has Done the Most for Lawrence Academy" awards for the work he did as President of his senior class and the entire student body. In addition to his academic achievements, John was also a student athlete and captain of both the basketball and baseball teams. His success in sports led him to attract baseball scouts from the Boston Red Sox, but John declined their offer in order to serve our nation in the United States Navy.

John was accepted to the U.S. Navy Officer's Program at Bates College; however, he left ten months later to attend a school providing more of an Annapolis education and ultimately selected Tufts over Harvard. Upon finishing school, John went on to complete his training at the Chicago Naval Base and was later stationed at Camp Shoemaker in Dublin, California. He then joined the light Pacific cruiser ship, the Pasadena.

After the 1945 bombing in Hiroshima brought an end to the war, John was discharged from the Navy and went on to participate in a six month course with the Insurance Company of North America (ICNA). The experiences John had during this course led him to pursue a career in ICNA's Special Risk Division in New York City. Shortly after, in 1951, John left his career with the ICNA to join the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as a Special Agent. During his time with the FBI, John had the opportunity to complete many assignments in cities such as: Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and San Francisco, California; Miles City, Montana; and the Washington D.C. Field Office. A few short years later, in 1958, John returned to FBI headquarters and took on the position of Assistant Agent in Charge at Quantico.

It was during this time that John was introduced to his wife, Janice Morgan, who also worked at the FBI headquarters. They were married a year later, in 1959, and were blessed with three beautiful children, John Jr., Lisa, and Julie. In 1963, John ended his career with the FBI to join a New York Securities Firm, McDonnell & Company which was later merged to become Butcher & Singer. Throughout the years, John had the opportunity to work with many prominent figures in the financial industry at firms including White Weld & Co., Kidder Peabody, Shearson Lehman, Merrill Lynch, Paine Webber, and UBS. Through his entire adult life, John was an avid golfer, even shooting a hole in one at the Bethesda Country Club in 1963. He now spends his time swimming at the Columbia Country

Club and entertaining his four grandchildren, Madeline, Ryker, Kendall and Finn.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the career and noble service of Mr. John Atwood Chase. John's many accomplishments are a direct reflection of what can result from hard work and perseverance. It is with great pride that we thank him for his service, and wish him continued health and happiness with his friends and family.

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HONORING GEORGE LEE ADRAIN  
OWEN

**HON. JASON SMITH**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor George Lee Adrain Owen of Douglas County, Missouri for his lifelong work and dedication to this country.

Mr. Owen was born and raised in Douglas County before being drafted into the United States Army when he was 18 years old. He was immediately sent overseas where he served as an infantryman for the 75th Infantry Division. He fought in several battles, including the Battle of the Bulge, where he earned the Purple Heart for an injury he sustained in that battle. He also received three Bronze Stars, the Combat Infantry Badge, and several other commendations for his valiant actions in the war before being discharged on March 14, 1946.

Upon reentering the civilian workforce, Mr. Owen worked as a dairy farmer, as well as at the Rock Island Arsenal for 30 years before retiring in 1980. He then moved back to Douglas County and bought a farm that he owns to this day. Mr. Owen enjoyed nearly 56 years of marriage to his wife Laverne, before her passing in 2002. Together, they have three children: Linda, James, and Brenda.

Mr. Owen continues to be active in his community to this day, serving as the Chaplain for the local VFW, American Legion, and Douglas County Veterans Memorial Association. He is also the Deacon at Bethany Baptist Church and is a strong supporter of the Senior Center and their activities. For his outstanding career and community achievements, it is my pleasure to recognize George Lee Adrain Owen before the United States House of Representatives.

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TRIBUTE TO WILL BABCOCK

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Will Babcock, a member of the 2016 Iowa Boys 2A State Golf Tournament Championship Team.

Will Babcock and his teammates at Panorama High School, persevered through a tough season. With steady and consistent play at the state tournament, these students showed the state of Iowa that they were worthy of a state championship two years in a row.

Mr. Speaker, Will's determination, hard work, commitment and team work is what contributed to the stellar success of his team. His

willingness to give it his best effort is what will be valuable later in life. I am honored to represent Will in the United States Congress. I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Will Babcock and his team for competing and winning this rigorous competition. We all share in wishing him nothing but continued success.

IN HONOR OF LADY RUTH  
SKINNER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a dear friend of long-standing to my wife, Vivian and me, Lady Ruth Skinner, on 60 years of life and 40 years devoted to the ministry of Jesus Christ. David Viscott once said that, "The purpose of life is to discover your gift. The work of life is to develop it. The Meaning of life is to give your gift away." Ruth Skinner has given her life away in service to God, her family, the Columbus community and the broader faith community. Truly, we and the world are all better for it.

Ruth Skinner, affectionately called "Lady", was born and reared in Columbus, Georgia where she attended Columbus Technical College and became a Master Cosmetologist and businesswoman, in her own right. Furthermore, she is a member of Bread of Life Christian Center Ministries, Inc., where she has served as the Founding First Lady for over 31 years alongside her loving husband, Bishop L.D. Skinner, Sr.

Lady Ruth Skinner's passion and dedication for her faith inspired her to lead. She has dedicated 40 years of her life to the ministry and has taken the gifts with which she had been endowed by God to better support her community. As a Ruling Elder of Bread of Life Christian Center Ministries and National Director of Explosion Ministries Fellowship Association of Churches (EMFAC), a fellowship of interdenominational ministries and churches, she demonstrates her leadership and unwavering faith in God.

She is the mother to three sons—Pastor Darnel Skinner, Jr., Darrell Skinner, and Darius Skinner—and loves spending time with her siblings and grandchildren. Her 60 years of life, thus far, have been filled by travel with her husband, expanding her knowledge through literature, and nurturing her relationship with both God and God's people. Lady Ruth lives by the idea that only what you do for Christ will last, and her selfless dedication and service make it clear the lives she has touched over the years have been irreversibly changed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me in extending our gratitude and best wishes to Lady Ruth Skinner on the occasion of her 60th birthday, and the celebration of 40 years of faithful service in the ministry of Jesus Christ. To God be the glory for the things He has done through the life of Lady Ruth Skinner.

HOWARD L. CHAMBERS, LEG-  
ENDARY LAKEWOOD CITY MAN-  
AGER TO RETIRE

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, Howard L. Chambers, who has served as the city manager of the City of Lakewood for four decades, is the California city manager with the longest tenure in the same city—this in a profession where the average length of service in California is about seven years.

A lifelong member of the Lakewood community, Howard grew up near Mayfair Park, went to neighborhood schools, and worked at the YMCA.

After earning his degree at Cal State Long Beach, Howard interned at the City of Lakewood for two years, handling youth services. He then went to work with the City of Rosemead as an assistant city manager.

Howard returned to Lakewood in 1972 in the role of an executive assistant to the city manager. In 1976, he was named acting city administrator and shortly thereafter hired to permanently fill the position, which was later re-titled as city manager, by the city council.

During his 40-year tenure as a city manager, Howard Chambers has become a respected leader among area city managers, always willing to take the time to share his professional experience with his colleagues on issues affecting Southern California, its residents, and its infrastructure.

Howard has also worked tirelessly and effectively on ad hoc committees and coalitions to address federal, state, and local issues, and has never shied away from a principled battle. As a long-term member of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), Chairman of the Southeast Los Angeles County Municipal Management Group, the California Contract Cities Association, and a member of the League of California Cities' City Managers Division, Howard has worked with elected and appointed city officials, legislators, regulators, the business community, residents, and others to achieve solutions to the critical issues affecting local governments.

In addition to his public service, Howard Chambers has made community service a priority. His involvement includes the Lakewood Rotary Club, the Weingart-Lakewood Family YMCA, Lakewood Special Olympics, the American Heart Association, Su Casa Ending Domestic Violence, Lakewood Regional Hospital, Kris Kringle Charity Golf Tournament, and Project Shepherd.

For his sustained excellence, he has been recognized throughout his career by a variety of organizations including ICMA, Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government, California Jaycees, YMCA, Lakewood City Council, Lakewood City Employees Association, and Su Casa Ending Domestic Violence.

During his tenure, Howard Chambers managed the city's largest public works project in its first 50 years: the \$16 million improvement of the Lakewood Civic Center and construction of The Centre at Sycamore Plaza. He later oversaw the \$21-million expansion and modernization of the Lakewood Sheriff's Station, the largest single project in the city's history.

The sheriff's station expansion project was completed without a new tax, tax increase, or special assessment.

Howard Chambers is considered a legend in the city management profession and is known for his ability to build working relationships with city staffers, civic leaders, and state legislators. He also is a role model for his peers. Known for his "teachable moments," he has become a mentor and teacher to new city managers. He has been and will continue to be passionate about local government, and his involvement in community activities and achievements in public service have resulted in significant benefits to Lakewood and surrounding communities.

During his four decades of service, Lakewood has deservedly earned many awards for the quality of its services, its commitment to responsive government, and its innovations.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM B.  
PITTARD

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. BARTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize William B. Pittard who is leaving the House to reenter the private practice of law. Mr. Pittard has served in the Office of the General Counsel for five and one-half years, initially as an Assistant Counsel; then, for nearly four and one-half years, as Deputy General Counsel; and, most recently, as Acting General Counsel. We will miss him.

Mr. Pittard provided frequent and invaluable legal advice and representation to Members of the House (including me and my staff), the officers of the House, the committees of the House, and the leadership of the House—most often in connection with their interactions with the other branches of the Federal Government. He did so professionally and without regard to partisan identity and, as a result, we came to rely on his expertise and guidance. Over the years, Mr. Pittard played a very significant role in safeguarding the legal and institutional interests of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Pittard has served the House with great distinction, and I am confident he will exhibit that same level of distinction in representing private clients. On behalf of myself and the entire House community, we thank Mr. Pittard for his many years of devoted service, and extend to him our very best wishes for his continued success.

HONORING THE LIFE OF COACH  
PAUL GROVER OF PENSACOLA,  
FLORIDA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise to remember Coach Paul Grover from Florida's First Congressional District. Paul passed away on Wednesday June 22, after six courageous years of battling with cancer.

Coach Grover was born in Pensacola, graduating from Pensacola Catholic High School in 1988. After graduation, he attended Livingston University before returning home and completing his degree at the University of West Florida.

In 1997, Paul began his coaching career at his alma mater, Pensacola Catholic High School, coaching football and baseball. However, in 1998, he began his true passion, coaching girls' basketball, where he remained the school's assistant coach until 2000. In 1999, under his leadership, the girls won a state title, and in 2000 they were runner ups. Finally, last year, Paul moved to Jay High School, becoming head coach of the girls' basketball team, and working with his dear friend and Jay Athletic Director, Lance Youngblood.

Coach Grover's friends, family, and students will remember him as a selfless man, hard-working and encouraging. Outside of love of organized sports, Paul was also an avid sportsman and active member of Olive Baptist Church.

My wife, Vicki, and I will keep all who love him, especially his mother Lily; brothers, George and Richard; sisters Sharon, Barbara, and Marianne, as well as his numerous nieces, nephews, and godchildren in our thoughts and prayers.

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TRIBUTE TO MAX MONTHEI

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Max Monthei, a member of the 2016 Iowa Boys 2A State Golf Tournament Championship Team.

Max, and his teammates at Panorama High School, persevered through a tough season. With steady and consistent play at the state tournament, these students showed the state of Iowa that they were worthy of a state championship two years in a row.

Mr. Speaker, Max's determination, hard work, commitment and team work is what contributed to the stellar success of his team. His willingness to give it his best effort is what will be valuable later in life and I am honored to represent Max in the United States Congress. I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Max Monthei and his team for competing and winning this rigorous competition. We all share in wishing him nothing but continued success.

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H.R. 5456

**HON. VERN BUCHANAN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following extraneous materials on H.R. 5456, the Family First Prevention Services Act of 2016:

FOSTER FAMILY-BASED  
TREATMENT ASSOCIATION,  
*Hackensack, NJ, June 15, 2016.*

Re: H.R. 5456 Family First Prevention Service Act

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,  
*Chair, House Ways and Means Committee,*  
*Washington, DC.*

Hon. VERN BUCHANAN,  
*Chair, House Human Resources Subcommittee,*  
*Washington, DC.*

Hon. ORRIN HATCH,  
*Chair, Senate Finance Committee, Washington,*  
*DC.*

Hon. SANDER LEVIN,  
*Ranking Member, Ways and Means,*  
*Washington, DC.*

Hon. LLOYD DOGGETT,  
*Ranking Member, House Human Resource Subcommittee,*  
*Washington, DC.*

Hon. RON WYDEN,  
*Ranking Member, Senate Finance Ranking Member,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN BRADY AND RANKING MEMBER LEVIN; SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR BUCHANAN AND RANKING MEMBER DOGGETT, AND CHAIRMAN HATCH AND RANKING MEMBER WYDEN: The Foster Family-based Treatment Association congratulates you on the important bipartisan work and agreement reflected in H.R. 5456 Family First Prevention Service Act.

Title I will provide crucial funding to keep families together, in particular those facing substance abuse problems, mental health, and generational deprivation of health parenting skills. Providing funding to address these crises is the first step to reforming our child welfare system so that families might stay together whenever possible and safe and avoid additional trauma of family breakup.

Title II will provide clarity about professional roles and responsibilities to assess each child and provide the most appropriate, least restrictive placement when a child must be removed from their home. Overall the bill recognizes the importance of a continuum of care from family support to family-like out of home placement to congregate care placements as needed by a child and family contingent on on-going, individualized assessments.

We look forward to working with the 115th Congress to be sure that this full continuum is supported and efficient: that qualified residential programs are able to meet these new requirements and serve youth clearly needing that level of care, and that community-based, family-like settings are supported and sustained so that youth who would otherwise be at the residential level of care can be served safely and professionally in the community in placements with biological family, with kin or guardians, or with non-kinship foster families.

We furthermore support the important reauthorization of Title IV-B programs and are especially pleased to see continuation of the adoption-kinship incentives, court improvement funds, and the regional partnership grants.

Again, thank you for your work on H.R. 5456. Please call on FFTA as we move forward in improving the family preservation and foster care systems for all of America's youth requiring such support.

Sincerely,

JODIE A. AUSTIN,  
*LCSW, Board President.*

CONFERENCE OF CHIEF JUSTICES AND  
CONFERENCE OF STATE COURT  
ADMINISTRATORS, GOVERNMENT  
RELATIONS OFFICE,

*June 15, 2016.*

Re: Family First Prevention Services Act of 2016 (H.R. 5456)

Hon. KEVIN BRADY  
*Chairman, Ways and Means Committee,*  
*House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

Hon. VERN BUCHANAN,  
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Human Resources,*  
*Ways and Means Committee, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

Hon. SANDER M. LEVIN,  
*Ranking Member, Ways and Means Committee,*  
*House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

Hon. LLOYD DOGGETT,  
*Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Human Resources, Ways and Means Committee, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN BRADY, RANKING MEMBER LEVIN, CHAIRMAN BUCHANAN, AND RANKING MEMBER DOGGETT: On behalf of the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators, we are writing in support of your efforts to promote and improve outcomes for the children and youth who come to the attention of the child welfare system, including children in foster care. Over the decades the House Ways and Means Committee, with bipartisan support, has taken significant steps forward on behalf of our most vulnerable children.

We are aware that the House Ways and Means Committee is considering the Family First Prevention Services Act of 2016 (H.R. 5456), which would allow funds under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act to be used for prevention services to help keep children at risk of placement in foster care safely at home with their parents or kin and would take important steps to ensure that children who need to enter foster care will be placed in the least restrictive setting appropriate to their needs, by targeting federal dollars on smaller family-foster homes and on other care settings for children and youth with special treatment needs or those in special circumstances, such as pregnant and parenting teens or older youth in independent living settings.

For your information, we enclose resolution, In Support of Reforms to Improve the Outcomes for Children in the Child Welfare System, recently adopted by our respective Conferences. We commend your efforts to promote and improve outcomes for the children and youth who come to the attention of the child welfare system. We hope that you consider our resolutions and support as you move forward to adopt this legislation.

Additionally, the legislation reauthorizes child and family services programs under Title IV-B of the Social Security Act, including the three Court Improvement Program (CIP) grants through FY 2021 at the current \$30 million level. The three CIP grant programs are critical for state courts as they provide the only federal funds to state courts for the purpose of improving state court oversight of abuse and neglect cases; and have been invaluable in assisting courts to improve and expedite our processes and procedures. These funds have resulted in abused and neglected children moving more expeditiously to safe, permanent homes and improved outcomes for children in need of protection. Our work, however, is not complete, so the reauthorization of these funds will allow us to continue our work to improve results for these children.

We look forward to working with you to ensure these child welfare reforms will truly benefit children who come to the attention of the child welfare system and to continue to explore additional improvements on their

behalf to ensure they all have safe, permanent families. Thank you for your continuing leadership on behalf of these children.

Sincerely,

Hon. DAVID GILBERTSON,  
*President, Conference  
of Chief Justices.*

PATRICIA W. GRIFFIN,  
*President, Conference  
of State Court Ad-  
ministrators.*

CONFERENCE OF CHIEF JUSTICES AND CON-  
FERENCE OF STATE COURT ADMINISTRATORS  
RESOLUTION 5—IN SUPPORT OF REFORMS TO IM-  
PROVE THE OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN IN THE  
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

Whereas, the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators recognize the importance of securing safe and permanent homes for children and the importance of moving children in state custody to permanent and safe homes as quickly as possible through the efficient and effective handling of child abuse and neglect cases; and

Whereas, the Conferences have made child welfare system reform a priority and undertaken initiatives to strengthen court oversight of child welfare cases; and

Whereas, Congress is considering a number of legislative proposals that seek to improve the outcomes for children coming to the attention of the child welfare system; and

Whereas, the legislative proposals have provisions that would:

allow states to use Title IV-E funds for time-limited prevention services for eligible children who are candidates for foster care at “imminent risk” of entering or re-entering foster care but who can safely remain at home or with a kinship caregiver if provided services, or pregnant and parenting youth in foster care, or parents or kin caregivers of children at risk of entering foster care;

allow Title IV-E funds to be used to provide evidence-based time-limited prevention services for up to 12 months when an intervention is necessary;

require state child welfare agencies to develop a prevention plan for each case that lists the services or assistance needed and identifies the permanency goal for a child, how services are tied to the placement and permanency goal and are trauma-informed in order to receive time-limited prevention services;

allow for a child to receive a Title IV-E maintenance payment when placed with a parent in a residential substance abuse treatment facility;

provide short-term financial assistance through Title IV-B for up to three months for a child’s parent or kinship caregivers when it can be demonstrated that such assistance can prevent a child from entering foster care;

eliminate the time limit on the use of Title IV-B funds for family reunification services for children in foster care;

require states to take steps to safely reduce the inappropriate use of congregate/group care for children in the child welfare system;

require state child welfare agencies, at the initial placement and subsequent state reviews and permanency hearings, to demonstrate why the child cannot be served in a least restrictive placement and document efforts it has made to place the child into a more family-like setting;

require state child welfare agencies to conduct an assessment of appropriate placement prior to each permanency hearing or review;

require courts to review the assessment of the initial congregate care placements and

updated assessments of congregate care placements and approve or disapprove those placements;

condition receipt of Court Improvement Program funding on the provision of training for judges about new federal policies on placement of foster children in non-family settings;

amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require a state plan for academic content and achievement standards to describe how the state will ensure the educational stability of children in foster care and include assurances that: a foster child will remain or be enrolled in the child’s school of origin absent a determination that such enrollment is not in the child’s best interest; if such a determination is made, the child will be immediately enrolled in a new school, which must immediately contact the child’s previous school to obtain relevant records; and the state will designate a point of contact for child welfare agencies; and

allow states to certify that the state will provide assistance and services under the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program to youths who have aged out of foster care and have not attained age 23; and

Whereas, state courts, in their oversight role, have a responsibility to insure that state child welfare agencies are complying with these new federal policies and requirements; and

Whereas, while these added responsibilities will lengthen the time of court hearings, the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators are committed to working with Congress and the United States Department of Health and Human Services to effectively implement the new policies and requirements: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators urge Congress to give favorable consideration to these legislative proposals; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators further urge Congress and the United States Department of Health and Human Services to provide adequate funding to state courts to: provide training for judges and court personnel so that they understand and comply with the federal policies and requirements; develop resources and best court practices; and fully implement these resources and best practices.

Adopted as proposed by the CCJ/COSCA Courts, Children, and Families Committee at the Conference of State Court Administrators 2015 Midyear Meeting on December 5, 2015 and at the Conference of Chief Justices 2016 Midyear Meeting on February 3, 2016.

THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS,

*Austin, Texas, June 20, 2016.*

Re: Family First Prevention Services Act of 2016 (H.R. 5456)

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,  
*House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.*

DEAR KEVIN: I understand the House may vote tomorrow on the Family First Prevention Services Act of 2016 (H.R. 5456), and that the bill has broad support so far. It would allow Social Security Title IV-E funds to improve the foster care system. It would also reauthorize child and family service programs under Title IV-B of the Social Security Act including the three Court Improvement Program grants through FY 2021 at the current \$30 million level. These grants are critical for state courts in improving oversight of abuse and neglect cases and generally improving procedures.

As you well know, improvement in the foster care system is of growing concern in

Texas as well as a national issue. I enclose a recent resolution of the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators “In Support of Reforms to Improve the Outcomes for Children in the Child Welfare System”.

Thanks, as always, for your consideration.  
Cordially,

NATHAN L. HECHT,  
*Chief Justice.*

CONFERENCE OF CHIEF JUSTICES AND CON-  
FERENCE OF STATE COURT ADMINISTRATORS  
RESOLUTION 5—IN SUPPORT OF REFORMS TO IM-  
PROVE THE OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN IN THE  
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

Whereas, the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators recognize the importance of securing safe and permanent homes for children and the importance of moving children in state custody to permanent and safe homes as quickly as possible through the efficient and effective handling of child abuse and neglect cases; and

Whereas, the Conferences have made child welfare system reform a priority and undertaken initiatives to strengthen court oversight of child welfare cases; and

Whereas, Congress is considering a number of legislative proposals that seek to improve the outcomes for children coming to the attention of the child welfare system; and

Whereas, the legislative proposals have provisions that would:

allow states to use Title IV-E funds for time-limited prevention services for eligible children who are candidates for foster care at “imminent risk” of entering or re-entering foster care but who can safely remain at home or with a kinship caregiver if provided services, or pregnant and parenting youth in foster care, or parents or kin caregivers of children at risk of entering foster care;

allow Title IV-E funds to be used to provide evidence-based time-limited prevention services for up to 12 months when an intervention is necessary;

require state child welfare agencies to develop a prevention plan for each case that lists the services or assistance needed and identifies the permanency goal for a child, how services are tied to the placement and permanency goal and are trauma-informed in order to receive time-limited prevention services;

allow for a child to receive a Title IV-E maintenance payment when placed with a parent in a residential substance abuse treatment facility;

provide short-term financial assistance through Title IV-B for up to three months for a child’s parent or kinship caregivers when it can be demonstrated that such assistance can prevent a child from entering foster care;

eliminate the time limit on the use of Title IV-B funds for family reunification services for children in foster care;

require states to take steps to safely reduce the inappropriate use of congregate/group care for children in the child welfare system;

require state child welfare agencies, at the initial placement and subsequent state reviews and permanency hearings, to demonstrate why the child cannot be served in a least restrictive placement and document efforts it has made to place the child into a more family-like setting;

require state child welfare agencies to conduct an assessment of appropriate placement prior to each permanency hearing or review;

require courts to review the assessment of the initial congregate care placements and updated assessments of congregate care placements and approve or disapprove those placements;

condition receipt of Court Improvement Program funding on the provision of training for judges about new federal policies on placement of foster children in non-family settings;

amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require a state plan for academic content and achievement standards to describe how the state will ensure the educational stability of children in foster care and include assurances that: a foster child will remain or be enrolled in the child's school of origin absent a determination that such enrollment is not in the child's best interest; if such a determination is made, the child will be immediately enrolled in a new school, which must immediately contact the child's previous school to obtain relevant records; and the state will designate a point of contact for child welfare agencies; and

allow states to certify that the state will provide assistance and services under the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program to youths who have aged out of foster care and have not attained age 23; and

Whereas, state courts, in their oversight role, have a responsibility to insure that state child welfare agencies are complying with these new federal policies and requirements; and

Whereas, while these added responsibilities will lengthen the time of court hearings, the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators are committed to working with Congress and the United States Department of Health and Human Services to effectively implement the new policies and requirements: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators urge Congress to give favorable consideration to these legislative proposals; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators further urge Congress and the United States Department of Health and Human Services to provide adequate funding to state courts to: provide training for judges and court personnel so that they understand and comply with the federal policies and requirements; develop resources and best court practices; and fully implement these resources and best practices.

Adopted as proposed by the CCJ/COSCA Courts, Children, and Families Committee at the Conference of State Court Administrators 2015 Midyear Meeting on December 5, 2015 and at the Conference of Chief Justices 2016 Midyear Meeting on February 3, 2016.

HONORING COMMAND SGT. MAJ.  
TONIA WALKER

**HON. JIM COOPER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Command Sgt. Maj. Tonia Tuwarne Walker on her retirement from the United States Army.

Tonia is a native of Columbia, S.C., and enlisted in the Army in 1987. Tonia has served our nation honorably over her long and distinguished career spanning numerous assignments, most notably two deployments to Iraq. A decorated combat veteran, Tonia earned dozens of awards, including a Bronze Star.

In 2012, Tonia joined the Pentagon as a Congressional Legislative Liaison. I was fortunate to have her on my staff as a Department

of Defense Fellow. Her hands-on experience and in-depth knowledge of national security affairs assisted me greatly in my role as a senior member of the House Armed Services Committee.

Mr. Speaker, Tonia has dedicated herself to the United States Army every day for nearly 30 years. I want to thank Tonia, her husband Ray, and their beautiful family for serving our community and country and for the many sacrifices they have made. I also want to thank Tonia for her friendship, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE APPLESETH

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate George Appleseth, a member of the 2016 Iowa Boys 2A State Golf Tournament Championship Team.

George, and his teammates at Panorama High School, persevered through a tough season. With steady and consistent play at the state tournament, these students showed the state of Iowa that they were worthy of a state championship two years in a row.

Mr. Speaker, George's determination, hard work, commitment and teamwork is what contributed to the stellar success of his team. His willingness to give it his best effort is what will be valuable later in life and I am honored to represent George in the United States Congress. I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating George Appleseth and his team for competing and winning this rigorous competition. We all share in wishing him nothing but continued success.

RECOGNIZING BOETJE'S STONE  
GROUND MUSTARD'S SUCCESS  
AS 2016 GRAND CHAMPION

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Boetje's Stone Ground Mustard, which recently was named Grand Champion in the 2016 World-Wide Mustard Competition.

In the late 19th century, Fred Boetje began making stoneground Dutch mustard in his garage in Rock Island, Illinois. To this day, Boetje's is still a Quad Cities-based company and is gaining international recognition for their excellent and unique product. In fact, Boetje's is the first grainy mustard to win the Grand Champion award in the World-Wide Mustard Competition's history. Previously, in 2008, it took first prize in the "Best Coarse Grained" category at the World-Wide Mustard Competition, and in 2002, their mustard was named the "Best Illinois Food Product" by Illinois Magazine.

Mr. Speaker, I want to again recognize Boetje's Mustard's victory in being named Grand Champion at the 2016 World-Wide Mustard Festival, and I wish them even more success in the future.

RESOLUTION HONORING THE 50TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE JAMES  
MEREDITH MARCH AGAINST  
FEAR

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a bipartisan resolution I introduced today with my colleagues TRENT KELLY, BENNIE THOMPSON and GREGG HARPER in honor of the 50th anniversary of the James Meredith March Against Fear.

Senator ROGER WICKER recently offered a similar resolution in the Senate with his colleagues Senator THAD COCHRAN and JEANNE SHAHEEN. The Senate swiftly passed that resolution, and I hope the House will do the same with the one we introduced today.

Fifty years ago last month, after already making history at the University of Mississippi, James Meredith risked his life once again by organizing a march from Memphis, Tennessee to Jackson, Mississippi to encourage African Americans to register to vote. This was not long after passage of the landmark Voting Rights Act, and a march like this—into the heart of Mississippi—was anything but safe.

Sure enough, Meredith was brutally shot and wounded.

Civil rights leaders quickly met at the Centenary United Methodist Church in Memphis to plan a resumption of the march. They were aided by the church's courageous Reverend James M. Lawson.

They were also aided by the Memphis chapter of the N.A.A.C.P. and civil rights leaders Maxine and Vasco Smith, Jesse Turner, Russell Sugarmon, and A.W. Willis, among others.

The next day, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Floyd McKissick, and Stokely Carmichael resumed the Meredith March Against Fear.

By the time marchers reached Jackson, 4,000 African Americans in Mississippi had registered to vote.

This was a great moment in the history of voting rights in our country, and I urge my colleagues to help us pay homage to it by passing this resolution.

RECOGNIZING KAREN J. LEE

**HON. RODNEY DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Karen J. Lee, a Community Programs Specialist with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Karen retired on June 30, 2016, after 33 years and 11 months of federal service.

Karen started her federal career working for the Department of Defense from 1980 to 1992. In May of 1992, she began working as a Temporary Clerk Typist within the Rural Housing agency of USDA Rural Development. Later that year, she was converted to a permanent member of the Community and Business Programs staff. In December of 1993, she was promoted to State Loan Technician and in January 2002, further promoted to Community and Business Programs Specialist.

During 2005, she was assigned to her current position as Community Programs Specialist.

Throughout her career, Karen assisted Illinois in processing loans and grants to rural communities and nonprofit organizations to improve and construct infrastructure projects. The projects she assisted on ranged from water and wastewater systems, public safety, and health and community services. She received numerous awards for outreach, marketing, and processing, and served on various national task forces which ultimately benefited residents in rural Illinois.

I am proud to honor Karen for her work on behalf of the people of Illinois, and I wish her the best in her retirement.

HONORING BLAIR FREDERICK  
KARGES

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Blair Frederick Karges of Douglas County, Missouri for his lifelong care and service to this country.

Mr. Karges graduated from Pine City, Minnesota High School in May of 1939. At the age of 20 he was drafted into the United States Army. He served with the 544th Engineer Boat and Shore Regiment, 4th Engineer Special Brigade as a Company Armor & Squad Leader in the Cargo Control section moving cargo, troops, and anything else the army might need. He served on islands in the Netherland East Indies, Luzon, Philippines, and the occupation of Japan following their surrender. He received numerous awards, including the Philippine Liberation Ribbon Bronze Star, before being discharged on January 9, 1946. He later went on to serve in the Colorado Air National Guard as a Staff Sergeant from October of 1953 until October of 1956.

Mr. Karges then worked as an insurance agent for Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. until he retired in April of 1981. He married his loving wife, Pamela, on November 21, 1984 and they have lived happily together since.

Mr. and Mrs. Karges moved to Douglas County thirty years ago in May of 1986. Here he has remained very active in the community. Mr. Karges distributes meals for the Senior Center every week, works at Heart of the Hills distribution center one day a week, and is a member of the Douglas County Veterans Memorial Association. For his outstanding career and community achievements, it is my pleasure to recognize Blair Frederick Karges before the United States House of Representatives.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JACQUELINE A.  
YOUNG

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me as I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Jacqueline A. Young on her retirement from the

Essex Regional Educational Services Commission in June 2016.

Dr. Young has been an educator for 42 years. She received her B.A. from Douglas College and her M.Ed. and Ed.D. from Rutgers University Graduate School of Education. Dr. Young began her career as an Elementary School Teacher in the Newark Public Schools. She then worked as an Elementary School Teacher and a Reading Resource Teacher for the East Orange School District. In 1980, she joined the New Jersey Department of Education as a Basic Skills Consultant and soon became a School Program Coordinator. In that capacity, she served as a facilitator between the Essex County Office of Education and the special needs urban districts for school improvement activities.

Since 1982, Dr. Young has been at the Essex Regional Educational Services Commission (ERESC) where she has held several positions including Supervisor of Instruction and Director of Services to Nonpublic Schools. In 1992, she assumed the position of Superintendent. Under her leadership and direction, the ERESO has grown into the largest educational services commission in the State of New Jersey. The ERESO provides services to local school districts, agencies and nonpublic schools throughout northern New Jersey.

Over half of Dr. Young's career has been spent championing the needs of special education and at risk students. During her tenure at the ERESO, she has assisted school districts by developing programs and establishing schools to meet the needs of those students who have difficulty functioning in traditional school settings. These schools incorporate strategies and techniques conducive to the educational and emotional needs of the students in an environment with a low student/teacher ratio. In September 1997, Dr. Young assumed the responsibility of establishing a school for pre-adjudicated adolescents in the Essex County Juvenile Detention Center in Newark which is now called Sojourn High School. Sojourn High School addresses the specific needs of the students using a combination of thematic instruction and service learning. For the past 19 years, she and her staff have provided these students with the opportunity to earn high school diplomas from their resident school districts or GEDs. Presently, the ERESO operates the following schools: Essex Campus Academy in Fairfield; Essex Junior Academy in Cedar Grove and Essex High School in Passaic in addition to Sojourn High School.

Dr. Young has received awards from a variety of organizations and communities for her work with this population of students. She was inducted into the Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance Hall of Fame Award in October 2011 and received the Shirley Chisholm "Catalyst For Change" Award. She is a member of the National Association of School Administrators, New Jersey Association of School Administrators, New Jersey Network of Superintendents, New Jersey Superintendents' Study Council, Essex County Superintendents' Group, Association of Educational Service Agencies, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, International Reading Association and Phi Delta Kappa. In addition, she is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Montclair Alumnae Chapter. At this time, she is Co-Chairperson of Delta GEMS which stands for "Growing and Em-

powering Myself Successfully". This program services teenage girls between the ages of 14 and 18 in grades 9–12 addressing the following areas: sisterhood, community service, scholarship, college preparation and career options. Dr. Young's sincere concern for these young people and dedication to helping them has been a source of inspiration throughout her career.

Mr. Speaker, I know my fellow members of the U.S. House of Representatives agree that Dr. Jacqueline A. Young deserves to be recognized for a job well done and for many years of service to the people of New Jersey.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF WEST  
DES MOINES

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of West Des Moines, Iowa for its recognition as a 2015 Tree City USA sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry program (the Forest Service).

The City of West Des Moines has met the core standards for tree care during the past year. Over 135 million Americans live in Tree USA communities. In its 40th year of celebration, the Tree City USA program is critical to the U.S. Forest Service. This federal partner delivers technical and financial resources to states, cities and communities across the nation with each community adhering to a State Action Plan, guiding investments in each state while accomplishing local projects and programs.

The U.S. Forest Service and Arbor Day Foundation cooperate with communities to establish healthy forests, improve air and water quality and contribute to important national energy conservation goals. These local investments create long term major environmental improvements nationwide.

I commend the City of West Des Moines and urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the community on this award and in wishing the city nothing but continued success.

POPE COUNTY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because I wish to acknowledge the residents of Pope County celebrating their Bicentennial Anniversary.

Pope County was established on January 10, 1816, when it received its name from Nathaniel Pope, then Secretary of the Illinois Territory. In 1818 when Illinois entered the Union as a free state, the population of Pope County mostly reflected the emigration of Europeans to America that occurred in the 19th century.

Pope County has since been the home to many notable citizens including: American

Civil War General James L. Alcorn, Military Governor of South Korea (preceding the Korean War) John R. Hodge, and American Civil War General Green B. Raum.

Pope County is also home to the Shawnee National Forest, which covers one third of the county, and provides residents and tourists with lakes, creeks, caves, rock formations, valleys, and wooded hills that are excellent for hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, and to just get away.

Pope County hosts many yearly events, including the 9-day Trail Ride, the River-to-River Relay, and the Deer Festival.

The residents of Pope County began celebrating their county's bicentennial on January 10, 2016, and will hold a multitude of festivities throughout the rest of the year.

I congratulate the residents of Pope County on the 200th anniversary of the county's founding, and I extend my best wishes for many more.

RECOGNIZING MS. BETTY REID  
SOSKIN

**HON. MARK DeSAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Betty Reid Soskin, a constituent, friend, and influential figure in my congressional district in Contra Costa County, California.

For my colleagues who may not know Betty, she is a fabled Park Ranger with the National Park Service at the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historic Park. She also enjoys the unique distinction of our nation's oldest Park Ranger at age 94.

Betty has a tremendous life story. Born in Detroit, Betty and her family lived in New Orleans before relocating to Oakland, California in 1927. She worked as a file clerk for the Boilermakers Union A-36 during World War II, a Jim Crow all-African American union auxiliary. In the 1950s, she moved with her family to Walnut Creek where she fought against discrimination in her new mostly-white neighborhood, became active in her local church, and became a well-known songwriter during the civil rights movement during the 1960s.

In 1995, Betty was named a "Woman of the Year" by the California State Legislature and was named one of the nation's ten outstanding women in 2006 by the National Women's History Project.

As a field representative for members of the California legislature, Betty was active in the development of the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historic Park to acknowledge the role of black neighborhoods surrounding the Richmond, California site, which had been bulldozed after the war. She now serves the park as a Ranger. In 2015, the White House recognized Betty with a Presidential Coin after she introduced President Obama at the National Christmas Tree lighting ceremony at the White House.

Last week, Betty was brutally assaulted and robbed when an unknown assailant broke into her home. True to form, Betty fought off her assailant, but during the encounter the thief managed to steal various personal items—among them, a special commemorative coin

given to her by President Obama when she helped light the national Christmas tree last winter.

Thanks to her strong spirit and perseverance, Betty is recovering quickly. Our office has been in touch with the White House to ensure Betty receives a new commemorative coin from the President to replace the one that was stolen.

We are thankful that Betty was not more seriously injured, and we look forward to welcoming her back to full health. Her spirit and drive are an inspiration to Californians everywhere.

HONORING LAKE FOREST POLICE  
CHIEF JAMES HELD

**HON. ROBERT J. DOLD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of Lake Forest Police Chief James Held.

Chief Held's career is a testament to his hard work. He rose through the ranks from being a student at the College of Lake County and a security guard in 1984 to being police chief thirty-two years. His creation of the Bike Rodeo and the twenty-year-old Citizen's Police Academy programs helped increase community outreach and education on behalf of local police forces.

Chief Held leaves behind a legacy of outstanding leadership at the Lake Forest Police Department, where he connected with his fellow officers and innovatively engaged with the community.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to express my gratitude to Police Chief James Held for his thirty-one years of laudable service.

CELEBRATING THE DEDICATION  
OF THE SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE  
VISITOR CENTER TO SENATOR  
DIXON

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the dedication of the Scott Air Force Base Visitor Control Center, which will be named in honor of Senator Alan J. Dixon.

Senator Dixon dedicated his life to public service, fighting for our country in the United States Navy during World War II before representing Illinois in the United States Senate for 12 years, from 1981 to 1993. The Scott Air Force Base will honor Senator Dixon's commitment to our country and his tireless work on behalf of Illinois families—and given his lifetime of service, I cannot think of a more appropriate celebration of Senator Dixon's life. I was able to witness his dedication to Illinois first hand when my father worked for Senator Dixon as his Chief of Staff. As my father would often say, "he was a senator from Illinois, for Illinois."

As chairman of the subcommittee that authorized spending on armed services, Senator Dixon was known for reaching across the

aisle. His support for Illinois ensured that the Scott Air Force Base became one of the largest employers in the state, which now employs approximately 13,000 people and its airfield serves both military and civilian planes.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to commend the Scott Air Force Base for honoring Senator Dixon for his lifetime of service to our country and the State of Illinois.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE VOINOVICH

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a fellow public servant from Ohio, George Voinovich, who passed away Sunday, June 12th.

George was a pillar of the Republican Party, though he occasionally opposed the establishment in the name of good governance. His intellect was unsurpassed, helping him to become a two-term Governor of Ohio, and later to win a seat in the U.S. Senate.

Among his numerous achievements, George was proudest of passing the global anti-Semitism bill, efforts to expand NATO, and a bill to protect intellectual property. These accomplishments are a testament to his character, one which helped restore the city of Cleveland in the late 1970s.

In addition to political accomplishments, George prided himself on his frugality, in both his public life and private life. Throughout his governorship, his mantra was "working harder and smarter, doing more with less." Occasionally this mantra put George in juxtaposition with his party, such as when he pushed a tax increase that would help stabilize the state's finances.

Born in Cleveland on July 15, 1936, George Victor Voinovich was the son of Eastern European immigrants. His culture would strongly shape the man he became, endearing him to the ethnic communities that thrived in the Cleveland area.

Sadly, tragedy would also shape his life in later years, after the death of his youngest daughter, Molly, when she was 9 years old. George readily acknowledged this incident as one that elicited a greater depth of feeling and understanding, all of which he reflected back on his work in public service.

George passed away suddenly on Sunday, in the company of his wife, Janet. He had just made a public appearance the Friday before at the 25th Slovenian Independence Day event at Cleveland City Hall, and was a delegate to the upcoming Republican National Convention.

George is survived by his loving wife and three children. We offer them our prayers and hope that they find comfort in the wonderful memories of our dear friend and colleague, George, who will be remembered with affection and gratitude for his probing intellect, kind heart, and utter dedication to our wonderful state of Ohio.

TRIBUTE TO AARON KLING

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Aaron Kling, a member of the 2016 Iowa Boys 2A State Golf Tournament Championship Team.

Aaron, and his teammates at Panorama High School, persevered through a tough season. With steady and consistent play at the state tournament, these students showed the state of Iowa that they were worthy of a state championship two years in a row.

Mr. Speaker, Aaron's determination, hard work, commitment and team work is what contributed to the stellar success of his team. His willingness to give it his best effort is what will be valuable later in life and I am honored to represent Aaron in the United States Congress. I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Aaron Kling and his team for competing and winning this rigorous competition. We all share in wishing him nothing but continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LEESBURG COMPOSITE SQUADRON AND THE CIVIL AIR PATROL

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) which is celebrating its 75th year of service to this country as an auxiliary of the United States Air Force. The Civil Air Patrol helps bring together citizens with a passion for aviation to volunteer in defense of our great nation. Furthermore, in light of the approaching appointment of its new squadron commander, I would like to specifically acknowledge the Leesburg Composite Squadron, of Leesburg, Virginia, for its exemplary service as part of the CAP, not only through its performance of duties such as search and rescue and disaster relief, but also through promoting community service, leadership, and health in our youth.

The Civil Air Patrol has a rich history beginning in the wake of the attacks on Pearl Harbor where over 150,000 brave citizens offered themselves towards answering the nation's call to arms. These volunteers provided essential assistance to the U.S. War Department, logging over 500,000 hours of flight time during the Second World War alone. Their service helped rescue hundreds of crash victims and sink several enemy submarines.

The Leesburg Composite Squadron of the CAP traces its roots back to 1973, under the vision of Captain Dorothy Tuller, and has continued to uphold the values and reputation set by the original CAP volunteers. They have displayed integrity, professionalism, and excellence in the performance of their duties and this is reflected by the institution's growth from under 40 volunteers to its present day size of over 100 cadets and 68 senior staff. They are more than worthy of their motto 'Citizens Serving Communities'.

Mr. Speaker, these fine men and women embody the greatest strengths of our nation through their service and sacrifice and make me proud to call myself an American. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Civil Air Patrol and the Leesburg Composite Squadron for all their achievements, and wishing its new commander good luck in all their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF STERLING VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY'S 50TH YEAR OF SERVICE

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the Sterling Volunteer Fire Company, which is celebrating its 50th year of service to the good citizens of the Sterling community this year. I would like to personally commend the courageous men and women who so selflessly volunteer themselves and put themselves in danger on behalf of neighbors, friends, and strangers, without asking anything in return. These brave citizens embody the very best of this nation's values through their service to our community and their exemplary performance in the line of duty.

The Sterling Volunteer Fire Company has grown exponentially since its inception in 1966, which at the time was little more than an old barn on Holly Avenue housing a single tanker and two used pumpers. Within a short two years, this small institution had flourished, now settled into two larger locations: Station 11, which it shares with the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad, as well as Station 18, also known as SVRS 25. Even more recently, the company expanded into Station 24 in 2013. This is a clear testament to the outstanding work which is conducted by these everyday heroes and they are deserving of recognition.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me immense pride to recognize such a fine group, and I sincerely hope that we all can live up to their tremendous example. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Sterling Volunteers. I wish them good luck and hope that they remain safe in the fulfillment of their future duties.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. VICKY HARTZLER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 21, 2016, I was unable to vote due to a cancelled flight. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On roll call no. 334, Yea.

On roll call no. 335, Yea.

On roll call no. 336, Yea.

IN RECOGNITION OF GUILFORD ELEMENTARY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Guilford Elementary School of Sterling, Virginia, on their 50th anniversary. This is an important milestone for this wonderful school in my District. Guilford Elementary School celebrated this anniversary in Loudoun County earlier this month on June 9th and it is my pleasure to briefly highlight the impact this school has had on my constituents.

Guilford Elementary School has a terrific history of success since first opening their doors in 1966. With the creation of Dulles Airport, this once rural space of Northern Virginia has developed into one of the most diverse and rapidly growing communities in the nation. Boasting one of the premier English as a Second Language (ESL) programs in the region, Guilford Elementary produces some of the highest test scores in the county. Equipped with top tier teachers and staff, this school has produced countless student success stories.

Coming from a family of educators, I understand how important a strong education is to the future of our nation. It is schools like Guilford Elementary that will continue to help shape the United States' role in the increasingly global economy, while also producing many of our nation's future leaders. Over the years, the faculty has shown an impressive dedication not only to its students, but to the Loudoun community as a whole. The success of this school is a tremendous accomplishment that should make past and present faculty proud.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Guilford Elementary School for their half-century of serving children and their families. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend votes on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 because my flight from Oregon was delayed because of inclement weather. Had I been present, I would have supported passage of H.R. 5389, Leveraging Emerging Technologies Act, and H.R. 5388, Support for Rapid Innovation Act, and I would have opposed H.R. 5525, End Taxpayer Funded Cell Phones Act.

The Leveraging Emerging Technologies Act and the Support for Rapid Innovation Act are commonsense bills that will make it easier for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to identify threats to cybersecurity and develop strategies to partner with industry to combat these cyber threats. Cybercrime is—and will continue to be—a serious threat to families, the United States economy, and our national security. I am proud to support two bills that will provide more tools for DHS to use when combating cybercrime.

I would have opposed the End Taxpayer Funded Cell Phone Act, a shortsighted bill that seeks to eliminate access to affordable cell phones and broadband for low-income individuals and families. Currently the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Lifeline program provides subsidies for low-income families to obtain landline or wireless cell phones. This service is critical for people looking for jobs, children working on homework after school, and families scattered across the country who need to stay in touch. Under the End Taxpayer Funded Cell Phone Act, the Lifeline subsidy would only be available for landline phones. In our increasingly mobile economy, it is neither practical nor fair to force people to rely only on a landline phone. This bill would do nothing to level the playing field for those who need it most, and it would impede families who are trying to make ends meet and struggling to get ahead.

IN HONOR OF STANLEY LICKEY,  
SR.

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Stanley Lickey, Sr., former Fire Chief of the Philomont Volunteer Fire Company Number 8, located in Loudoun County, Virginia.

A lifelong volunteer, Chief Lickey served dutifully for 32 years as Fire Chief, making him one of the longest continuously serving fire chiefs in the United States. He was instrumental in forming Loudoun County's Fire and Rescue Commission, whose mission was to create a county-wide fire and rescue system. Thanks to Chief Lickey's tireless efforts, today's system has become a model for career and volunteer cooperation.

He dedicated his life to serving his community and his enduring legacy is his willingness to lead by example, placing service to his neighbors in their time of greatest need above service to self.

Chief Lickey passed away at the age of 80 on May 27, 2016, surrounded by family, friends, and colleagues. Blessed to have been a grandfather and great-grandfather, he is survived by an extensive family who misses him greatly.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Fire Chief Stanley Lickey, Sr. and expressing gratitude for his life of service to our community.

RESTORATION TUESDAY: ALABAMA RULING ON VOTER REGISTRATION REQUIRING PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today on Restoration Tuesday, I rise to draw attention to U.S. District Judge Richard Leon's egregious ruling on June 29, 2016 allowing U.S. elections officials to change proof-of-citizenship requirements on the federal voting registration form at the request of Alabama, Kansas, and Georgia and without public notice. This ruling marks yet another example in a long line of restrictive voting practices used to suppress the right of eligible voters under the guise of circumventing voter fraud. This ruling means residents of Kansas, Georgia and Alabama will have to prove they are U.S. citizens when registering to vote for federal elections without prior public notice. One of the missions of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission which implemented this new law is to help make voting easier and not harder for eligible voters. Enforcing a new law and process without notifying the public falls far short of that goal. Instead, the court has sanctioned yet another "solution" to a problem that doesn't exist.

This new proof of citizenship requirement joins the other restrictions efforts like photo ID laws, DMV closings, poll site closings—which put up barriers to voter access. Mr. Speaker, Alabama has a storied history of voter suppression, and Judge Richard Leon's ruling last week yet again underscores the importance of the need for federal preclearance for changes to voting practices and procedures that could have a discriminatory impact. Unfortunately, these stories continue to be far too common in states across the country.

As the 2016 Presidential Election cycle continues, it is critically important that we recognize and defend against any attempts to create modern day barriers to the ballot box, instead of making voting more difficult, we should be working to ensure that every American is able to exercise their constitutionally protected right. It is reprehensible that in 2016, many Americans continue to face barriers to the ballot box. Now, citizens in Alabama, Georgia and Kansas have to show proof of citizenship to register to vote. These states have not shown a propensity for voter fraud due to lack of citizenship. It is another example of overzealous election officials putting up barriers to voting. Such suppression must stop! Our democracy is built on the premise

that every citizen is able to have their voices heard and vote counted! No Vote, No Voice! America cannot and must not be silenced.

I continue to call upon Congress to pass and enact meaningful legislation that restores key protections under the Voting Rights Act. All who believe in our great democracy should fight to ensure a fair and inclusive election process for all. The time is always ripe to do what is right.

IN RECOGNITION OF WOODGROVE  
HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the students of Woodgrove High School for their incredible determination in earning the Class 4A Wells Fargo Cup for academics. Formerly the Wachovia Cup, this prestigious award has been given to one academic and one athletic winner in each of the six enrollment classifications of the Virginia High School League (VHSL) since 1990. Throughout the year, schools across Virginia compete in 12 academic challenges, such as the scholastic bowl, creative writing, theater, forensics, debate, film festival, broadcast, newspaper, yearbook, and magazine. Woodgrove High School students especially proved themselves more than capable in the areas of film festival, forensics, yearbook and newspaper. This award signifies excellence, with the winner commonly referred to as the 'state champion of state champions'.

Coming from a family of educators, I truly appreciate the significance of this award. This is the first time that a Loudoun County school has been awarded this trophy, and I am sure that it will not be the last. It is therefore with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I congratulate the students of Woodgrove High School on their excellent achievement. I cannot emphasize how proud I am to be their representative in Congress.

Education is the cornerstone of American innovation and these students are championing their generation towards greater success. It is my hope that additional schools will follow the standard of academic excellence set by Woodgrove High School, and encourage their students to be the best that they can be.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Woodgrove High School, its staff, and its students in making this result possible, and for setting a great example for others to follow. I wish them all continued success in the future.